

FINEST HOUR



**Great Britain will pursue
the WAR AGAINST JAPAN
to the very end.**

WINSTON CHURCHILL

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FINEST HOUR

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14 Life With My Parents: Winston and Clementine
Mary Soames, Patron of the International Churchill Societies, reflects on growing up a Churchill, and upon recent reevaluations of her father's legacy
An interview with Naim Attalah

18 Bletchley Park Blooms with Churchilliana
Douglas Hall visits Jack Darrah's fine Exhibition at the nerve-centre of Britain's successful codebreaking effort, which joins Chartwell, Blenheim and the War Rooms on the UK's popular "Churchill Trail."

20 Alanbrooke
"The Greatest General England Has Produced Since Wellington." -DOUGLAS MACARTHUR
By Ron Cynewulf Robbins

25 Winston Churchill's Julius Caesar
"It is vain to imagine that the mere perception or declaration of right principles, whether in one country or in many countries, will be of any value unless they are supported by those qualities of civil virtue and manly courage — aye, and by those instruments and agencies of force and science which in the last resort must be the defence of right and reason." -WSC, "CIVILISATION"
By Peter Welsh

BOOKS, ARTS & CURIOSITIES:

29 Alex Justice finds Sir Martin Gilbert's second volume of *The Churchill War Papers* equally good to read or skim...**Jerry O'Connor** thinks Keith Alldritt's *The Greatest of Friends* is brief but comprehensive on the Roosevelt-Churchill relationship...**Andrew Roberts** says John Ramsden's *Age of Churchill and Eden* prefigures the Labour Party's next Manifesto...**Richard Langworth** admires the Foreword in the new compilation of Kemper Lectures...**Douglas Hall** likes the photos but not the textual gaffes in Robert Holland's *The Pursuit of Greatness*, and summarizes the latest audiocassettes.

36 Churchilliana: Commemoratives Calendar I
"Osprey," Churchill Treen, Wedgwood, Elijah Cotton
By Douglas J. Hall

40 Savouring The Story of the Malakand Field Force
An appreciation by Henry Fearon

41 Stanwick Mysteries: The Autograph
A short logic puzzle, by Stanley E. Smith

42 Lady Soames Visits the Forsch Book Collection
Two Winstons meet at Dartmouth, by Richard Langworth

- 4 Amid These Storms
- 5 Despatch Box
- 6 International Datelines
- 8 Errata, FH 89
- 10 ICS Local & National
- 11 Riddles, Mysteries, Enigmas
- 11 Wit and Wisdom
- 12 Action This Day
- 42 Woods Corner
- 44 Churchill in Stamps
- 46 Crossword
- 47 Churchilltrivia
- 48 Immortal Words



Cover: Churchill on the War against Japan in a patriotic poster, presumably 1945, rendered into a postcard. (Crown Copyright, Public Record Office.) Our copy bears a British stamp with a special postmark commemorating the opening of Bletchley Park to the public, sent to us by Gerald Lovell of ICS United Kingdom. *Finest Hour* covered Bletchley's general history in issue #85; in this issue, Douglas Hall expounds on what you will find inside, thanks to the fine efforts and collection of Jack Darrah of ICS, UK.
See page 18.



FINEST HOUR

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I recently asked a friend who analyzes stocks for institutional investors why the American economic growth rate at 2.2% in 1992 was "the worst economy in fifty years," while the 1996 rate at 2.2% is "a solid recovery." He replied, "I can't explain it. Our chief advantage is that the Japanese and Europeans are worse off. It's like three drunks weaving down the road, holding each other up. The worst thing is that people just don't seem to give a damn."

Well, heck, they don't seem to give a damn about anything, except "me issues" like government entitlements or prohibitions. Our despicable inaction over lunatics who bomb innocent people in Manchester or Arabia or Belfast or in the air is exemplary. What we *should* do is promise these people no publicity for their cause, and an eye for an eye by SAS-type destroy-missions until as many of them are dead as they murdered. Instead we'll probably convene another anti-terrorism conference, and issue Gerry Adams another visa.

Churchill had problems with public apathy in the late 1930s, when he said in frustration: "Thus we go on in strange paradox, decided only to be undecided, resolved to be irresolute, adamant for drift, all-powerful to be impotent." I found echoes of those words in a piece by newspaper editor Paul Greenberg, commenting on one of many lackluster leaders (this is not quoted with respect to anyone in particular): "At his most electable, he is only reflecting our own desires, our own increasingly tenuous values. [The spirit of the age] seems a remarkably spiritless spirit: full of sentimentality without emotion, leadership without direction, idealism without sacrifice, policy without decisions, great ambition without clear purpose, unending talk without much meaning or action." Quoting Greenberg, another writer, Ramesh Ponnuru, concluded that the most depressing thing about presentday leaders is that they "perfectly embody the cultural moment."

One pauses to examine the cultural moment. "Idealism without sacrifice" sums it up. Think back: when recently did the national morale of the English-Speaking Peoples reach high points? For Great Britain it was during the Falklands War, when the citizenry awoke from a blue funk to cheer their country like they hadn't since the Royal Wedding (uh, sorry to bring *that* up), and to proclaim once again in fearless terms that Britons never never never would be slaves. For America it was during the Gulf War, when we made heroes of our generals and laughed with them when they showed us "the luckiest man in Baghdad," that driver who got across the bridge just before we took it out.

Must we go to war periodically to recharge our moral batteries?

Wars, as Churchill often said, are very dangerous things, and his preference was to avoid them. In 1938 he urged his countrymen to "lay aside every hindrance and endeavour by uniting the whole force and spirit of our people to raise again a great British nation standing up before all the world; for such a nation, rising in its ancient vigour, can even at this hour save civilisation." It took a war to grant that wish. His 1938 prescription would be a tall order in 1996, when fiscal or societal catastrophe seems so distant, so much less threatening, than Adolf Hitler seemed sixty years ago. The question is, will we again wait until catastrophe is upon us, proving Churchill's most pessimistic maxim, that mankind is "unteachable from the cradle to the grave"?

* Not all secondhand booksellers will be delighted, but for Churchillians it's good news: the Easton Press leather edition of *The World Crisis* — at about \$260/£172 the bargain of a lifetime — is back in print. *Finest Hour* will distribute their brochure on this six-volume set, and in exchange they will pack an ICS brochure with each set they sell. For ordering information, telephone Easton at (800) 367-4534, toll-free in USA, dialing prefix 01 elsewhere.

RICHARD M. LANGWORTH

CHURCHILL SYMPOSIUM II

I write to report that things went well in DC. The new format seemed to please nearly everyone, and the quality of papers that Jim Muller gathered this time seemed to me to be superior.

-Paul Rahe, Tulsa, Okla., USA

The symposium was better, I believe, than the last. The format — a five-minute summary of the paper by its writer; a twenty-minute response, open discussion; and a ten-minute defense — worked pretty well. The presenters should be given credit for summaries that were complete enough for those of us who had not read their papers to get the gist of their arguments. Paul Rahe did a fine job of keeping everyone on track and on time. Jim Muller of ICS and Susan Nugent of the Wilson Center did a superb job. The Washington Society for Churchill netted a nice donation to its treasury grateful for the generosity. Ron Helgemo, Reston, Va., USA

Editor's Response: ICS and the Churchill Center are grateful to Jim Morris and Susan Nugent of the cosponsoring Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars for again helping arrange an important Symposium in Washington, D.C. The proceedings of "Churchill in the Postwar Years" are expected to be published in book form, like those of the first symposium, "Churchill as Peacemaker," which will appear shortly from Cambridge University Press.

VISITING CHARTWELL

Readers of your Chartwell article (issue #90) may be interested in some tips for visiting Chartwell by train. Our first trip last September 25th, based on advice from a hotel concierge, was Victoria Station to East Croyden and a cab ride to Chartwell. Alas, (1) it was not open, and (2) the fare was £40. Our friendly cab driver did return us to East Croyden and suggested Oxsted, only five miles from Chartwell, as next our train destination. The next day at Victoria, we purchased Oxsted tickets for about £5 and walked to the Capital Coast Express, tracks 15-19. It is important to observe signs and track numbers saying, "to East Grinstead and calling at ----" since Oxsted is one of the "calling" stations. Cab fare from Oxsted to Chartwell via Westerham costs about £5. I suggest arranging for your cab to return at a designated time for the return journey to

Oxsted, since cabs are not available at Westerham, and phoning for cabs is difficult. Our second attempt was successful, and we enjoyed this wonderful National Trust home and grounds, one of the highlights of our trip to England.

-Dr. George I. Thomas, Seattle, USA



Chartwell sketch by Bernard Driscoll

We too took the train to Oxsted and a taxi. The house reeks of the great man's presence, and I don't mean the lingering cigar aroma Sir Martin Gilbert detected on his first visit to Churchill's bedroom in 1970! (I was disappointed that this room is not open to the public.) The study was not as large as photos led me to expect, but the whole house was clearly a wonderful place to live and work; no wonder Churchill loved it so for forty years. My wife Julie couldn't understand how Lady Churchill could dislike it, especially as the fine weather that day made the gardens and rolling grounds especially beautiful.

We were so taken with walking the grounds that we returned to the car park just after closing time and found no staff, taxis or working phone. So we walked all the way back to Westerham, partly by public footpath through dense woods, in order to make our way back to Oxsted and London by taxi and train. At least I got a close look at the Nemon statue on Westerham Green!

-Stan Smith, Littleton, Mass. USA

Editor's Response: Sir Winston's bedroom is no secret, but is closed because it would create a major traffic problem, being a tiny room off the study with a single entry. Lady Churchill's dislike stemmed mainly from the enormous

expense Chartwell entailed over the years, but the gardens you enjoyed were very largely overseen by her. Your visit to the Nemon statue at Westerham reminds me of a piece of trivia: the plinth on which that statue rests was a gift from the people of Yugoslavia.

THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

One point regarding issue #89's "Action This Day" column (page 16): Balfour did not "promise to establish a Zionist state." The Balfour Declaration stated that the British government "views with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use [its] best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object." In fact, at the time both the Zionists and the British government were extremely careful not to mention the prospect of a future Jewish state. As Chaim Weizmann, the Zionist leader, often said: "Whether or not a Jewish state would eventually emerge would depend upon the response of the Jewish people to the opportunity given them by the Balfour Declaration."

-Norman Rose, Hebrew Univ., Jerusalem

CHURCHILL STATION?

If Britain wants to honour Churchill with something other than huge busts along the Thames (FH 88, p4), what about a new station on the London Underground? The French have a Paris Metro station named after Roosevelt. FDR must be the most appropriate American president to honour in a tit-for-tat with Churchill. A study of the London underground map shows that Grosvenor Square is not at present closely served by a station. A new line linking Hyde Park Corner (appropriately synonymous with Roosevelt) to Bond Street could provide a station right outside the American Embassy and opposite the existing statue of Roosevelt. The station would be well used by Americans visiting their Embassy and would-be visitors seeking US visas. The new tunnel linking the Piccadilly Line at Hyde Park Corner to the Central Line at Bond Street could be called the Victory Line. What do readers think? Expressions of support, or alternative ideas, are welcome. The best idea in terms of taste and feasibility will be forwarded for consideration by HM Government.

-Douglas Hall, Grantham, Lincs., UK
(address on page 4)

QUOTE OF THE SEASON

"I have been wondering what would happen if the legend of St. George and the Dragon were repeated under modern circumstances. St. George would arrive in Cappadocia, accompanied not by a horse, but by a secretariat. He would be armed not with a lance, but with several flexible formulas. He would propose a conference with the dragon — a Round Table Conference, no doubt — that would be more convenient for the dragon's tail. He would make a trade agreement with the dragon. He would lend the dragon a lot of money of the Cappadocian taxpayers. The maiden's release would be referred to Geneva, the dragon reserving all his rights meanwhile. Finally St. George would be photographed with the dragon (inset — the maiden)."

WSC TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE, 24 APRIL 1933

JOE WOULD
HAVE INVADED

PARIS (Reuter), JUNE 15TH — Soviet leader Josef Stalin would have sent his armies on through Germany into France in World War II had the Allies not landed in Normandy, according to Kremlin archive documents obtained by a French university publication. *Communisme*, a monthly on communist studies, quoted minutes of a November 1947 meeting in Moscow between Stalin and then French Communist party leader Maurice Thorez.

"If Churchill had delayed opening a second front in northern France by a year, the Red Army would have gone into France," Stalin is quoted. "Comrade Stalin says we considered going as far as Paris," the interpreter explained, according to the minutes.

Excerpts of the minutes were published by the news magazine *L'Evenement du Jeudi*. "Thorez says he can assure Comrade Stalin that the French people would have welcomed the Red Army enthusiastically... Comrade Stalin says that in that case de Gaulle would have left," the document said. De Gaulle became France's leader after Allied forces landed in France in June 1944. The Allies pushed German forces eastwards, linking up with Soviet forces almost a year later.

According to the Kremlin documents, Stalin offered to send weapons to the French Commu-

nists who had played a major role in the Resistance and were then France's largest political party. Thorez, who had just stepped down as deputy prime minister, said Communists had caches of arms, ammunition, radio transmitters and were setting up paramilitary groups. "French Communists have several radio stations broadcasting clandestinely ... French transmitters can maintain a permanent link with Moscow," Thorez was quoted as saying.

A year after the Thorez-Stalin meeting, French Communists led strikes which were at the time suspected of being aimed at seizing power, and which were broken by troops. The party maintained a hardline pro-Soviet stance for decades. Its veteran hard-liner Georges Marchais retired in 1994 to leave the party leadership to Robert Hue, who has said the party was too slow to denounce the Soviet system. —Jonah Triebwasser

LONDON
THIS SEASON

A book which claims that Martin Bormann, Hitler's deputy, was snatched from Germany and settled in England by Churchill, has been awarded a £500,000 advance by Simon & Schuster, one of Britain's biggest publishing houses, which "believes it has landed one of the greatest publishing coups of the decade," says

Steve Boggan in *The Independent*. The book, ghost-written by Duff Hart-Davis, introduces a mystery intelligence officer calling himself Christopher Crichton, who claims that he and Ian Fleming (author of the James Bond novels) led 150 British commandos to rescue Bormann. Bormann supposedly had access to billions of pounds stolen from occupied countries and only he could authorise its release from Swiss banks so the Allies could return it to its rightful owners.

Interestingly, "Christopher Creighton" was the assumed name of a British agent who said he reported directly to Churchill, and was allegedly responsible for everything from destroying the Dutch steamer bringing America news of the Japanese fleet sailing for Pearl Harbor, to tricking the Germans into expecting the D-Day invasion at Calais rather than Normandy. These stories appeared in a 15-year-old book, *The Paladin*, by Brian Garfield, reviewed in *Finest Hour* #48. It would appear that Crichton/Creighton has been peddling this stuff for a long time.

"The idea that Churchill should authorize such a preposterous operation simply beggars belief," says Richard Overy, Professor of Modern History at King's College, London. "It would be impossible in the chaos of the closing days of the war to know where Bormann was, let alone bank on getting to him." Winston Churchill, MP says, "A few years ago, Bormann was found alive and well in the Congo. I regularly get letters from a man who sees Dr. Josef Mengele in his local cafe." Adds Douglas Russell of ICS/USA: "For a £500,000 advance, I will write a book proving that Hitler was Lenin's illegitimate son."

£500,000 would easily buy the Churchill Center a building and endow its upkeep forever. But such plodding attempts to encourage serious historical research do not pack the glitz of conspiracy novels... >>>>>

“NETWORKING” AT ‘98 CONFERENCE

ICS United States is considering adding a new “interactive” or “participating” element to the next American conference at Williamsburg, Virginia in 1998. It is intended to encourage more specific networking among people of similar Churchill interests. Depending on the degree of participation and the number of separate topics, a portion of one afternoon will be set aside for specific “special interest tables” (or perhaps small rooms) where those wishing to participate can indulge themselves and their special interests.

Thus there might be separate tables for collectors of Churchill stamps, ephemera, Churchilliana, postcards, cartoons, paintings, books, etc. Other tables could be devoted to thin slices of Churchill's life: Cuba, Omdurman, Malakand, the Empire, World War I, and so on. If feasible, someone having an abiding interest in the subject of each group would give the discussion a gentle push to get it rolling. Thereafter, the conversation will be up to the participants entirely.

An incomplete list of “table topics” will be supplied to those registering, so each can express his or her specific interest. Responses will form the basis for selection. If you like this idea, or if you have an idea for a topic, please communicate with Vice-President Bill Ives (address page 2).

CALL TO FARMS

LONDON, MARCH 5TH — A rare photo showing “the moment when Churchill decided to use agriculture as a weapon against communism” (according to the *Daily Telegraph*) has come to light in the archives of Massey-Ferguson, the famous tractor firm, which were being moved recently. The picture was taken in 1950 while Churchill, as Leader of the Opposition, was drafting a manifesto with which he won the general election the following year. *continued on page 8...*

Will ye no come back again?



SIR FITZROY MACLEAN (at left with Barbara Langworth, Scotland, 1994) died unexpectedly June 17th at the age of 87. He was a stalwart Friend of ICS who with Lady Maclean twice hosted the Society at their delightful Creggans Inn on Loch Fyne, and a friend of Winston and Clementine Churchill since the 1930s. That relationship became crucial when the Prime Minister

appointed Fitzroy to Brigadier, and asked him to lead the British mission to Tito, whose Yugoslav partisans were battling the German occupation. “What we want,” Churchill said, “is a daring ambassador-leader to these hardy and hunted guerillas.” He found exactly what he had asked for. The story of that adventure, in Fitzroy's classic, *Eastern Approaches*, and in less detail in his remarks to ICS (1987 Proceedings) is testimony to what *The Times* called “an amateur in the best sense of the word, [who] viewed politics not as an absorbing career but as part of a life of service to the country.”

He lived a long, admirable and enviable life. “A man of action who is also a master of the English language,” as Jock Colville wrote, he left us with ageless, immortal adventure stories in a score of outstanding books, from a *History of Scotland* to a *Tito biography* and a *panorama of the Soviet Union*. Joining the Foreign Office in 1933, he put in for a post no one asked for in those days: the *Moscow Embassy*. His wish granted, he soon arranged to visit romantic old caravan cities like *Samarkand, Bokhara and Tashkent*. He wrote eloquently about them in his early books.

To escape his diplomat's exemption from military service he ran for Parliament (holding Lancaster for the Tories for 1941-59), joining the *Cameron Highlanders* as a private the moment he was elected. He was financial secretary at the War Office from 1954 to 1957, and his knowledge of Russia was still being drawn upon as the *Soviet Empire* finally collapsed. Ever a friend of the Yugoslav people, he personally headed, in his eighties, relief missions to the Balkans during the worst of the civil war there. In *Dalmatia*, which had befriended him during the war years, the people never forgot their Scottish “Ambassador-leader,” who was granting them the wish of the old Scottish air: “Will ye no come back again?”

Fitzroy's stories of Churchill were often profound but as often humorous, for he was a close and dear old friend. “After the war, I was lucky enough to be a member of Winston's Government and also, with my wife, to be asked every now and then to *Chequers* or *Chartwell* to join him and his family in their noisy, affectionate, hilarious, often uproarious family life. That, as a friend said to me the other day, was something that left you both wiser and also warmer at heart. By his central humanity and by his statesmanship and courage, Winston Churchill did something that not many politicians seem to do nowadays. He caught people's imagination and won their affection. When I heard of his death, I was on the hill here with my head shepherd. Not a man much given to sentiment, he was greatly moved. ‘I feel,’ he said, ‘as if I'd lost one of my own family.’ That is how, I think, many of us felt and still feel today.”

Dear Fitzroy. Many who had the great honor of knowing you feel exactly the same now. May the English-Speaking Peoples be granted more Fitzroy Macleans. May they come back again. RML

ERRATA, FH #90

Page 11 (Friends of ICS): In second paragraph: for "sales and accounting" read "sales."

Page 32, lefthand column, second paragraph: for "Pamela Littleton" read "Pamela Lytton." Thanks AMB.

lowing year. Churchill is watching a demonstration of the Ferguson TE20 tractor at Chartwell, where he was lunching with manufacturer Harry Ferguson, along with deputy leader Anthony Eden and Christopher Soames, a future Minister of Agriculture. The purpose of the lunch was for Ferguson to explain his belief that communism could be defeated if food production could be boosted dramatically with the use of his tractor.

Ferguson, an Ulster farmer's son who had started production of his revolutionary grey "Fergie" at Coventry in 1946, persuaded Mr. Churchill that farm production costs could be cut through mass-production of the TE20, priced at around £300. It was the first tractor to use effective hydraulic controls, which enabled it to outperform more powerful and cumbersome machines. More than half a million were built at Coventry up to 1960, and many are still in use or preserved by collectors.

MELIK'S RETURN

KHARTOUM, SUDAN, APRIL 15TH—

Negotiations are on with the Sudanese government for the return of HMG *Melik*, the last remaining gunboat from Lord Kitchener's 1898 campaign to recapture the Sudan. The 145-footer was built at Chiswick in 1897, shipped in sections from England through Suez to Ismailia, towed up to the Sweet Water Canal and the Nile to Wadi Haifa and moved by rail to Abadiya, where the vessel was re-assembled. *Melik* played a key role in the defeat of the Mahdi at Omdurman in 1898, where her fire-power supported the celebrated charge of the 21st Lancers in

The Things They Say, Part 1,788: *Parade's* Barrage of Bunk

JUNE 16TH — *Parade*, the weekly news-magazine distributed with many American Sunday newspapers, speculated (so help us) that "Churchill's status as an only child" had something to do with his greatness. *Finest Hour*, prompted by a dozen readers, wrote to remind them of Jack Churchill—and was dumfounded by their reply...

You are indeed correct to say that Winston Churchill had, shall we say, a half brother, John, evidently sired by a man with whom his mother had an affair, while Winston's father, Lord Randolph Churchill, was indisposed with syphilis...I am sure you are aware that some biographical sources overlook the brother, most likely because of the circumstances surrounding his birth. Strictly speaking you are, of course, correct. At the same time, John was not the product of Winston's mother and father's marriage.

-Larry Smith, Managing Editor

Dear Mr. Smith: Your reply is non-sequitur because, having been raised with a person recognized as his brother, Winston was not an "only child." But I am astonished that you would acknowledge such a major boner by offering two more boners by way of explanation...

1) The notion that John Strange Spencer Churchill was "sired by a man with whom his mother had an affair" was floated by—shall we say — a spurious biographer whose only evidence was Lady Randolph's (considerably overblown) sexual reputation and the fact that Jack was named after a family friend. The biographer soon found himself on the losing end of a lawsuit, and certainly no serious biographer has ever repeated his conclusion, nor "overlooked" Jack Churchill on such unsupportable and slanderous non-evidence.

2) The canard that Lord Randolph Churchill died from syphilis arose some time after his death, and stuck so well that even his son repeated it. However, as a thoroughly researched study of his symptoms and treatment will shortly reveal (in the *British Journal of Medical Biography* and in shorter form in *Finest Hour*), Lord Randolph's illness had nothing to do with syphilis.

You and your colleagues can certainly be pardoned for believing the wrong things about Churchill's parents. But if you are among the five or six people left who still believe that Jack Churchill was somebody else's son, and somehow kept under the table by embarrassed biographers, I would suggest you keep that view to yourselves and not publish it in your magazine. Lightning could strike twice!

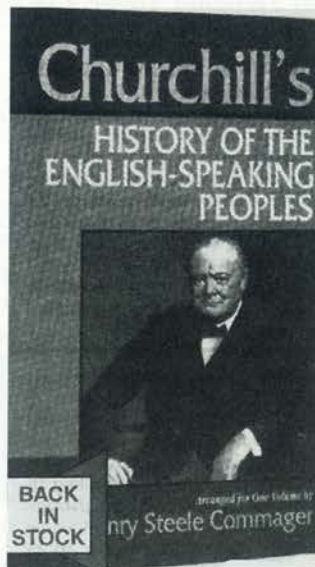
-Cordially, RML

which young Winston took part.

Her post-Omdurman career was less colourful. Having served with the Egyptian Army and Sudan Defence Force following the campaign, she became a club house for the Blue Nile Sailing Club, a well-known haunt for expatriates and foreign diplomats serving in the Sudan. In 1987, *Melik* was

beached on the banks of the Nile following exceptional floods. Since then, the Melik Society, whose president is the present Lord Kitchener, has been trying to raise the estimated £1 million needed to finance her return to the UK and fund her renovation, before her condition deteriorates irreparably. -Lloyd's List continued>>>

ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLES IN A NEW ABRIDGED EDITION



NEW YORK, MAY 30TH — Barnes & Noble Publishers has reprinted the one volume abridged edition of Churchill's *History of the English-Speaking Peoples*, a boon for those who lack the time or interest to undertake the unabridged four volumes. They did so with an offprint of a book donated to the cause by ICS; this is the twentieth Churchill title brought back to life through the efforts of the Society. The book costs only \$9.95 (plus \$4.95 to ship, or \$9.95 outside continental USA) from Barnes & Noble, 1 Pond Road, Rockleigh, NJ 07647, telephone (800) 843-2665, or fax (201) 767-1969.

AIREY AND WHEELERS CLOSE

LONDON, JUNE 29TH — The 113-year-old tropical outfitters in Piccadilly, who kitted Winston Churchill for India in 1895 and voyages with Onassis in 1960, closed its doors today, a victim of recession and changing tastes. "To those who still favour the comfortable cut of a seven-ounce summer suit it is a tragedy," wrote the *Evening Standard*. "The long racks of seersucker suits, shorts, knee socks and Pana-

ma hats may not be the height of fashion, but to wear them is instantly to travel back to a time when travel meant style. Proprietor Anthony Airey, great grandson of the founder, says, "In the very early days we sold pith helmets. We did 'exclusively bespoke' until the Second World War. It was my father Maurice who suggested ready-to-wear. He died only three months ago and was very upset when we went into administration." Airey hopes to keep open a second, smaller shop in Sackville Street

ROBERT HASTINGS

PASADENA, CALIF., MAY 23RD — Robert P. Hastings passed away on the morning of his 86th birthday. A board member of the Churchill Foundation of the United States, he was a member of every significant Churchill organization, including ICS since 1972, and had assembled one of the world's preeminent Churchill libraries. He was a founding partner of the Los Angeles law firm of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker; although he retired from the firm at the age of 70, he continued to work out of his office in downtown Los Angeles almost every day. Cuttings editor John Frost, who sent us the first obituary, referred to Hastings as "my Churchill friend for twenty-five years." Almost everyone prominent in the Churchill field knew Bob. RML

BERNARD SENDALL

LONDON, MAY 25TH — The former Deputy Director-General of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (1955-77) died aged 83. Bernard Sendall was a skilled, behind-the-scenes operator whose analysis and advice was relied on by two of his masters, Winston Churchill (whom he served as private secretary in the Admiralty, 1939-40) and Brendan Bracken (whom he served in the same position when Bracken became Minister of Information in 1941). He

struck up a rapport with Bracken, Churchill's political "Mr. Fixit" at Number Ten, who gave him the nickname "Sunshine." Bracken liked to keep the adjoining door between their offices open so that he and Sendall could keep up a constant chatter as they went about their appointed tasks. Sendall was an austere civil servant, but he could be very warm and friendly. -*The Times*

SIR JOHN PECK

DUBLIN, JANUARY 13TH — John Howard Peck died just short of his 82nd birthday. Educated at Wellington College and Corpus Christi, Oxford, he joined the Admiralty in 1937 and served four First Lords from Duff Cooper to Churchill, who took him to Downing Street. Peck remained with Churchill's secretariat throughout the war. In his memoirs, Peck recalled an abiding image of Churchill descending the stairs at Number Ten during an air raid, clad in a red quilted dressing gown embossed with a writhing gold dragon, wearing a steel helmet and a gas mask! The party proceeded to the Air Ministry roof to watch the raid and Churchill sat on a chimney pot to keep warm, much to the consternation of the occupants of rooms below, which rapidly filled with smoke! Peck accompanied Churchill on a number of his wartime expeditions and was present at Potsdam. His natural diffidence made his relationship, though always friendly, somewhat less intimate than it might have been. After the war Peck returned to the Foreign Office; his last position was Ambassador to the Irish Republic in 1970-72. He was appointed a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George (CMG) in 1956 and a Knight Commander (KCMG) in 1971. DJH

ADVERTISEMENTS

Attempting to trace: copy of *My Early Life* inscribed by WSC to Charles Villiers. Please contact Edward Maggs, 50 Berkeley Square, London W1X 6EL, tel (0171) 493-7160 if you can help.

ICS LOCAL & NATIONAL

United Kingdom

ICS, UK is calling for people interested in organising Branches in various parts of the country, for the purpose of local gatherings of the type being held in Canada and the United States. All manner of venues and programmes are available and welcome. If you would like to meet with other nearby Friends of ICS, and are willing to undertake the necessary communication, contact Joan Harris at the ICS offices in Kent (address and telephone number on page 2).

New England

MANCHESTER, NH — A Champagne dinner and cigar smoker is contemplated for Saturday November 30th in celebration of Sir Winston's 122nd birthday. Our guest speaker will reflect on the world of 1874 and the changes Churchill witnessed in his lifetime, and how they affected his political philosophy. If you wish to attend, contact the editor at PO Box 385, Hopkinton NH 03229, tel. (603) 746-4433 weekdays.

Pennsylvania

DOWNINGTOWN, MAY 4th — Local Friends of ICS didn't have to fly to London to have dinner at Number Ten Downing Street. An authentic English pub in this eastern Pennsylvania village had just the right atmosphere, serving beef with Yorkshire pudding to thirty-two Friends and guests, assembled for a lecture by Dr. David Jablonsky, US Army War College, Carlisle, Pa., author of *Churchill, the Great Game and Total War*.

Dr. Jablonsky pointed out how Churchill's life, studies, soldiering, taste for adventure and honesty made him the ultimate grand strategist when he appeared on a stage set for him during World War II. The adversities of his youth, his speech impediment, all shaped his attitude

toward war and prepared him for leadership. Adding to this was intelligence and an ability at deception to confound the enemy. It was in the leadership in total war, dealing with the will of the people, that Churchill made his greatest contribution as he led his nation to victory.

As customary for speakers to ICS Pennsylvania, we presented a top hat to Dr. Jablonsky. WSC liked wearing many kinds of hats and he was often pictured in a top hat going to and from Parliament.

A meeting is planned for October in which participants will bring an article from their collections, explain how they became interested in Churchill, and swap duplicates.

If you live in or near eastern Pennsylvania, your participation is most welcome: contact Richard Raffauf at 116 Hampshire Road, Reading PA 19608, tel. (610) 777-1653.

Cleveland

JULY 9TH — ICS Friends gathered at the Great Hall in Terminal Tower for a dinner meeting and discussion of Churchill's *Sinews of Peace* or "Iron Curtain" speech in Fulton, Missouri, recently commemorated by Lady Thatcher's 50th Anniversary speech (see last issue). There was a half-hour videotape of the ICS/Churchill Memorial Conference on that occasion, followed by brief comments from those present who made the journey, including Bob Riddle and Bill and Susie Truax. In advance, Mike McMenamin provided Northern Ohio ICS Friends with a handsome spiral bound backgrounder containing both the Churchill and Thatcher speeches, excerpts from the conference program with 1946 reactions to Churchill's speech, and an article on Thatcher's speech in *The Spectator*, which makes a very useful handbook on the whole 1946-1996 anniversary. -Michael McMenamin

Northern Ohio Churchillians meet regularly throughout the year. For details on the next meeting contact Michael McMenamin or Alexis at 1300 Terminal Tower, Cleveland OH 44113, tel. (216) 781-1212.

North Texas

DALLAS, MAY 18th — Friends of ICS in North Texas were guests at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Asa Newsome, for a social hour with homemade ice cream in their lovely garden, and a presentation of Julian Davies, Department of Political Science, University of North Texas. The topic was "Churchill Out of Office 1945-1951." Davies's thesis was that Britain and the Tory Party had undergone significant social change during the war years which overshadowed Churchill's tremendous contribution. This led to his defeat in the 1945 election. Lively questions and comments followed the discussion.

ICS North Texas meets regularly. Please contact Nathan Hughes, 1117 Shadyglen Circle, Richardson, Texas 75081, tel (214) 235-3208.

Detroit

JULY 17th — Local Friends of ICS gathered at the Dearborn Inn for our Detroit-area meeting. The speaker was Fred Farrow of Farmington, who repeated his absorbing first-hand account of meeting Winston Churchill during the 1926 General Strike, which fascinated attendees at the 1995 Boston Conference. (See *Finest Hour* #89, page 8: "County Durham, Sir!") As a young man, Fred also heard and watched Churchill live in the House of Commons. Time was set aside to discuss future local events, and there was an opportunity to acquire Churchilliana by purchasing chances on random drawings.

If you live in the Detroit area and are interested in future events, contact Gary Bonine at 9000 E. Jefferson, Apt 28-6, Detroit MI 48214, telephone (313) 823-2951.

Riddles, Mysteries, Enigmas



Q In addition to being an avid Churchill fan I am also a die hard collector of old Land Rovers. I once found a photo in a magazine of Sir Winston standing beside his (I presume) Land Rover. I was hoping you might be

able to advise me on where I might begin searching for a copy of that (or another similar) photograph. Any advice would be greatly appreciated.
-Paul Patsis <cpaulp@ix.netcom.com>

A Land Rovers are for Churchillophiles. I had one for years here, crashed through the woods with it, hauled young oaks, loved it until electrolysis caused the body to lose contact with the frame! ... There was indeed a Land Rover on duty at Chartwell. On one occasion Christopher Soames drove Sir Winston out in it, to where they were haying. There was a big pile of hay into which a rabbit had darted. Christopher handed WSC a shotgun, the rabbit shot out, and Churchill dropped it with one shot. Part luck, but part skill — he was a crack shot, even in old age. We recommended Mr. Patsis query Chartwell. Does any reader know of a photograph of the Chartwell Land Rover?

Q What does the “D” in “D-Day” stand for?

A The question came up many times in 1995. A lady in Essex

wrote *The Sunday Times* that she had queried Churchill in 1964: “His reply, almost by return post, said the ‘D’ simply stood for ‘day,’ the day of the invasion.” A Cornwall gent said it stands for the first day in a particular operation, e.g. “D-2, troops embark ... D+2 beaches secure,” etc. — which more or less agrees with the Essex lady. But a man of Kent advised that the “D” stands for “Deliverance,” making reference to Churchill’s promise that “the day of deliverance” would surely come.

Q Was Churchill related to Franklin Roosevelt?

A Cornelius Mann’s “Two Famous Descendants of John Cooke and Sarah Warren” (*New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, LXIII 3, July 1942, pages 159-66) said that Churchill and Roosevelt were eighth cousins, once removed. Note also that the American Roosevelt 6c definitive stamp (Scott #1284) is Churchill-related. It is from a photo taken of FDR aboard HMS Prince of Wales at Placentia Bay, Newfoundland, the day after the Atlantic Charter was proclaimed in August 1941. (*Dalton Newfield in Finest Hour* #15.)

Q Did Sir Winston have any connection to the Legion of Frontiersmen? On 26 February 1953, he received a Kauri Cigar Cabinet from Lt. E. H. Rhodes-Wood, who is/was a member of the New Zealand Command of the Legion of Frontiersmen. -Lt. Col. J. Henley, ACM, AMM, Commandant of Queensland Command, Legion of Frontiersmen.

A We are unable to provide the answer, and ask any reader who can assist to write Col. Henley at PO Box 75, Zillmere, Queensland, Australia 4034, copy to the editor.

Q On origins of the “Manhattan” cocktail...

A According to a brochure published by the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, the Manhattan cocktail “began at the Manhattan Club in New York City in 1874, when Jenny [sic] Jerome gave a party for Samuel J. Tilden, newly elected Governor of New York. She asked the bartender to mix a special drink for the occasion, which she named after the Club. Miss Jerome went on to become the mother of Sir Winston Churchill, and the Manhattan went on to become one of the world’s most enduring cocktails.” (Phyllis Ruoff, who copied the above verbatim, writes: “Jennie was only 19 in 1874, and married in April; and ladies didn’t go to Clubs in 1874. So I think this is far-fetched.” Does any reader care to amplify?)

Wit and Wisdom: Rt. Hon. Gentlemen...

- STANLEY BALDWIN
“In [1920] the Lord President was wiser than he is now; he used frequently to take my advice.” (1935)
- SIR OSWALD MOSLEY
“I can well understand the Hon. Member speaking for practice, which he badly needs.” (1930)
- WILLIAM GRAHAM (Lab.)
“He spoke without a note, and almost without a point.” (1931)
- RAMSAY MACDONALD
“He has more than any man the gift of compressing the largest number of words into the smallest amount of thought.” (1933)
- SIR KINGSLEY WOOD
“My Rt. Hon. Friend has not been long enough in office to grow a guilty conscience.” (1938)
- JOHN FOSTER DULLES
“Dull, Duller, Dulles.” (1953)

One hundred years ago:
 Summer 1896 • Age 21
Sailing to India

As Churchill prepared to embark for India with the 4th Hussars he found his future “utterly unattractive. I look upon going to India ... as useless and unprofitable exile. I feel that I am guilty of an indolent folly that I shall regret all my life.” To his mother he wrote, “It is useless to preach the gospel of patience to me. Others as young are making the running now and what chance have I of ever catching up.” Notwithstanding these concerns and many other pleas to his mother, he sailed for India on the *Britannia* on September 11th.



Lt. Churchill, 4th Hussars, 1895

Seventy-five years ago: Summer 1921 • Age 46
A Season of Losses: Jennie, Marigold, Cassel

This was a year of great sadness and loss for the Churchill family. Complications from a fall resulted in the death of Winston's mother on 29 June. One of Jennie's biographers suggests that while her influence on Winston alone would have justified her place in history, the meaning of her life encompassed much more: “Jennie was part of the action and passion of her world, and no woman in her era played a greater part in its history.” Former Prime Minister Asquith said of her: “She lived every inch of her life up to the edge.” Of many notes of sympathy Churchill received, perhaps the comment from Lord Esher may have given him the most solace: “She was such a dear, and her great reward in life was you.” Jennie was sixty-seven.

In August, Winston and Clementine's daughter, Marigold, died at the age of two. Ironically, modern antibiotics would have made her illness incidental. She was buried in London's Kensal Green cemetery. Once again his friends sent many condolences. Notable

among the letters was the following from Lord Grey of Fallodon: “You were saying the other day how closely death had pressed home to you this year: and now it has come again in a particularly poignant form. The death of a little child seems to me to be more difficult than any other to reconcile with any scheme we can imagine of the fitness and purpose of things. But I know you are brave enough to bear suffering and I think you are strong enough to enlarge your outlook and to grow and not to be withered by anything you have to go through. It may be harder still for your wife, who has not your work to pass the time for her.”

Margot Asquith wrote in her memoirs that “no true woman ever gets over the loss of a child. It was certainly so with Clementine. But she did not indulge her grief: rather she batted it down, and went on with life and all its persistent, trivial demands.” Diana was twelve, Randolph was ten, Sarah was seven. Mary would be born the next year.

In September Sir Ernest Cassel,

a mentor of Winston's, died. Churchill was given the news by his wife: “... I have been through so much lately that I thought I had little feeling left, but I wept for our dear old friend.” Cassel had been a close friend of Lord Randolph Churchill who had once considered placing his son in business under Cassel's patronage. Churchill wrote to Cassel's granddaughter, Edwina, who married Lord Louis Mountbatten this same summer: “He was a valued friend of my father's and I have taken up that friendship and have held it all my grown up life. I had the knowledge that he was very fond of me and believed in me at all times — especially in bad times...he told me that he hoped he would live to see me at the head of affairs.”

Fifty years ago:
 Summer 1946 • Age 71
*“If you can meet with
 Triumph and Disaster...”*

In June Lord Moran recorded in his diary that his famous patient seemed to be ready to come back. “A short time ago,” Churchill told him, “I was ready to retire and die gracefully. Now I'm going to stay and have them out...I'll tear their bleeding entrails out of them. I'm in pretty good fettle [which I attribute to] the Jerome blood.” However, the next month Moran found Churchill “in poor heart — one of his black moods. 'I'm fed-up,' he said. 'Victory has turned to sackcloth and ashes.’” This feeling would be later expressed in Churchill's reference to Clemenceau's post-World War I book *Le Grandeur et la Misere de la Paix*. After this war,” said Churchill, “it is all misere and no grandeur.” An additional month later Moran recorded: “Winston is happy at Chartwell, as happy as he can be when the world has gone all wrong.”

Churchill expressed concern about a book by Elliott Roosevelt

(FDR's son) which expressed the view of some Americans that Churchill had unnecessarily delayed the cross-Channel invasion of Europe for two years. Churchill said: "I asked Monty whether we could have invaded France before we did and Monty answered that it would have been madness. We could not have done it without the landing craft."

Churchill was more concerned about the future, especially the prospect of war between Russia and the Anglo-Americans. He was expressing more concern about Russia's intentions, which had become very clear to him at Potsdam. He helped prepare for any coming clash by advocating European unity. In France he recalled his visit to Paris in 1883, when his father had explained the Franco-German fight over Alsace-Lorraine; and his visit to the French Army in 1907, when he "felt that by those valiant bayonets the rights of man had been gained and that by them these rights and also the liberties of Europe would be faithfully guarded. The road has been long and terrible," he reflected. "I am astonished to find myself here at the end of it all." He called on the two nations to "preserve and fortify our united action. Never let us part."

His theme that "Europe must arise from her ruin and spare the world a third and possibly a fatal holocaust" was best expressed in a speech at Zurich University which was only slightly less influential than the Iron Curtain speech earlier in the year. He began with "I wish to speak to you today about the tragedy of Europe, [that] noble continent ... the fountain of Christian faith and Christian ethics ... and the origin of most of the culture, arts, philosophy and science both of ancient and modern times ... If Europe were once united in the sharing of its common inheritance, there would be no limit to the happiness, to the

prosperity and glory which its three or four hundred million people would enjoy. Yet it is from Europe that has sprung that series of frightful nationalistic quarrels, originated by the Teutonic nations, which we have seen even in this twentieth century and in our own lifetime, wreck the peace and mar the prospects of all mankind." To prevent a recurrence of these quarrels he called for a "United States of Europe," beginning with a partnership between France and Germany. "There can be no revival of Europe without a spiritually great France and a spiritually great Germany."

Churchill's personal concern was for Chartwell, which he had owned since 1922. He had placed it on the market in 1938 but financial help from a friend had allowed him to keep it. He had over £100,000 in the bank and calculated that he needed £12,000 per year to live. Since he wanted the income from his war memoirs

to go to his heirs, he determined to sell Chartwell in order to augment his income.

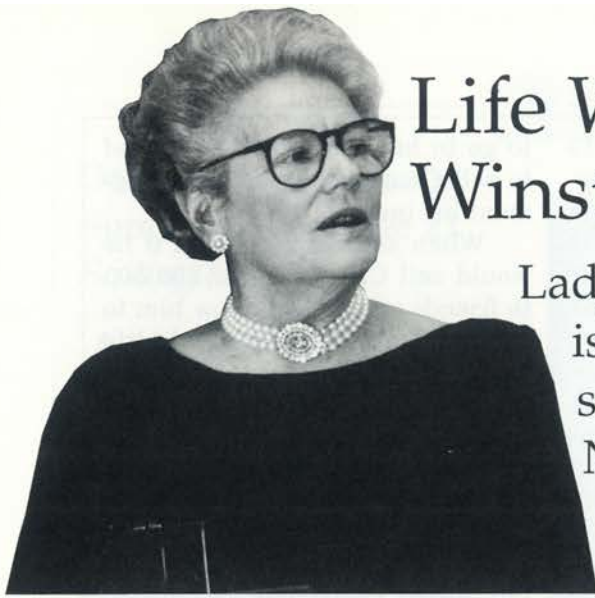
When asked by a friend if he would sell Chartwell for £50,000 to friends who would allow him to live in it for the rest of his life before turning it over to the National Trust, Churchill replied: "Yes, and [I will] throw in the corpse as well." Nowhere is the memory kept so green as at Chartwell, and we all thank and honour the following people who purchased Chartwell and left it, not just to the British Nation, but to the world, as a memorial and tribute to the life of Sir Winston Churchill: Lord Bearsted, Lord Bicester, Sir James Laird, Sir Hugo Cunliffe-Owen, Lord Catto, Lord Glendyne, Lord Kenilworth, Lord Leathers, Sir James Lithgow, Sir Edward Mountain, Lord Nuffield, Sir Edward Peacock, Lord Portal, James deRothschild, J. Arthur Rank, Sir Frederick Stewart and, especially, Lord Camrose.

Twenty-five years ago: Summer 1971 *Lord Warden, A Quarter Century On*

Finest Hour #20 celebrated the 25th (now 50th) anniversary of Sir Winston's investiture as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, explaining that the honor had been conferred in 1941 with the installation deferred until the end of the war: "The origins of the Cinque Ports are lost in antiquity, but it is generally agreed that the confederacy began long before 1066 ... England offered no effective naval resistance to Danish and Norman invasions. So it was that Hastings, Romney, Hythe, Dover and Sandwich formed an association to provide and man a naval defense force. Winchelsea and Rye were added later to these 'head ports' and some thirty other inland towns became supporting 'limbs.'"

In "As Others Saw Him" we ran some revisionism: "The British do not deserve a charlatan like Churchill ... one need only observe him for a short while in order to see through him completely." (Adolph Hitler)

Elsewhere we offered (appropriately — see page 40) contemporary reviews of the *Malakand Field Force*, coupled with "A Guide to Reading Churchilliana" by Martin Gilbert. On contemporary themes, Stewart Alsop wrote of a 1948 conversation in which Churchill mused: "America. A great and powerful country, like a strong horse, pulling the rest of the world up behind it, toward peace and prosperity. But will America stay the course?" Many still ask, but so far, so good. ☺



Life With My Parents Winston and Clementine

Lady Soames, Patron of the Churchill Societies, is Sir Winston and Lady Churchill's only surviving child and her mother's biographer. Naim Attallah talked to her about life with them and sought her views on the current reevaluation of her father's legacy.

NAIM ATTALLAH: When writing about your childhood you say that although elements of anxiety, sorrow and disappointment began to appear as the years went by, in your own recollection it is the happiness which predominates. Is that in effect a tribute to your parents, who helped shield you from the darker side of life?

LADY SOAMES: I wrote those lines after describing life at Chartwell and the wonderful Christmases we had there. As life went on and I became a teenager I began to know that life wasn't a garden of Eden, and it was disquieting to me because of my idyllic childhood at Chartwell.

The first time I saw my mother cry was one of the most traumatic moments of my young life. I had very rarely seen grown-ups cry and to see this beautiful woman, whom I loved and admired and also rather feared, weeping and completely disintegrated with grief was a terrible shock to me.

I saw my parents a lot because we children were never kept away in the nursery wing, and also I was very much the Benjamin, so I strayed around all over the house and never felt I was excluded from my parents' life when they were at Chartwell.

Although your mother was devoted and conscientious, there was never any doubt that Winston came first. You seem not to have had any sense of grievance about this. Did you come to mind it later?

Not at all. We all felt that our parents had other very important things to do. I never felt neglected emotionally or in any other way by them. It was in my mother's nature to be dedicated, and it was true also of my father, luckily for him and perhaps for the world as well. However, much later, when I knew my

husband Christopher was going into politics, I took a vow in my heart that I would try to give my children a greater priority than perhaps we had with my mother. But I think it very important in this context to remember that when my mother was bringing up her children it wasn't a mark of bad mothering to have nurses and governesses; it was part of the way of life in that stratum of society. I certainly never regarded her as a bad mother.

Was your mother difficult in her relationships with people generally?

She was a very complex and emotionally charged character, but she wasn't difficult all the time. She had enormously high standards which she imposed with varying degrees of success on her children but she was also very hard on herself. She adored my father, was completely absorbed in his life, and involved in his politics and she felt it all with every fibre of her being. But she was undoubtedly a highly strung animal.

But did she clash with your father because of that?

Yes. Perhaps history would have been different if my father had married a docile yes-woman; he might have had an easier time at home. But my mother had the will and the capacity to stand up to my father, to confront him and to argue with him, and the fact that she had that capacity is more important than whether she was always right.

I don't think she was always right, but she took a passionate interest in his political life, and there's no doubt that sometimes her judgments about his friends were truer than his. I've always thought my father married an equal in temperament and in spirit.

You refer in your book to what you call 'slaps at Winston's departed greatness.' What did you have in mind?

Published by kind permission of Sarah Wasley and Quartet Books Ltd., London. Naim Attallah's new novel, *A Timeless Passion*, is published by Quartet Books at £10.

I suppose I was thinking of how much I minded that in quieter times, people took slaps at my father. But I've been brought up in a rough political school, so one accepts that that must be so.

No true historian of the war is guilty of unjust or ill-informed criticism, but people who write meretricious histories are being tremendously wise after the event. They assume that we knew that we were going to win. But when you lived through it at the side of people like my father who were so deeply involved in it, the uncertainties were enormous. I feel that people very often don't understand how much the war was lived step-by-step and day-by-day.

Did your father ever despair?

A lot has been made of the depressive side of his character by psychiatrists who were never in the same room with him. He himself talks of his black dog, and he did have times of great depression, but marriage to my mother very largely kennelled the black dog. Of course, if you have a black dog it lurks somewhere in your nature and you never quite banish it; but I never saw him disarmed by depression. I'm not talking about the depression of his much later years, because surely that is a sad feature of old age which afflicts a great many people who have led a very active life.

Was he dictatorial?

No. He had a greater measure of power than any leader in democratic times in our country, but you must remember that every Tuesday when he was in this country and the House was sitting, he answered questions in the House of Commons.

He always regarded himself as a servant of Parliament, and I don't think there is a recorded instance of his having gone against the decisions of the joint chiefs of staff. Of course, he would argue his corner but it's not true to say he always got his way; he didn't, and sometimes it made him very cross. Sometimes he even acknowledged they were right.

Several times during the war he pressed something to a vote of confidence which people found rather tiresome because of course he would always get the vote of confidence, but he wished to demonstrate to the world that this was a war waged by a democratic country, and that he was empowered by the democratic vote even at the height of the war.

Tell me how you first fell in love with Christopher Soames.

It wasn't love at first sight on my side, I have to say, but we met for the very first time in the British Embassy in Paris where, years and years later, he

was to be ambassador and that was rather romantic.

The U.S. Secretary of State was going to be in Paris and my father wanted to see him. We both flew to Paris for twenty-four hours, and in those twenty-four hours I met Christopher Soames. I think he fell in love with me straight away, and I did quite quickly after that, but the first time I really thought he had other fish to fry.

Did you have other fish to fry?

No. I was rather unhappy when I came out of the army. I'd had an interesting, exciting war as the equivalent of a captain. I'd served in mixed anti-aircraft batteries, and inasmuch as it was possible then for women in England I'd been in action against the enemy. In some ways one felt sparkling and confident and yet in other ways not. I hadn't been in my own world for five years, and most of my friends were either dead or still in the army or abroad. I found it quite difficult to reestablish life at home and I wasn't very happy. My father was enormously famous, and I was made much of and had a lovely time wherever I went with him; but my own personal life wasn't very satisfactory. Then, within a year of being demobilised, suddenly wonderful Christopher Soames appeared on the horizon and, like my parents, I married and lived happily ever afterwards.

As Parliamentary Private Secretary to your father, Christopher Soames was a key figure, particularly when your father suffered a stroke and was scarcely functioning. How was it possible to keep this from the public and keep things running smoothly?

That's really an extraordinary episode, and the more I look back on it, the more extraordinary I think it is. Again fate steps in. My father sustained the stroke in the evening at a dinner party in Downing Street, having earlier presided at a Cabinet meeting. Harold Macmillan and Rab Butler and several others were absolutely amazed afterwards when they learned of the extent of the stroke. They all said that Winston was rather silent and looked pale but none of them at the time noticed anything seriously amiss.

By the morning Lord Moran [his doctor] had diagnosed a stroke and my father headed for Chartwell, having walked to the car from Number Ten. When he got to Chartwell, which was an hour's drive away, he couldn't get out of the car, and had to be carried inside. So it was only then that the worst effects of the stroke became obvious, and at Chartwell he was kept absolutely incommunicado. That weekend Lord Moran told Christopher that he thought my father was going to die. Christopher didn't tell me that, but I knew he was very ill.

He was there for six weeks and somehow — it couldn't happen now — Christopher and John Colville [Churchill's private secretary] between them kept the machine turning over. Julian Amery is very naughty about it: he always says that Christopher was Prime Minister, but it isn't true that Christopher ever said that or ever felt that he was.

What did you think of de Gaulle?

I admired him enormously: to me he represented, as he did to my father, whatever their differences and quarrels, resurgent France, the soul of France. I was also much alarmed by him, but he was very civil and kind to me.

The only time I really had a conversation with him was at luncheon in the *Elysée*, when I sat next to him shaking with nerves. He was not an easily approachable person and we had an extraordinary conversation. He asked me, *'Que faites-vous à Paris, madame?'* and so I panicked and I said, *'Je promène mes chiens, Monsieur le Président.'*

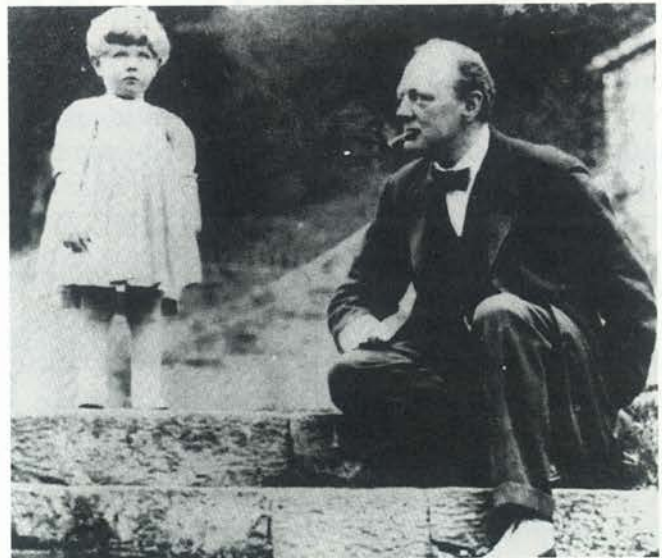
Instead of putting me down for giving an absolutely asinine answer to his question, he became very interested. He wanted to know what dogs I had and where I walked them and then suggested I take them to the Ile de Cygnes, which is a little island in the middle of the Seine. He drew it for me on the menu, and thereafter I always used to walk my dogs on the Ile de Cygnes with grateful thoughts to the General.

Did you warm to him?

I never had much time to, but I think one could have done. He was very fond of my mother, ever since the time when she flew at him for making a very anti-British remark. My father had missed it because he was at the other end of the table, and anyhow Papa's French wasn't very good, but when the General insulted the British fleet Mama retaliated in perfect French. The next day there arrived the most enormous arrangement of flowers, and thereafter he respected and liked her very much. For years after my father died he sent my mother a personal letter on the anniversary of his death.

You write of your parents' relationship, "she was the scabbard to his sword, and she kept it shining!" Do you think that sort of commitment still has a modern application, or is it hopelessly outmoded?

I think it's a little sad that husband and wife enterprises aren't any longer thought to be particularly admirable. I'm in rather a muddle about this because I do want women to have careers, yet at the same time I recognise that it is quite difficult for women to have



careers and to run families. I sometimes think that women have found liberation but haven't quite found out how to manage it.

Did your father have time to show you affection when you were young?

Both my parents were enormously affectionate, visibly so, and he was a great hugger, my father, and loved having us around. The stiff upper lip of the British upper class had really no part in our family life; it was something I read about in books. I may have been deeply shocked the first time I saw my mother cry, because that was as a result of a great drama in the family, but I often saw my father weep and it never struck me as odd that a man should express emotion.

What kind of thing made your father cry?

He was moved by events and tragedies, by people behaving nobly, by poetry ... I've seen him recite Shakespeare and his eyes brimming with tears. He wept easily. He wasn't ashamed of it.

Were you aware of being set apart from your peers by virtue of your father's importance, and if so, was that something you found difficult to cope with?

We were all brought up with a great sense of public service. I would have thought it contemptible in me to have wished my parents to be at my school sports day; what did it matter if they saw me coming fourth in the egg and spoon race? When the war broke out and papa took office, my feelings for him as his child became confused and mingled with the feelings I had as an ardent young Englishwoman. My father was the hero of the hour, to whom we all clung. Me too.

For much of the Thirties your father had been in the political wilderness. Then in May 1940 he began his "walk with destiny" for which he considered all his earlier life to have been a preparation. How great a part do you think destiny played in all this?

Destiny played a great part, because when he was a young soldier of fortune and seeking "reputation in the cannon's mouth," he could have lost his life on about five or six different occasions. Although my father longed to be in office in the Thirties my mother often said to me that it was a real blessing that he never held office then, because he couldn't single-handedly have turned the tide of appeasement and slow rearmament; he would have been involved in government in a time that came to be regarded, perhaps rather unjustly, as the dark decade when we were purblind. As it was, he was able to start with a clean slate.

Churchill was held in near-veneration during his lifetime. In more recent times the history books have not been especially kind. How do you respond to criticism of your father's wartime record?

I try not to mind too much about judgments on public events. I dislike mean judgments and those based on being wise after the event. But of course my father must stand the test of history. He didn't do everything right or make all the right judgments, but we did manage to win, despite all the mistakes, so I can only imagine the enemy made even more. One must keep these things in perspective, but of course I find it difficult to detach myself entirely, and when it's a question of personal criticism, I sometimes know his critics are actually wrong.

Do you think your father ever took decisions which were perhaps good for Britain but were rather questionable on moral grounds?

My father would have done almost anything to win the war, and war is a rough business. I daresay he had to do some very rough things, but he wasn't a man who took these sorts of decisions lightly. All those things weighed with him, but they didn't unman him.

In the love and devotion between your parents there seem to have been only two ripples: one when your father wrote to Clementine saying that she absolutely had no need to be jealous, we know not of whom; the other when your mother, at the age of 50, fell in love with Terence Philip. I had the impression that you tried to play down the possible significance of this attachment, saying these five months had "the unreality of a dream."

By that time, I was old enough to want to understand and I wrote what I believe to be the truth about that relationship. I truly believe it had the air of unreality about it; it was a holiday romance, and she came back to base. She certainly didn't seek it, and he himself was, I believe, quite lukewarm. How much do you tell your children about a relationship you have had with a man who wasn't their father?

I asked her, "Mama, were you ever in love with him?" and she said, "Well, I was rather in love with him, for a time, and he wanted me to be." But it wasn't a commitment, it wasn't planned and plotted, by which I mean she didn't go on the cruise to meet Terence Philip.

But when she came back she brought a little dove with her; it lived for two or three years and is buried under the sundial in the Garden at Chartwell, and round the base my mother had engraved the words: "It does not do to wander too far from sober men, but there's an island yonder, I think of it again."

Is fidelity always important in marriage, or can some marriages rise above it?

I'm sure some marriages can rise above it, and I'm very sorry whenever I see that lack of fidelity has caused a marriage to crash to the ground. Fidelity seems to me to be a very important ingredient in marriage: it's part of the commitment, but equally I think it's in certain people not to be able to be faithful, and one must hope then that they are married to partners who can sustain that. For my own part, I would have hoped not to know about it; and if I had, I would have hoped to keep it in proportion.

You must sometimes have had the feeling, particularly when your father died, that he somehow belonged as much to the British people as to your own family. Did that help ease the loss, or did it sharpen its poignancy?

When my father died it was a great loss, but also for him it was such a release. Life had become a burden, and it would have been a selfish person who would have wanted him to linger after all he had done in life. It was time, it was time.

You have sometimes joked that you feel like the last of the Mohicans. Am I right in thinking a certain sorrow infuses the jocularity?

Yes. One's alone in the little shelf of one's generation. I miss Sarah [her sister] particularly; she was the closest to me, and when she died, it was awful. We were great friends, and she was my heroine. I miss her very much. But anybody who lives beyond 70 or so is in the foothills of old age, and you can't arrive there without suffering anything. ☞

Bletchley Park Blooms with Churchilliana

The nerve-centre of Britain's successful codebreaking effort now joins Chartwell, Blenheim and the Cabinet War Rooms on the UK's popular "Churchill Trail." Ulsterman Jack Darrah, longtime Friend of ICS United Kingdom, has devoted his massive collection and untold hours to its perfection.

BY DOUGLAS J. HALL
PHOTOGRAPHS COURTESY JACK DARRAH



Jack and Rita Darrah admire Bletchley's Nemon bust.



"Likes and Leisures" showcase relates to WSC hobbies.

Finest Hour #85 covered the history and wartime role of Bletchley Park, the location of the top-secret Ultra code-breaking team described by Churchill as, "My geese that laid the golden eggs and never cackled." A plan to demolish the site and build houses and a business park was overturned by the active lobbying of a small group of enthusiasts who were determined to preserve it as an important part of the British national heritage. The Bletchley Park Trust is now embarked on an ambitious programme to develop the whole site into a series of museums covering its wartime role and the spin-off benefits which accrued to the electronics, data processing and telecommunications industries.

Housed in two large and sumptuous rooms in the Mansion, and one of the first of the new exhibitions to open to the public, is the Darrah-Harwood collection of Winston Churchill memorabilia. High on a mantel, overlooking the show-cases, is a larger-than-life marble bust of Churchill by Oscar Nemon. A replica of the bust in the Queen's Guard Chamber at

Windsor Castle, it was presented anonymously to the Bletchley Park Trust to commemorate Churchill's links with the site. Eleven large showcases house a magnificent collection of Churchilliana and the walls of both rooms are hung with an estimable assembly of prints — some of Churchill's own paintings, plus photographs, drawings and tapestries.

An eye-catching display on one wall is the "Winston Churchill Quilt" made in 1987 by Mrs. Mary Mayne. It was originally a prize-winning entry in the Great British Quilt Festival at Harrogate, where it represented the Birth Room at Blenheim Palace in a competition to design a quilt for a bedroom in a Stately Room. It measures 7 x 5 feet, appliquéd and hand-quilted, and took nine months to make. A notice alongside recounts that when making the quilt Mrs. Mayne had difficulty in finding a piece of fabric suitable for Churchill's overcoat. In desperation she raided her husband's wardrobe and cut off a large part of the leg from a pair of his trousers! He found out, so the cost of the quilt included a new pair of trousers for Mr. Mayne!

The major part of the collection was built up over many years by a Friend of ICS, UK, Jack Darrah. It is

Mr. Hall is *FH's* features editor.

supplemented by a lovely little group of miniature figures belonging to his granddaughter (I suspect largely bestowed by granddad!) which attracts many an envious glance from Churchilliana collectors.

Jack built the collection over more than thirty years, but had been forced to store it away in cardboard boxes when he sold his villa and moved with his wife to a "granny flat" in the garden of his daughter's house at Luton (about 15 miles from Bletchley). Jack says, "It is good to see them out again, particularly in the splendid surroundings of the mansion at Bletchley Park."

The exhibition has three themes "The Early Years," "The Bletchley Park Connection" and "War and

Peace," illustrated by an enviable collection of ephemera, books (including rare first editions of some of WSC's early books), porcelain, pictures, medals and a whole lot more.

During opening hours there is a continuous slide show featuring events from the whole of Churchill's life. Already the number of visitors to the exhibition, which is still in the process of being completed, runs into several hundreds on each occasion. It is surely destined to become as popular on the "Churchill Trail" as Blenheim Palace, Chartwell and the Cabinet War Rooms.

Jack Darrah has made a particular effort to persuade schoolteachers to bring their classes to visit the exhibition — he is absolutely dedicated to "Teaching the Next Generation" — and has devised a series of worksheets for various age groups designed to make their visits educational as well as enjoyable. He actively participates in all such visits and there can be little doubt that his infectious enthusiasm can only be doing a great deal to "Keep the Memory Green." For the moment Bletchley Park is open to the general public only on alternate weekends — a constraint of a largely volunteer workforce — but it is hoped that as funding is built up the facilities can be opened full-time and become fully self-financing. Many of us fervently hope that that will be the case and are doing all that we can, in various ways, to achieve that ambitious objective.

Jack has provided the accompanying photographs. He tells me that additions and improvements are still being made and he will keep us updated on any significant events which may occur.



Above: Centenary items. Below: Sir Philip Duncombe, vice-chairman of the Bletchley Park Trust, HRH the Duke of Kent and Jack Darrah at the 1994 opening; the "Mediterranean and Marshall's" showcase; Rita Darrah and ICS' Gerald Lovell admire Mary Mayne's Churchill Quilt.



A L A N B R O O K E

Ron Cynewulf Robbins reflects on Churchill and his greatest General

THE collaboration between Churchill and Field-Marshal Viscount Alanbrooke was crucial to victory in the Second World War. It was imperilled, however, by the gap in their temperaments and working methods. Acute differences were bridged by necessity. Their personalities were poles apart.



*He is the most difficult man I
have ever served, but thank God
for having given me the opportunity*

Alanbrooke recorded the highs and lows of their consultations. This has led to an intriguing question: At vital moments, was he Churchill's alter ego? A brisk affirmative would be unfair to both of them.

The centrepiece of Churchill's genius was his amazing intuition and it would be nearer the mark to describe Alanbrooke's role as counter-intuitive. If Churchill's head was now and then too much in the clouds, Alanbrooke saw to it that his leader's feet remained on the ground. And in the war no one had a more intimate knowledge of how difficult was that job.

At first they took a gloomy view of their chances of forming a successful partnership. Churchill paused and grumbled before giving Alanbrooke the powerful post of Chief of the Imperial General Staff. He was reluctant to be in double-harness with an Ulsterman too "stiff-necked" for his liking. But, with his customary shrewdness and broad good-nature, he could sink any lingering prejudice to hasten the sinking of the enemy. From December 1941 he had alongside him a dedicated servant of freedom regarded by some as the most outstanding military chief Britain has ever known.

Service chiefs in Washington were capable of using stronger epithets than "stiff-necked" to describe Alanbrooke. His incisive delivery and rapid

Mr. Robbins, of Victoria, B.C., is a journalist who observed Churchill personally, and is a regular *FH* contributor.

summing up of complex plans seemed to lower the room temperature. They suspected him of arrogance; his slightly remote manner could have accounted for their displeasure. As the war wore on, they realized pomposity was entirely alien to him. By and large, they came to value his extraordinary

martial grasp of where and how the enemy might best be overcome without excessive casualties to the Allies.

General MacArthur bestowed the accolade: "The greatest soldier that England has produced since Wellington." The comparison must be confined to soldiery: Alanbrooke could never have plunged into politics and emulated Wellington's feat in becoming prime minister.

Churchill appreciated Alanbrooke's cool precision. Stalin did not. During the Teheran Conference of Allied leaders, President Roosevelt proposed a dinner toast to Alanbrooke. He recollected that the Field Marshal's father had visited his father at Hyde Park, New York. Under the influence of his favourite tippie of venom and vodka, Stalin brusquely intervened on the specious pretext of finishing the toast. In a thinly-veiled attack, he wrongly accused Alanbrooke of being without depth of feeling for the heroic efforts of the Soviet Army. Stalin had but scant knowledge of the Field Marshal's fighting weight. Twenty-seven members of his family were serving in the Second World War — just one more than had served in the First World War. Replying to the toast, he landed a series of heavy verbal blows on the Soviet leader.

Alanbrooke was asked by Churchill to provide a written account of the incident. Churchill was so impressed that he quoted it in his memoirs. Alanbrooke knew Churchill reacted strongly when Stalin employed such face-to-face tactics and concluded that

unless he launched an immediate frontal assault, Stalin would pounce on him at every opportunity in future.

Alanbrooke was also adept at denting the ego of Field Marshal Montgomery, which was quite an achievement. He has described one of the occasions that prompted him to talk bluntly. He confided to his diary that "Monty" required "a lot of educating to make him see the whole situation and the war as a whole outside the Eighth Army orbit." Displaying genuine concern, amply justified by disagreements which corroded the months ahead, he summed up Monty this way: "A difficult mixture to handle, a brilliant commander in action and trainer of men, but liable to commit untold errors, due to lack of tact, lack of appreciation of other people's outlook. It is most distressing that the Americans do not like him, and it will always be a difficult matter to have him fighting alongside them." Chatting with King George the Sixth in 1944, Alanbrooke said: "Montgomery is a very good soldier, but I think he's after my job." The king replied, "I thought he was after mine."

Wit was often a saving grace in hot debates with Churchill, whose penchant for night owl hours to formulate policy and critique generals did not appeal to Alanbrooke; he habitually approached the day's problems with well-defined purpose and in an orderly drill-school manner. But he had sensitivity and an artistic streak rarely apparent to those unfamiliar with his off-duty pastimes. He amused his children with delightful drawings and would replenish his inner resources by photographing a thrush and its young. Paintings of birds refreshed him, if he could snatch a few minutes to study them amid the fatiguing demands of his war-time responsibilities.

Despite all his qualities, he was perpetually puzzled: he failed to discern how the soldier in Churchill blended perfectly with the ring-fighter politician. But that combination lifted British hearts and enabled the nation to endure. Alanbrooke displayed incomparable skill by acting as a buffer between Churchill and the generals. He could adroitly convert a dispute into a chess move to advance the Allied cause.

Their respective appraisals of Field Marshals Earl Alexander and Montgomery illustrate their dissimilar judgements. Churchill had a glowing opinion of Alexander. On the other hand, Alanbrooke had substantial reservations about the performance that could be expected of Alexander if he were to receive a top command embracing responsibility for a large determining territory at a decisive point in global conflict. Initially, Churchill doubted Montgomery was equal to the challenge of routing Rommel.

Churchill looked on the courageous, calm and immensely personable Alexander with almost unmitigated favour. He admired his command of the British evacuation at Dunkirk, along with his subsequent tightening of Britain's defences to meet the threat of German invasion. Alexander's field command in Burma against the Japanese onslaught occurred at a stage when Britain was ill-equipped and paying the price for the myopic conduct of prewar appeasers. His composed, aristocratic style throughout the Burma retreat heightened Churchill's view that here was a general in the great tradition which he revered and drew on freely for his own inspiration.

Alexander has been credited with marvellous patience and for his persistency in battling away, knowing the odds were too high for him to repulse better armed opponents. He was sustained by his full belief that the next encounter would more than recoup his losses. The lessons of the First World War (a Military Cross attested to his bravery) had been absorbed not only by him, but also by his fellow-survivors, Alanbrooke, Montgomery and Churchill.

Fairly early in the Second World War, Alexander had to live with Alanbrooke's public accusation that he had mishandled armoured forces, a sphere in which it would have been injudicious to question Alanbrooke's expertise. Alexander decided not to reply. Alanbrooke, with an abundance of brains, could not conceal his misgivings. He clung to his conviction that Alexander's cerebral exertions should have been more distinguished. (One of Alexander's aides asked the Field Marshal why he always threw into his "out" tray at the close of the day any letters remaining in his "in" tray. Alexander responded: "It saves time and you'd be surprised how little of it comes back.")

FRANCE cradled Alanbrooke and he became bilingual. To his life-long dismay, his written English occasionally contained tiny lapses in grammar and spelling, but his French was immaculate. A governess taught him German. During his army career, he acquired Urdu and Persian.

He was born in Bagnères-de-Bigorre where his Ulster parents stayed in winter. They named him Alan Francis Brooke. Victor, his father, and Alice, his mother, had nine children; he was the third baronet of Colebrooke and she was the daughter of a baronet. They were an Anglo-Irish landowning family with a proud history. Sons had served in the British Army from the seventeenth century. Service in the Royal Navy, and medals for valour, added to the ancestral lustre. Alanbrooke, the youngest child, was eight

when his father died. Ill health plagued him in childhood. His mother's intense love and constant care nursed him through. His devotion illuminates every letter he sent her. He shared her close attachment to their Colebrooke home. With quiet gratification, she observed in him the same straightforward conscientious disposition that had brought esteem and affection to her husband at home and abroad.

A parental decision to confine his pre-army schooling to France steeped him in Gallic culture. It contributed to his sharp wit, which he enhanced at private gatherings with an ability to mimic people in the public eye. He revered his mentor, Major-General Sir Ivor Maxse, a formidable commander on the Western Front in the First World War, but he would mimic him to hilarious effect. The first time he met Maxse, he did not create a bright impression. Maxse said: "I don't like your hat." Alanbrooke replied: "Neither do I and if you give me a week's leave, I shall go home and buy a new one." The rejoinder pleased Maxse and their friendship blossomed — minus leave and without a new hat.

In Alanbrooke's younger days, there was no foreshadowing of greatness. It took a big effort for him to pass the entrance examination to the Woolich Royal Military Academy. Nevertheless he qualified easily for a commission in the Royal Artillery and served in Ireland and India.

He achieved a splendid standard of fitness and rode and hunted regularly. He worked unsparingly at military studies and shone in field exercises. After striving to acquire a style, he wrote fluently on tactics. Senior officers noted his original questing mind and critical faculty. An article of his on the American Civil War still merits reading; the accompanying maps are outstanding. There were signs that his pleasure in hunting would undergo a transformation. He refused to shoot a bison and preferred to take a photograph. His new creed was: it is unsporting to shoot at wild fowl because they can't shoot back.

Pitched into the hellish vortex of the First World War, Alanbrooke emerged from the horrors of the Somme with the Distinguished Service Order. He was to the fore in devising the "creeping barrage" and other significant stratagems. His leadership sprang from a master mind. At the outset of hostilities, he was only thirty-one and had already married an Irish beauty, Jane Richardson, of Rossfad, Fermagh.

His exploitation of artillery and dynamic concept of the ascendancy of the tank were buttressed by relentless insistence on fitness and rigorous training to assist survival and reap victory. The inter-war years

increased his understanding of the precise juxtaposition of tactics and strategy. Mentally and physically, he was equipped to go toe-to-toe with Churchill and to be a counter-puncher from 1941 to 1945 in their penetrating arguments about the ploys needed to demolish Hitler. Those who knew Alanbrooke best scorn any suggestion that he was overbearing or inconsiderate, but a clue to his edgy disdain for weakness comes from his *en famille* remark: "Headache? There's no such thing." At home, as in his professional life, freedom from ambiguity was a wondrous and sometimes disconcerting virtue.

Tragedy overwhelmed him in 1925. His wife was beside him in the car he was driving when they crashed on a tricky stretch of road, trying to avoid a cyclist. He escaped with leg and rib injuries. She died, and for four years grief clouded his horizon; he wished he had died with her. Despondency encumbered him until his own prescription of complete absorption in work restored him. He remarried in 1929. His second wife, Benita Lees Pelly, daughter of an English baronet, matched the grace and beauty of his first wife.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, he commanded the II Corps, British Expeditionary Force France and Flanders. Well before May of 1940, he had a nightmare of doubts about the capability of the French to resist the rolling might of the Nazi juggernaut. His foreboding did not undermine his determination to meet the enemy head on. He seized the opportunity presented by Germany's preoccupation with the invasion of Poland to toughen up his troops for the coming struggle in the West.

Reflecting on the German conquest of France, Montgomery smiled wryly and said: "It was a real shocker of a campaign." At the centre of the chaos, Alanbrooke had positioned his Corps astutely. He took over from the Belgian Army and deployed troops to screen the retreat to Britain. General Sir Ronald Adam praised Alanbrooke's operational prowess as perfect. Montgomery replaced Alanbrooke who was recalled: London had selected him for the task of rebuilding and enlarging Britain's army.

Deep affection for France, and sorrow at her fate, reduced him to public tears, an emotionalism few colleagues ever expected from a man previously so reserved that they thought him incapable of unmasking his private face. The staggering experience reinforced his detestation of the Nazi regime; its destruction would be worth any self-sacrifice. This was the core of his joint cause with Churchill and his remarkable devotion. Stormy differences could be tolerated

if they presaged victory. His first-hand encounter with Germany's military machine also expanded his knowledge of Montgomery's superb mettle and imperturbability — a big asset for future battles. He knew now when Monty should be given his head and when he should be reined in.

Alanbrooke voiced considerable surprise on receiving instructions to return to France and assume the duties of Commander-in-Chief (designated) of a reconstituted British Expeditionary Force. He formed the opinion that the purpose was mainly political in origin. Although readily recognizing Britain had to show whole-hearted support for the French in their grievous plight, he predicted with painful clarity the course of events. Retrospectively, he complained of the Alice in Wonderland bewilderment that outstripped reality. But he zealously obeyed orders.

The German stranglehold precluded success and Britain had to adopt his recommendation: the only practical policy was swift retreat to the "Island Fortress" followed by retrenchment. A telephone conversation with Churchill assessing the pros and cons of carrying on was their introduction to each other. Acrimony soured the exchange: disengagement and retreat were not prominent features of Churchill's lexicon. He believed his aggressive dictum, ACTION THIS DAY, was especially applicable to generals. But after half an hour he accepted Alanbrooke's proposals.

There are critics who enjoy painting a highly-hued portrait of Churchill — ultra-venture-some, leaping before looking. In matters of consequence, the record proves he painstakingly consulted his Cabinet and the military chiefs. His long career had moulded him into the most loyal of parliamentarians and he adhered to consensus in wartime conclaves. The sweep of his mind, and concentration on radical methods for overpowering the enemy, vindicate his forceful manner and ceaseless probing; agreement on essential strategy could not slow him down.

Churchill combined the portfolio of Minister of Defence with his premiership. Cross-examining and relentlessly challenging Britain's army leaders, he would sting them with this type of comment: "I sometimes think some of my generals don't want to fight the Germans." Accurate or not, it got results. Alanbrooke, too, had his rough side. The slightest indication of a soft spot in a troop formation or training schedule aroused his professional ire. Immediate steps were taken to ensure battle fitness. The British Army benefited from his vigilant insistence on toughness.

"The greatest soldier that England has produced since Wellington"

DOUGLAS MACARTHUR



The maelstrom of war yielded no respite for Churchill and Alanbrooke to gauge the striking effectiveness of their teamwork. They were not deprived: congratulatory indulgence rightly belongs to triumph, not to the fight itself. Alanbrooke's ingenuity in France earned him the respect of his contemporaries; he saved hundreds of thousands of lives. Had Hitler attempted to finish his half-begun job of invading Britain, Alanbrooke would have been in charge of Britain's defenders. From July 1940 to December 1941 he was Commander-in-Chief, Home Forces (General).

Among the historians who marvel at Churchill's grasp of strategy is General Sir David Fraser. He served in the war and his biography of Alanbrooke is a classic. Definitive and well-balanced, it acknowledges to the hilt Alanbrooke's accomplishments. But Fraser stresses Alanbrooke barely had time to begin his Chief of Staff duties before Churchill sailed without him, towards the end of December 1941, for a conference with Roosevelt. On the voyage Churchill drew up papers rated by experts as probably the finest of the war. He dealt with the short- and long-term ramifications of grand strategy in light of Japan's attack on Pearl Harbour and the ensuing declaration of war on the United States by Germany and Italy. Fraser's verdict regarding Churchill and Alanbrooke: "The talent of each was indispensable."

Straight off, Alanbrooke had an enlightening experience with Churchill. It occurred during a meeting which planned the escape from German-occupied Denmark of Niels Bohr, a physicist who held a key to atomic weaponry research. Bohr ended up helping Britain and the United States to assemble the atomic bomb. Alanbrooke left behind a revealing description of Churchill's thoroughness. Churchill rebuked him angrily: "I had instructed you to prepare a detailed plan ... What have you done? You have submitted instead a masterly treatise on all the difficulties ..." Alanbrooke was questioned for nearly two hours; no aspect was too small for Churchill to explore. Alanbrooke's attitude under fire can be seen in his postscript: "A very unpleasant grueling to

stand up to in a full room, but excellent training ..."

Offering the British a spurious olive branch, Hitler declared Britain's military situation hopeless. Alanbrooke differed. Hopeless? "Far from it," was his conclusion. He and Churchill organized a build-up of mobile forces to defeat invaders on the beaches. Archives confirm Alanbrooke had a shrewd idea of where the Germans planned to launch their heaviest attack. Churchill accompanied him on a tour of defence installations and they often had luncheon conferences at Ten Downing Street. Alanbrooke was learning the majestic scope of Churchill's intellect, and his astounding strength of character which guided Britain through every crisis. Setbacks were occasions for drawing forth courage and renewing confidence in ultimate victory.

The receding threat of invasion, and promotion to Chief of the Imperial General Staff, meant that Alanbrooke was army representative on the Chiefs of Staff Committee, empowered to supervise general direction of the armed forces and pinpoint strategy. It was Alanbrooke's concept of strategy that legitimately entitled him to be classed with Wellington as he presided over the Committee's deliberations. Churchill, of course, had overall responsibility on two fronts — political and military. The price to be paid for fumbling would be dismissal by the House of Commons, and he eloquently frustrated several assaults by opponents seeking to topple him. Alanbrooke was less complacent in other tussles and resorted to the safety valve of his diary, which contains frank and rancorous comments relating to their disputatious scrutinizing of policy.

Churchill frequently seemed to take on the guise of Argus, the mythological Greek guardian with a hundred eyes. Alanbrooke was infuriated by Churchill's irresistible urge to dig into details, particularly if tactical and operational subjects were on the agenda. He also deplored Churchill's inclination to contact commanders. Military men should be permitted to do what must be done in the field; politicians should not jump in and confuse the chain of command. But he had unwavering faith in Churchill. "That man!" he was apt to exclaim in exasperation. And he would add: "Yet what would we do without him?"

He complained in his diary that Churchill had a regular disease: "...frightful impatience to get an attack launched." He felt he had to stop Churchill's "fussing" Alexander and Montgomery, "...egging them on to attack before they are ready." A diary entry reads: "I remain very fond of him, but by Heaven, he does try one's patience."

CHURCHILL'S bounding energy in his sixties was surprising and demanding. Returning after a bout of influenza, "Brookie" (as Churchill called him) confided in a letter to a friend: "...working with Winston is not a rest cure; it is like living on the lip of a volcano and never knowing when it is going to erupt next. It is night work after dinner until 1 a.m. with him that kills me."

The diary affords us an insight into the prodigious vitality that characterized both of them. But, inevitably, the sheer length of the war imposed a serious strain. Periodic exhaustion was a fertile cause of dissent; the storms passed and their objective was retained.

Churchill's feelings for Alanbrooke were a mixture of esteem and affection. Brookie, the quintessential fighting general, disliked the limitations of administrative drudgery. Churchill, above anyone, respected his unique gifts and was prepared to put him in charge of the Eighth Army and the Middle East. Alanbrooke declined the honour. He had spent close on nine months as Chief of Staff and was certain he could assist the war effort more by staying beside Churchill. Later, Churchill promised him command of the Allied invasion force. Disappointment overwhelmed him the moment he heard Eisenhower would receive the appointment, but he acknowledged the justice of the decision.

The British historian Sir Arthur Bryant suspected that Alanbrooke had "missed his place in history." Bryant's *The Turn of the Tide* and *Triumph in the West*, based on Alanbrooke's diary and notes, sought to correct the situation. Alanbrooke's foreword amounts to an apology. He wrote: "A diary is necessarily an impulsive and somewhat unbalanced record of events." He dwells on Churchill's "titanic services" and expresses his admiration and affection for him. He continues: "... scattered expressions of irritation and impatience at the defects that arose out of his very greatness are insignificant when set against the magnitude of his achievement." His inscription in Churchill's copy of *The Turn of the Tide* was an even more explicit apology.

Montgomery claimed that Churchill resented Alanbrooke's revelations, which implied he was not the foremost architect of strategy. Doubt steals in here. The volume came out in 1957 and Churchill was already securely enthroned. Furthermore, it is impossible to ignore Churchill's profound distaste for granting grudges a leasehold.

The diary provides a memorable chronicle of two historic figures toiling mightily for freedom; neither is diminished. Bryant termed their joint leadership>>

Winston Churchill's Julius Caesar

"It is vain to imagine that the mere perception or declaration of right principles, whether in one country or in many countries, will be of any value unless they are supported by those qualities of civil virtue and manly courage — aye, and by those instruments and agencies of force and science which in the last resort must be the defence of right and reason." -WSC, "CIVILISATION"

BY PETER WELSH

It is commonplace in our time for writers to proclaim, on behalf of the reader of Shakespeare, a capacity to sympathize with heroes. Democratic times readily lend themselves to such sentiments, as is indicated by Tocqueville's passing remark that he recalled "reading the feudal drama of Henry V for the first time in a log cabin" during his stay in America.¹ It is quite true that a typical reader may share something in common with, say, Hamlet or Hotspur. To assert the contrary is to render Shakespeare wholly alien. However, we must guard against the tendency to place ourselves with altogether too much ease and confidence on the same rung as great men and, thereby, to blur the distinction between the high and the low.

It is an exceptional soul that may justly proclaim considerable sympathy with a Prince Hal or a Coriolanus. Perhaps no one in the throng of



"Casca struck the first blow. The others followed in turn, Brutus last of all. 'Thou too, Brutus!' he cried. 'Then fall, Caesar!'" (*The Strand*, November 1933.)

writers and commentators on Shakespeare is more entitled to make such a claim than is Winston Churchill. His little-known essay on Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* provides a rare opportunity to look at one of the Bard's grandest political plays through the eyes of a man who was suited by all rights — nature, experience, and judgment — to truly understand, if not sympathize with, the great heroes of Shakespeare.² Indeed, Churchill's *Julius Caesar* illuminates Churchill's sympathy with all types of outstanding political notables. He evinces an understanding of the virtues and the limitations of each of the prominent politicians in the play — Cassius, Brutus and Antony as well as Caesar. "Such was the range of [his]

sympathies and appreciations," to borrow something he says of Caesar.



"A Partnership in Genius." The burdens shouldered by Churchill and Alanbrooke would have broken the health and spirit of lesser mortals. Tempers snapped, but the will to win never weakened.

Churchill thrust aside Alanbrooke's recommendation that he give way to someone more compatible. When General Ismay, prime ministerial representative on the Chiefs of Staff Committee, informed him of Alanbrooke's gesture, Churchill replied: "General Brooke resign? Why no — I'm very fond of him and I need him."

One flare-up left Churchill so agitated that he turned to Ismay and declared he knew Alanbrooke despised him: "I can see hatred looking from his eyes." Ismay reported verbatim to Alanbrooke who said: "I don't hate him. I love him. But the first time I tell him I agree with him when I don't will be the time to get rid of me, for then I will be no more use to him."

Hearing of that warm and wise response, Churchill said softly: "Dear Brookie." Tears were in his eyes. ✂

Churchill's account of *Julius Caesar* first appeared in *The Strand Magazine* as a part of a series retelling certain of Shakespeare's plays in short story form. The essay has all the appearances of a mundane retelling, but through a subtle approach of emphasis, omission and addition, Churchill leads near the heart of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, and one may learn a rare lesson in statesmanship from his treatment of that play. Churchill has been compared to Caesar on more than one occasion and he, himself, wrote about Caesar in his *History of the English Speaking Peoples*.³ These occasions, however, consider Caesar the soldier, not Caesar the prince. Shakespeare's portrait is, above all, of Caesar the prince. Churchill's interpretation thus affords unique insight into his view of Caesar's political rule.

Churchill opens his essay by contrasting the "excitement" and "common joy" of the Roman populace, upon the return of Caesar to Rome after vanquishing the son of Pompey, with the "misgivings and reluctances" of certain Roman citizens. The latter saw a Caesar who had conquered, not a foreign foe but "a Roman general whose father in his time had deserved as we of the republic and been as dear an idol of the people as Caesar now." Those who held misgivings feared, according to Churchill, an oppressive tyranny: "... with all his rivals shattered, to what heights of domination might Caesar not aspire, threatening the cherished liberties of the State?" This is a powerful fear, and not unjustified. Indeed, Churchill states at this point that the two Tribunes appearing in I.i "were of this mind," although it is not entirely clear what "this mind,"⁴ is. In II.i, moreover Churchill depicts Caesar's delimitation of liberty when, just prior to murdering him, Metellus, Brutus, Cassius and Cinna all plead with Caesar to repeal the banishment of Metellus's brother, Publius Cimber. "Caesar would not hear," writes Churchill. "The sentence was merited, and unless he were satisfied that it was not, neither for fear or favour would he rescind it." Churchill then aptly quotes *in toto* Caesar's "... I am constant as the northern star" speech. In this account, Caesar stands as a kind of god, as the only fixed point, or "rank," in the cosmos and all Romans were to order themselves according to his standard. The Romans were incapable of governing themselves. Under Caesar's rule, therefore, a higher authority steadfastly governed such Rome liberties as enfranchisement, and Caesar refused to flatter his noblemen by overturning that principle for the sake of liberty. To do so would be to "turn preor-

dinance and first decree/Into, the law of children."

Caesar's defiant speech was, Churchill notes, his "death-chant." Immediately upon his refusal to satisfy them, the conspirators killed him. "And as he spoke his last words of magnificent self-assertion," Churchill writes, "Casca struck the first blow. The others followed turn, Brutus last of all: then the great spirit broke. 'Thou, too, Brutus!' he cried. 'Then fall, Caesar!' and so saying he died." Churchill gives an admirable rendering of this classic scene and it does Shakespeare nearly full justice. One only wonders why Churchill translated the well known "Et tu, Brute?" into English (He does not similarly clarify such obscurities as the Feast of Lupercal, for example). The use of Latin by an English Caesar indicates something important. Perhaps it indicates that in the mind of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar, Caesar and "the noblest Roman," Brutus, speak the same language, so to say. They alone are the true Romans. In any event, every detail, especially one so peculiar as this one, is crucial to an understanding of Shakespeare. Shakespeare's use of the Latin in this scene conveys something indispensable to an understanding of Caesar and by rendering it in English, Churchill obscures that something.

In the course of recounting the tragedy of Caesar, Churchill makes several invaluable observations on the virtues and vices of the other major characters. Caius Cassius, we are told possessed "an observant and penetrating mind," but he "was a bundle of nerves, without poise or self-control; capable of generosity, but self-centered; his pride of class was jealous, a matter of *amour-propre*." This last phrase is odd but especially apt. *Amour-propre* is a term made famous by Jean-Jacques Rousseau. It refers to a "relative sentiment, artificial, and born in society, which inclines each individual to have a greater esteem for himself than for anyone else, inspires in all the harm they do to one another, and is the true source of honor."⁵ This is perhaps the perfect description of Shakespeare's Cassius. Like Brutus, a sense of honor is what moved him. As he says at I.ii.92, "... honor is the subject of my story." But unlike Brutus, his sense of honor entailed, as Rousseau says, "A greater esteem for himself than for anyone else." As Antony avers in his eulogy after Brutus's death,

All the conspirators save only he [Brutus]
Did that they did in envy of great Caesar,
He only in a general honest thought
And common good to all made one of them.

(V.v.68-71)

Calpurnia entreated Caesar not to go and her pleas became so passionate that he agreed, but Brutus played upon his vanity and fear of ridicule.



Cassius's esteem for himself, moreover, was conceived merely in the relative, artificial terms of praise and blame. As he says to Brutus, "What should be in that 'Caesar'?/ Why should that name be sounded more than yours?" This is indeed *amour-propre*. So much did Churchill capture one term.

Brutus, on the other hand, "less quick-sighted, was saner and more stolid: he too had pride, in the form of an insistent sense of personal honour: he had more breadth and bigness of nature, and a vigilant concern for the general interest; the dignity of his comparative disinterestedness gave him an ascendancy over his fellows." But Brutus was deeply flawed and Churchill marks his failings at least as clearly as does Shakespeare. He is constantly contrasting Cassius's "shrewdness" with Brutus's naïveté, for example. Cassius advised in favor of killing Antony along with Caesar, "for Cassius had taken his measure, and divined the resolution, the capacity, the resource which lurked in [Antony's] pleasure-addicted nature." Brutus, however recoiled from so dishonorable an act. Cassius also cautioned against allowing Antony to speak on the day of Caesar's death. Brutus thought this was unnecessary because Antony could be expected decently to follow Brutus's rules for speaking before the people. Brutus "would have spoken first, and made clear to the Romans beyond the possibility of misunderstanding, the necessity of Caesar's death. After that, what harm could Antony do?" In the event, of course, Antony, did a great deal of harm. Above all, he unleashed the barely restrained passions of the people and let slip the dogs of civil war upon Rome. Brutus failed to anticipate this. Brutus was not sufficient. Even the "model Roman" needed to be guided by something higher. So long as Caesar lived, Antony was kept in check, perhaps even improved slightly. Once Caesar was killed, Antony and the passions of

the "rabble," to use Churchill's term, prevailed.

The charge of tyrant against Caesar that might be inferred from Churchill's description of the above stated "misgivings and reluctances" of certain citizens is widely accepted by readers of Shakespeare, but one wonders whether the charge can finally be sustained. Was Shakespeare's Julius Caesar animated by little more than an "insatiable desire for the crown," in the words of one commentator?⁶ Churchill apparently did not have much of a mind for this way of reading the play. This is never stated outright by Churchill, but it is indicated in several different ways. Most obviously, Churchill refers to the conspirators as "murderers," a term not usually applied to those who depose usurping tyrants. It would be naive, moreover, to ascribe Churchill's use of this term to a dislike of violent means or some such sentiment. If Caesar was in any way as the conspirators depicted him — a "high-sighted tyrant" intending to kill men "by lottery" — then nothing less would have been called for in Churchill's mind. Indeed, the prudent course, in any case, is to err on this side and join with Brutus and Cassius in denouncing the extra-legal rule of Caesar.⁷ The alternative course is fraught with great political dangers, especially for an active parliamentary politician. Churchill, nevertheless, deplored the "murder of the great statesman and soldier," Caesar.

This assessment of Caesar is further supported by Churchill's account of Brutus's meditations, at II.i. 10-34, on the propriety of killing Caesar. Brutus's thoughts, we are told, had "travelled fast and far" in considering the question of tyrannicide. His instinct told him that Rome must be rid of Caesar "but instinct was not enough, it must be backed by reasons." Some of Brutus's reasons against killing Caesar are then listed: "Caesar was his dearest friend, and had given him no cause for personal resentment;

and even if he gained supreme power, what proof was there that he would abuse it?" So strong was Brutus's prejudice against Caesar, however, that "if arguments for the course Brutus was inwardly bent on did not exist, they must be forged; he gave his mind a violent twist." The result: "Caesar must not be allowed even the chance of going wrong, the seed of potential tyranny must be killed outright, like a serpent in the egg. One could hear the sigh of relief and release with which he finally persuaded himself to acquiesce in this sophistry." Leaving aside Cassius's "jealous" "pride of class" and other baser motives, the stated fear of the onset of a genuine, "high-sighted tyranny" was, according to Churchill, "sophistry," the product of a "violent twist" of the noble Brutus's mind. Such is Churchill's assessment of the highest justification for assassinating Caesar.

Regarding the common good, Churchill indicates in various ways that Caesar had achieved everything that the conspirators, especially Brutus, had courted civil war in order ostensibly to pursue. As strife descended following Caesar's death, it was clear that "the murder of the great statesman and soldier had not answered the expectations of its promoters. Rome was divided against herself ..." Amid these storms, the conspirators and the Triumvirate "strove for mastery of the world," in Churchill's words. As such, however, they merely strove for that which Caesar had already secured — the authority to guide Rome on a "sober and salutary course." Churchill makes this clear by referring to Caesar just prior to his death as "the master of the world." Caesar had succeeded exactly where the rest only strove.⁸ Like "glistening Phaethon/Wanting the manage of unruly jades," the conspirators were not entitled to the mastery they sought.⁹ Only Caesar was capable of governing Rome in those corrupt times, and even Caesar was not adequate. That they were envious of Caesar's station there can be no doubt. That the conspirators also could have brought about a regime more exalted and noble than Caesar's is highly doubtful.

Churchill's account of Casarism must not be mistaken for a defense of political liberty.¹⁰ And, more importantly, Churchill was among the very few prominent political men of this century who were fully capable of recognizing modern tyranny and denouncing it. He saw both Nazism and Bolshevism for what they were from the start: "The Nazi regime is indistinguishable from the worst features of Communism. It is devoid of all theme and principle except appetite and racial domination. It excels all forms of human wickedness in the efficiency of its

cruelty and ferocious aggression."¹¹ He demanded, moreover, swift action to kill them both in their infancy, just as Brutus had demanded in opposition to Caesar.

None of this, however, is incompatible with Churchill's account of Caesar. For Churchill recognized that civilization depends upon "the civic virtue and manly courage" of the populace. Tyranny cannot be opposed and freedom maintained if, as Shakespeare put it, "our fathers' minds are dead,/ And we are governed with our mothers' spirits." And, at the time his version of *Julius Caesar* was published Churchill had every reason to fear that this could legitimately be said of Great Britain:

The responsibility of His Majesty's Government is grave indeed, and there is this which makes it all the graver: it is a responsibility which they have no difficulty in discharging if they choose ... It seems to me that while we are becoming ever more entangled in the European situation, and while we are constantly endeavouring to weaken, relatively, our friends upon the continent of Europe, we nevertheless are left exposed to a mortal peril, and are deprived of that old sense of security and independence upon which the civilization of our own island has been built.¹²

Fortunately for that civilization, Great Britain did not require a Caesar, but produced a Churchill. ❧

FOOTNOTES

¹*Democracy in America*, II.1.13

²*Six Stories From Shakespeare*. London: George Newnes Limited 1934. pp.39-63; also published in *The Collected Essays of Sir Winston Churchill*, London: 1974.

³I.I

⁴Cf. *Julius Caesar*, I.i.32-55.

⁵*Second Discourse*, I.35.n15.

⁶Bevington, David. "Introduction" to *Julius Caesar* (New York: Bantam Books, 1988).

⁷One cannot defend Caesar on conservative or traditionalist principles, as does Gibbon. Caesar was a post-constitutional ruler. Cf. Edward Gibbon, "Digression on the Character of Brutus," *The English Essays of Edward Gibbon*, Patricia B. Craddock, ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1972)

⁸*Ibid*, pp.96, 103.

⁹*Richard II*, III.3. 178.

¹⁰See, e.g., *My Early Life*. London: Octopus Publishing. 1989. p68.

¹¹Broadcast Address, 22 June, 1941.

¹²Speech before the House of Commons, 7 February, 1934.

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BOOKS, ARTS & CURIOSITIES

Equally Good to Read or Skim

ALEX JUSTICE

"THIS was a time when it was equally good to live or die." Writing this line in the middle of *Their Finest Hour*, Churchill might easily have added that not all books which describe that time are equally good to read.

We have in *Never Surrender*, Companion Volume 6, Part 2 to the Official Biography, a book that is excellent to read or just skim at random. Andrew Roberts, reviewing this latest collection of war papers prepared by Sir Martin Gilbert, urged that it be the para-

serve as companion to Gilbert's superlative achievements in Churchill biography, it supports rereading of *Their Finest Hour*, draws the reader into new pleasures (in my case the diaries of Sir John Colville), and recreates the very days and hours of Britain's still-rousing and momentous stand alone against "that man."

This well-typeset and hefty book does not merely chronicle the hours and days of Churchill's leadership of the unprecedented struggle carried on by the British Empire. It contains the additional feature of portraying the many and varied opinions and impressions of the PM formed by those who now encountered him, either as an old colleague in his new and greatest role, or for the first time ever. Grumpy comments from the likes of Sir John Reith contrast with the swift conversion of young people like Jock Colville from doubtful disdain to optimistic excitement.

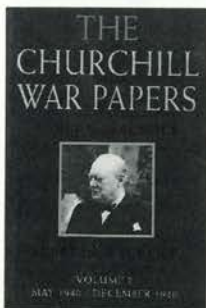
This collection of papers is more an outline of a great Shakespearean history than a supplement to a biography. A gentle burble of congratulatory telegrams opens the first scene, and we can easily imagine a stage, the PM ensconced in bed with cigar, reading these notes from family and friends that he had longed to read for so many years.

After this, all is Bedlam as the chaos brought by Nazi invasion erupts on the western front. At once there are alarms and excur-

sions to and from France. The dramatis personae follow the new master around an ever-widening stage: cabinet ministers, private secretaries, generals. It is the same stage once used before to contain "the vasty fields of France," but now it includes all of Europe, the high seas, and the United States. Always at the center is "the precious, lovable man." The pages reveal not only the record of Churchill's tremendous energy and the glory of his oratory, but views and recollections of every aspect of his character from many witnesses.

From late evening convocations at Admiralty House to morning levées at Number Ten, in Cabinet and in Parliament, across English countryside and French, the PM's most intense hours tell their own tale. Their eloquence derives from the selection and arrangement of the papers which compose the record, which "make so political a whole" that they form a true narrative that commands the reader's attention and keeps it fixed. For every day of every month, and especially during key events like Dunkirk or Operation Catapult, the papers presented include the broadest possible range of official documents and personal recollections. The result is to relive these hours as much at Churchill's side as possible until the invention of a time machine.

The singular quality of Sir Martin's hard work in the difficult choosing and organizing of the papers unfolds to the reader beneath the excitement of revisiting the riveting events and actions of those days. The papers appear in as close a daily chronological order as possible, with the minutes of the War and Defence Cabinets anchoring the account. His careful and precise attention is best revealed by referring to the other collections of source material like *The Fringes of Power* and *Their Finest Hour*. Only the most topical selections of the primary sources



The Churchill War Papers, Volume II: Never Surrender, May-December 1940. New York: Norton, 1360 pages, illustrated, \$75.

ICS New Book Service price \$60. (The London edition, although identical, sells for £95, and is available from the New Book Service for \$135.)

mount purchase among many possible choices during the quinquagesimal year of victory. This reviewer can only agree and make the same recommendation while thanking again Wendy Reves for making publication possible.

Not only does *Never Surrender*

Mr. Justice writes from California.

appear in *Never Surrender*, even if it means trimming as little as one or two sentences from a diary entry or a dictated minute. Gilbert's precision astonishes.

Many excellent touches grace this collection. Choice cartoons appear, usually related to actual comments in a letter or minute. On a more poetic plane, the reader will find some speeches laid out as originally directed by Churchill, in "psalm-form" heightening the tangible connection with those days of destiny and courage.

The principals utter the most astounding sayings at times, and collecting them is another treat for the reader. There is Jock Colville's memory of WSC "lying in bed, looking just like a rather nice pig, clad in a silk vest." The PM himself admitted to hating "huns" in this war like he would hate "an earwig," of all things. (I see these tiny creatures often in my garden, but have developed no such emotions.) A view from outside the inner circle noted that "the PM likes to surround himself with glib imposters," a reference brought on by an encounter with General Spears, whose own recollections charm completely and prove him no imposter at all.

This book contains wonderful and fascinating details. One facet of Churchill's personality which I found very interesting turned up in separate accounts from John Martin and Louis Spears. The new PM had called Martin for an interview to determine whether he would join the PM's private secretaries, and literally scrutinized the candidate in the light by the window. Martin noted that he learned this was Churchill's way of personally measuring people up. Spears, present at the Anglo-French Supreme War Council meeting in Briare toward the end of the Battle of France, recalls this same sixth sense at work. "[Churchill] was searching for something he had failed to find in the other French faces. The fact that he returned several times to a

study of de Gaulle made me think he had detected in him the thing he was looking for."

It is hard work, sifting and judging the copious written records, but there seems no end to the gems Gilbert has mined from the raw ores of history. Here are characteristically Winstonian tales like the saga of the "sticky bomb" or the Great Gun of Dover. There is Churchill's idealism for the future of Europe, where a Prussia detached from southern Germany will be one of five great powers on a united continent, which itself will be defended by a united air force of volunteer 16-year-olds. There is plenty to see of his creative force here, which with tremendous strength exerted itself even during the darkest nights of crisis.

The vast armory of resolve which originated in Winston Churchill, and which he opened up and issued to the British people like rifles to the Home Guard, runs the length of *Never Surrender*. Not always present in the daily turmoil of Number Ten and Chequers, it shines brightly in every speech and appears from time to time in lesser frames to remind us what the story of 1940 was really about. It surfaces again and again like a vein of precious metal, this conviction and absolute resolve — absolute in private as well as in public — that a victory in the Battle of Britain would win the war.

The inhabitants of today's post-Cold War age may wonder why we pay such signal attention to and lavish such honor on the memory of one man, who himself labeled WW2 "The War of Unknown Warriors," who would fight, suffer, and die in anonymity. The answer is that he led the way, not merely in strategy and at the head of the body politic of a nation under siege, but in the personal courage and resolution that braced his fellow subjects for the trial. The peril of 1940 was such that it frightens even some modern historians into a state of timidity and

defeatism. *Never Surrender* is perfectly named, since it proclaims the overarching theme that rises from the vast collection of what would be for any other subject historical minutiae.

For instance, two very brief minutes from Churchill which appear at the beginning of the section devoted to June 1940 carry the same concentration of will as his more eloquent and famous speeches. In response to a suggestion to plan secretly a route of escape for the King, and his ministers and government, we read: "I believe we shall make them rue the day they try to invade our island. No such discussion can be permitted." As for concerns over evacuating Britain's art treasures: "No. Bury them in caves and cellars. None must go. We are going to beat them."

Contrary to the usual problem of history books, there might be in *Never Surrender* too few footnotes, even though our guide has not skimmed in their use or their thoroughness. They introduce everyone who comes on stage with a concise *curriculum vitae*, and the lower margins of the book sometimes look like a miniature *Who's Who* or *DeBrett's*, an additional treat for anglophiles. Parents seeking distinctive names for children of either sex would do well to look here. All of this notwithstanding, I caught myself in the middle of a minute here or letter there saying, "Now what was that?" or "And what finally happened to them?" and finding no footnote to reveal the answer. I also missed the convention of naming correspondents by office not name. Churchill used this in his memoirs, and I find it puts the contents of messages more easily into context.

On the other hand, in the body of correspondence, when persons are referred to by their office, a footnote identifies the individual, even if he is a very familiar one like Anthony Eden or Pug Ismay, and this keeps the reader moving along. There are also appendices

which list the cabinet ministers from May to December 1940, as well as many other offices and the individuals who filled them, and all military code names and abbreviations. A nice set of maps follows the appendices. The reader is well advised to become liberally acquainted with the preface and index, and if looking for a bibliography, may make use of the acknowledgments. Strangely absent is a list of illustrations, which in a book of over 1300 pages can cause frustration.

This solid book is a bargain for the Churchillian or WWII collector on a budget, even though it appears pricey. No other single volume will give one the access and

insight to WSC's 1940 as this one. It easily fills the place of several other volumes, which, altogether, would cost far more. Churchill spent his history spotlighting the efforts necessary to the war. *Never Surrender* returns some of the limelight back to him, the "wonderful tonic" who kept up the spirits of the government no less than those of the common folk.

Happily for this writer's generation, which marches intently across the millennial border toward the heart of the next century, Sir Martin Gilbert has carefully collected and arranged a tremendous resource. We will carry *Never Surrender* with us like an ark, and with it brave any wilderness.

tells us, Churchill, upon being introduced to the Americans individually, "made it plain that he had somewhere to go on to. His manner was perfunctory, even curt. They could be in no doubt that he regarded these introduction as tiresome but unavoidable formalities." Roosevelt, with his lofty view of himself and his strong sense of his own political promise, was greatly offended by Churchill's indifference toward him. FDR never forgot this initial meeting, though WSC later strived to soften his friend's memory of it by pretending to have been impressed by him.

Slightly more than two decades later, and just eight days after resuming the post of First Lord of The Admiralty, Churchill received a message from now President Roosevelt suggesting that they establish a personal contact — this personalizing of politics being the hallmark of FDR's style. Roosevelt wrote: "What I want you and the Prime Minister to know is that I shall at all times welcome it if you will keep me in touch personally with anything you want me to know about." Churchill heartily accepted the invitation, and, from this unusual initiative by the United States President, their great friendship developed. He continued to engage in this "intimate, private correspondence" with the President even after becoming Prime Minister in May 1940. A lengthy and detailed correspondence about political, military, financial and strategic matters ensued and, like their friendship, continued and intensified. It is abundantly clear that the two leaders understood their relationship to be one of great moment, with each consulting his advisors about the content of communications sent and received.

Inevitably, this correspondence, with its exciting accounts of personalities and events, fueled the desire of these men to meet again, which they did in 1941 at their famous rendezvous off the coast of

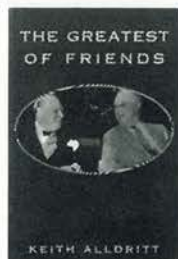
Fellowship of Naval Persons

JERRY R. O'CONNOR

THE historic friendship of two towering figures is brought to life in this concise and readable volume by Keith Alldritt, literary critic and English professor at the University of British Columbia. Their bond developed into a source of power which influenced the events of the Second World War. His fellowship with Roosevelt is a most interesting facet of Churchill's crowded and eventful life.

The significance of this friendship is well known and is best described by Churchill himself, who wrote, in a telegram to FDR shortly before the latter's death: "Our friendship is a rock upon which I build for the future of the world so long as I am one of its builders." Less well known is that the initial meeting between these two patricians was anything but auspicious, and hardly portended the strong bond that would develop in later years.

Mr. O'Connor is an attorney with Tucker, Flyer, Lewis, Washington, DC.



The Greatest of Friends: Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill 1939-1945, by Keith Alldritt. New York: St. Martin's Press, 224 pages, illustrated, \$22.95. ICS New Book Service price \$18.00

In 1918, Roosevelt was part of an American contingent attending a conference in London at the 17th Century Hall of Grays Inn, at which Churchill was to speak; this event had been organized to generate goodwill and strengthen the alliance between the United States and Great Britain. FDR, then an Undersecretary of the Navy, and the other Americans eagerly anticipated the speech by this "flamboyant superstar of British politics." But the Americans were not to be favorably impressed: they found Churchill "pompous, patronizing, even dictatorial." To make matters worse, Mr. Alldritt

O'Connor, continued

the then Dominion of Newfoundland. This historic meeting — the product of elaborate planning and protocol — led to a result very different from their initial encounter. After dining with Churchill on the American heavy cruiser *Augusta*, Roosevelt returned to his cabin at the end of the evening, reporting to his son: "We'll get along famously." And so they did.

This book, brief but admirably comprehensive, offers an illuminating account of a colorful relationship between two formidable and complex personalities, with its rich vein of wit and poignancy and its parade of successes and failures, betrayals and jealousies, tiffs and snubs. This story of friendship between two great men is a most companionable volume which deserves a wide readership.

Roberts, continued

Soon after the charter was adopted, Macmillan wrote to Butler congratulating him and saying that its right-wing opponents, such as Waldron Smithers, Sir Herbert Williams and Ralph Assheton, thought it "milk and water socialism, which perhaps it is, but ... there does not seem to me much harm in this."

John Ramsden's book, the latest edition of the long-running and excellent Longman History of the Conservative Party, is a well researched, objective study of the locust years when the Tory Wets took over the party from the Chamberlainites and made it a social democratic rather than authentically Tory organisation.

If you want to read the Charter, whose application under Butskellism did so much damage to competitiveness, productivity and sterling, just wait for new Labour's election manifesto.

Drifting Away from Victory

ANDREW ROBERTS

WHEN Winston Churchill and Reginald Maudling sat down to write the Leader's Speech for the Tory party conference of 1947 it slowly dawned on Maudling that, despite his assurance to R.A. Butler that spring, Churchill had not actually read the Industrial Charter, the crucial declaration of party policy on industrial matters. So Maudling handed him a paragraph summarizing it — centralisation, high employment produced by government, strong trade unions, no denationalisation, equal pay, increased spending on training, joint production councils, co-partnership schemes — and Churchill said he did not agree with a word of it. "Well, sir," answered the hapless speech writer, "this is what the conference has adopted." "Oh well," said Churchill, "leave it in."

For all the possible self-parody in the tale, it could serve as the *leitmotif* for the postwar age of Churchill and Eden. Inattention to detail, lack of interest in domestic issues, laziness over party policy and a general drift towards social democracy were led by Butler and Harold Macmillan.

Just Look at the Pictures

DOUGLAS J. HALL

A Pictorial History of Winston Churchill, by Nigel Blundell. London: Sunburst Books, 96 pages, illustrated, £11.99. Recently remaindered in Great Britain.

THIS is a slim, large format (12 x 9 1/2") hardback, well produced and extensively illustrated. There are 140 illustrations in the 96 pages — many of full-page dimensions. The text is therefore of necessity fairly concise. Mr. Blundell writes in a very readable if somewhat tabloid style, and his book might have been as good a short biography of Churchill as any of the many which have gone before. However it comes close to being completely ruined by a whole string of elementary errors and quite irrelevant salacious innuendo. Here are a few examples:

Page 14: "... in 1897, when Jennie gave birth to another son, it was no secret that the child was not Randolph's." (Utter nonsense, refuted years ago in court — see p8 — and Jack was born in 1880.)

Page 20: "... a moral reformer, Mrs. Ormiston Court." (It was, of course, Mrs. Ormiston Chant.)

Page 29: "Clementine was unsure of who her father was. [She] could have been the product of any one of her mother's extramarital affairs." (Richard Hough appears to be the source of this totally unauthenticated assertion.)

Page 36: [In 1924] Churchill ... walked into [the] Epping constituency unopposed." (Churchill polled 19,843 votes, the Liberal 10,080 and the Socialist 3,768.)

Page 72: VE-Day 1945. "... the King, Queen Mary and Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret waved at the throng from the balcony of



The Age of Churchill and Eden: The Conservative Party, 1945-1956, by John Ramsden. London: Longmans, £55, but only \$70 in USA. ICS New Book

Service price \$65.

Mr. Roberts's review is republished by permission of *The Times*.

Buckingham Palace." (Really!)

Mr. Blundell apparently has worked as a journalist in the USA and Australia. Another of his books was *The Fall of the House of Windsor*, the "first to reveal the existence of the so-called Squidgate tapes and the Prince of Wales's affair with Camilla Parker-Bowles." That perhaps tells us something, and may explain some of the more titillating statements; but what excuse can there be for the plain factual errors?

If you are prepared to overlook the deficiencies in the text, which is at any rate of secondary importance, you may feel that the book is just about worth buying for the illustrations alone, although even here several virtually one-line captions sport their share of typos and other errors.

No Revisionists Here

DOUGLAS J. HALL

The Pursuit of Greatness: Britain and the World Role, 1900-1970, by Robert Holland. London: Fontana Press (HarperCollins), 1991, 405 pages, £8.99, now available in remainder shops in England.

I MISSED this book when it was first published five years ago. Displayed spine-out on the history shelves of the bookshops, its less-than-eye-catching title clearly did not attract too many other browsers. Now face up in the remainder shops, at less than half-price, Graham Sutherland's baleful National Portrait Gallery caricature acts like a beacon. The publisher's choice of that particular jacket illustration may have been a ploy — it invokes revisionism. Nothing could be further from the case.

Churchill occupies by far the largest list of entries in the index; he is mentioned on 64 of the 352 pages of actual text. He is dealt

True, many of the photographs are very well known and taken from much-used archives of the Hulton Deutsch Picture Library and the Imperial War Museum; but many more have not been frequently published, if published at all, and there is no indication of source. Indeed Mr. Blundell and his publisher, under "Picture Acknowledgments," make the statement, "Every effort has been made to trace the ownership of all copyright material and to secure permission from copyright holders. In the event of any question arising as to the use of any material, we will be pleased to make the necessary corrections in future editions." This book is obligatory for the collector who must have everything. But otherwise ...

with evenhandedly and objectively throughout and his various roles during the period under review are neatly counterpoised with those of his contemporaries.

Churchill was, of course, a high-profile Member of Parliament throughout most of the seven decades covered by the book and for much of the time held one or another of the highest offices of State. His personal "pursuit of greatness" on behalf of his country during the first half of that era is clearly, if briefly, recounted. His complex vacillations over India before, during and after World War II receive comment but not judgment. His realisation that after 1945 Britain's "greatness" would need to adapt other forms is recognised as having come sooner than that of most of his peers, and he is fully credited with having spent the last twenty years of his life propounding his own vision of her new role in world affairs.

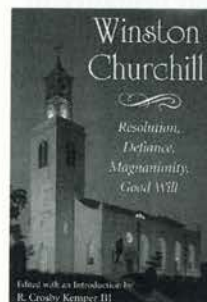
Mr. Holland, a graduate of Jesus

College, Oxford and a lecturer at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, London University, has produced a highly readable and enjoyable account of a period of great sea change in British history. Of necessity somewhat condensed, it nevertheless includes, if briefly, almost everything that is germane. Forty pages of notes at the end of the book guide the reader to sources of fuller information. Churchill's own books, as well as the Official Biography, are extensively listed, as are those of his political opponents. I would happily have paid the full price for this book. I am delighted to have found it remaindered!

Kemper Compendium

RICHARD M. LANGWORTH

THE Crosby Kemper Lecture-ship was established in 1979 by a grant from the Crosby Kemper Foundations, to provide for lectures concerning Sir Winston Churchill at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, site of Churchill's "Sinews of Peace" speech. This book collects the first twelve lectures, by persons who knew Sir Winston personally (Sir William Deakin, Sir John Colville, The Lady Soames, Edwina Sandys, Lord Amery) or who have credentials as Churchill scholars



Winston Churchill: Resolution, Defiance, Magnanimity, Good Will, edited with an Introduction by R. Crosby Kemper III. Columbia, Missouri: Uni-

versity of Missouri Press, 244 pages, illustrated, \$24.95, ICS New Book Service price \$22.

(Sir Martin Gilbert, Sir John Plumb, Robert Rhodes James, Lord Blake, Philip Ziegler, Sir Michael Howard, Reginald Jones). For those who do not have the original pamphlet versions, the Kemper collection will prove invaluable, but the book also commends itself to those who do, since it offers the bonus of a satisfyingly long and good introduction by R. Crosby Kemper III.

"It is today, and has been for a long time, unfashionable to speak of the soul in terms of Victorian piety," writes Kemper. "It seems Emersonian vapor or Hegelian hogwash. To establish a lecture series that seeks to celebrate a great soul's virtues would seem foolishly to stand athwart the zeitgeist ... Churchill is the last great figure in a long line of British statesmen, extending back beyond Burke, but whose highest expression is found in Burke, who linked notions of freedom and responsibility."

Some might think a certain later British stateswoman may also qualify for that definition, but Kemper's point is apt. Churchill "saw the mission of the English-speaking peoples to be a great paternal spreading of the rule of law and its offspring, liberty ... His greatest failures as a politician in the 1930s, his opposition to the swift devolution of power in India and his defense of the King in the abdication crisis, were also the finest expressions of his idealism. They were failures largely because actions that Churchill himself found ignoble, British brutality in India and the private misbehavior of the King, put the legitimacy of the King-Emperor's crown in question, with no noble course on the horizon to resurrect it."

The gems of this collection include Sir Martin Gilbert's "Origins of the 'Iron Curtain' Speech," the late Sir John Colville's "Personality of Sir Winston Churchill," and Lady Soames's "The Great Human Being." In the first of these, the official biographer sifts through his great catechism, his life's work, to

encapsulate the genesis and meaning of the Fulton speech — and to rebut numerous examples of the onward march of invincible ignorance:

"Here in Fulton, Missouri, during an extremely pleasant reception, I was told two things about Churchill: first that he was spoilt and selfish, and second that he was cantankerous and quarrelsome. But surely here, of all places, here on this delightful campus, where you have built and are still building such a superb and living memorial to Churchill, something should also be known of the superb and living quality of his thoughts and understanding of world affairs. *His* quarrel was with tyranny."

Sir John Colville took up the theme of Churchill's *raison d'être* in his own Kemper Lecture: "We live in days of instant coffee — instant almost everything, including quite a lot of instant politicians. Churchill stood for the reverse of all that. He insisted on quality and he set store by experience ... though he was incontestably self-assured, and by no means disinclined to applaud his own efforts, he was not vain. That is something that can seldom be said of politicians ..."

And Lady Soames, as ever "loath to stray beyond the frontiers of my daughterly knowledge," nevertheless delivers a gratifyingly intimate and precise historical analysis of the personal character and characteristics that

enabled her father to survive a century of storm "as a supremely blessed and happy human being ... how magnificently he was equipped in mind and spirit." The inevitable end was perhaps not so sad if we recall with her the lines of Walter Savage Landor: "I warmed both hands before the fire of life / It sinks, and I am ready to depart."

Many of the lectures are understandably less personal, and several of them are quite critical, which is all to the good and is to be expected where scholars convene to discuss history. Some, like Lord Blake's "The Dominion of History" and Sir William Deakin's "Churchill and Europe in 1944," are profound contributions, while others simply repeat long-held canards or stale opinions. Lord Amery's speech must have disappointed his listeners: "Churchill and How He Would Have Seen the World Today" contains (perhaps fortunately) no speculation of Sir Winston's views on modern affairs; instead, Amery provides a charming memoir of his own Churchill encounters, as the son of the man young Winston pushed into the Harrow swimming pool, inauspiciously beginning a lifetime's political association.

Like all collections, this book contains chapters of variable quality, but the great ones among them, and Mr. Kemper's outstanding essay, make it an extremely valuable contribution to the scholarship.

Audio Reviews

DOUGLAS J. HALL

THE SECOND WORLD WAR

New from the Speaking Book Company, Chrysalis Building, 13 Bramley Road, LONDON W10 6SP is a boxed set of twelve audio cassettes carrying the text of Churchill's six-volume *The Second World War*. Each volume is introduced with a well-written, well-



spoken and well-edited overview by Churchill's grandson, Winston S. Churchill MP, and the original

text is read by actor Michael Jayston. A graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Michael Jayston has had a highly successful stage career with the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre, and has an impressive list of film and TV drama credits. His impersonation of Churchill is highly convincing. Out of interest I compared the corresponding passages on these tapes with Churchill's own voice reading the same text on the 1964 Decca set of twelve LP records. It is virtually impossible to distinguish between them. The abridgement of Churchill's original "verbose and overblown" text (*Artillery of Words* by Frederick Woods, page 140) has been skillfully carried out by Dr. Alan Dobson. The twelve cassettes provide sufficient engrossing in-car entertainment to cover the 873 mile journey from Land's End to John o' Groats.



THEIR FINEST HOUR

I was unaware that there had been a stage play, produced by the English Chamber Theatre and entitled "Their Finest Hour," based on the Churchill-Roosevelt wartime correspondence. We now have a double audio cassette pack, in the Spoken Word Collection from Castle Communications PLC, based on the stage play. I have some difficulty in imagining a stage play consisting simply of two characters alternately reading from their letters to each other, but as a pair of audio cassettes running two and one-half hours, the formula definitely works. Michael

Jayston reads Churchill's letters (Robert Hardy has serious competition) and Bob Sherman reads those from Roosevelt.

As well as extracts from Churchill's letters, several excerpts from his immortal speeches and a number of his more apocryphal utterances are woven into the script. There are also some diversissements where letters written by servicemen to their families are introduced to provide a useful prosaic angle to the great affairs of state currently being debated between London and Washington. Some punctuation with martial background music, the wailing of air-raid sirens, the chimes of Big Ben and sounds of the battlefield, etc. no doubt derive from the stage play script, but these do not detract from overall enjoyment of the whole. "Their Finest Hour" is a very worthy addition to your audio library: ideal in-car entertainment for a 100-mile journey or for an evening of TV-free relaxation at home: £5.95 at the larger branches of W.H. Smith or from Past Times shops in the major cities and tourist centres.



THE ISLAND RACE

The Audio Books industry has recently discovered Winston Churchill! Following quickly upon the issue of *My Early Life* and *The Second World War* on multiple cassettes comes *The Island Race*. On three cassettes, playing time almost four hours, this one is from Naxos Audio Books Ltd

(NA304714). Read by Edward de Souza, a leading classical actor, abridged by Perry Keenlyside, they carry an introduction by former Prime Minister Sir Edward Heath. The only slightly discordant note is that the cassettes are made in Germany! Could we not have made a new chronicle of the "History of Britain" in the country of origin? Ah well, I daresay it might have amused Sir Winston.



THE VOICE OF WINSTON CHURCHILL

Decca have given the modern treatment to thirty-three extracts from Churchill's most famous wartime speeches and his readings from *The Second World War* on this new audio cassette. The words, typically in 1-3 minute excerpts, are from the original 1965 LP records but they have been taken back to the recording studio, processed for noise reduction and interspersed with "scene-setting" music by Wally Stott and Robert Farnon. All the immortal quotations are there, condensed into just under fifty minutes of playing time. A twelve-page folding insert provides a potted biography of Churchill with five photographs and a coloured reproduction of Professor Arthur Pan's wartime portrait. If you want to hear just the words, play your original LPs. If you prefer full orchestration, direction, production and technical supervision, buy the cassette. It is a rather pricey £10.49 in the UK. ☺

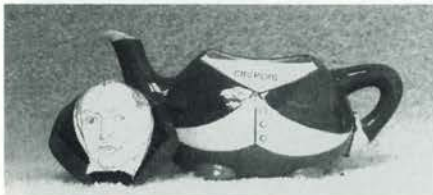
Note: These tapes are readily available in British shops. ICS Stores is investigating acquiring them for distribution elsewhere and will announce any availability in the ICS Stores catalogue.



Churchilliana

BY DOUGLAS J. HALL

Churchill Commemoratives Calendar Part 1: 1900-1918



SO FAR as I have been able to establish, Winston Churchill's first appearance on a piece of commemorative china was in 1900 when he was featured on a Foley Intarsio Teapot. That was something of an achievement for the twenty-five-year-old, newly elected MP, as the other "Prominent Politicians" in the series included Stephanus Kruger (aged 75), Joseph Chamberlain (64), Lord Balfour (51), Lord Rosebery (53) and David Lloyd George (37).

Intarsio is the Italian word for marquetry and certainly the way that the colours were applied to this range of teapots does give the impression that they are inlaid. The teapots all had an identical body — a rather Humpty-Dumpty-like design of legs, trunk and arms with the right arm raised to form the spout and the left arm akimbo forming the handle. Individually designed covers (lids) formed the head of each subject painted in a caricature line drawing. The entire range is now very rare. Examples of the Lloyd George and Chamberlain versions were sold at auction by Phillips in 1991 for £300-£400 each. I

have never seen the Churchill version. Ronald Smith provides an illustration on p.14 and p.116 of *Churchill: Images of Greatness* and suggests a value of £800-£1000. I suspect he is probably right or may even have underestimated.

We jump to 1914. The outbreak of World War I saw a boom in the production of patriotic commemorative china. Churchill, now a Cabinet Minister and First Lord of the Admiralty, was well represented. One of the earliest pieces, and certainly a favourite, is the Parianware bust from Robinson and Leadbetter. Marked "The Rt Hon W S Churchill, W C Lawton, Sculptor, September 1914" the six-inch tall bust is unglazed but has a glazed plinth — all the other examples of this bust I have seen have a patriotic transfer on the plinth, hence presumably the glaze — and I have been unable to discover whether the lack of a transfer on this piece is by design or accident. Mr. Lawton sculpted Churchill wearing his First Lord's tunic with a row of six medals in accurate detail. A similar, but less crisply modelled, bust marked "Shelley late Foley" is illustrated on p.74 of *Churchill: Images of Greatness*. An amusing plate with a coloured caricature of Churchill on a black background by Miguet was issued by C T Maling & Son (CeTeM ware) in a series featuring World War I leaders. Ronald Smith provides a colour illustration on p.167 of his

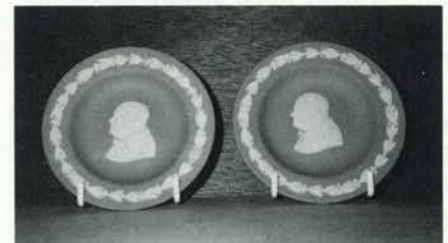
Left: the Lawton bust, Sept. 1914.
Centre: WWI dish (Ronald Smith)
Right: a colorful tea tin c. 1914-15.

book and a value of £250+. Donald Scott Carmichael has it at \$1000.

Churchill was featured on postcards and cigarette cards during the early part of the war, on a particularly nice tin tea caddy (top right) and on printed patriotic cloths, scarves and handkerchiefs. Ronald Smith has a wooden trinket box which has on the lid a varnished postcard of Churchill and other leaders.

The only other ceramic piece of Churchilliana from the World War I period which I have discovered so far is a colourful patriotic dish (top centre). Churchill, again in his First Lord's tunic, is surrounded by a design of flags, fruit, oak leaves, acorns and roses. Unfortunately the dish has suffered some damage in its eighty years of existence. Illustration courtesy of Ronald Smith.

Osprey* Corner, Summer 1996



THE OSPREY postal auction this quarter is for a Wedgwood Sweet Dish. One of the five special items issued by Wedgwood in 1974 to commemorate the centenary of the birth of Sir Winston

*Official Society for the Prevention of Ripoffs to Expatriates and Yanks.

Churchill, this 4 1/2-inch-diameter pale blue jasper sweet dish has a hand-applied white bas-relief cameo portrait and a laurel border. The cameo portrait had in fact been modelled by Arnold Machin more than thirty years earlier when, as a student, he worked at Wedgwood on a Travelling Scholarship for Sculpture from the Royal College of Art. Another of Machin's cameo portraits of Churchill has been used by Wedgwood in 1965 on their range commemorating Churchill's death. The 1965 pieces depicted Churchill smoking a cigar and, unusually, wearing an ordinary necktie. In 1974 the cigar had gone and the more familiar bow tie appeared.

Two examples of the 1974 sweet dish are available. One of them is in its original presentation box. A US catalogue a few years ago described this item as "now scarce" and quoted \$50. The OSPREY reserve price, including a donation of £5 to ICS funds, is £17. The two best bids, equal to or above the reserve price, received within 30 days from receipt of this number of *Finest Hour* will win. Bids in sterling preferred but bidders in US\$ should note that a premium of \$7.50 is required to cover currency conversion charges. Please do not send any money with your bid. I will write to the winning bidders requesting payment and the merchandise will be despatched by airmail as soon as the remittance is received. Address your bids to Douglas Hall, Somerby House, 183A Somerby Hill, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG31 7HA, UK. Sorry, bids by telephone cannot be accepted.

FIRST DAY COVERS

A reader in California has written to ask if OSPREY offers will be only for collectors of Churchillian hardware. No Sir. Here's one for the philatelists — a collection of twenty Churchill-related first day and commemorative covers:

- 24May65 PM Wellington FDC New Zealand 7d memorial issue.
- 8July65 PM London FDC British 4d & 1/3d memorial issues.
- 9April66 PM Gibraltar, Cable Car

- inauguration, 1d mem. issue.
- 31December73 PM Brunei FDC Memorial Exhibition.
- 9October74 PM WSC logo/Phil. Bur. FDC. All four Cent. issues.
- 15October74 PM Antigua FDC. All four Centenary issues.
- 20November74 PM Cook Islands FDC. All five Cent. issues.
- 22November74 PM Douglas FDC. All four Isle of Man issues.
- 27November74 PM (ind) Dominica FDC. All six Cent. issues.
- 20November74 PM Barbuda FDC. All four Barbuda Centenary issues.
- 30November74 PM Montserrat FDC. 35c & 70c Cent. issues.
- 30November74 PM Ascension FDC. 5p & 25p Cent. issues.

- 30November74 PM Victoria FDC. 95c & R1.5 Seychelles Cent. issues.
 - 30November74 PM Grand Turk FDC. 12c & 18c Turks Is. Cent.
 - 30November74 PM Gilbert & Ellice Is. FDC. Three Cent. issues.
 - 30November74 PM Pitcairn FDC. 20c & 35c Centenary issues.
 - 30November74 PM The Gambia FDC. 4b, 37b, 50b Cent. issues.
 - 10December74 PM South Orkneys FDC. 5p & 15p B.A.T. Cent. is.
 - 3September89 ICS cachet (unused) 50th anniversary of World War II.
 - 8December89 ICS cachet (unused) 75th ann. Battle of Falklands.
- Reserve price for the lot £40 (including £10 for ICS funds). Best bid at or above the reserve received within 30 days wins. Rules as above.

Churchill Treen



CHURCHILLIANA comes in all manner of materials — china, marble, plaster, plastic, gold, silver, pewter, bronze, brass, aluminum, iron, glass and wood. Memorabilia made from wood — "treen" in the antiques trade — is not overabundant, but here is a selection. At the back left: Marquetry tray, 14x11 inches, by A.H. McIntosh of Kirkcaldy, Scotland, 1950s. Marketed as a tray to avoid the then-punitive purchase tax on luxury goods (eg pictures), it is entirely suitable for wall-hanging.

McIntosh's were best known for their high quality inlaid furniture and architectural marquetry panels custom made for the likes of company boardrooms, town halls and transatlantic liners.

Back right: A modern "naive" carving from a Spalding Lincolnshire wood-carver employs all the "props" — homburg, bow tie, waistcoat, watch-chain, cigar, V-sign — but with the same features that he gives to all his figures!

Front, left to right: (1) Tobacco jar from Germany, 1945, a timely re-

sponse by the local wood-carving industry to the "invasion" of souvenir-seeking "tourists" in that year! The removable hat forms the lid to a capacious container in the hollow interior. Again all the "props" are there to ensure that the carver's intentions could not be mistaken in spite of his failure to capture an obvious facial likeness. (2) The ubiquitous R. A. Pikerling 1949 bust, but uncommonly replicated in wood, probably teak, in around 1965. Mr. Pikerling's original bronze, one of the best-ever representations of Churchill, was very widely copied in many different materials when his "Registered Design" licence expired after fifteen years. This hand-carved wooden version, carver unknown, is among the nicest. (3) Rather angularly carved caricature

figure. Many variations exist. The originals date from the 1950s but beware of later, and inferior (although skillfully made) copies in moulded plaster. These are often passed off around the fairs as genuine wood carvings, and can easily fool the unwary, but have only a fraction of the value of the real thing. (4) The cedar wood "Churchill's Specials" cigar box, 6 x 5 1/2 x 2 3/4 inches, comes from Madras, India during World War II. The poker-work portrait of Churchill brandishing a "Tommy" gun is accompanied by a delightful piece of typically Indian commercial patriotism:

"His cigar is as inseparable as
Chamberlain's umbrella
It is the terror of the Dictators
It is the secret of Churchill's power
Try it and see."

More Wedgwood

DEVOY WHITE of Sacramento, California wrote to me describing a bust of Churchill he had recently acquired. It is backstamped "Wedgwood, England" but is quite unlike anything he had ever seen in any book or catalogue. It was completely unknown to me and also completely unknown to that well-known virtuoso of Churchilliana, Ronald Smith. Neither Ronald nor I would claim an infallible all-embracing familiarity with every single Churchill commemorative piece that has ever been produced; we both regularly make "new" discoveries and are always delighted to add these to our store of knowledge. In this case, mindful of the number of Wedgwood fakes which have come to light in recent years, we suggested to Mr. White that he should refer his piece to the Wedgwood Museum at Barlaston, Stoke-on-Trent. Opened in 1969, the Museum is the internationally recognised authority on Wedgwood products with records stretching back to the first designs of Josiah Wedgwood in 1759.

Mr. White described his bust as being, "a larger version of the 1974

Wedgwood centenary bust but without an inscription, eleven inches tall by eight inches across the shoulders, in grey china." I knew that Wedgwood had issued their seven-inches-tall "centenary" bust in black basalt, with and without an inscription, in 1965, 1974 and 1982. I also knew that they had also issued an eight-inch-tall, uninscribed, version in "Windsor Grey" in 1974 but I had not come across a bust in the large size described by Mr. White.

The Wedgwood Museum were able to confirm that Mr. White's bust is genuine and that it was issued in 1953, one of the first pieces to be made in the solid "Windsor Grey" body which they had perfected in

Wedgwood ...

the previous year. Mr. White had remarked that his bust appeared to stand rather uncomfortably and top-heavily on its plain squat plinth and he wondered whether it had originally been issued with a separate base. The Wedgwood Museum's Research Assistant replied that she had never discovered any reference to a separate base nor had she seen an example attached to any sort of plinth. Mr. White wonders whether any other Friends of ICS can offer any additional information in that regard.

An interesting fact about all of Wedgwood's busts of Churchill is that they were designed during 1940-41 by the young Arnold Machin, when he was on a Traveling Scholarship for Sculpture from the Royal College of Art. Only his portrait medallion on the "Give us the tools" tankard was used during World War II and, until Mr. White's bust surfaced, I had thought that the rest of Machin's work had been withheld until he gained fame as Master of Sculpture at the Royal Academy School in 1958. One biographer of Arnold Machin has written that, since he was a conscientious objector, Wedgwood may have encountered some antipathy towards issuing more of his work during the war years and prudently withheld it until public passions had subsided.

Thank you, Mr. White, for adding yet another fascinating piece to my evergrowing database of Churchillian images.

WEDGWOOD FAKES UPDATE

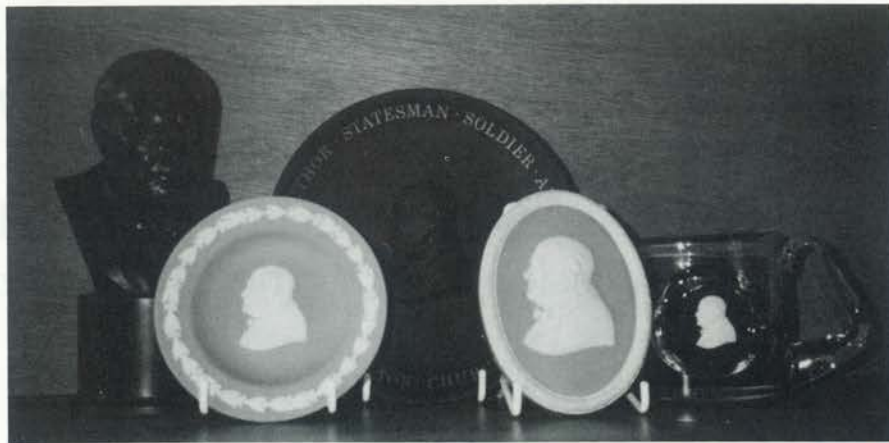
In 1994 it was revealed that hundreds of excellent forgeries were in circulation, and fetching prices up to £8,000. The revelation came at the annual International Ceramics Fair, when the Wedgwood Museum displayed 50 high-class copies produced by an unknown Staffordshire potter called Noel Thorley. The disclosure, predicted leading dealer Mr. Peter Williams at the time, would kill the market stone dead.



Two years on, has the market recovered? Christie's Paul Tippett is downbeat. "The Thorley affair did make people very jittery and I don't think the market will recover for some years. Wedgwood has also suffered because a generation of American buyers, active in the Seventies and Eighties, has stopped buying. And Wedgwood is out of fashion — collectors are concentrating on such factories as Vauxhall and Limehouse."

In America, which was the prime target for Thorley's fakes, the scam was "a lot less serious than we thought at the beginning," says Sotheby's ceramics expert Tish Roberts. "The market for Wedgwood is thin at the moment anyway, so it is difficult to judge whether people do have the jitters or not."

A big basalt library bust that was selling for \$11,000 in the early Nineties would now be estimated at only \$4,000-\$6,000 — and small pieces (the sort Thorley faked) would probably not be accepted for sale. Roberts claims that Thorley



The Wedgwood Centenary range. The bust reappears, the plate has a special inscription, the blue jasper pin tray and portrait medallion have a different cameo (bow tie, no cigar). The chunky little amber glass tankard was a rare departure for Wedgwood at that time when nobody could have foreshadowed that they would be taken over by the Waterford Glass Group a dozen years later. The portrait medallion was issued in a limited edition of 1000, the tankard in a limited edition of 750. All sculptures were done by Arnold Machin more than thirty years before.

copies even have some value — for collectors of fakes!

Note: The only Wedgwood/Churchill fakes discovered so far — and they are not the work of Mr. Thorley — are the malachite green/bronze copies of the 1974 blue jasper portrait medallion which are fairly prevalent around the Fairs and Mar-

kets in London and SE England. They are (mostly!) quite cheap and, if so, are worth having. The suspicious 1974 blue jasper portrait medallion and the Arnold Machin black basalt bust both turned out to be genuine — but unfinished factory rejects which left Barlaston by an unknown route.

Elijah Cotton Ceramics



Cotton produced tableware during World War II, using the backstamp "BCM Nelson Ware" with or without the impressed mark "England." Most potteries, prevented by wartime restrictions from producing decorated china, made do with one or another fairly prosaic sepia portrait transfers of Churchill. Elijah Cotton, by one means or another, contrived to market a range of plates in three sizes,

cups and saucers, jugs, ashtrays, etc., carrying a four-colour portrait transfer of the Prime Minister with a warship and an aircraft in the background and the caption "There'll always be an England." That dedication resurrected the opening line of a popular patriotic song from World War I. Certainly this is one of the nicest ranges of tableware produced during World War II, although probably not in

great quantity (it was probably relatively expensive at the time); it is not now often found on offer around the Antiques Fairs.

Unfortunately many of the pieces that have survived are disfigured, sometimes to a severe extent, by crazing and/or under-glaze mottling caused by some impurity in the clay or glaze used in the original manufacturing process. Illustrated: Left, a one-pint jug heavily crazed and with some mottling around the rim and on the handle. Centre, a two-pint jug with heavier crazing but less mottling. Right, an ashtray in near-perfect condition. Flatware articles (plates, saucers and ashtrays) seem to be less affected by these flaws than hollowware items (cups and jugs). In good condition a pair of jugs would be worth £50-£60; a cup and saucer set or a large plate £30-£40 and an ashtray £10 — but very much less depending upon the degree of degradation. ☞

Savouring Churchill: *The Story of the Malakand Field Force*

A collector's assessment of Churchill's first work,
the book discussion topic at the 1996 International Conference.

BY HENRY FEARON

MY OWN very fine copy is from the Library of William Henry, First Baron Desborough, and contains his bookplate. This is the second state of the first issue, with the Errata slip hurriedly inserted, immediately following the List of Maps, and preceding the first folding map (which illustrates the operations of the Malakand Field Force, 1897). There are 32 pages of publisher's advertisements at the end of the book, showing many items of considerable interest. The frontispiece is a photograph of Major-General Sir Bindon Blood, K.C.B., to whom the book is dedicated. Churchill's Preface is written from the Cavalry Barracks at Bangalore, and is dated 30th December, 1897. *The Story of the Malakand Field Force* was published on 14 March 1898, and I understand that its price was 7.6d. It is bound in green cloth, with the title *Malakand Field Force 1897* in gilt, and contained in a ruled border. Published by Longmans, Green, and Co., the book was printed at the Aberdeen University Press. The title page includes the quote:

"They [Frontier Wars] are but the surf that marks the edge and the advance of the wave of civilisation."

LORD SALISBURY, GUILDHALL, 1892.

The dedication is of interest, and reads: "This Book is Inscribed to Major-General Sir Bindon Blood, K.C.B., under whose command, the Operations therein recorded, were carried out: by whose Generalship they were



The First & Colonial Editions

brought to a successful conclusion; and to whose kindness, the Author is indebted, for the most valuable and fascinating experience of his life." The excessive punctuation, not the author's doing, was excised by Churchill in the subsequent Silver Library Edition (1899).

It is worth recording, I think, that Churchill was 23 years old at the time, and was unlikely to have had any valuable and fascinating experiences in so brief a span of life. His Preface to the book is terse, amusing — and Churchillian! Here is how it begins:

I have always thought that if an author cannot make friends with the reader, and explain his objects, in two or three hundred pages, he is not likely to do so in fifty lines. And yet the temptation of speaking a few words behind the scenes, as it were, is so strong that few writers are able to resist it. I shall not try.

The temptation successfully resisted, we are now given a cogent reason for it, and one with which we must agree:

I have to thank many gallant officers for the assistance they have given me in the collection of

material. They have all asked me not to mention their names, but to accede to this request would rob the story of the Malakand Field Force of all its bravest deeds, and finest characters.

PASSAGES

The great vigour of the writing, and the clarity of the author's style, are shown by these two passages from the book. Here we have the crossing of a river by a squadron of the 11th Bengal Lancers under the Command of Captain Wright, whose horse had had his thigh bone shattered by enemy gunfire — and yet "the gallant beast held on":

By the extraordinary activity of the horses the rocks were cleared before the enemy could collect in any strength. But to the dismay of all, the gorge was found to lead, not to the plain, but to a branch of the river. A broad, swift channel of water of unknown depth confronted the cavalry. To go back was now, however, out of the question. They plunged in. The 11th Bengal Lancers are perhaps better mounted than any native cavalry regiment in India. Their strong horses just held their own against the current. Several were nearly swept away. Captain Wright was the last to cross. All this time the enemy were firing and approaching. At length the passage was made, and the squadron collected on an island of flooded rice fields, in which the horses sank up to their hocks. Beyond this ran another arm of the river about fifty

yards wide, and apparently almost as deep as the first. The bullets of the enemy made "watery flashes" on all sides. After passing this second torrent the squadron found themselves again on the same bank as the enemy. Captain Wright dismounted his men and returned the fire. Then he turned back himself, and riding into the stream again, rescued the hospital assistant, whose pony, smaller than the other horses, was being carried off its legs by the force of

the water. After this the march was resumed.

And here is a comment on Man's natural cruelty:

Few spectacles in nature are so mournful, and so sinister, as the implacable cruelty with which a wounded animal is pursued by its fellows. Perhaps it is due to a cold and bracing climate, perhaps to a Christian civilisation, that the Western peoples of the world have to a great extent risen above this low original instinct. Among

Europeans power provokes antagonism, and weakness excites pity. All is different in the East. Beyond Suez the bent of men's minds is such that safety lies only in success, and peace in prosperity. All desert the falling. All turn upon the fallen.

Some six years earlier, Rudyard Kipling had anticipated Churchill with:

"Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet." ❧

Stanwick Mysteries: Short Logic Puzzles by Stanley E. Smith

"Mrs. Bryant! It's nice to see you again. Please come in." Thomas P. Stanwick stood back from the door and waved his gray-haired visitor into his living room.

"I'm sorry to bother you again, Mr. Stanwick," said Ellen Bryant as she settled herself into an armchair, "but you were so helpful with my earlier problem that I hoped you might advise me on this one."

"Certainly, if I can," replied Stanwick. Striding to the sideboard, he began to prepare a tray of fresh tea. "What's the problem?"

"A few days ago," she said, "I was visited by Stephen Faybush, the nephew of a couple I know in my neighborhood. He specializes in unusual investments."

"Indeed?" said Stanwick. He brought the tray over and poured two cups of Lapsang Souchong. "Have you been looking for investment advice?"

"Well, I have a small nest egg that isn't earning much in the bank, and I may have mentioned this to my neighbors."

"And what sort of investments does this Faybush promote?"

"Historical artifacts, mostly. Famous signatures and such. He says they consistently beat inflation as they rise in value over time."

"That's true — if they are genuine, that is." Stanwick settled himself in his usual armchair. "Do you by chance have such an item in your folder there?"

"Exactly, yes." Mrs. Bryant opened a manila folder she had been carrying and extracted a letter. "It's a Churchill," she said as she handed it to Stanwick.

Stanwick held the document gingerly and gave a low whistle.

"A letter from Churchill's private secretary to a John McMasters," he murmured. "Not a name I recognize. Probably a constituent. 'Sir Winston very much appreciates the book you sent him' and so on. Dated in mid-1950. Cream-colored paper. Letterhead refers to Chartwell, Churchill's country home. The valuable bit is the handwritten inscription 'With warmest good wishes, Winston S. Churchill' along the bottom after the secretary's signature. Only about a year and a half later, he returned to power as Prime Minister."

"Stephen is urging me to buy it," said Mrs. Bryant. "He is letting me keep it and look it over this week."

Stanwick smiled faintly. "My advice," he said, "is to have nothing more to do with Mr. Faybush. In fact, I think I'll place a call to the local constabulary about him. This letter is a fraud, and valuable only as a minor curiosity. May I suggest that you find a good mutual fund for your money?"

HOW DOES STANWICK KNOW THE LETTER IS A FRAUD? (See next page)

A booklover's column named in memory of Frederick Woods, author of the first Bibliography of the Churchill's Works.

Dartmouth's Forsch Collection

RICHARD M. LANGWORTH

THE week following our Boston conference last year, we had the pleasure of accompanying Lady Soames on a visit to the Frederick Forsch Collection in the Baker Library at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire. The late Mr. Forsch, a member of Dartmouth's Class of '37, willed his marvelous Churchill archives to his alma mater: a particularly appropriate place, in that Dartmouth also houses the papers of Winston Churchill the American novelist, with whom WSC exchanged an amusing correspondence (see *Finest Hour* 83, page 29). Because of this unique joint holding we were able to see, for example, the originals of Winston Churchill's letter to Winston Churchill, and vice-versa. (Only readers of *FH* or *My Early Life* will know what we are talking about.)

Through the kindness of Philip Cronenwett, special collections librarian, we were also able to hold in our hands fine copies of Churchill's two rarest books, *Mr. Brodrick's Army* (1903) and *For Free Trade* (1906). Scarcely two dozen copies of these two early speech volumes exist. Their rarity may have to do with the almost certain probability of their having been "vanity press" volumes commissioned by the author. (See Glenn Horowitz in "Woods Corner," *FH* 70, page 26.) Another rare gem is Churchill's prescient 1911 essay, *Military Aspects of the Continental Problem*, in which he predicted the actual course of the first forty days



of World War I three years before it happened.

But the most interesting find to me, as a student of Churchill's various editions, was the "proof copy" of the Second Edition of *Ian Hamilton's March*, so labeled on its cover by Churchill himself, and containing all the corrections he wished to make for the second edition in his own hand!

Although the late Frederick Woods mentions in his Churchill bibliography that a further 3,000 copies of the *Hamilton's March* were printed following the first edition, he does not say that these were designated, on their title pages, the "Second Edition." Book collectors have long encountered the Second Edition in the field, of course, but to my knowledge no one had published the changes made from the First Edition. Thanks to Mr. Cronenwett, I was able to record these changes for

Lady Soames enjoys the Winston-to-Winston letters with Barbara Langworth and Baker Library manuscripts curator Philip Cronenwett.

readers of this column, and I have also ascertained that every one of them was made: the second printing of the work is indeed, as it claims, a true Second Edition.

Ian Hamilton's March: Second Edition Changes

Title page: for "LIEUTENANT H. FRANKLAND" read, "LIEUTENANT T. H. C. FRANKLAND."

Page 108: for "Maria Corunia Verecker" at mid-page, read "Maria Corinna Vereker."

Page 109: five lines up from bottom, for "Hapton" read "Hafton."

Page 128: seven lines up from bottom, for "Commander of the Bath" read "Companion of the Bath."

Page 129: four lines up from bottom, for "lost my reputation" read "ruined my reputation."

Page 299: in the italicized paragraph, for "Lieutenant H. Frank-

Solution to the Stanwick Mystery, page 41:

The letter was dated in 1950 and refers to "Sir Winston," but Churchill was not knighted (thereby earning the use of the title "Sir") until 1953.

land" read "Lieutenant T. H. C. Frankland."

That Churchill instituted such relatively trivial changes in the Second Edition attests to his thoroughness and desire for accuracy as a young author. Incidentally, the advert for *Ian Hamilton's March* in the back of the Second Edition also correctly states Lt. Frankland's initials.

Years later, Churchill held up the English edition of *The Gathering Storm* for some six months after the American edition was in print in order to make last-minute corrections. His answer to his naturally upset English publishers, Cassells, was that the English version was "the definitive edition." It is worth noting that this also applies to the

American and Canadian issues of *Ian Hamilton's March*, neither of which contains the above corrections. Of course, both used plates from the First English edition, and did not have any reprints for Churchill to correct.

There is at least one case, however, where Churchill made a correction to the *American* and not the English edition of one of his books. That case is *A Roving Commission* (American title of *My Early Life*). Churchill rendered an index and textual correction from "Duke of Connaught" to "Duke of Cambridge" in the second American impression of 1930. But he never fixed this reference in the English edition, and copies of *My Early Life* through modern paperbacks contain the same error.

World Crisis, continued

in 1931, notable for a new foreword, a revision to the account of Lord Fisher's resignation, and a new chapter on the Battle of the Marne; for this reason it is desirable in its own right. Various other abridged texts appeared in the 1930s, including the Sandhurst Edition (Woods A31c) and *The Great War* (ICS A31d) which was the first illustrated edition, first seen in 26-part magazine format and then sold in three- or four-volume bound sets. Cheap editions of *The Aftermath* and *The Unknown War* were later published by Thornton-Butterworth's Keystone Library (ICS A31e) and Macmillan (ICS A31g, A31h). There were numerous foreign language editions in various formats.

A very nice set of mixed editions (including, for example, Australian, American and Macmillan issues) should be obtainable for less than \$200 from Churchill specialist booksellers. For about \$100 more you can order the Easton Press Edition which is just being put back into print. The cheapest way to acquire the complete original text is to get the Odhams two-volume edition of 1939 (ICS A31f, recently reprinted and sold by Barnes & Noble at \$29.95; second-hand booksellers have copies for as low as \$15). Then acquire *The Eastern Front* in a replica edition bound from "Collected Works" sheets (\$60 from the ICS New Book Service), and find a copy of *The Aftermath* however you can. *The Aftermath* is now the hardest volume to find, since it has not been in print as a single volume since the Macmillan edition during World War II.

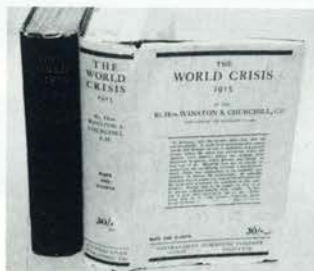
The Abridged one-volume edition of 1931 was reprinted recently by Scribners but I think is again out of print. Secondhand specialists offer copies for as little as \$18.

For a summary of editions see *Churchill Bibliographic Data* pages 1.05-1.06 (published by ICS, available from ICS Stores for \$10). ☞

Sorting Out *The World Crisis*



Left: rare dust jacket on the abridged 1931 US edn. Right: the Australian edition (first 2 vols only).



Andrew Rogers writes: "What with two-volume versions, revised versions and all, I'm finding it difficult to sort out all the different varieties of "The World Crisis." Could you give me a brief explanation of the merits of the different versions, and which you'd recommend to a low-ender like me?"

The complete work (Woods A31a) consists of five volumes in six books (Volume 3 being published in two parts, although these are often numbered III and IV in later editions). The first three volumes (in four parts) cover 1911-18: the war and events leading to it. Volume IV (THE AFTERMATH, published 1929) covers events of 1918-28. The final Volume V (THE EASTERN FRONT, aka THE UNKNOWN WAR) covers the Russian/Austro-German conflict.

These original volumes were published between 1923 and 1931 by Thornton-Butterworth (London, Sydney), Scribners (New York) and Macmillan (Toronto). Scribners published a new, illustrated edition labeled Volume 1-6 in the 1950s and 1960s. A few years ago the Easton Press produced a new set in collaboration with ICS, which influenced them to use the first English edition text (with its novel shoulder notes) and the illustrated Scribners edition photos. As a result, this is the "most complete" edition published. The pigskin binding is not top quality leather and tends to be stiff, but the quality of the reproduction is excellent and it is a good buy for the money.

An abridged one-volume edition (Woods A31b) was published

Churchill in Stamps: Victory over Japan

BY RICHARD M. LANGWORTH

Pages 223-228: VICTORY AND DEFEAT

Catalogue numbers are Scott (#) and Stanley Gibbons (sg). A slash mark (/) indicates a set with a common design from which any value is usable. Carus and Minkus catalogue numbers are sometimes used, and identified by name.

The end of the war with Japan (page 223) marks the close of Part 3 of my philatelic biography, which I have entitled "Apogee," and page 224 marks the beginning of Part 4, entitled "Valediction." A multitude of entries marking the last twenty years of Churchill's life are still to come, along with a healthy appendix! There is really no end to the detail you can achieve by adding Churchill-related (CR) stamps to the regular line of Churchill commemoratives.

223. The United States "Occupied Countries" commemorative set of 1944 (#909-21, sg 906-18) included only one country occupied by the Japanese: Korea. (China, never completely conquered, did not qualify, and Japan's other conquests were mostly colonies.) The Korea stamp is naturally represented on this page marking the end of the Japanese war, along with one of the low points of that war, Corregidor (USA #925, sg 922) and wartime Japanese stamps extolling their military. Many 1995 issues offer more scope.

224. South Georgia's Centenary souvenir sheet (#40a, (sg MS42) is, I think, perfect to document the loss of the 1945 General election. But the old man would be back...

225. Churchill's charming riposte to the editor of *The Times* who suggested he should now retire is the subject here. The stamps are Churchill Centenary commemoratives, Montserrat #313a (sg MS342) and Jamaica #252-53 (sg 252-53).

226. Great Britain's Victory Omnibus issue of 1946 is huge, and entirely Churchill-related. What to do with it? I chose Churchill's summing-up to the House of Commons after VJ-Day: a good and long speech, which held MPs fixed to their chairs. The Omnibus stamps were issued in 1946 for the official Victory celebration, and here include Great Britain, Tangier, Aden and Antigua.

227. Churchill's speech begins here, with Victory Omnibus stamps from Ascension Island, the Bahamas, Barbados and Bermuda...

228. ...and continues with British Guiana, British Honduras, British Solomon Islands and Cayman Islands. Because this set of pages goes on (and on), I will not bore you with the rest of the set next issue, but move on into the brave new postwar world, the "Europe Unite" campaign, and the Iron Curtain.

(To be continued)

APOGEE

A REMINDER, CONTINUED

"...We must never forget that beyond all lurks Japan, harassed and failing, but still a people of a hundred millions, for whose warriors death has few terrors...and we are bound by the ties of honour and fraternal loyalty to the United States to fight this great war at the other end of the world at their side."

--broadcast, May 1945

From the dark days of Corregidor and Bataan the Japanese Empire had been thrown back by steady pressure.



But despite the fate of her Axis partners, Japan in May 1945 remained unsubdued, and its government still extolled the efforts of its renowned, valiant and resourceful armed forces.



In addition to repelling Japan from the Pacific it would be necessary to liberate Korean and occupied portions of China.



VALEDICTION

DEFEAT

"When the radio announced the final results, indicating he had lost, we stood in silence for some time, Churchill motionless, far away... 'I am grateful for having been given the chance to rest,' he said. Then with an effort he moved slowly towards the door. Each step that he took seemed heavy with pain. At the door he paused. 'But I have no regrets,' he said. For an instant he hesitated. His eyes were bleary with tears..."



"His mind was far away, ranging perhaps over lobbies and battle fields, assemblies and oceans, palaces and the broken slums of London. 'I have no regrets,' he repeated. 'I leave my name to history.' And he walked out of the room."

--Robin Maugham

VALEDICTION

RETIRE INDEED!

Just before the election, the editor of 'The Times' had suggested Churchill should carry himself as a national leader, not a partisan, and that afterwards he should not remain long on the scene, but pass at an apt moment "into a dignified and fruitful retirement." The Prime Minister wasted no time in replying.

"Mr. Churchill's retorts to the two positions were characteristic and illuminating. To the first, the reply was simply:

225.

"Mr. Editor, I fight for my corner."

"To the second:

"Mr. Editor, I leave when the pub closes!"

"This was no elder above the battle, which as it happened he lost. It was Mr. Churchill."

--'The Economist'



VALEDICTION

VICTORY (2)

"...The King is the embodiment of the national will, and his public acts involve all the might and power not only of the people of this famous Island, but of the whole British Commonwealth and Empire...spread over one-fifty of the surface of the habitable globe..."

Victory Omnibus:
Ascension
Bahamas
Bermados
Bermuda



227.

VALEDICTION

VICTORY (1)

On 14 August 1945, Japan surrendered. On the 15th Churchill, now Leader of the Opposition, spoke to the House on a Motion congratulating the King: "This crowning deliverance should rightly be celebrated by Parliament in accordance with custom and tradition..."

Victory Omnibus:
Great Britain
G.B.-Tangiers
Aden
Antigua



226.

VALEDICTION

VICTORY (3)

"...Once again the British Commonwealth and Empire emerges safe, undiminished and united from a mortal struggle. Monstrous tyrannies which menaced our life have been beaten to the ground in ruin, and a brighter radiance illumines the Imperial Crown than any which our annals record..."

Victory Omnibus:
British Guiana
British Honduras
British Solomons
Cayman Islands



228.

Crossword II: World War II

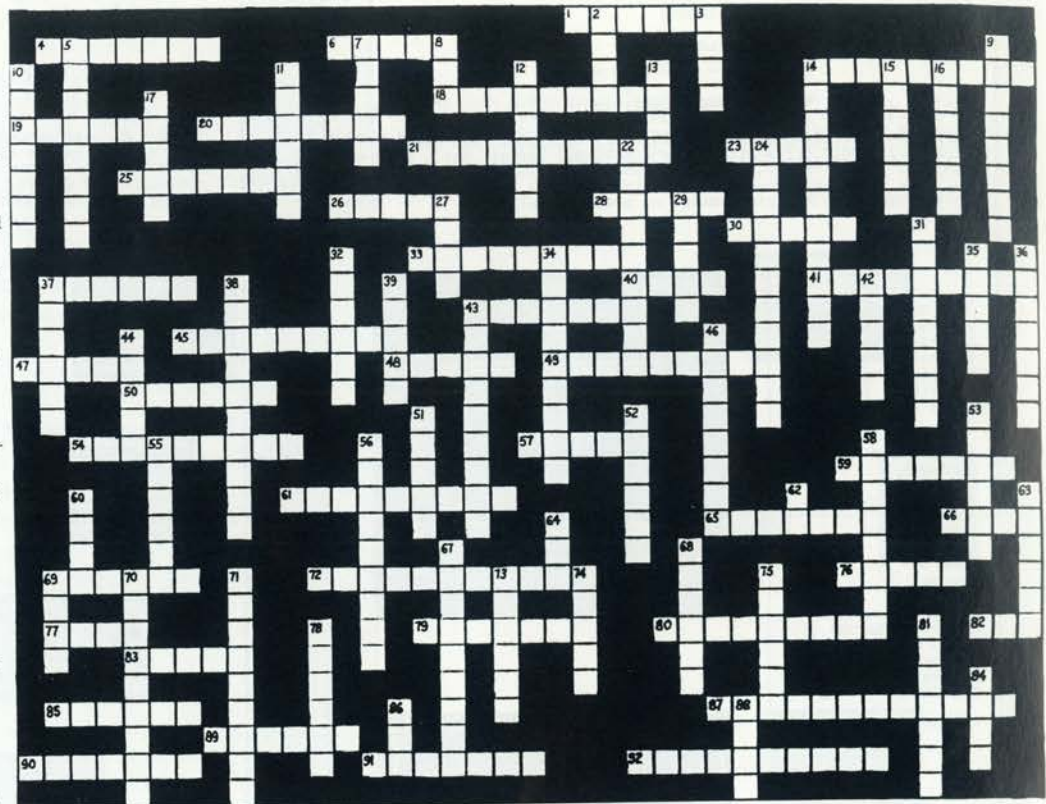
BY JAMES W. MULLER
ANSWERS NEXT ISSUE

ACROSS

- 1 What Churchill's religion required him to smoke before, during, and after all meals
4 Soviet foreign minister during WW2, known for a cocktail he didn't drink
6 German lightning bombing
14 Code name for German effort to surrender to Allies in Italy in 1945
18 Disease: the old men's friend, it carries them off easily
19 Continent where the Allies had their first great victories
20 Nation whose fourteenth century treaty with Britain allowed use of the Azores by the Allies
21 Victorious General at Alamein
23 British possession annexed by Lord Randolph Churchill, westernmost limit of Japanese occupation
25 Mixture of ice and wood invented for use as a seaborne runway in amphibious operations
26 First Sea Lord in Churchill's first cabinet
28 Code name for liberation of North Africa
30 Harbor in which Japan destroyed most of American Pacific fleet
33 Churchill's cook Mrs. ___ narrowly escaped the German bombing of Ten Downing Street
37 Oxford don, Churchill's military liaison with Tito, who later helped him with the writing of *The Second World War*
40 What caused Churchill's resignation in 1945
41 Italy's conquest in Africa, which provoked sanctions from the League of Nations in 1936
43 What Churchill liked to watch early in the morning from the copilot's seat after flying at night
45 Italian jackanape
47 Crucial British island base in the central Mediterranean
48 Churchill's signa-
ture on cables to Roosevelt: Former ___ Person
49 Dominion bombed by Japan
50 Country whose invasion provoked British entry into the war
57 Lady ___ had told Stalin before the war that Churchill was finished
59 Harbor whence escaped much of the British Expeditionary Force after the Battle of France
61 Our author
65 Australian prime minister who sat in the war cabinet in London
66 Yugoslav partisan leader
69 City which gave its name to the communist puppet government in Poland
72 Churchill liked to lean on this friend during the early years of the war
76 Mussolini's son-in-law, whom he put to death
77 Site of the main British attack on the French fleet
79 It was occupied and partitioned by the Allies after the war
80 Pilotless German bomb
82 British warship sunk at Scapa Flow while Churchill was First Lord: the *Royal* ___
83 Site of abortive British attempt to liberate a French possession in West Africa
85 Successor to Roosevelt
87 The relation of Churchill's books on the Second World War to history, according to his prefaces
89 Sea in which lie Rhodes and other strategic islands
90 An excellent anti-tank obstacle
91 Site of initial meeting between Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin
92 German code name for the invasion of Russia

DOWN

- 2 Toward the close of the war Churchill



- warned Roosevelt of an ___ curtain descending across Europe
3 Ibn ___ was the monarch whose cup-bearer gave Churchill water from the sacred well at Mecca
5 Code name for the Normandy invasion
7 French foreign minister who collaborated with Nazi Germany
8 Code word sent by generals to Churchill to indicate that a military operation had started
9 New Zealand general who fought bravely in Africa, Greece, and Italy
10 Montgomery's dazzling victory in North Africa
11 "That man"
12 Terrain where Churchill sought to avoid fighting in the Far East
13 Churchill's youngest daughter, who was almost swept overboard on a ship returning from America
14 Churchill's predecessor as Prime Minister
15 General von ___ prepared the re-nascence of German military might after the First World War
16 Churchill's code name on his travels: Colonel ___
17 Forest where Polish officers were massacred by Russians
22 Churchill thought that meeting him was like opening your first bottle of Champagne
24 Churchill's suggestion as the name for the Second World war: the ___ war
27 June 6th, 1944
28 Island taken by the Germans in the first airborne assault in war
31 German chancellor after whom was named the most powerful ship in the German navy
32 Italian island liberated by the Allies
34 Site of Churchill's only painting during the war (city)
35 Roosevelt gave Churchill unwanted advice on how to deal with this British possession
36 British prime minister who shrank from measures of self-defense for fear that they would prove unpopular
37 Facts are better than ___
38 Supreme Allied Commander in France
39 German river crossed by Montgomery during a visit by Churchill
42 Crimean summit site
43 Roosevelt's moun-
tain retreat in Maryland, later renamed Camp David
44 Imperial foe of the Allies
46 For Churchill, August 13th was always ___ Day
51 Collaborationist regime in France
52 Spanish leader whose evil qualities helped the Allies
53 Site of British attack in Norway
55 Indian leader who went on a hunger strike during the war
56 One of the two cities that have counted most with mankind, according to Churchill
58 Nazi puppet in Norway
60 One of the two Aleutian islands occupied by Japan
62 Imaginary place whose wizard figured in a popular World War II song sung by Allied soldiers in North Africa
63 Libyan port where the British surrendered while Churchill was visiting at the White House
64 Place in Belgrade where animals were dazed by the German bombing
67 Surname of the brave old lady who defied Confederate troops in Frederick, Maryland, during the Civil War
68 Party which won the British general election in July 1945
69 An admirer gave one of these to Churchill during the Second World War
70 Churchill's scientific advisor
71 Churchill's country seat
73 German general praised for his gallantry by Churchill in the Commons
74 Veteran British admiral relieved by Mountbatten who did much of the early planning for an amphibious assault on France
75 Missouri town where Churchill delivered his postwar address on the danger of Soviet Russia
78 French admiral who hated Britain but vowed he would never surrender his fleet to Germany
81 Someone looking for one of these would find a famous one in Marrakesh, according to Churchill
84 German general who signed the instrument of unconditional surrender in May 1945
86 Eisenhower's nickname
88 Shape of president's office, or "study" as Churchill styles it

EDITED BY BARBARA LANGWORTH
 TEST your skill and knowledge. Virtually all questions can be answered in back issues of *FINEST HOUR* or other ICS publications (but it's not really cricket to check). Twenty-four questions appear in each issue, the answers in the following issue. Questions fall into six categories: *Contemporaries* (C), *Literary* (L), *Miscellaneous* (M), *Personal* (P), *Statesmanship* (S), and *War* (W).

697. Who cooked Churchill's and Lloyd George's vegetables when they dined in Carlton House the night war was declared in 1914? (C)

698. *The Island Race*, *The American Civil War*, *Joan of Arc* and *Heroes of History* are spin-offs from which Churchill work? (L)

699. Name the American card company which produced a series using Churchill's paintings. (M)

700. What did Churchill call his occasional bouts of melancholy? (P)

701. "If [?] were once united in the sharing of its common inheritance, there would be no limit to the happiness, prosperity and glory which its ... people could enjoy." Supply the missing word in this Churchill quote (1946) (S)

702. With the end of WW2 and the defeat of Hitler what did Churchill foresee as the latest threat to freedom? (W)

703. Who was Churchill's last private secretary and is author of *Long Sunset*? (C)

704. What was the *British Gazette*? (L)

705. "Indeed it has been said that [what?] is the worst form of Government except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time" (House of Commons, 11 Nov 47). (M)

706. During WW2 Churchill's daughter Sarah was a Medmenham plotter. What was that? (P)

707. When WW1 was over, Churchill no longer wanted to be War Minister. What other offices did he prefer? (S)

708. Which French general led the

French armies into Paris during the liberation in August 1944? (W)

709. Who said that Churchill's Fulton speech was "nothing short of a declaration of war on Russia"? (C)

710. What prompted Churchill to write a biography of John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough? (L)

711. Why was Churchill arrested in South Africa in 1899? (M)

712. Which of his characteristics did Churchill think was a godsend for the cartoonists? (P)

713. What was the main purpose of the Cairo Conference in 1921? (S)

714. Many important people (Dean Acheson, Henry Stimson, Neils Bohr) urged Churchill to share what vital information with the Russians after the war? (W)

715. Who said that Churchill's "place in history is secure." (1945)? (C)

716. While working on *Marlborough* Churchill was also writing what other book? (L)

717. In addition to despatches, what are in the Despatch Boxes used by the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons? (M)

718. "[It] imparts a feeling of exhilaration the nerves are braced; the imagination is agreeably stirred; the wits become more nimble." What is it? (P)

719. What was Churchill's title for the speech he gave at Fulton Missouri in 1946 and is popularly known as the "Iron Curtain Speech"? (S)

720. Name three of Churchill's victorious WW2 Generals. (W)

ANSWERS TO LAST TRIVIA

(673) "De Gaulle was a man without a country yet he acted as if he were head of state." (674) Churchill's first published writings concerned his visit to Cuba in 1895-96. (675) Laurence "Capability" Brown was responsible for the gardens at Blenheim Palace. (676) Churchill first

used paper money while visiting New York City in 1895. (677) In addition to being Prime Minister, Churchill was also President of the Board of Trade, Home Secretary, First Lord of the Admiralty, Minister of Munitions, Secretary of State for War and Air, Colonial Secretary and Chancellor of the Exchequer. (678) "Chemists in spectacles and chauffeurs pulling the levers of aeroplanes or machine guns" represented modern warfare and the demise of the calvary charge. (679) Anthony Eden wrote to WSC on VE-Day: "All my thoughts are with you on this day which is so essentially your day. It is you who have led, uplifted and inspired us throughout the worst days." (680) Winston was paid five guineas for the five letters he wrote from Cuba and published in the *Graphic*. (681) The University of Edinburgh awarded Churchill his first honorary degree in 1923. (682) "Belly bandos" were tape bands placed around the middle of Churchill's cigars. (683) The Stalingrad Sword was made by Wilkinson and presented by Churchill to Stalin in 1945 in recognition of Russian bravery during WWII. (684) Churchill was held prisoner in the Staats Model Schools in Pretoria in 1899. (685) Lord Beaverbrook's (Max Aitken's French villa was "La Capponcina." (686) *The World Crisis: 1911-1914*, *The World Crisis: 1915*, *The World Crisis: 1916-1918*, *The World Crisis: The Aftermath*, and *The World Crisis: The Eastern Front* are the five volume titles. (687) In 1704 the First Duke of Marlborough won a great battle against the French and Bavarians in the German village of Blenheim. (688) Churchill's son-in-law, Christopher Soames, bought Winston his first racehorse. (689) The KGB's code-name for Churchill was "Boar." (690) Henry Morgenthau (FDR's Treas. Sec.) proposed that Germany be rendered mainly an agrarian country after the war but WSC felt that Germany should be placed on an equal footing. (691) Field Marshal Jan Smuts was Prime Minister of South Africa during WWII. (692) 3000 copies of the original, two-volume, *River War* were published. (693) The swimming pool at Chartwell was heated. (694) Hine was Winston's favorite brandy. (695) Mrs. Churchill suggested that the 1945 election results were "a blessing in disguise." (696) FDR told WSC, "We are all in the same boat now" after the Pearl Harbor bombing.

“THE LINCHPIN OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD”

[Prime Minister Mackenzie King] has spoken of the great issues of the war
and the duty which lies before free men in all parts of the world
to band together lest their heritage be wasted.

He has spoken of the immense burden we have to bear,
and of our unflinching resolve to persevere in carrying forward
our standard in common,

and he has also struck that note, never absent from our minds,
that no lasting or perfect solution of the difficulties with which we are confronted
— with which the whole world is now confronted —
no diversion of that sad fate by which the whole world is menaced,
can be achieved without the full cooperation in every field
of all the nations which as yet lie outside the range
of the conqueror's power.

In Mr. Mackenzie King we have a Canadian statesman
who has always preserved the most intimate relations
with the great Republic of the United States,
and whose name and voice are honoured there
as they are on this side of the Atlantic.

I had the opportunity of meeting the President of the United States a few weeks ago,
and I know from him the great esteem
in which Mr. Mackenzie King is held
and how much he has contributed to joining together
in close sympathetic action
the Republic of the United States and the Dominion of Canada...

Canada is the linchpin of the English-speaking world.

Canada, with those relations of friendly, affectionate intimacy
with the United States on the one hand

and with her unswerving fidelity to the British Commonwealth
and the Motherland on the other,
is the link which joins together these great branches

of the human family,
a link which, spanning the oceans,
brings the continents into their true relation
and will prevent in future generations
any growth of division
between the proud and the happy nations of Europe
and the great countries
which have come into existence
in the New World.

Luncheon in Honour of Mr. Mackenzie King of Canada, Mansion House, London, 4 September 1941