

CURRENT HISTORY



Mr. Hull's Treaty Program (Page 14)

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Our average social contacts, psychologists say, are paralyzing our intellects. Small talk and platitudes surround us; lively, constructive discussions are rare. Friends close their minds to suggestion and opinion, and we in turn withdraw into our shells, yearning for the sort of bristling intellectual stimulation we all knew in school.

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The World Today in Books

If, as Emerson said, history is nothing more than an accumulation of biography, then history has thickened around us to a considerable degree these last few months. For biography and autobiography seem to have dominated the non-fiction field this past fall. The new publishing season was hardly under way when two important works appeared, Carl van Doren's *Benjamin Franklin* and Winston S. Churchill's concluding book of his six-volume biography, *Marlborough: His Life and Times*, (CURRENT HISTORY, November, 1938). And now there are eight new works, some of which have already received wide attention. Headed by Philip C. Jessup's *Elihu Root*, the list includes *A Puritan in Babylon*, by William Allen White, *Chateaubriand*, by Andre Maurois, *Lafayette*, by W. E. Woodward, *Behind the Ballots*, by James A. Farley, *Leonardo Da Vinci*, by Antonina Vallentin, *Turbulent Years*, by Isaac Marcossou, and *The Education of an American*, by Mark Sullivan. And in the suburbs of biography are two works worthy of note, *The Captains and the Kings Depart: Journals and Letters of Reginald Viscount Esher*, edited by Oliver Viscount Esher, and *The Letters of Lincoln Steffens*, edited by Ella Winter and Granville Hicks.

Perhaps most significant of the entire group, if not of the entire year in biography, is Dr. Jessup's two-volume study of the statesman, treaty-maker, and lawyer whose public service spanned half a century. Elihu Root held some of the highest appointive positions in the country, yet with one exception he never consented to run for public office. He could have been President, many historians are now agreed, but he resisted attempts to draft him as candidate for the office.

Elihu Root would make an interesting case study for Bertrand Russell, who in *Power* observed and analyzed the power motive in man. The story of his career emphasizes one of Russell's main theses: the most capable

The annual selection of the ten important non-fiction books of the year will be published in February, instead of in January as formerly, in order to include books published up to the first of the year.

Members of CURRENT HISTORY's Literary Advisory Board, which makes the selections, are Henry Seidel Canby, John Dewey, Amy Loveman, Burton Rascoe, Dorothy Thompson, M. E. Tracy and John W. Withers.

men of a country seldom govern it largely because they are not dominated by the will to rule. Of all factors contributing to an individual's rise to power, Russell believes that the love of power has figured the largest. Dr. Jessup, in commenting upon Root's fitness for the Presidency and the fact that he never ran for that position, says that "in the system of American democracy such high abilities are often a bar to, rather than an assurance of, high office."

Root was never consumed with the desire to wield great power. If he had been, there is no telling how far he might have gone. His mind and body were strong and he knew how to direct the organization and affairs of large groups. For many years, he was publicly recognized as "the ablest living American." The reference originated in 1916 when a group of prominent New York citizens signed a statement

calling upon Root to accept the Republican presidential nomination that year.

People, whether they liked him or not, sought and accepted his services and advice. He pulled chestnuts out of the fire for more Presidents than any other statesman in American history since Thomas Jefferson. Though not a soldier, he was asked by McKinley to become Secretary of War, in which position he effected a sweeping reorganization of the army and established a general staff to coordinate the various divisions of the army. He put down the Philippine Insurrection in 1899-1900 and was constituted as a one-man committee to draw up for a Philippine Commission a complete civil code, and a framework of government for the islands. He was also a one-man Constitutional Convention which drafted a government for Puerto Rico. And as head of the War Department, he directed the affairs of Cuba from the Spanish evacuation in 1898 until May, 1902.

Root resigned as Secretary of War in 1904 and resumed his private law practice as a "counsel" with great success. Large corporations paid him handsomely; he handled several notable cases, among them the Northern Securities Case for J. P. Morgan and James J. Hill. Trust-busting T.R. was out to break up the combine, and did, and Root was retained by the Morgan-Hill interests to defend them against

Books Reviewed in This Issue

BOOK	AUTHOR	PUBLISHER	PRICE
<i>Elihu Root</i>	Philip C. Jessup	Dodd, Mead	\$7.50
<i>A Puritan in Babylon</i>	William A. White	Macmillan	3.50
<i>Behind the Ballots</i>	James A. Farley	Harcourt, Brace	3.00
<i>Lafayette</i>	W. E. Woodward	Farrar and Rinehart	3.50
<i>Leonardo da Vinci</i>	Antonina Vallentin	Viking Press	3.75
<i>Turbulent Years</i>	Isaac F. Marcossou	Dodd, Mead	3.50
<i>The Letters of Lincoln Steffens</i>	Edited by Ella Winter and Granville Hicks	Harcourt, Brace	10.00
<i>The Captains and the Kings Depart</i>	Edited by Oliver Viscount Esher	Scribners	7.50

JUST PUBLISHED

AMERICAN LABOR

BY HERBERT HARRIS

This book is a history of American Labor from Colonial times to the present moment. The long story of the efforts of men to organize in groups around the economic interests of their jobs is told here in a narrative that includes not only the Federal Society of Journeymen Cordwainers, the Molly Maguires, the Haymarket murders, and the steel wars but also the historical setting for these events. There are sketches of the personalities involved who included Messiahs as well as hard-headed political leaders—characters who were perhaps not more bizarre than those in any other department of American life at the time. Through the history of typical modern Labor unions, Mr. Harris brings the story up to date in terms of the men who are leading them and the economic and social conditions which have called them into being. Mr. Harris has been writing on Labor affairs for the past ten years and many of his articles have appeared in *Current History*. Illustrated. \$3.75

Capitalism In Crisis

By JAMES HARVEY ROGERS
Author of "America Weighs Her Gold"

Can the Federal budget be balanced—and when? Does an unbalanced budget "mortgage future generations?" How long can we get results from a primed pump? Is there danger of inflation in the near future? Professor Rogers studies these questions and others in his analysis of the ills of our present capitalistic system, pointing out the features that must be discarded as well as possible methods of intelligent cure. \$2.50

This Is Democracy

By MARQUIS CHILDS
Author of "Sweden: The Middle Way"

This timely new book tells how labor and capital in Scandinavia settle their disputes by arbitration, rather than by violence. "It is a survey, not propaganda, and it deals with specific actualities, and not utopian generalities."—*New York Herald Tribune "Books"* (Front Page Review). "One of the important contributions of the year. Should be read by employers and labor leaders."—*Des Moines Register*. Illustrated. \$2.50

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the claims of former associates. The case took two days. Root won and pocketed a \$75,000 fee.

As a corporation lawyer, Root was willing to defend the trusts. But as a citizen, he found much in T.R.'s trust-busting which he could approve. He defended Roosevelt before the rich Union Club and said, in effect, that Roosevelt's policies were constructive and would correct abuses before they became so flagrant that American institutions would be threatened: "Capital shall be fair . . . fair to the consumer, fair to the laborer, fair to the investor . . . it shall concede that the laws shall be executed."

Elihu Root became Secretary of State in Theodore Roosevelt's Cabinet upon the death of John Hay and was active in promoting good will between the United States and the Latin-American neighbors. He traveled widely throughout Central and South America, reinforcing the Monroe Doctrine. Later, he negotiated treaties with many nations—Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan among them—providing for settlement of international disputes by arbitration. After his resignation from his Cabinet post in 1909 he was sent to the Senate by the New York Legislature.* He was elected President the same year of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and three years later was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

Elihu Root's work following the World War, and, in fact, up to his death in 1937, was largely devoted to insuring the permanency of peace. He was the prime mover in arranging for American membership on the World Court; he represented the United States at disarmament conferences; he mediated between Japan and China; he drafted the Nine Power Treaty and until his death, was chairman of the Board of the Carnegie Peace Endowment. He lived to see the structure of peace, which he, perhaps more than any other man with the exception of Woodrow Wilson, had been instrumental in erecting, begin to crumble. When he died in February, 1937, one year before his 92nd birthday, the world had started again on the road to war—a destination it is rapidly approaching today.

Phillip C. Jessup's *Elihu Root* is not as concise nor as compact, perhaps, as William Allen White's biography of Coolidge, but Root's life was so active, so varied, so abundantly rich in ac-

* The Constitutional amendment providing for direct election of senators was not passed until 1913.

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A PURITAN IN BABYLON

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By WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE

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accomplishment that an extensive and detailed treatment of this type is justified. Were not Carl Van Doren's *Benjamin Franklin* published the same year, one would feel safe in predicting a Pulitzer Prize in biography. There is much to be said for each book and the Pulitzer Committee would run into no storm of protest were it to decide upon a joint award.

LIKE HOOVER, most famous of all White House attendants, wrote in *Forty-two Years in the White House* that President Coolidge worked fewer hours and assumed fewer tasks than any other President he had ever known. With this, William Allen White agrees in *A Puritan in Babylon*, a biography of Calvin Coolidge. Mr. White says that Coolidge delegated his tasks and was not a hard worker. Yet there is perhaps another factor: Coolidge was President in an era when the country ran itself and did not require much government. Those were the days when by some strange miracle all the gears and levers of the national structure operated almost automatically, and, by a still stranger miracle, managed to keep moving without hitting and clashing together. Coolidge sat at the top of the heap, with enough flooring between him and the wildy-turning machinery to conceal it from view and deaden the sound so that the grinding and squeaking sounded like the purr of well-oiled parts. The President seldom went down into the plant because his function was largely that of an honorary night watchman; moreover, it wasn't really expected of him.

It was a strange, nervous, hustling, bubble-blowing age. In many ways, the picture Mr. White draws of the Coolidge era is every bit as important as his picture of the man himself. In fact, Mr. White has given as much emphasis to the times as to the man "because he and his day of glory were so intricately interlocked. . . . I was forced to write of him as a party of his times."

This is not Mr. White's first biography of Coolidge. He wrote a short one back in 1925 but it was mainly concerned with the late President as an individual and did not view Coolidge as an important prop on the twentieth century stage. The present volume presents the full and rounded view. Mr. White may not have lost his balance leaning over backwards in an attempt to be sympathetic, but he is at least slightly inclined. His last
(Continued on page 58)

STATE OF WAR PERMANENT UNLESS—

by
**LOUIS
WALLIS**

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LOUIS WALLIS

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Ten Important Books of Non-Fiction of 1938

Current History will present in the February issue the annual selection of ten important non-fiction books published during the past year. The books are chosen by *Current History's* Literary Advisory Board, the members of which are Henry Seidel Canby, John Dewey, Amy Loveman, Burton Rascoe, Dorothy Thompson, John W. Withers, and M. E. Tracy.

The World Today in Books

(Continued from page 5)

contact with Calvin Coolidge left with him the impression of a shy, kindly, grateful man whose "exterior crust was a protective armor against an encroaching world."

A Puritan in Babylon is noteworthy not so much because of the subject—we already have the late President's *Autobiography*—but because of the author. His skill in putting down one little word after another is approached by few other serious writers today. Where others merely see, White perceives; where others curl up and get comfortable in their prejudices, White makes an honest effort to keep his balance, and invariably does. William Allen White's shadow is bound to lengthen into an institution.

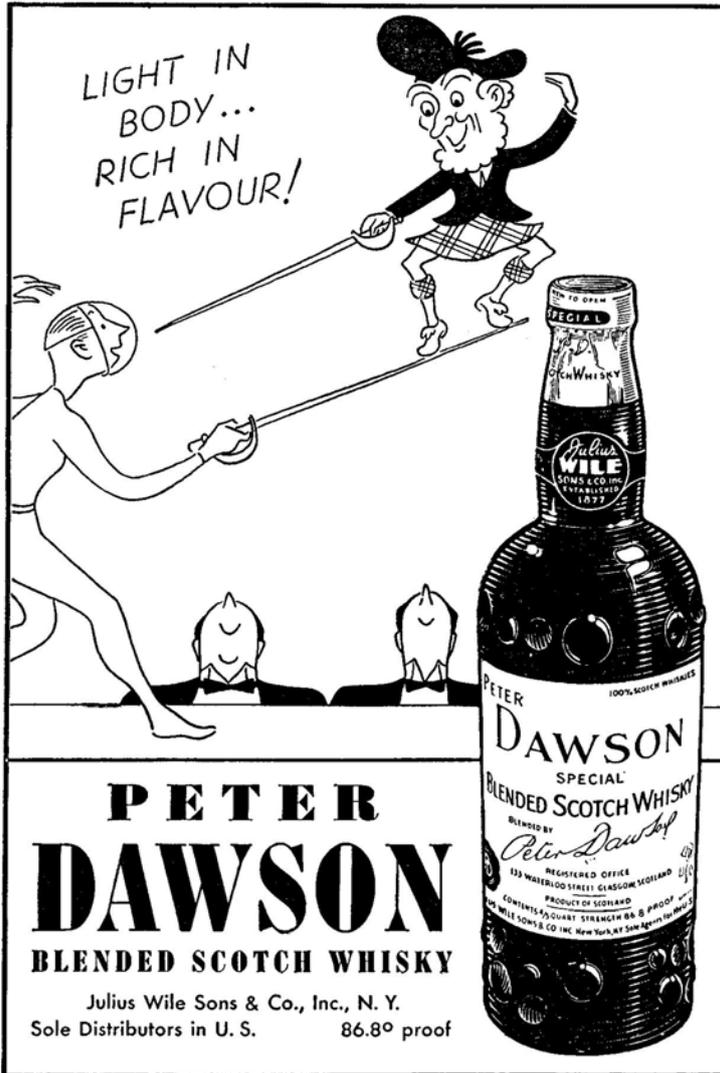
THE unique thing about James Farley is that he is all things to the same men. When he was made Postmaster General six years ago, Farley was called a spoilsmaster who was going to apply the Tammany system on a national scale. "Farleyism must go!" they sloganed.

But in the last year or two, the same critics have bought a new roll for their pianos. Somehow the word circulated that Mr. Farley had had a falling out with Mr. Roosevelt and his New Deal, that he was the strongest exponent of conservatism, that the President had laid a rug for him to the nearest exit. As a result, Mr. Farley's critics of only a few years back became his friends and protectors in a change of party line that would make the Comintern professionals sick with envy. No longer the spoilsmaster, Farley became a sweet soul whose continuance in office was blessed and prayed for by those who actually believed that he opposed the President.

Crocodiles will please shed their remaining tears now. Mr. Farley does not want their sympathy; indeed, he does not need it. On his own testimony, he is still as close and as loyal to the President and the New Deal as he ever was. The evidence is abundantly supplied in his newly-published biography, *Behind the Ballots*. "To set at rest reports that he (Roosevelt) and I have drifted apart over political quarrels," Mr. Farley says, "I wish to state definitely that I have

(Continued on page 62)

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The World Today in Books

(Continued from page 58)

never left his presence in anything except the happiest frame of mind and have never known him to exhibit the slightest indication of displeasure with me personally. I have been loyal to President Roosevelt from the beginning . . ."

Now that the truth is out, the party line is certain to revert back to its original position. Farley will again be denounced as a spoilsman and a knavish politician. His "friends" and "protectors" are sure to come out from behind their tears and permit their faces to relax back into their normal scowls.

The truth about Jim Farley is that he is neither unscrupulous politician, nor hardened conservative, nor a storehouse of social consciousness and liberalism. He is merely an average person with an average outlook on life and philosophy and government. As a politician, he is as honest as the political system will permit, but not as dishonest as it will permit. He is not unscrupulous, but neither is he a softie. He knows his politics, his organization and the men working for it. Mark Hanna may have been shrewder; Blaine may have been able to drive sharper deals; but no politician has ever worked harder or been able to tie together so many loose ends in so short a time. "Jim Farley," the President once said, "has been taking it on the chin a good many years. But he is taking it with a smile because he has had the idea in the back of his head that in spite of all kinds of unfair attacks, the American people will read him for what he is, absolutely on the level."

Mr. Roosevelt, of course, was referring to Farley the man, not Farley the author, yet the suggestion is very pertinent: we should "read him for what he is, absolutely on the level." The book is exceptionally well-knit and well-written, but even assuming it was entirely ghostwritten, it is still a significant story. Far more important—in this case, at least—than the style is the substance. And *Behind the Ballots* has as much substance, page for page, as any autobiography this season. It is the life story of James A. Farley, most of it concerned with his political career. He has not pulled his punches in writing about people he has known, but neither has

he deified himself. He frankly admits soliciting political jobs, accepting sinecures, and taking advantage of every opening.

Frank, candid autobiographies are the order of the day and many authors, attempting to win popular favor, will glut their pages with overdoses of synthetic confessions. *Behind the Bal-lots*, however, is not sticky nor annoying in its frankness. James Farley does not have to wear his heart on his sleeve to attract attention.

W. E. WOODWARD has become, in many respects, the most interesting of living American historians. He is a moderate debunker who stands Left-center in his orthodoxy of approach. For instance, if the venerated old Par-son Weems occupied the extreme Right in his account of George Washington, while Rupert Hughes stood on the ultra-Left, Woodward in his Wash-ingtonian work has inclined toward Hughes while retaining his mental balance and clarity of judgment. Woodward is not a sentimentalist except that he has apparently, a deep regard for the common man. He very frequently indulges in a wealth of petty, little-known detail, occasion-ally none too accurate yet perti-nent and in the main valuable, casting sidelights and side-shadows on his subject matter.

Now comes a more than ordinarily sympathetic *Lafayette*—a character whom Woodward evidently likes bet-ter than either Grant or Washington. Lafayette was a veteran of three rev-olutions, the American, that of the French Bastille, and that of the Orlean-ists in 1830.

When Lafayette came to America for his first revolution, Jefferson said he had "a canine appetite for popu-larity." He liked publicity, according to Woodward, and was willing to suf-fer or even die for it, heroically, blatantly. And he was very useful to the struggling Americans. He was modest, too. He told Washington: "I am here to learn and not to teach."

In the second "Lafayette" revolu-tion, the French hurricane of 1789, the hero's mission was that of pacifier. He was "by instinct a compromiser." He believed in everybody's best inten-tions and tried to synchronize them into something constructive. But "only fanatics will be heard during cata-clysms"—and Lafayette's became a voice crying in the wilderness of France.

In 1830 Lafayette was a republican,

but obligingly lent his support to the liberal monarchists who enthroned Citizen Louis Phillippe of the House of Orleans. This was Lafayette's—and Woodward's—last revolution.

A SMALL, simple gravestone in France carries the following inscrip-tion:

Under this stone rest bones col-lected during the excavations in the former royal chapel of Am-boise among which it is surmised that there are the mortal remains of Leonardo da Vinci.

Yet no one knows whether those are the remains of Leonardo or some nameless person; the chapel in which he was buried was ransacked and ruined, the dead disturbed in their graves and their bones scattered and destroyed. Such an ending, Antonina Vallentin says in the biography, *Leonardo da Vinci*, was tragically ap-propriate. For the results of his work and his research have not been pre-served. "His unique career, a life-time devoted to research in every field of knowledge, ended without the pub-lication even of fragments of his con-clusions."

In his quest of perfection, Leonardo allowed to be destroyed for posterity the greatest range of knowledge ever acquired by one man. He was almost seventy when he died but he had counted on a longer life in which he could complete the record of his work. He was tortured by the realization that he had robbed himself of fulfillment; nothing remained but "fragmentary achievements from all his immense efforts."

The world knows that he had ex-perimented with human flight, that he had constructed a huge motorless flying machine, but there is no record of the actual experiments. A number of his engineering accomplishments are known but many of the engineer-ing theories he is believed to have evolved successfully are still being pursued in modern laboratories. Air conditioning is supposed to be a re-cent invention, but Leonardo went far beyond our comparatively limited range almost 450 years ago. In medi-cine, surgery, biology, psychology, physics, chemistry, military science, music, he has come as close to ascer-taining fundamental laws as any man before or after. The world recognizes him chiefly as an artist; but even here some of his greatest paintings have been destroyed.

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Considering the great gaps in our knowledge of Leonardo, Miss Vallentin does very well. Though *Leonardo da Vinci: The Tragic Pursuit of Perfection* can hardly be called a definitive biography, it is skillfully composed, shows a great deal of research and collating, and contains a wealth of interpretative material. Physically, the book itself is a work of art. Binding, printing, and illustrations are beautifully done.

ISAAC F. MARCOSSON follows up his *Adventures in Interviewing* of more than a decade ago with *Turbulent Years*, a semi-autobiographical account of the author's conversations with people who have made or are making a claim to history. "Ike," as he is known to journalists the world over, is the kingpin of all interviewers. From 1907 to 1936 he was associated with the *Saturday Evening Post*, latterly as chief foreign correspondent. In this position, he covered dominant personalities of three continents and through them, important events.

Included here are vivid, intimate sketches and accounts of interviews with men who ruled the world in the 'twenties and early 'thirties. One of the most interesting chapters deals with Leon Trotsky, at a time when the famous revolutionary was still chief of the Red Army. It took Marcossan weeks to break through the wall that surrounded Trotsky. Finally, the last streamer of Red tape was cut. Trotsky talked freely, answered every question. On the way back to his hotel Marcossan fell, hitting his head against the pavement. His head and arm heavily bandaged, Marcossan found it difficult to convince his Moscow friends that he did not pick up the injuries during the interview.

Marcossan's comments on events are well-rounded. The book makes pleasant reading.

THE greatest autobiography ever written by a journalist, of course, is credited to Lincoln Steffens. His *Autobiography* was in reality several books in one; the early chapters, devoted to his childhood, could be published separately and would be a classic of literature for children; the middle chapters, containing the account of his higher education and newspaper and muck-raking days, could stand independently as an effective picture of the revolt of a sensitive individual against the rigging of a politically corrupt America; the last chapters could be

published as a study in social and political philosophy.

And yet—Steffens' story was not complete. It didn't tell enough about the real Steffens. He had described and attempted to explain himself in his autobiography but the picture showed him largely as he wanted to appear. For—and this is apparent in *The Letters of Lincoln Steffens*, collected and edited by Ella Winter and Granville Hicks—Steffens was vain and warmly human. The *Autobiography* presented the reformer; now, the *Letters* present a responsive, sensitive, emotional, impulsive, contradictory—and very likeable personality.

In sheer drama and sustained interest, the *Letters* outdo, perhaps, even the *Autobiography*. Covering the period in Steffens life from 1889 to 1936, when he died, this two-volume collection makes, moreover, a highly significant story. The work shows careful, capable editing.

FOR the most self-effacing work of the year, this department nominates *The Captains and the Kings Depart*, published in two volumes and consisting of the journals and letters of Reginald Viscount Esher, edited by Oliver Viscount Esher. The work was published in a whisper and issued without a release or explanatory note. It lacks jacket, preface, foreword, introduction or editor's remarks; indeed, editor and subject are hardly identified. This lack of fanfare is all the more conspicuous since it deals with a figure who, to most Americans, is a stranger. A further puzzle is the fact that Viscount Esher, who died in 1930, turned over his diary and his papers dealing with the World War to the British Museum in 1921 and gave specific instructions that they not be opened until after fifty years.* Do the present volumes embrace any of the material placed in the Museum? This question is pertinent because most of the material in *The Captains and the Kings Depart* is concerned with the World War. Is this material the surplus over that deposited in the British Museum? This department does not know and solicits enlightenment from the publishers.

If the material in these books represent that which is left over, then we have never seen a more significant surplus. For *The Captains and The Kings Depart* contain information on the World War which in many respects is even more revelatory than Lloyd

George's now-I-will-tell-all six-volume history of the conflict. Reginald Viscount Esher was an interesting figure in English history. He slid in and out of politics with the greatest of ease, apparently thought nothing of refusing the King, and was the counterpart of our modern Peglers.

Outspoken at all times, he told the elder Henry Morgenthau, representing President Wilson, soon after the United States entered the war, that he [Esher] was a "shocking materialist," that he did not believe that the war would end all war; that if the Allies won they "would be foolish if they failed to get all the material guarantees they could get, so that when the next war comes, each of these nations would find themselves stronger and more self-supporting than they did at the start of the World War." Morgenthau was shocked at these ideas and asked Esher not to circulate them for fear all enthusiasm in America for the war would be destroyed. Writing in his journal, Esher pictured the Americans as idealists who thought of war as a Crusade, despite the fact that many of those who held this view never "used the symbol of the cross."

Esher's letters to Douglas Haig mercilessly criticized the military blunders of the Allies. He was even more severe with the politicians behind the lines: "All the politicians, English, French, and Italian, are drunk with their own verbosity. They talk themselves into the belief that they are winning the war, when they are losing it hard. . . . They are afraid of their own shadows!"

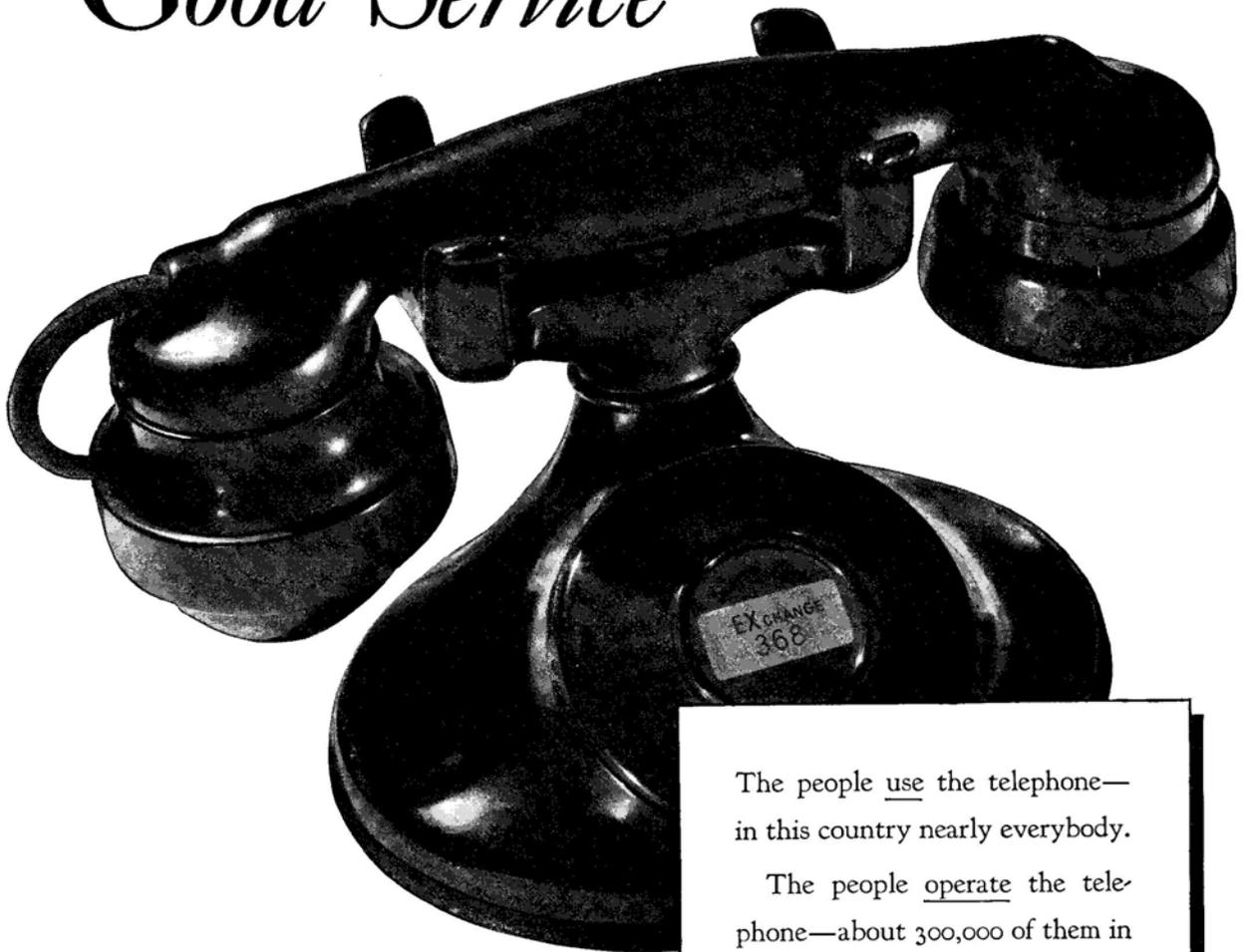
All this and more throughout the two volumes. If this is the material placed for safekeeping in the British Museum, one can well understand why Viscount Esher thought it best that it be unopened for half a century. For it clearly and bluntly tells things that were never made public before; of peace overtures by the Germans long before America jumped into the battle; of a memorandum sent to the British Cabinet shortly after the end of the war warning against the League of Nations, pointing to the inevitability of a future war upon even a bigger scale if it should be adopted.

There is more to *The Captains and the Kings Depart* than meets the eye. This department will discuss it again in a later issue.

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This Refugee Problem

LET us be frank, especially with ourselves. Just how far are we ready to go in helping to solve this refugee problem? Putting it even more bluntly, just how many Jews are we willing to admit? Are we prepared, for instance, to modify or liberalize immigration laws, and if so, to what extent? Are we prepared to join other countries—particularly European countries—in guaranteeing the integrity of a new Jewish homeland, if one can be found? Are we prepared to make an issue of it should the Nazis balk at allowing the Jews to leave Germany?

We are naturally horrified at the existing situation. Other minorities have been abused and kicked around by various governments at various times. In no case, however, has a minority been made to suffer such sweeping, savage restraint as that of the Jews in Germany. They have not only been deprived of citizenship, but of practically all those rights which the civilized world has come to look upon as natural and legitimate. They are prevented from earning a living in ordinary ways; they cannot walk on the principal streets of the city in which they dwell; they cannot dwell in its better sections; they cannot drive automobiles; they cannot enter college; they cannot even go out-of-doors unless permitted by the police.

Still—and making due allowance for all this—some of the schemes proposed for their relief do not offer much more hope than the ghetto toward which they are definitely being driven. One can only guess what they think about such schemes, about the general idea of being uprooted, transported, and then allowed to shift for themselves in some far-off, undeveloped region.

Many people are busying themselves with paper schemes for rescuing, relieving and rehabilitating German Jews. Most of these schemes, however, rest entirely on wishful thinking. Some of them are obviously impractical, some are so mixed with international politics that they could hardly be launched without a grand rumpus, much less carried out, and some are too fantastic for serious consideration.

Take British Guiana, for instance, which has been proposed as a happy haven: what has it to offer the average city-dwelling Jew? Can you imagine a multitude of former clerks, tradesmen, merchants, lawyers, professors, etc., tackling that hot, humid, unimproved region? One would have to look far for a set-up better calculated to result in tragedy. And this

Tanganyika proposition: doesn't it look like mixing charity with politics? Tanganyika is one of the former German colonies which the Nazis would like to get back. By way of disillusioning them on this point, the British Premier suggests that it would make an excellent homeland for Jewish refugees.

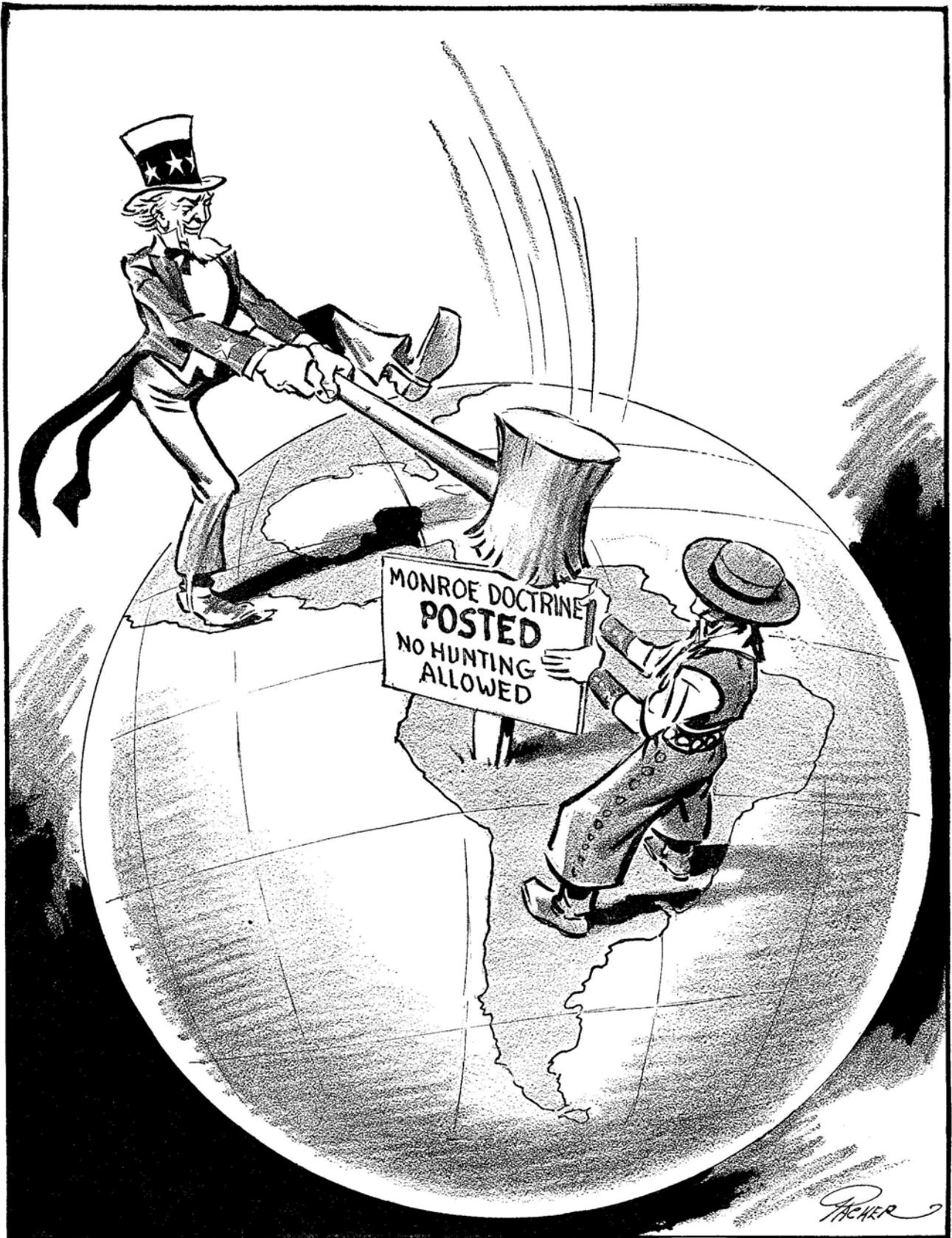
Then there is Pitcairn Island. One can only marvel at the genius who suggested that speck of rock in the mid-Pacific—one thousand acres more or less—six hundred miles from the nearest land and twice proved incapable of supporting more than a hundred families.

It hardly strains the imagination to suspect that some of the 30-odd countries supposed to be cooperating in behalf of Jewish refugees are trying to sidestep direct responsibility. Otherwise, why all the talk about isolated regions, the establishment of new states, etc.?

German trade has not increased; German finances have not been strengthened; German relations with other countries—even those in Central Europe—have not improved. More disappointing than all else, the anti-Jewish campaign has failed to strike fire among the Germans themselves. Propaganda Minister Goebbels has found himself hard put to it to whip up the proper degree of enthusiasm and has had to work his publicity machine overtime. Millions of Germans are cold toward this useless, unreasoned visitation of hardships on a helpless minority. They cannot do much about it because they, too, must bow to the dictates of an armed tyranny. They can, however, withhold positive approval and that is what they are doing. It is not logical to believe that the withholding of such approval will be without effect.

The Nazi regime has gone too far for its own good. It has seriously weakened its position not only abroad but at home. It must let up or face the consequence of an aroused conscience on the part of its own people. There is bound to be a turn of the tide within Germany. How long this turn will be in making itself felt no one can guess, but it is as inevitable as the day of doom. All one has to do is recall the Jewish captivity in Babylon, the persecution of Christians at Rome, the Spanish Inquisition, and the witchcraft delusion to realize where such a course leads.

ME Tracy



Staking His Claim

Packer in The New York Daily Mirror