



# Finest Hour

Fourth Quarter 1989 • Number 65



## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO: THE FUNERAL OF SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

*"If the human race wishes to have a prolonged and indefinite period of material prosperity, they have only got to behave in a peaceful and helpful way toward one another, and science will do for them all that they wish and more than they can dream . . . We might even find ourselves in a few years moving along a smooth causeway of peace and plenty instead of roaming around on the rim of Hell. . . Thus we may by patience, courage, and in orderly progression reach the shelter of a calmer and kindlier age . . .*

*Withhold no sacrifice. Grudge no toil. Seek no sordid gain. Fear no foe. All will be well. "* W.S. C.

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## THE INTERNATIONAL CHURCHILL SOCIETY

Founded in 1968, the Society consists of three independent, not-for-profit charitable organisations in Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States, plus branch offices in Australia and New Zealand, which work together to promote interest in and education on the life, times, thought and work of Sir Winston Churchill, and to preserve his memory. The independent Societies are certified charities under the separate laws of Canada, the UK and USA, and are affiliated with similar organisations such as the Winston S. Churchill Societies of Western Canada. *Finest Hour* is provided free to Members or Friends of ICS, which offers several levels of support in various currencies. Membership applications and changes of address should be sent to the National Offices listed opposite. Editorial correspondence: PO Box 385, Contoocook, NH 03229 USA, fax (603) 746-4260, telephone 746-4433. Permission to mail at non-profit rates in the United States granted by the US Postal Service. Produced by Dragonwyck Publishing Inc. Copyright © 1990. All rights reserved.

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London: Heinemann; Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., Toronto, Stoddart & Co. Ltd. All 1983. Note: Heinemann "Popular Edition" and Stoddart Canadian Edition were cheap issues with non-uniform bindings in illustrated jackets; they lack the frontispiece, two-color title page and stained top page edges of the uniform British edition.
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*ICS Stores:* Sue Ellen Truax  
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## *Thoughts and Adventures*

### IN VICTORY, MAGNANIMITY . . .

Doeke J. Oostra, a Ducth ICS member and a friend of 25 years, sends me this glimpse of Berlin on November 9th: "People from the East, in West Berlin for the first time, declare with lumps in their throats and tears running down their cheeks how wonderful it is . . . The news that Zhivkov of Bulgaria resigned is almost snowed under by ecstatic reports from Berlin . . . Czechoslovakia would appear to be next . . . I think the old continent is going to show the world a thing or two now . . . What I believe we are witnessing is victory: our victory."

The American Secretary of State, as cold a fish as politics ever produced, quotes a secretary telephoning from the Foreign Ministry in Bonn: "Please hold for Herr Genscher, Mr. Secretary. Thank you for everything. God bless America." And the tears roll down *his* cheeks.

But the English-Speaking Peoples are blessed today with few leaders capable of giving voice to what we all feel: what Mr. Oostra and a German lady so effortlessly capture in a language not their own. Somehow Ronald Reagan, Robert Menzies, Malcolm Fraser or Lester Pearson would have found the words that elude President Bush, who will "not gloat" for fear of antagonizing Gorbachev, yet frisks at the side of the Chinese tiger even as he pleads for Eastern Europe the rights of man with Jean Jacques Rousseau.

Devoid of modern inspiration the mind wanders back: to John Kennedy in 1961, declaring, "Ich Bin Ein Berliner" . . . to Harry Truman in 1948, vowing to maintain that airlift if it takes the whole damn Air Force . . . of Churchill, dear Churchill, at the Guildhall and the House of Commons, Fulton and Washington, Zurich and The Hague . . .

"As victory in the war became certain there was the hope that these splendid groupings of states and nations would meet not in an overcrowded Tower of Babel, but upon a mountain top where all was cool and quiet and calm, and from which the wide vision of the world would be presented with all things in their due proportion. As the poet Blake wrote: 'Above Time's troubled fountains, On the great Atlantic mountains, In my golden house on high.'

"Europe has only to arise and stand in her own majesty, faithfulness and virtue, to confront all forms of tyranny, ancient or modern, Nazi or Communist, with forces which are unconquerable, and which if asserted in good time may never be challenged again.

"A high and solemn responsibility rests upon us here of a Europe striving to be reborn. If we allow ourselves to be rent and disordered by pettiness and small disputes, if we fail in clarity of view or courage in action, a priceless occasion may be cast away forever. But if we all pull together and pool the luck and the comradeship, and firmly grasp the larger hopes of humanity, then it may be that we shall move into a happier sunlit age, when all the little children who are now growing up in this tormented world may find themselves not the victors nor the vanquished in the fleeting triumphs of one country over another in the bloody turmoil of destructive war, but the heirs of all the treasures of the past and the masters of all the science, the abundance, and the glories of the future."

There are people who say that Winston Churchill is now irrelevant. Was he not a man of war, uncomfortable in time of peace? We need only point to these words, from his speech at The Hague on 7th May 1948.

It would be presumptuous to suggest exactly what he might say about the events in Europe of the past few months. We may safely conclude that he would find them tremendously moving and — while reminding us, for the nonce, to keep our powder dry — would repeat again two of his cardinal maxims: In Victory, Magnanimity . . . In Peace, Goodwill.

RML

# International Datelines

## CONSTITUTION CHANGES

The draft Constitution presented in *Finest Hour* 62 included certain functions (dues fixing, naming of beneficiaries, etc.) that are the province of the independent Societies (Canada, UK, USA) or the Australian or NZ branches, rather than the *international* directors. (Mea culpa - RML)

For example, while there is overwhelming support for never publishing names and addresses of the *total* membership, publishing a *national* list is up to the individual Societies. The international rules need govern only *joint decisions* — honorary members, conventions, publications, etc. — by the international board (page 2).

Accordingly, in this issue or the next, you will find a much shorter international constitution. Separate rules governing the independent ICS/UK and ICS/USA will be promulgated by those Societies separately. (Canada's is already recorded.) — RML

## PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

In order to bring *Finest Hour* back to normal schedule as soon as possible we will delay work on all other publications until *FH* is assured of release midway in the quarter on its cover. We will then take up the '88-89 *Proceedings*, followed by the two last "Target '90" publications. My apologies for getting behind in 1989. — Editor.

## "TARGET '90"

Our project to finance educational, historical and literary projects to commemorate the 50th anniversary of 1940 was funded by the generous contributions of members of ICS/USA, ICS/Australia, ICS/Canada, and members in continental Europe and Israel. Accordingly, these members will receive our two "Target '90" publications, Douglas Russell's *Orders and Decorations of Sir Winston Churchill* (which we hope to have in print by convention time, August), and *The Boer Conspiracy*, a Sherlock Holmes pastiche involving WSC, Holmes, Watson, and a devilish plot in the 1900 Oldham election.

## CHURCHILL CALENDAR 1940-1990

All members should have received our first "Target '90" project by now. If not, please write the editor.

Your generous donations have enabled us to print enough calendars for teachers at the high school and college level to distribute to history or social studies classes, and for libraries, veterans groups — indeed any worthy institution needing them.

Teachers, librarians, etc. may obtain any quantity of calendars free of cost or postage by sending their request on school or library letterhead to the editor, PO Box 385, Hopkinton NH 03229 USA.

Thanks once again to the hundreds of members who made "Target '90" a success, and to Wendy Reves for putting it firmly over the top. You will be happy to know that we are amply funded to do everything we wish to do.

## HELP ASKED, HELP GIVEN

ICS/Australia and ICS/Canada have taken on the responsibility for two long-term projects, in response to our "Help Wanted" appeal in *FH* 63 (p7).

Peter Jenkins of Victoria, Australia, has kindly offered to head up development of the "Traveler's Guide to Winston Churchill," a catalogue of all Churchill monuments, statues, former homes, and other buildings or places closely associated with WSC around the world. This huge undertaking was the dream of the late Roy Morant, OBE, former chief executive officer of the Churchill Trust of Australia. When complete, the work will be published by ICS, credited to ICS/Australia and dedicated to Roy's memory.

Simultaneously, *FH* senior editor John Plumpton, of Ontario, Canada, has volunteered to assume editorship of "The Churchill Day Book," a project begun by the late Dalton Newfield, former ICS president. Presently a huge collection of looseleaf pages, the "Day Book" aims at nothing less than listing Churchill's location and a brief synopsis of his activities for every day of his life. The finished work will be produced by ICS/Canada.

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED! Anyone with photos or information on Churchill statues, plaques or monuments should please send it to Peter Jenkins, 8 Regnans Ave., Endeavour Hills, Victoria, Australia 3802. (Unless you don't want them back, do not enclose finished photos at this time, but please make photocopies of photos and affix your name and address to the back, in case we need them later.)

Anyone wishing to help "fill in the blanks" on any portion of Churchill's life should contact John Plumpton, 130 Collingsbrook Blvd, Agincourt, ON Canada M1W 1M7. If you are reading one of the Official Biography volumes, and are willing to jot down dates and locations as you go along, your help can be invaluable.

## BUREAU DIRECTORS WANTED

ICS has long needed:

1. A Lecture Bureau, to identify people who can speak professionally on Churchill topics, develop a catalogue and circulate it to institutions likely to need such speakers.

2. An Academic Advisory Board composed of professors and scholars with strong Churchill backgrounds, to review ICS publications, evaluate future projects, encourage the expansion of Churchill studies at the high school and university level, and assist in publication of dissertations and papers on Churchill topics.

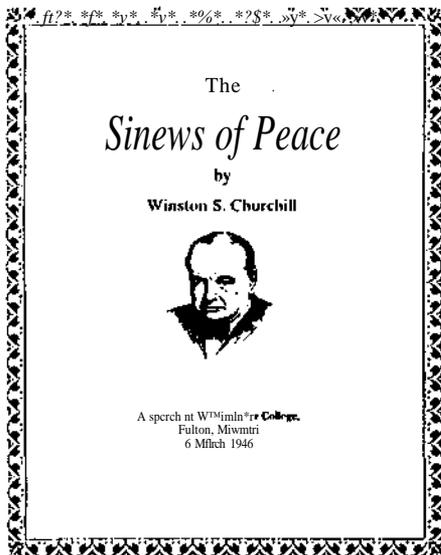
I have tried sporadically to get both of these going, but I lack sufficient expertise and already have so much on my plate. Would interested parties please contact me? PO Box 385, Contoocook NH 03229 USA, tel. (603) 746-4433. — R. Langworth

## AUSTRALIA IN '91

ENDEAVOUR HILLS, VICTORIA, DEC. 25 — ICS/Australia has notified its members of our intention to centre the Fifth Society tour on southeast Australia and Tasmania, combined with an international convention in Sydney or Canberra, in the spring or autumn, 1991. We have asked the aid of Australian members who can assist in locating appropriate transportation, hotels and other necessary amenities.

Through Qantas, ICS has already established that extremely attractive airfares can be offered with the option to depart from a dozen North American "gateway" cities. Our tentative plans include 10 days travel from Sydney to Melbourne, and five days in Tasmania, whose scenery and fauna are world renowned (and which is home to *Finest Hour* contributor George Richard, who will help us plan this segment).

We expect to host up to 50 members and would like to hear from anyone who thinks they might be interested. Write the editor.



### "SINEWS OF PEACE"

FULTON, MO., DECEMBER — Our colleagues at the Churchill Memorial have produced a fine, large-format reprint of WSC's "Sinews of Peace" speech on 5 March 1946, which still rings with wisdom on governing affairs between nations in this era of hope. Copies are available at the special price of \$1.50 each to ICS members from the Churchill Memorial, Westminster College, Fulton MO 65251.

### A TIME OF GRACE

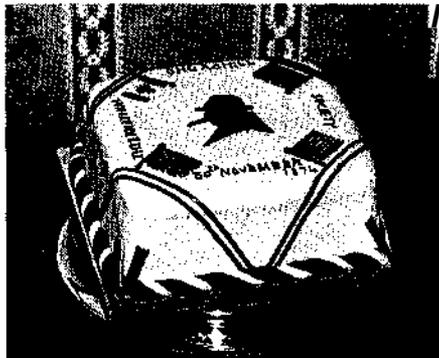
SURREY, ENGLAND — An evening of reminiscence took place here at the home of His Honour Judge Michael Cook and Mrs Cook, where ICS Hon. Member Grace Hamblin, OBE, spoke for the second time on her many years with the Churchills. Grace's first address was at the ICS Dallas convention in 1987.

Grace spoke for more than an hour,

recalling meeting leaders like FDR and Stalin, and accompanying the then-Mrs. Churchill to Russia, as well as to Tunis in 1943 when WSC was ill. During the latter trip, in a Liberator bomber, Grace recalled that she and CSC drank brandy to keep warm in the unheated aircraft — made even cooler when one of the doors fell off!

At Chartwell from 1945 to 1965, Grace Hamblin saw WSC live out the rest of his life in his love of animals and of painting, interspersed with such highlights as the Coronation, when he appeared in full dress as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports — much to the admiration of his Secretariat.

The enthralled audience heard how Churchill composed his speeches, and how he would dictate drafts of *Marlborough* until 3 AM and expect to have them typed by 8:30! They heard nuggets as diverse as what he did with his cigars after he had finished with them, and what he thought of Montgomery's strategy when the latter played croquet with Lady Churchill.



There followed a raffle for a cake made by Brenda Lakey, who had travelled all the way from Suffolk to be present. That, together with tickets for the evening, raised £218 for the Marie Curie Foundation, the charity which Miss Hamblin asked to be supported.

— GOWAN BEWSHER

### BIG ROUND OF YAWNS

MARIN CO., CALIF, OCT. 16TH — "This StOiy could put you to sleep," warns Deborah F. Raub, in a feature piece on "famous nappers" for the *Marin Independent Journal*. Raub named Churchill, Kennedy, Reagan, Salvador Dali and Thomas Edison as "famous nappers," and suggested that an afternoon nap was part of the natural cycle. But she also quoted Dr. Mark Rosekind of Stanford's Sleep Disorders Clinic as admitting that Churchill's method won't

work in the modern adult's schedule: "Instead he suggests the afternoon down-time be filled with paperwork, returning phone messages, and other chores demanding less than razor-sharp faculties. "If you can't sleep or meditate during the day, at least let yourself slow down a bit."

— MERRY N. ALBERIGI

(The editor, who has tried the Churchill technique, reports that it works fine, requiring only a valet, cook, gardener, private secretary and butler to deal with details.)



### THE UGLY MUG . . .

CHESTER, ENGLAND, SEPT 30TH — A Royal Doulton mug which WSC despised came up at a Sotheby sale today at a very high price. Churchill let Royal Doulton know his opinion and it was instantly withdrawn (despite an inscription that it was made during the Blitz "as a tribute to a Great Leader"). Apparently it was one of only three, and had spent its life in a dark cupboard in Wolverhampton. — GODFREY BARKER

### REST IN PEACE . . .

MAJ. GEN. TONY TIGHE who died aged 66 in London October 25th, saw Churchill narrowly escape being decapitated during WSC's visit to the Rhine on 24 March 1945. Then a Captain, Tighe was commanding a troop in 3rd Division Signal Regiment when a message arrived to say that the PM would be visiting within five minutes. WSC arrived promptly, sitting on a looted red mattress on top of an armoured car, dressed in his uniform of Hon. Col. of the 5th (Cinque Ports) Battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment, in his hand a gold-topped cane. Having visited the

*continued overleaf*

operations room he was invited by FM Sir Alan Brooke to say a few words to the Royal Signals troop.

After various encouraging words, WSC set off at high speed in his armoured car to his next appointment. Tighe, following in a Jeep to the camp entrance, observed that an overhead telephone line — the only one they had not thought necessary to bury — seemed perilously low. It was, clipping the top of Churchill's hat, knocking it off. A despatch rider, following on a motorcycle, picked it up as if tent-pegging, pulled alongside and placed it on WSC's proffered cane.

Raising it aloft, Churchill turned with a grin to Tighe: "Better my hat than my head."

Tighe rose to his feet in the Jeep and saluted, smiling back, he suspected, somewhat weakly.

Tighe retired from the Army in 1977 and was with the Hong Kong Land Group during 1977-84.

**LORD HILL OF LUTON'S** death at 85 on 26th August removes a man who brought a genial lack of stuffiness to his successive careers: medical practitioner, wartime broadcaster, secretary of the BMW, MP and chairman of IT A and the BBC. His diagnoses did not, however, always shine. In February 1944, asked by the newspaper publisher Cecil King what he thought of Churchill's health, Dr. Hill said the PM "should drop his brandy, his cigars and his job, and take things very easy [or] he will not be here for long."

But Churchill lived another 21 years, and included Hill in his 1951-55 government as Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food.

Hill liked to tell how Churchill, determined to end postwar rationing, summoned him to Number Ten. Laid out were plaster models of the rations — meat, bacon, butter, cheese and eggs — all of the correct size.

"Look, Minister of Food," WSC said — "that is all a working man has to last him for a day."

"A week, Prime Minister, a week."

- DAILY TELEGRAPH

**HAILSHAM IN CHURCHILL ROW**  
LONDON — Sotheby's auctioned a pencil sketch by Graham Sutherland, made during his painting of WSC's 80th birthday portrait, drawing fire from an old Churchill friend, Lord Hailsham.

The Sutherland portrait, presented by

Parliament to WSC, was deeply hated by both Winston and Clementine; the latter burned it before her death.

Hailsham, a former Lord Chancellor, says Sutherland was commissioned at the urgings of Labour MP Nye Bevan, Churchill's mortal political enemy. Bevan was a member of the Parliamentary committee in charge of the project. "It was intended as an insult," Hailsham says, "and it was treated as an insult. Shortly before Churchill's death I mentioned that I had never seen the portrait. Winston replied that I never would see it, either. People make money in all sorts of strange ways. I know that I shan't be bidding for it."



Vancouver, 27th May. L-R: Frank Smyth, Sir WSC Society; Lady Soames, DBE; the Honourable William Van Der Zalm, Premier of British Columbia and Mrs. Van Der Zalm.

**LADY SOAMES, ELIZABETH NEL ADDRESS VANCOUVER SOCIETY**  
VANCOUVER, BC — Joint Patron of the Western Canada Churchill Societies and ICS, Lady Soames addressed the Eleventh Annual Banquet of the Rt Hon Sir Winston Spencer Churchill Society at the Hotel Vancouver on 27th May last, following similar addresses to the Edmonton and Calgary Branches. It was her third visit to the SWSCS, the first being in 1979 when she accompanied her late husband, who was the first speaker for the Vancouver Chapter. Five years later she addressed the SWSCS in her own right.

Preceding the speech debate chairman Daryl Birce introduced the top three

winners of the 1989 University debate sponsored by SWSCS, Rebecca Spagnola, Janine Benedet and Colin Lim, who received their prizes from Lady Soames. I had the honour to note that three of the five High School debate winners last year came from homes where English was the second language.

More recently, Vancouver had the pleasure of a visit and talk by Elizabeth Nel, one of WSC's secretaries in 1941-45 and author of the charming *Mr Churchill's Secretary* (1958). Mrs. Nel, visiting from Port Elizabeth, South Africa, was a delightful guest and a most informative speaker. She gave a warm, personal insight of the Great

Man. We hope that this will not be her last visit to our shores.

- FRANK SMYTH, PRESIDENT

#### **ICS/USA 1000 STRONG**

BATON ROUGE, LA., DEC. 10 — Membership secretary Derek Brownleader advises that ICS/USA passed the 1000 member mark for the first time in December and by the time you read this will have gone past 1100 — the highest in history and for the first time proportional to the USA share of total population in the five nations where ICS is formally represented.

Half the surge is owed to advertising but — ironically — the rest is owed to Houghton Mifflin. Its Boston publishers

have taken the unhappy decision not to reprint the Official Biography, and only Volumes 7 and 8 are still available. But H-M refers queries to Churchillbooks (ICS/USA's new book service), for secondhand copies — who in turn sends them ICS applications. ICS has picked up well over 100 since all this began.

### WSC ATTACKS MAGGIE?

LONDON, NOVEMBER — Furious MPs were spitting mad over a Spitting Image television puppet show with Mrs. Thatcher being attacked by her hero, Sir Winston. A rubber WSC, complete with cigar, appears to a rubber PM in a dream. "You're exactly the kind of power-mad, right-wing dictator we were fighting against during the war," says puppet-Winston.

The real WSC's grandson, Winston Churchill, MP, said: "It's offensive to use a puppet of someone who is dead." Tory MP Geoffrey Dickens called it "tasteless. I think Churchill would have been a great supporter of Mrs. Thatcher had he been alive." Spitting Image said they would "stand by our sketch. It is our Finest Hour."

We wonder what that suggests about all their other hours.

### "CHURCHILL AND LIBERTY"

CORONADO, CALIF., SEPT. 14 — A three-day conference on "Churchill and Liberty," organized by Larry P. Arnn, President of the Claremont Institute for Statesmanship and Political Philosophy, and sponsored by the Liberty Fund, was held beginning today at the Hotel del Coronado. Attending were two authors of books about WSC: Jeff Wallin (*By Ships Alone: Churchill and the Dardanelles*) and Kirk Emmert (*Winston Churchill and the Empire*, just published by Carolina Academic Press), plus other ICS members.

The conference discussions, focusing on a selection of Churchill's speeches and writings, considered the full range of his career, including his youthful concern about the condition of the poor in England, his doubts between the wars about the result of scientific progress, and his mature advice on combating Nazi and Communist tyranny. Participants with current government experience remarked on Churchill's literacy, clarity and frankness in addressing political questions. Others, intrigued by his unusual gifts of memory and concentration, considered how his

### AS OTHERS SAW HIM

#### HARRY S. TRUMAN

Potsdam, 1945: "Mr. Churchill called by phone last night and said he'd like to call — for me to set the hour. I did — for 11 AM this morning. He was on time to the dot. His daughter told General Vaughan [HST's military aide] he hadn't been up so early in ten years! I'd been up for 4V4 hours.

"We had a most pleasant conversation. He is a most charming and a very clever person — meaning clever in the English not the Kentucky sense. He gave me a lot of hooey about how great my country is and how he loved Roosevelt and how he intended to love me. Well, I gave him as cordial a reception as I could — being naturally (I hope) a polite and agreeable person.

"I am sure we can get along if he doesn't try to give me too much soft soap. You know soft soap is made of ash hopper lye and it burns to beat hell when it gets into the eyes. It's fine for chigger [insect] bites but not so good for rose complexions. But I haven't a rose complexion."

- TRUMAN OFF THE RECORD

NOW! MAGAZINE, 7 NOV 1980, VIA JOHN FROST

#### LADY DIANA DUFF COOPER

"Forty winks in the afternoon and then (unexpectedly) bathing at 7 in pouring rain, intensely cold with a grey half-light of approaching night, yet curiously enough very enjoyable in its

oddness. Freda Ward, Winston, Duff, Clemmie, Randolph and a child, in fact the whole party, were splashing about with gleeful screams in this sad crepuscule [ChartwelPs pool]. The secret is that the bath is heated, and it is Winston's delightful toy.

"Just now, again, twenty-four hours later, he called for Inches, the butler, and said: 'Tell Allen to have a lot more coal on. I want the thing full blast.' Inches returned to say that Allen was out for the day. 'Then tell Arthur I want it full blast,' but it was Arthur's day out as well, so the darling old schoolboy went surreptitiously and stoked it himself for half an hour, coming in on the verge of apoplexy. Again we all had to bathe in the afternoon.

"Then 'feeding the poor little birds' is a huge joy to him. They consist of five foolish geese, five furious black swans, two ruddy sheldrakes, two white swans — Mr Juno and Mrs Jupiter, so called because they got the sexes wrong to begin with, two Canadian geese (Lord and Lady Beaverbrook) and some miscellaneous ducks.

"The basket of bread on Winston's arm is used first to lure and coax them and then as ammunition. The great aim is to get them all fighting. 'We must make a policy,' he says: 'You stone them and we will get the five flying fools on their right flank.' "

— THE LIGHT OF COMMON DAY, PP 156-7



THE FESTIVAL OF GIBRALTAR, 1929

characteristic zest for life and interest in new ideas were revealed in his essay, "Painting as a Pastime." Mr. Arnn's deft touch and timely historical explanations helped to make the discussions fruitful.

— JAMES MULLER, UNIV. OF ALASKA

### LETTER TO ALGERNON WEST

NEW YORK, NY — The Society is indebted to member and bookseller Glenn Horowitz for the donation of five copies of the most recent posthumous Churchill work, *Winston S. Churchill to Sir Algernon West*, published last year in a limited edition of 200 copies by letterpress on handmade paper. The text comprises a letter from young WSC shortly after publication of his first book, and contains some prescient views of the author's future, as well as uncharacteristically fatalistic opinions about the plague then raging in India.

The Society has presented its five copies to the highest cumulative donors in its 1987 and 1989 fund appeals: Dr. J. Will Fleming (MO), William C. Ives (IL) James H. Heineman (NY), Barton Bischoff (NJ) and Dr. R.W. Gillmann (AL), for whose generosity we are sincerely grateful.

**ANOTHER ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION, ICS STYLE**

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., DECEMBER 11TH — The New Mexico Chapter celebrated its premier meeting at Casa de Milagros, home of chapter head Commander Larry Kryske. Larry married Naomi Gottlieb (North Texas Chapter), formerly of Dallas. First Lieutenant David Sampson, USAFR, head of the North Texas Chapter, was the officiating minister and Curt Schryer, formerly of the Hawaii Chapter and now residing in Las Vegas, was Best Man. Never in the course of the International Churchill Society was so much owed, by just two, to so many. "Marriage occurs after a young man falls in love with a girl. No superior method has yet been found." Salutations.



**I.C.S. People:  
Dave  
Marcus**



**DAVE MARCUS**

A member of the International Churchill Society for 20 years, Dave Marcus has been in charge of the commemorative covers program for most of that time, conceiving or helping to produce at least three-quarters of the 33 covers issued by ICS to commemorate important events in the Churchill saga.

A realtor in his home town of Silver Spring, Maryland, Dave has accumulated a broad range of professional designations. He has both the Graduate Realtors Institute and Certified Residential Specialist designations, is an associate broker in Maryland and Virginia, and a lifetime member of the NVAR Sales Awards Club. He has received consistent MAME (Major Achievement in Marketing Excellence) awards, as well as Diamond Club awards from his firm of Lewis & Silverman. During his career Dave has participated in the sales of more than 1300 homes.

Dave and Judy Marcus have been married for 27 years and have three children. They have attended ICS conventions in Toronto and Bretton Woods, and look forward to San Francisco next August.



Cover 34: 8 Dec 89  
75th Anniversary  
Battle of the Falklands  
Issued at Port Stanley, F.I.

Dave's Latest Gems . . . Once the Falkland Islands decided to issue stamps marking these two great Churchill Admiralty victories, superb covers were assured. Dave went into his Frantic Mode, culminating with a trans-Atlantic phone call from kindly Mrs. Stewart at the Port Stanley Post Office — but what a result!

Cover 35: 17 Dec 89  
50th Anniversary  
Battle of the River Plate  
Issued at Port Stanley, F.I.



ICS covers, issued periodically, are free, but you must ask for them. Send your request with a recent label from a *Finest Hour* envelope to Dave Marcus, 221 Pewter La., Silver Spring MD 20905. For a pair of the new covers please send \$3 or £2 to cover post.

# Life, Love and Liberty

## Martin Gilbert Has Devoted Half His Life to Winston Churchill

MAX HASTINGS

It was Antony Crosland, I once read, who harboured a certain disdain for the literary achievements of his colleague Roy Jenkins, because Mr Jenkins is a biographer. Biography, Crosland thought, was not real man's work: writing about chaps did not present the same creative challenges as seizing upon a theme and pursuing it.

Yet even the likes of Crosland should scarce forbear to cheer the extraordinary performance of Martin Gilbert. In 1988 he celebrated the publication of the eighth and final volume of the monumental biography of Winston Churchill that he inherited on the death of Randolph, 21 years ago. The last installment alone, "Never Despair", is a book that you would be ill-advised to allow to fall upon your tame tortoise — four inches thick, 1,348 pages long, detailing Churchill's every public and private act between 1945 and his death in 1965.

This must rank, with its battalion of 13 companion volumes and documents so far, as the largest work of British biography in this century. Gilbert, who is now 53, has been living with Winston Churchill for more than half his own life, since the day that he began as Randolph's researcher, in 1962. His deep affection for his subject has remained undimmed.

'I never felt that he was going to spring an unpleasant surprise on me,' says Gilbert. "I might find that he was adopting views with which I disagreed. But I always knew that there would be nothing to cause me to think: 'How shocking, how appalling'.

"I was told when I started that I should expect to take ten years on the project. I was so confident in my own abilities that I thought: 'I'll do it in eight; maybe in six'. Then I saw what was in the archives, the huge weight of new material released under the 30-year rule. I was frightened at one time that the constraints of reasonable publishing would prevent me from doing Churchill justice. I feared that I would have to cheat both him and the reader. I am very relieved, in the event, to have had space to do justice to every aspect of the man."

Gilbert's quick, jolly, relaxed personal manner masks one of the most energetic and prolific historians of his generation. Yet the vast weight of words he has expended upon Churchill has earned him very little money, "The biography has been a financial burden to me," he agrees. "But it's been so fascinating — more than fascinating! it has provided me with a golden thread through British history.

"Churchill was such an open book, such an open personality, that one never has to guess anything about him. It's all there. But there is an enormous difference between the amount of material available about the periods when he was with his wife, and when he was not. When they were together, that immensely valuable, almost daily diary of his doings, in the letters that he wrote to her, simply disappears."

Among the most moving documents in the latest volume are the love letters — for that is what much of this correspondence was — between Winston and Clementine after half a century of marriage.

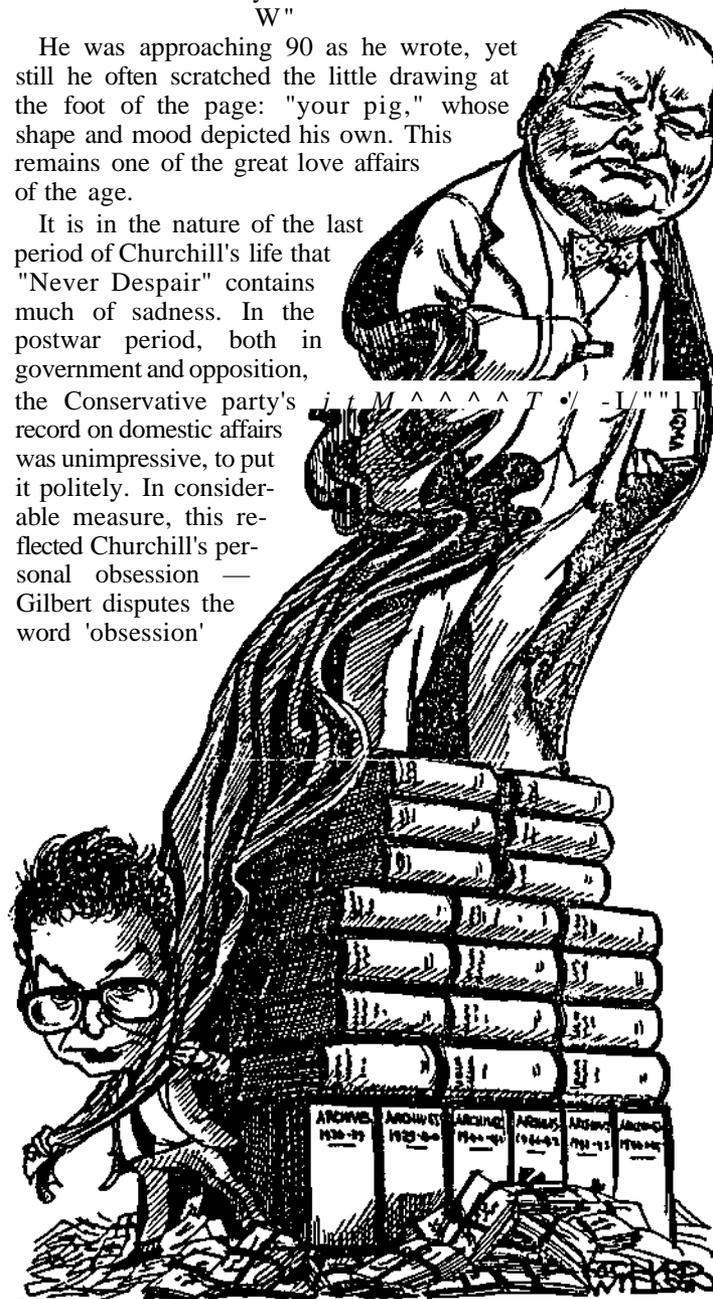
"My darling One," he scrawled, on April 8th, 1963, "This is only to give you my fondest love and kisses *a hundred times repeated*. I am a pretty dull & paltry scribbler; but my stick as I write carries my heart along with it.

Yours ever & always

W"

He was approaching 90 as he wrote, yet still he often scratched the little drawing at the foot of the page: "your pig," whose shape and mood depicted his own. This remains one of the great love affairs of the age.

It is in the nature of the last period of Churchill's life that "Never Despair" contains much of sadness. In the postwar period, both in government and opposition, the Conservative party's record on domestic affairs was unimpressive, to put it politely. In considerable measure, this reflected Churchill's personal obsession — Gilbert disputes the word 'obsession'



— with foreign affairs, with Britain's place in the world, and his lack of interest — here again, Gilbert disagrees with me on this — in domestic issues. He played more and more bezique, read more and more widely, yet paid less and less heed to government.

Churchill was incomparably Britain's most cultured Prime Minister of the century. Lack of culture, lack of time for culture, makes many contemporary politicians much smaller men and women than their predecessors. Yet it is pathetic to read of Churchill in his last phase, his grasp of issues fading, prevaricating year after year about his own resignation; driving Eden, the chosen successor, almost literally mad. "The end of the premiership was very sad. An element of pettiness came in all round," says his biographer.

Gilbert remarks that even during the now notorious period when the Prime Minister's personal entourage concealed from the world that he was incapable, following a stroke, "the government machine continued to function pretty effectively." This seems a dubious compliment, for it reflects the extent to which the entire administration was already functioning on automatic pilot, so to speak.

But when I remarked upon the strain that this manner of doing business must have imposed upon Churchill's colleagues, Gilbert said: "Yes, but one should emphasise one central fact — how enormously they all *enjoyed* his leadership. His presence. His company. His support when they needed it — for instance for Macmillan on housing, and then on defence. Even some of those most eager to remove him shared this feeling for him."

**M**any pages of Gilbert's book are taken up with the account of this writing of Churchill's six-volume History of The Second World War. As a war historian, Churchill was seriously hampered by the fact that he remained a practising politician, with vital interests to protect at home and abroad.

I put to Gilbert some of the flaws and major omissions. "The book was still," Gilbert argues, "a superb monument to history, as it could be told in the 1940s and 1950s. Churchill was conscious of the shortcoming. But the book gave him a vehicle to write certain reflective pieces — perhaps one of the most powerful being his description of the pre-war appeasement years. He was determined that the story of Chamberlain's great failure should be told."

Churchill's History of the Second World War is a much inferior work to his parallel essay a generation earlier, "The World Crisis". Yet it contains passages that coruscate down the years. And heavens, what a lot of money it made for him.

He needed a huge income, though, to sustain the life of a grandee in the age of the common man. Gilbert tells us that such arrangements as allowing Time-Life to finance sybaritic expeditions to Morocco — again, Gilbert disputes my use of the adjective 'sybaritic' — did not contravene the draconian currency regulations then afflicting most Britons. But bailing Randolph out of his endless money troubles was a serious business. What pain the old man's family must have caused him. As he approached 40, Randolph was still making the sorts of solemn promises to his father to mend his ways and read for the bar that Trollopian reprobates grew out of by 25.

Yet when I put this to Gilbert, he pointed out the happiness and support Churchill's children also brought him. There was that wonderfully memorable note from his daughter

Mary Soames in 1964: "In addition to all the feelings a daughter has for a loving, generous father," she wrote, "I owe you what every Englishman, woman and child does — Liberty itself."

Martin Gilbert's central connection with the biography began one day in 1962, when he was a young historian doing research on Neville Chamberlain's appeasement policy. He drove down to East Bergholt in Suffolk to find that he had already been preceded by a wholly characteristic note from Diana Cooper: "Darling Randy, Here is Martin Gilbert, an interesting young researching man. Do see him. He is full of zeal to set history right."

From that grew Randolph's invitation to become his junior researcher, and the offer to take over the huge task on Randolph's death.

Gilbert, the son of a London jeweller, went to Highgate School and Magdalen College, Oxford. He has since inspired more than his share of envy and pique from his fellow historians, jealous of his energy, capacity to control material and privileged access to the Churchill papers: though no-one who asked to see and to use the Churchill papers was ever refused, including A.J.P. Taylor for his life of Beaverbrook, and Robert Rhodes James for his life of Eden.

Through the years he has been writing, Gilbert has taken a break of six to nine months between finishing work on one volume and beginning the next: "I was very worried about becoming stale, and producing books which were much of a muchness." In the intervals he has made a notable contribution to Jewish history, above all by his studies of The Holocaust. For a Jewish author, Churchill's passionate support for Israel is deeply sympathetic.

Gilbert himself, a companionable companion whose generosity sets him apart from some academic rivals, is always game to take up the cudgels for causes that mean much to him, such as that of the Russian Jewish refuseniks. He is married to Susie Sacher; they live in unpretentious confusion in Hampstead, with their two sons, amid a predictably vast collection of Churchill books and papers.

My own admiration for Gilbert's scholarship is tinged with regret that he has not tempered his narrative with some critical assessments. Yet he always seeks to set the debates around Churchill in perspective. He passes no judgment in Volume III, for instance, upon the achievements and failures of Churchill's last administration. I turned to the final chapter, expecting Gilbert to mark Churchill's passing with an essay upon his place in history. It is not there.

Gilbert says that he does not regard it as his business to pass judgments: "By what you select, you make plain your views. I deal with the arguments for Churchill, and against him. But then it is for the reader to make up his own mind. People's own historical perspectives are changing all the time — they have changed a great deal over the 20 years I have been writing." This huge work is history written largely as Churchill would have wished it, charting his course through the history of the 20th century.

Gilbert's collected volumes, together with the first two by Randolph Churchill, form an extraordinary memorial. They are never dull, because their subject was never dull, Churchill's huge generosity of spirit, his wit, his humanity, his breadth of interests, his capacity for love, sparkle through the pages. Gilbert makes the point that no man who reads this last volume can put it down claiming that Churchill was a man who loved war. His last years of power were dominated

by a personal struggle to bring together the leaders of East and West to avert it.

"Never despair," he told his countrymen amid the great surge of dismay that followed the test of the first hydrogen bomb. If Churchill's efforts to bring together the leaders of the world did not succeed, neither did their pursuit of peace fail.

Today Gilbert is gathering his papers in the overcrowded working room of the house in Hampstead, not yet quite

finished with Churchill. There are 10 companion volumes of papers still to edit; then a single-volume edition of the biography to prepare. Five more years, perhaps. He has been on a 21-year sabbatical from his old Oxford College, Merton. They will no doubt wait a little longer for his return.\*

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MARTIN GILBERT

## Churchill: The Rounded Picture

'At long last I am able to say a few words of my own'

KING EDWARD VIII

When Randolph Churchill began work on his father's biography in 1961, he had at his disposal an estimated 15 tons of paper — his father's personal archive, now at Churchill College, Cambridge. In 1962, when I joined his research team, Randolph had already begun to search out yet more material.

How vividly I remember his delight when one or other researcher (and especially the director of research, Michael Wolff) brought to the seclusion of Randolph's house in the Suffolk village of East Bergholt, where we worked, yet another batch of the hundreds of letters written by Winston Churchill to friends and colleagues, of which Winston himself had kept no copy.

One such batch of letters, misfiled in the New York public library under the *American novelist* Winston Churchill, con-

tained a dozen remarkable descriptions by Churchill of his early political efforts and ambitions, while still (until 1904) a young Conservative, hesitating whether or not to join the Liberal Party. Another batch of such handwritten letters was kept at her home in a locked box by Pamela, Countess of Lytton, of whom Churchill had once written (to his mother) that she was "the most beautiful girl I have ever seen".

These letters to Lady Lytton spanned the years 1898 to 1959. "I am getting much older now the stimulus of power and responsibility has fallen from me," he wrote to her in June 1955, "and I totter along in the shades of retirement."

As well as Churchill's letters to his friends, there were also other letters of his which, on a vast scale, had begun to transform Randolph's work by 1968, and which subsequently transformed mine. These were the long, affectionate, and



Only Churchill, Gilbert suggests, was capable of explaining to Stalin the delayed second front. Photo at Yalta, 14Feb45, Newfield Collection.



"One of the great love affairs of the age." CSC and WSC, 14Jan46, with Col. Frank Clarke of Canada, enroute a Miami holiday as Clarke's guest.

almost always handwritten letters which Churchill sent to his wife whenever they were apart, a fine collection of which, *The Chartwell Bulletins 1935*, has recently been published by the Churchill Society. The day on which Lady Churchill decided that these letters could become a part of the biography ensured a truly remarkable extra dimension of our knowledge of Churchill's moods and motives.

One letter in particular has remained engraved on my mind since the day I first read it, now nearly a quarter of a century ago. Dated 28 March 1916, it was written from the trenches on the Western Front. Churchill had just watched a German artillery barrage traverse the front line. One shell exploded quite near him. Had he been hit, he wrote to his wife that night, it would have been "a good ending to a chequered life, a final gift — unvalued — to an ungrateful country, an impoverishment of the war-making power of Britain which no one would ever know or mourn."

Every one of Churchill's letters to his wife are included in the published document volumes (known as companion volumes) of which 13 have been published, with a further 10 in prospect. These document volumes, initially imposed by Randolph on a somewhat reluctant publisher, make available to the reading public the full range of Churchill's private correspondence; and will form the basis of innumerable future studies — and indeed of future biographies.

On being confronted by such a formidable amount of personal material, Randolph Churchill adopted as the motto for the biography: "He shall be his own biographer." Churchill's letters were to be the basis of his son's narrative. One must remember that in 1962, no Cabinet, or even departmental, documents could be used. In view of the 50-year rule which was then in force, the most recent official archives available were those for the year 1912.

**I**n 1965 (the year of Churchill's death, and three years before Randolph's) the law regarding government documents changed. Instead of having to wait until 50 years had passed before secret documents could be seen, a 30-year rule was established. To this day I am unable to forget that had the 50-year rule remained in force, the official archives would even now be open only up to 1940. The inner workings of Churchill's leadership in the Second World War would still be largely secret.

Since 1965 Churchill has no longer had to be "his own biographer", even though his personality still towers over every page of the narrative. I am quite content that this should be so; indeed, it has been my aim to try to place the reader in Churchill's presence.

In 1979, the Government agreed to open the archives of the Second World War in their entirety, including those of the Ministry of Defence, of which Churchill had made himself the head in May 1940. It now became possible to study papers such as the meetings of the War Cabinet, the Chiefs of Staff Committee — over which Churchill presided — and the Defence Committee, which took some of the most sensitive decisions in 1940, including the decision not to open peace negotiations after the fall of France. For Churchill's biographer, the unforeseen opening of the official archives made possible a quite different, intricate and comprehensive narrative. It also demanded, if justice were to be done to Churchill's achievements, two volumes more than had been envisaged in the original scheme.

It now became possible to go far beyond even Churchill's own six-volume account of his war leadership; to see the actual arguments which were put forward at the time for and against every element of war policy, to see where Churchill prevailed and where he was overruled, and above all to trace the impact of Enigma — the British eavesdropping on the most secret messages passing between German headquarters and the senior commanders on land, sea and air.

**B**y a coincidence of timing, the two volumes of the Churchill biography covering the Second World War became the first books about a war leader which were able to show the part which this most secret source had played at the highest level of decision making.

Churchill called the Enigma messages his "golden eggs". After the war he pressed for honours for those who had helped to decrypt them, noting in a Top Secret message in May 1945 that the advantages gained through Enigma "in the whole course and conduct of the war, cannot be overestimated".

Also opened as a result of the 30-year rule were the full, unedited transcripts of every meeting and telegraphic exchange between Churchill and Roosevelt, and between Churchill and Stalin. Churchill's opening remarks when he and Stalin met for the first time in 1942 were: "I would not have come to Moscow unless I felt sure that I would be able to discuss realities." The first of those realities was the Anglo-American inability to mount a Second Front in 1942, or even in 1943. The British interpreter jotted down on his note pad how, on hearing this bad news, "Stalin's face crumpled up into a frown." Patiently, Churchill set about explaining to the Soviet leader the reasons for the delay.

By combining Churchill's private papers with the government's archives, every episode of Churchill's stormy career can now be separated from the long and often bizarre accumulation of myth and half truth. It is possible to trace in detail, for example, Churchill's determined attempts to give the miners' grievances due weight during the Coal Strike in 1926, when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, and his equal determination to end the Cold War in 1955 by urging President Eisenhower to accept a new concept, that of a summit, to be held with Stalin's successors. "I have a strong belief that Soviet self-interest will be their guide," Churchill explained to Eisenhower in May 1953, over 36 years ago, and he added: "My hope is that it is their self-interest which will bring about an easier state of affairs".

Churchill's second premiership, portrayed by his doctor, Lord Moran, as a time of dotage, can now be seen, thanks to the opening of the government archives, as a period when he was very much alert to the many issues pressing in upon his fellow countrymen, from housing to the hydrogen bomb. His desire for a summit on the nuclear issue, and the care and precision with which he argued his case, are hardly the marks of a senile Victorian.

Twenty-one years ago it was my good fortune to have been given by Merton College, of which I was then a junior research fellow, an extended sabbatical, so that no teaching, lecturing, examining or administrative duties, could come between me and the biography, the completion of which, at times, seemed very distant. Once, however, coming across a phrase by Churchill — "*work, which is a joy*" — I understood at once what he meant. I was lucky to have had an unbroken twenty-one years of such joy.»

# Churchillian Chinaware

## The Well-Rounded Collection of Tom Thomas

1. V-E Day commemorative plate, Coverswall bone china, with the 8 May 1945 scene outside Buckingham Palace. Gilt, red, blue and black, inscription on reverse.

2. Sailboat "Sir Winston Churchill", black line art.

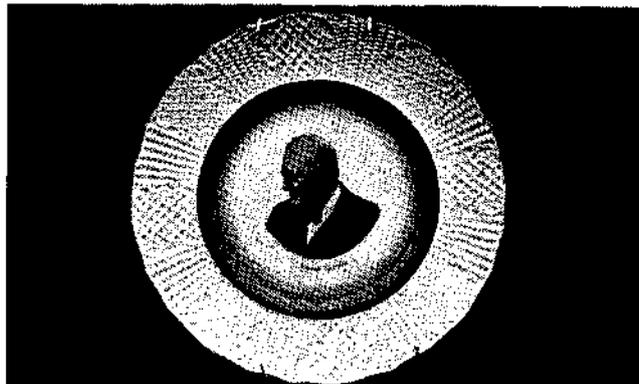
3. Exceptionally handsome Chartwell plate designed by John Holder for Oakley Fine China Ltd., Stoke on Trent, and sold at Chartwell to benefit the National Trust.

4. Wartime plate by Soho Pottery, Cobridge, England. Several variations exist with this and other photos.

5. Duke of Marlborough plate by Reli Washborne, London, with details of Marlborough's battles on back.

6. A handsome plate bearing no maker's name, stating only "Made in England."

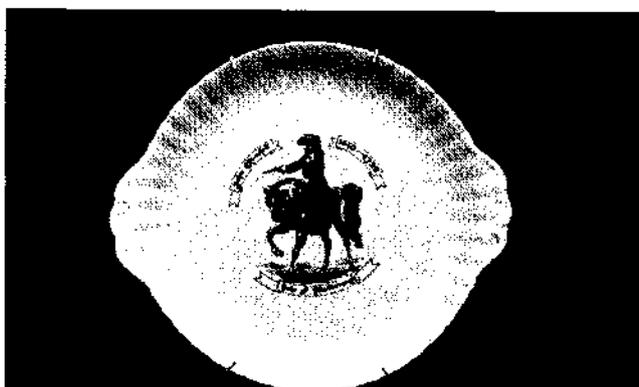
7. The locomotive Sir Winston Churchill, colour.



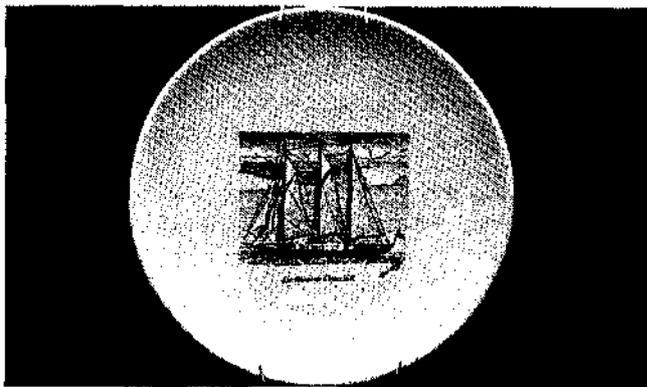
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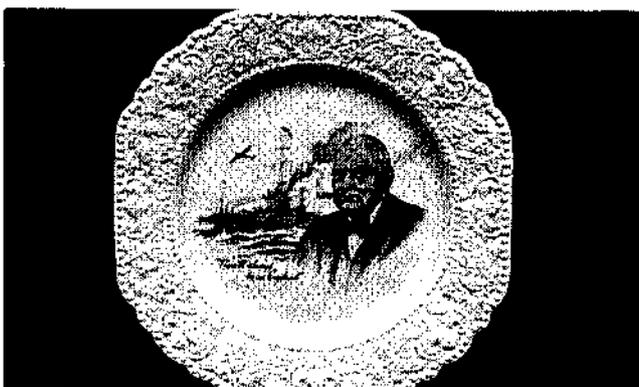
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# Opinion: Bearding the Revisionists

## "Keeping the Memory Green and the Record Accurate"

### 1. TRIMMING THE FACTS

(On 29 October the London Daily Telegraph published Geoffrey Wheatcroft's "Will Mrs. Thatcher make the same mistakes as Churchill?", suggesting that the present PM was appointing hacks and yes men, just like Churchill did . . .)

\* \* \*

Geoffrey Wheatcroft makes a number of statements which do not stand up to closer examination. I will only remark on two of them: commenting that Margaret Thatcher and Winston Churchill were both "outsiders," Mr Wheatcroft proceeds: "It is not surprising that when he became Prime Minister he should ignore traditional cabinet government and rule instead through a gang of chums." This is simply not true: Churchill certainly had close political friends and colleagues, but through long experience of high office he had a profound understanding of cabinet government, and he was close to, and worked through his cabinets, regarding himself as *primus inter pares*.

Moreover, those selected by Mr Wheatcroft as examples of his "gang of chums" — Beaverbrook, Bracken and Lindemann, were all Ministers in the Coalition Government, and answerable to Parliament, as Peers in the case of Lord Beaverbrook and Lord Cherwell (Professor Lindemann), and as a member of Parliament in the case of Brendan Bracken — a situation which did not, and does not pertain in the examples of kitchen, inner circle, or personal advisers, given in his article. Mr Wheatcroft refers to these men as . . . "disreputable" — he should not apply such an opprobrious adjective wholesale — even when referring to the silent dead; all three men thus stigmatised were entirely different, in both their private and public personae.

Certainly Lord Beaverbrook was a controversial figure, but that did not prevent him rendering great service to his country as Minister of Aircraft Production in 1940. Brendan Bracken had supported Churchill's campaign in the 1930s in the country and in the House, to alert Britain and the Government to the dangers which threatened us — this is now rightly considered praiseworthy; he was a patron of scholastic and academic institutions; he was indeed an eccentric personality, with a touch of the buccaneer, but "disreputable" is not an adjective which sticks.

As to Professor Lindemann — and here the ill-aimed dart flies widest of its mark: he was Professor of Experimental Philosophy at Oxford for many years; a close friend and adviser to Winston Churchill from the 1920s and 1930s and his scientific adviser (as Paymaster-General) during the war, when his brilliant analyses and contributions to the "wizards' war" hastened victory. "The Prof" was intensely shy; a virtual recluse; a vegetarian and teetotaler: it is true he quarrelled bitterly with other distinguished scientists, but none of these characteristics deserve the adjective "disreputable".

Finally, when comparing Margaret Thatcher's and Winston Churchill's allegedly similar lack of judgment of people, Geoffrey Wheatcroft writes: "Churchill was forever sacking able and honourable commanders like Auchinleck and Wavell, and forever promoting obvious mountebanks

like Montgomery and Mountbatten." Others might regard Churchill's appointment of these last two as showing signally good judgment, in choosing men who could win battles and command the loyalty and enthusiasm of the troops they led.

It occurs to me that Mr Wheatcroft has shamelessly trimmed facts to fit his specious arguments.

— THE LADY SOAMES, DBE, LONDON

### 2. THE PEOPLE'S RADIO: THERE THEY GO AGAIN

(In November, National Public Radio in Washington, DC exonerated the Yalta Conference from most of the blame for the Iron Curtain, calling upon a battery of academics led by Eisenhower biographer Stephen Ambrose to insist that East Europe's boundaries had been settled the previous autumn in Moscow — by Churchill's "spheres of influence" offer to Stalin, apportioning Soviet and British influence . . .)

\* \* \*

Apparently because Malta rhymes with Yalta, you chose to focus your broad-based spectrum of experts ranging from moderate liberals to full-tilt leftists on the latter, shifting the blame for presentday East European boundaries from Roosevelt at Yalta to Churchill at Moscow.

What Churchill did in Moscow was in fact to save Greece — and Tito's relative independence in Yugoslavia — by agreeing to Soviet predominance in Bulgaria and Rumania. Churchill offered no deals on the Polish or German borders, which remain skewed to this day, displacing millions of people, because of the decisions at Yalta.

I mean no denigration of a great man when I remind you that Roosevelt at Yalta was no George Bush at Malta. He was the arbiter of Europe, abandoning Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and Estonia, blithely discussing the future of British territories like Hong Kong privately with Stalin.

But FDR was not himself. "How did it go?," his private secretary John Colville asked Churchill when the PM returned. "It was a tragedy," Churchill replied, "because my dear friend President Roosevelt is a dying man."

Kindly give Winston Churchill credit for rescuing at least one country for democracy 45 years before Gorbachev.

- RICHARD LANG WORTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

### 3. ANTI-ANTI-SEMITE — SOBER SNORTER

(In the New York Observer on 13 November, Daniel Lazare wrote about "Famous Men's Foibles," calling Churchill an anti-Semite and a drunkard . . .)

\* \* \*

History is a mass of facts, but its recording can often be faulty. One would hope that by now these oft-repeated canards had been put to rest.

Zionists recognize that Churchill was the greatest British friend the Jews ever had; not only a supporter of Chaim Weizmann and his cause, he went out of his way to

demonstrate it. He wept at references to the Jews' plight, and impulsively removed himself from a dinner table when another guest made an anti-Semitic remark. His feelings differed from those of most British aristocrats, and he was often criticized for them. His condemnation of Hitler's policy is well documented.

Mr. Lazare refers to Manchester's biography for tantalizing nonsense about Churchill's "drunkenness." Churchill did begin the day with a measure of Scotch, but added only soda to the glass until the dinner hour approached. As for brandy, Champagne and cocktails, these were part of the evening ritual, as it remains today among many people who are not drunkards. Mr. Manchester's relevant passage also states: "The legend that he was a heavy drinker is quite untrue."

Your columnist is obviously quite selective, neglecting also at least a dozen Manchester references to Churchill's views on the Jews. Martin Gilbert's biography supports Manchester, as do most other works.

As chairman of the New York chapter of the International Churchill Society, I know a thing or two about his life, and am obliged to file strong protests when inaccuracies about him are printed.

— ALFRED J. LURIE, NEW YORK

### 3A. MR. LAZARE FIRES BACK . . .

*A few weeks ago I ran an item referring to Winston Churchill as a racist, an anti-Semite, a drunk and 'a monstrous egotist to boot.' That brought a strongly worded letter from one Alfred J. Lurie of something called the International Churchill Society taking exception to items two and three. Churchill, Mr. Lurie said, supported Zionism, was a friend of the Jews and once 'removed himself from a dinner table when another guest made an anti-Semitic remark.' On the alcohol issue, he quotes William Manchester, Churchill's less-than-objective biographer, to the effect that 'the legend that he was a heavy drinker is quite untrue.'*

*Neither bit of evidence is particularly convincing, however. In accusing the Bolsheviks of seeking 'a worldwide communistic state under Jewish domination,' as Churchill did in 1920, he was repeating something regarded as a truism in right-wing, anti-Semitic circles. While he supported a Jewish state, so did outspoken anti-Semites such as G.K. Chesterton, who told everyone willing to listen that the Jews should get a homeland of their own and leave his — i. e., England — alone. While Churchill was hardly as fanatical as the Nazis, obviously, his prejudices regarding certain races and religion ran deep.*

*As for his drinking, Manchester concedes that there was 'always some alcohol in his bloodstream' and that by late evening he usually had made his way through 'two or three scotches, several glasses of champagne, at least two brandies, and a highball.' If this isn't heavy by modern standards, what is?*

— DANIEL LAZARE, NY OBSERVER 25 DEC

### 3B. \_\_\_\_\_ AND TAKES IT ON THE CHIN AGAIN . . .

Dear Mr. Lazare:

I do not intend to engage you in a colloquy about Winston Churchill; I admire him, you do not. I have my reasons, you seem to have yours. But I cannot let the matter rest by giving you the last word in your December 25th column.

First of all, "something called the International Churchill Society" (of which I am the New York chairman) probably has more members than your publication has readers. For your edification I enclose a recent brochure and a copy of some pertinent pages from its quarterly journal, "Finest Hour."

Second, I direct your attention to Kenneth Rose's monumental biography of Chaim Weizmann. The complimentary references to Churchill are liberally sprinkled throughout.

Third, with reference to your quote of an alleged 1920 statement made by Churchill, I would hope you'd re-read the pertinent section of William Manchester's first volume (try 1919 in lieu of 1920). In addition, Churchill's official biographer Martin Gilbert, who also writes books on Jewish history (his "The Holocaust" is a stand-out) would hardly revere the memory of an anti-Semitic Churchill. Nor would I.

Fourth, Churchill's drinking: Some people have a remarkable tolerance for alcohol, which doesn't seem to affect them. Or perhaps they know when they've had enough. They may drink, but they don't behave or perform as drunkards.

I was an editor and columnist in my youth, and I too was often called upon to defend myself. Since then I am often reminded not to believe everything I read. Now in retirement, I devote my leisure to the study of modern British history with emphasis on Winston Churchill. I believe what independent research, using many sources, reveals.

— AL LURIE

### 4. BRITICISM, OUR FOOT

*(In its third issue, Oct/Nov, the new "British American Magazine" Briticism printed Colleen Shannon's "London American Style," which urged what it portrayed as Ugly Americans to stop being so loud, rude and loquacious, and to keep their mouths shut so their accents don't show . . .)*

# \* \*

I don't expect you will encourage many Americans to visit Britain by publishing such patronizing and biased articles as Ms. Shannon's, about what she is so sure comprises the typical USA tourist.

For example, a UK friend of mine, who spent some months as a guide at the Tower of London, gave me this evaluation of the visitors he met: Japanese: polite but equally pushy, determined to take photos even when prohibited. French: rude, loud, and more pushy than Japanese. Germans: rude and superior. His fellow citizens: very polite, vacant of intelligent questions and weak on their own history. Americans: as polite as the British with sensible questions, who express appropriate gratitude when given the answers.

My wife and I have hosted eleven tours of Britain for American-Canadian groups from the International Churchill Society and various vintage car clubs. We have always been impressed by the tact, intelligence and courtesy of the "Yanks," or most of them. Ms. Shannon has been reading too much rubbish, or may be suffering from an overdose of London's *Time Out*. In any case, she ought to lighten up.

— RML

"Never maltreat the enemy  
by halves . . ."

WSC TO JOCK COLVILLE, 23 SEPT. 1940

# Action This Day

100-75-50-25 YEARS AGO  
EDITED BY JOHN G. PLUMPTON

## FOURTH QUARTER 1889 • Age 15

Lord Randolph Churchill had decided that Winston should enter the Army. Mr. Welldon, the Headmaster, told Lord Randolph that Winston was not good enough to pass into Woolwich, the military academy for the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers, and that he should aim for Sandhurst, the school for infantry and cavalry.

In September Winston entered the Army Class at Harrow. Although his father visited him this term, the boy's behaviour was not good. He was required to receive a weekly report from his teachers and show them to his tutor. He did not like this and asked his mother to "jaw Welldon about keeping me on reports for such a long time." She did but it did not provide him with the release he desired.

He also remained in contact with his first form-master, Mr. Somervell. In *My Early Life* he paid tribute to the latter's teaching of the English language. Because of Mr. Somervell he wrote: "I got into my bones the essential structure of the ordinary British sentence — which is a noble thing. And when in after years my schoolfellows who had won prizes and distinction for writing such beautiful Latin poetry and pithy Greek epigrams had to come down again to common English, to earn their living or make their way, I did not feel myself at any disadvantage. Naturally I am biased in favour of boys learning English. I would make them all learn English; and Greek as a treat. But the only thing I would whip them for is not knowing English. I would whip them hard for that. . . ."

## FOURTH QUARTER 1914 • Age 40

Churchill, as First Lord of the Admiralty, was now a cabinet colleague and fellow member, in the Other Club, of the War Minister, Lord Kitchener. In his early days as a subaltern he had been an ambitious critic of the famous general, but now his senior colleague told him: "Please do not address me as Lord as I am only yours, K."

Kitchener assisted him in a reconciliation with his cousin, "Sonny," the

ninth Duke of Marlborough. Two years previous the Churchills had severed social relations with the Duke over his behaviour when Clementine had used Blenheim Palace paper to correspond with the hated enemy, Lloyd George. At Churchill's request, Kitchener now gave the Duke a position in the War Office which was suitable to his title and age.

The Churchills were apart during the first month of the war and they worried about each other. Clementine was at Cromer, a Norfolk coastal town. Winston, concerned about an invasion, suggested that she "strike your flag and come ashore." She worried about his workload and made some suggestions on how he could avoid exhaustion: "Never missing your morning ride. Going to bed well before midnight and sleeping well and not allowing yourself to be woken up every time a Belgian kills a German. Not smoking too much and not having indigestion."

One of his earliest accomplishments was to transport 80,000 men, 30,000 horses, 315 field guns and 125 machine guns to the continent between 10 and 22 August. On 23 August British and German troops clashed for the first time since the eighteenth century and within a day British troops were in full retreat. Churchill noted: "Poor Kitchener! It was like seeing old John Bull on the rack!"

Ever on the lookout for allies, Churchill warmly welcomed Japan's entry into the war. Biographer Martin Gilbert was later told that when asked what inducement Japan might need to get them into the war, Churchill replied: "They can have China."

Very early in the war Churchill showed the kind of strategic thinking which would lead to Gallipoli. As German and Russian armies faced each other on the Eastern Front he proposed an attack on Germany from the Baltic Sea, west of Danzig, and then a march to Berlin. Although he offered to provide the transport for Russian troops, nothing came of his proposal.

In September the Royal Navy assumed responsibility for the aerial defence of Britain. On the western front the first Battle of the Marne was un-

folding but, as Churchill had predicted, the German drive stalled short of Paris within forty days of the attack. On 10 September Churchill crossed the Channel to see for himself that the defences of Dunkirk were adequate, should the Germans turn their attack away from Paris and towards the sea.

Back home he made his famous speech in which he compared the Royal Navy to a bulldog: "The nose of the bulldog has been turned backwards so that he can breathe without letting go." He also sent out the kind of call to arms for which he would become famous in a later war: "We did not enter upon this war with the hope of easy victory . . . the war will be long and sombre . . . we must derive from our cause and the strength that is in us, and from the traditions and history of our race, and from the support and aid of our Empire, the means to make our British plough go over obstacles of all kinds and continue to the end of the furrow, whatever the toil and suffering may be." Later he wrote a friend that "the Navy has been thrilled by all their prowess and valour. Doom has fallen upon Prussian military arrogance. Time and determination are all that is needed."

This confidence was badly shattered when 1400 men were drowned after their ships were torpedoed on the Dogger Bank. Although vindicated by a Court of Inquiry it was widely believed that Churchill was responsible.

Although Churchill was exhausted early in the war the exhilaration was almost too much for him to bear. After he toured the defences of Antwerp he cabled an offer to resign from the Cabinet so that he could take up a field command of the troops stationed there. The Cabinet received the request with much laughter but Kitchener immediately offered to make Churchill a lieutenant-general. Asquith declined the offer. Notwithstanding Churchill's heroic efforts, Antwerp surrendered on 10 October and his political enemies, and many of the public, blamed him for the loss of Royal Marines in its defence.

The public was also losing confidence in the Royal Navy and its First Sea Lord, Prince Louis Battenberg, whose German birth was becoming a major

issue. An embittered retired Admiral, Lord Charles Beresford spoke for many when he suggested that Prince Louis should have the good taste to resign because the public knew that he kept German servants and still owned property in Germany, and that he had entered the British navy for his own advantage, not Britain's.

Churchill's decision to replace Prince Louis with Sir John Fisher became another in a long list of disputes between the First Lord and King George V. The King had supported Lord Charles Beresford in his quarrels with Fisher many years before and he now believed that the Navy would never accept the 73-year old former First Sea Lord again. Furthermore, he thought that a clash between Fisher and Churchill was inevitable. But Churchill would have no one else so, under pressure from Asquith, the King approved the appointment.

Churchill wrote Prince Louis that "this is no ordinary war but a struggle between nations for life and death. It raises passions between races of the most terrible kind. It effaces the old landmarks and frontiers of our civilization. . . . The Navy of today, and still more the Navy of tomorrow, bears the imprint of your work." Prince Louis responded that the letter would be treasured by his sons. His younger son changed his name to Mountbatten, later served Churchill as Supreme Allied Commander in South East Asia, and rose to the rank of First Sea Lord himself.

#### **FOURTH QUARTER 1939 • Age 65**

Churchill now faced his second major war with Germany as First Lord of the Admiralty. On his return to his old Admiralty office he found the same charts he had used when he left in May 1915 with the locations of the ships still intact.

Consistent with his previous behaviour, Churchill was a very active leader. He wrote voluminous memos to everyone, giving instructions and opinions, or asking for their comments. He often ended with "pray inform me" or "pray send me." These minutes quickly became known throughout the Admiralty as the "First Lord's Prayers."

He involved himself in almost every issue — production of dummy ships for naval harbours, the neutrality of Eire, the return of the Duke of Windsor. His colleagues were often overwhelmed by

his energies and one, remembering Churchill's *The World Crisis* remarked: "He is writing his new memoirs."

But he was convinced that Britain must not be hesitant in its efforts to win the war and, as part of the Land Forces Committee, he recommended an Army of 55 divisions by 1941 with 20 divisions ready to stand beside the French by the spring of 1940. Critics charged that an Army this size would inhibit development of the Air Force and Navy. Churchill defended his position with the comment: "Pardon me if I put my experience and knowledge, which were bought, not taught, at your disposal."

Although some saw him as too impulsive or too much a flagwaver, the public saw him as the only person who could rouse the nation to fight. He was clearly the backbone of the government. Thus he was much chagrined and distressed to hear that his close friend "Bendor," the Duke of Westminster, had stated that the war was really part of a Jewish and Masonic plot to destroy Christian civilization.

Mid-September brought the bad news that the Soviet Union had occupied Eastern Poland. But Churchill reminded Lord Hankey that "this is not the first time that Russia has defected." Churchill also saw an advantage in that it would require 25 German divisions to watch the Russians on the eastern front and he was certain the eventual war in the Balkans would result. In an early broadcast he told his listeners that "I cannot forecast to you the action of Russia. It is a riddle wrapped in a mystery inside an enigma; but perhaps there is a key. That key is Russian national interest." On the western front he anticipated one or more of the following moves by Hitler: an attack on France through Belgium and Holland; an air attack on British factories and ports; or a peace offensive.

He received a most unusual letter from the President of the United States. "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." With Cabinet approval, thus began some of the most famous correspondence in history, and an alliance absolutely critical to final victory.

Incredibly, Churchill found time to pursue his work on *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*. F.W.

Deakin, Alan Bullock and Maurice Ashley wrote the drafts but the final versions were always Churchill's. Undoubtedly this work gave him respite from his many pressures but he also drew lessons and inspirations from history in facing his tribulations. He has written that "writing a long and substantial book is like having a friend and companion at your side, to whom you can always turn for comfort and amusement, and whose society becomes more attractive as a new and widening field of interest is lighted in the mind."

There were many naval engagements during the early months of the war. The loss of the aircraft carrier *Courageous* in the North Sea and the battleship *Royal Oak* to a submarine while at anchor in Scapa Flow were merely the most dramatic of many defeats. But the year ended in triumph when the British cruisers *Exeter* and *Ajax* and Australia's *Achilles* destroyed one of the greatest ships in the German fleet, the pocket battleship *Admiral Graf Spee*, off the River Plate in South America:

On November 30 Churchill was sixty-five. To some he was too old, but his long-time friend, Lady Violet Bonham Carter wrote: "You need no blood transfusions, unlike some of your colleagues." As a military secretary, Sir Ian Jacob, would later comment: "Winston's mind was so immensely active that he could only be Prime Minister."

#### **FOURTH QUARTER 1964 • Age 90**

In the 15 October General Election Sir Winston did not place his name before the voters for the first time since Queen Victoria had been monarch and Lord Salisbury Prime Minister, when he had stood as a Conservative in the Oldham by-election of July, 1899.

On his ninetieth birthday, close friends joined the family at a private dinner party. In the evening he gave a V-sign to die crowds who gathered to cheer him outside at his Hyde Park Gate window.

On December 8 he attended a meeting of the Other Club which he had co-founded with F.E. Smith on 8 May 1911. It was to be his last.

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This column will continue to limn the Churchill-related events of 25 years ago. A compiler would be welcome. — Ed.

# Vive La

## Society's Fourth Churchill T

TEXT BY RICHARD LANGWORTH •

IT DID NOT begin under the best auspices. London was in the midst of a record-breaking heat wave, the Waldorf Hotel lacked the air conditioning to cope with unaccustomed 80-90° temperatures, and we arrived sweltering. On August 17th we assembled for the tour of Parliament (courtesy the Hon. Nicholas Soames, MP) — minus four of our party with sudden medical emergencies. Things worsened when Lorraine Beatty (New York) fell while exploring London, breaking a wrist. She and Bill were held up at the Waldorf, where the tour made emergency arrangements for them to stay on, but caught up with us in Portsmouth.

From there it was straight up. Friday the 19th began at Chartwell: a private tour on a "closed" day, with lunch following at the fine restaurant, co-hosted by administrator Jean Broome and honorary member Grace Hamblin. Next we drove the few miles to Churchill's first country home, Lullenden Manor (1917-19), where Mignon Wellesley-Wesley and her mother gave us a hearty welcome and a sumptuous tea, at their beautiful half timbered house which dates in part to Elizabethan times. Saturday morning was occupied by a visit to the RAF Museum at Hendon, where preserved examples of the fighting aircraft of 1940 and a recreation of Fighter Command HQ were available for perusal.

The Churchill Society's eighth UK banquet was honored by the presence of our Patron, Lady Soames, and hon. member Robert Hardy. Respectively, these two guests introduced and responded to our guest of honor, Dr. Maurice Ashley, Sir Winston's literary assistant on *Marlborough* and the author of the standard work, *Churchill as Historian*.

Dr. Ashley, who recalled that as a young Socialist he was at first prepared to hate the ground Churchill walked on, spoke about how fast the "old man" grew on him, and of his admiration both for WSC's humanity and genius as a writer. We duly presented this ingenious scholar in his own right with the Third Emery Reves Award for journalistic excellence. We also had the pleasure of presenting a certificate of thanks to Det.-Sgt. Eddie Murray, for his 15 years' loyal service as Sir Winston's bodyguard (1950-65); and Blenheim Awards to Geoff Wheeler (UK) and George Temple (Canada) for their long service as chairmen of ICS in their respective countries.

Poor Robert Hardy was hardpressed, but took it all with his usual aplomb: Advised in writing that if he came he would not have to speak, he had no sooner arrived than this writer asked him to understudy for heat-prostrated Denis



Chateau Pol Roger, August 25th. L-R, front to back: Ray Butterworth, Richard Winston G. Churchill, Joyce Clark, Ed Bredin, Merri Churchill, Virginia Iv Judith Muller, James Muller, Christine Wheeler, Geoff Wheeler, Betty Sper Daniels, Mrs. Ellis, John Morris, Barbara Langworth, Ellie Weber, Garry Cla Druckmari, MiiMu-i BiAlin, USMC iiiiin. Brenda Lakey, Lynn Druckmai



A deserved bouquet for Lady Soames . . .



. . . and from the editor to Eddie Murray.



Tour programs were \

# ,a France!

## Tour an International Success

TH • PHOTOS BY MERRY NESS ALBERIGI



Richard Langworth, Lorraine Beatty, Bill Ives, Betty Butterworth, Dan Clark, Captain Lia Ives, Herb Weisenfeld, Pat Ball, Celwyn Ball, Danielle Pol-Roger, Bill Beatty, Spencer linked arms with Christian de Billy, George Temple, Roy Daniels, Joyce Clajk, Judith Thomas, R. Ellis, Don Kettys, Dick Thomas, Barbara Kettys, Dave kman, Laurent Benchemoun, Sylvia Morris, Colin Spencer, Christian Pol-Roger.



ere well signed.



Robert to Barbara: "It was like this . . ."

Kelly, and respond to Dr. Ashley's speech. This Robert did with his accustomed brilliance — a rousing message, urging ICS never to swerve from its efforts, in Lady Soames' words, "to keep the memory green and the record accurate." He ended much too soon, having promised not to keep us long "on this Egyptian evening" — but did not fail publicly to read Richard Langworth's letter assuring him that he would not have to speak!

A most amusing event actually occurred before the speeches, whence this writer, as m.c, suggested we all go outside to cool off before dessert was served (much to the astonishment of the Waldorf staff, who thought we had all left!) On the no-less-cool street Ellie Weber, a longtime fan of Hardy's in his role as Siegfried Farnon ("All Creatures Great and Small") approached our hon. member: "I'm Ellie from California. Richard said it would be all right to cuddle you."

Siegfried Winston Robert Hardy gave Richard that look he reserves for deadbeat Yorkshire farmers in the Darrowby surgery: "He did, did he? . . . Right; come oh then!"

After a coachborne tour of London Sunday, covering all Churchill sites from the former City of London Magazine at Hyde Park (which WSC sent troops to guard during the Agadir Crisis of 1911) to 28 Hyde Park Gate (WSC's flat from 1945-65), we traveled down to the 12th Century "Bell at Hurley," the delightful inn on a bend of the Thames where the food is beyond compare and the spiders as big as baseballs.

The Bell was our base for visits to Blenheim, Woodstock and the gravesite at Bladon, a slide presentation of "Churchill as Artist" by Merry Alberigi, and the first public reading of Meredith Greisman's "The Dream (4)," with Barbara Langworth playing Meredith and Richard giving a distant approximation of the Great Man. (You have to take the bad with the good on ICS tours.)

On 22 August we paid our third Society visit to our longtime friend Arthur Simon and his beautiful Hoe Farm, where WSC learned to paint in 1915. Here we were joined again by Lady Soames, who brought along the Visitor's Book signed by Lady Lavery at this very spot on the day she arrived to spark WSC on his first canvas. We were honored by • the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress of the surrounding Borough of Waverly, and as always, "the garden shown with summer jewelry." Arthur's friends who acted as his co-hosts then led us later by public footpath (and a stile) to the nearby White Horse, where Lady Soames wedged her



Ed Bredin (L) and the Maurice Ashleys.



Left, Lady Soames: "It must have been difficult for Maurice Ashley to take the job — but take it he did." Center: 1990 convention chairlady Merry Alberigi with Robert Hardy. Right: Arthur Simon welcomed us on our third visit to Hoe Farm.

Peugeot in to a cycle-sized parking space and Garry Clark enjoyed three helpings of chocolate gâteau. (Can that lady drive — can that man eat . . .)

Dear Robert Hardy had meanwhile been busy, as Archery Consultant to the Mary Rose Trust, on the telephone. Hearing that we'd be at the D-Day Museum in Portsmouth, but probably not in time also to see Henry VIII's salvaged flagship, he arranged with Dr. Margaret Rule, chief archaeologist, to greet us after hours for a personal guided tour of this amazing restoration project.

Dr. Rule, who learned to dive in her 50s to explore the wreck before it was raised from the Solent, gave us her personal comments on progress to date (and Robert Hardy's role, which is to recreate the correct longbows and arrows from remains found with the ship). The "Mary Rose" has to be doused with a solution of water and preservative 20 hours a day to prevent decomposition — Dr. Rule says the dose is gradually being decreased and that the ship will be dry by the year 2010! The tour not only paid the regular admission, but took up a separate collection, leaving Dr. Rule with a large bag of money and saying with a grin that she felt "like one of the Ladies of Portsmouth" . . .

From our Post House Hotel Wednesday, we ferried over to the Isle of Wight, where more Churchill haunts were in store. These ranged from Verona Cottages, where young WSC spent holidays in his youth (courtesy of occupants Mr. & Mrs. Munt) to Queen Victoria's Osborne House (the summer bungalow where the old Queen kept her mementoes and lived for long periods after the death of her beloved Prince Albert). We were welcomed at Golden Hill Fort, an historic structure being brought back to life by ICS member Wilfred Perkins, with a number of craft shops and, of course, a "Churchill Room." Wilfred Perkins and his staff arranged for a ceremonial bugle greeting to the ICS party. He and his son were then our guests, for a delicious lunch at Bonchurch Manor, a pretty restaurant perched on the cliffs near Ventnor, where ICS tours have gone before — and will **inevitably go again.** (The local real ale — wonderful.)



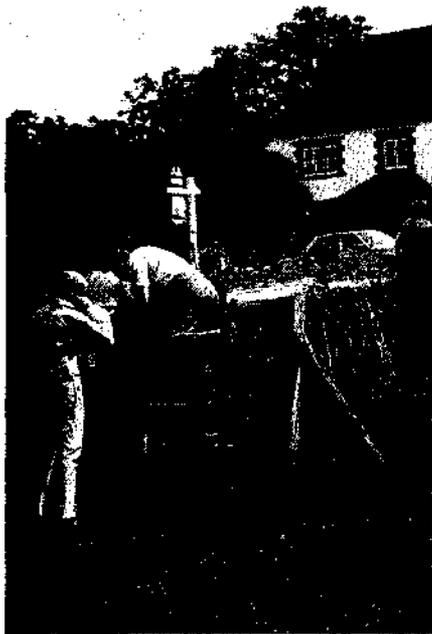
Chartwell was dry, but splendid as always.



WSC: "I bought Chartwell for that view."



Weisenfelds, Grace Hamblin, Thomases.



Left: From Hoe Farm you had to negotiate a stile to get to the pub! Center: Co-host Garry Clark, Stevenage UK, gets into the spirit of the thing at Caen. Right: Capt. Winston G. Churchill, US Coast Guard, lists to port attempting Royal Navy salute.



Langworths, Arthur Simon, & Mayor of Waverly.



Ellie Weber, Dr. Rule, Glenn Alberigi, Herb Weisenfeld.



Wilfred Perkins (center), Isle of Wight.

After a morning visit to HMS Dryad, the Royal Navy base where the final decisions were made to launch the Normandy invasion, we boarded our channel ferry with a full complement of Canadian, American and UK members. Six hours later we landed at Normandy and proceeded to Caen, where we were met at the local Novotel by Lyon member Laurent Benchemoun (who brought the hosts a box of fabled Lyon chocolates and much better English than the hosts' French). The next morning we set off with a guide for a tour of the landing beaches, and the town of St. Mère Église, the first village liberated — which still hangs an effigy of the parachutist who landed on the church steeple from that selfsame spot, to remember that day. We also visited the cemeteries of British, American and Canadian servicemen who never returned.

Traveling via the heart of Paris, we picked our way through the vineyards of Champagne, arriving at dusk at Hostellerie la Briqueterie outside Epernay. This lovely French country inn was our home and heavenly dinner site for the next two evenings. Here we were joined by the Spencers and Ellises from Essex and the Morrises from Yorkshire, who had traveled separately in a car. The scene was now set for the piece de resistance: our memorable visit to Pol Roger, Churchill's Champagne of choice.

Greeted by Christian and Danielle Pol-Roger and Christian de Billy, we were given a detailed cellar tour followed by first of many samples at the beautiful chateau which serves as company H.Q. Following a ride through vine-covered slopes, the landscape described by Christian as we drove, we arrived for lunch at Le Relais Chateau le Royal Champagne, at Champillon, near Reims.

Here awaited a most regal lunch, seven courses as we counted it, which lasted approximately four hours. The elegant fare was punctuated periodically by presentations of Pol Roger products. The charming Christian provided running commentary, a passable imitation of Charles Boyer: "Do come and try the cheese. In France we have a saying: If you do not find the cheese, the cheese will find you!" (The



Left: At beautiful Lullenden, WSC's first country home (1917-19), the Wellesley-Wesleys were our kind hosts. Right: Our intrepid chief photographer, stile-bound.



Le 25 AoQt 1989

INTERNATIONAL CHURCHILL SOCIETY

**Terrine de Foie Gras au Ratafia de Champagne**  
\*\*\*\*\*

Etuvée de Latte Et d'firtlchaut  
au Coulis de Betterave Rouge  
\*\*\*\*\*

Filet de Canard Grille' a l'Ail Doux.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Fromagea Fermiers Affinis en Cave  
\*\*\*\*\*

Symphonie **de Desserts**  
\*\*\*\*\*  
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Champagne PQL ROGER Brut  
extra cuuée de réserve

Châteauneuf du Pape Blanc 1906  
Domaine Mont-Redan



No welcome awaited at 28 Hyde Park Gate . . .



But Verona Cottages, I.o.W., was a treat!



Kenzie's Coaches provided luxury transport.

cheeses were local, and fantastique — bien sur!

The crowning event of the day was the reverential pouring of Pol Roger '47 — Sir Winston's personal favorite, specially brought out for our visit. WSC liked this vintage so much that he asked Madame Odette Pol-Roger to keep please enough to last out his life. She was so determined to do so that there are still about 2,000 bottles left! Well, 1,950 anyway. This noble Champagne is deep amber with a soft, creamy mousse. Drinking it was an experience — and an honor.

An equal honor was the presence of Pierre and Hugues Piketty, French friends Bill Beatty met during the war. The Pikettys befriended many American GIs, visited the States afterwards and maintained contacts. Though Pierre could not speak English, he came complete with a printed message: "We are proud and happy with this friendship, born after the war. Every time some GI friends are coming to France we see each other and recount old memories. Our family is very close to America. Those relationships are not the fruit of coincidence but of real desire to stay close and to have great respect for each other . . . For the next generation no war hopefully."

After a brief respite of shopping, and our first directors meeting in France, we reconvened at "La Briqueterie" for our third straight memorable French repast, which also involved seven courses and consumed four more hours. It is impossible to describe the magnificent cuisine and the beautiful way each dish was presented. Truly France is second none in l'affair gastronomique.

Here at last we were able to welcome Christian and Danielle as our guests, to present to them — and through them to Madame Odette — small tokens of our appreciation, and for Christian again to overwhelm us with more products of his cellars, even a special tasting glass which one cannot put down until the contents are consumed! As Bill Beatty puts it, "You really pulled out the stops."

But it was the Pol-Rogers who pulled out the stops, Bill,



Le 26 Août 1969

DINNER HONORING THE POL ROGER FAMILY  
INTERNATIONAL CHURCHILL SOCIETY

Effiloché de Queue de Boeuf Tiède en Gribiche  
\*\*\*\*\*

Fruits de Mer au Sésame de Champagne  
\*\*\*\*\*

Côte d'Igneau Rôties au Thym Citronné  
\*\*\*\*\*

Fromages Fermiers Affinés en Dava  
\*\*\*\*\*

Charlotte Champenoise  
\*\*\*\*\*  
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\*

CUVÉE Sir Lijatan Churchill 1982

Coteaux Champenois Blanc de Blancs PDL RDGER

Vosne Romanés 1981 M. LAMARCHE



Left: The church at St. Mère Église still hangs a mock parachutist to remember 6th June 1944. Right: Editor becomes wine steward for picnic-on-the-fly, France.

and we shall be ever in their debt for such a magnificent welcoming.

In pouring rain — the first on our trip — we left "La Briqueterie" August 27th, destination Calais. Enroute, we stopped at the famous clearing in Compiègne, where the Armistice of 1918 was signed in Foch's railway car, and where Hitler brought the French to surrender in 1940. The Nazis blew up the 1918 monuments and carted off Foch's *wagon-lit* to Berlin, where it was subsequently destroyed in an air raid. Fittingly, the clearing has been restored to its 1920s appearance, down even to the cornerstone, and an exact replica of Foch's car stands in place of the original.

Alas we ran out of time and could not stop at Vimy, where Canadian troops including Don Kettys' father broke the attacks of crack German regiments in World War I, though we could see the Maple Leaf flying proudly from Vimy Ridge. By lunching on the coach enroute, we managed to reach Calais in time, had a cloudless crossing with the white cliffs of Dover and France both visible, and a feast of Dover sole awaited us in England.

It was for me a tremendous thrill to see at last these famous landmarks of Churchill's finest hours, where French and British, Canadian and American, fought for freedom half a century ago. Barbara and I wish to thank all of the tour participants who made it possible. Of my many privileges enroute, I valued especially the opportunity to recite, in halting but I hope acceptable French, the words I learned by heart, first said by Churchill in 1940:

"For more than thirty years in peace and war I have marched with you. I am marching still along the same road.

"Tonight I speak to you at your firesides, wherever you may be, or whatever your fortunes are. I repeat the prayer upon the *louis d'or*. Dieu proteje la France.

"Remember that we shall never stop, never weary, and never give in. Remember how Napoleon said before one of his battles: 'This same enemy who is so boastful today was three to one at Jena, and six to one at Montmirail.' "



Our Pol Roger visit began with a cellar tour hosted by the two Christians (above). There was no room for more flags. Christian Pol-Roger, proposing his umpteenth toast, was our charming host — and seemed to enjoy it all with Churchillian gusto.



# Welcome to San Francisco

## Plan Now for a Memorable Weekend! August 17-20th, 1990

MERRY NESS ALBERIGI

OUR LONGEST AND LARGEST convention in history will take place next August 17-20th, headquartered at the superb Stanford Court Hotel on Nob Hill in the heart of San Francisco — with side trips to the Napa wine country and tours of San Francisco; two black tie dinners for our Patron Lady Soames and another speaker yet to be announced; numerous seminars, workshops and discussions on a wide variety of Churchill topics; and attendance which is sure to top 250 from all over the world.

North American members will shortly receive in the mail a registration packet (convention registration will cost only \$50), and special forms entitling you to discount rates at the Stanford Court. This famous hotel is allowing ICS an unheard of rate of \$150 *per room*, only \$75 per person, far below standard rates. (Of course, local members or visitors who wish to stay elsewhere may do so; you will be able to book one or two banquets separately, and all hotel bookings are between you and the hotel).

Here is a tentative schedule . . .

\* \* \*

**FRIDAY AUGUST 17TH** — Registration and exhibits will be open by early afternoon at the India Suite. Early arrivals will have an opportunity to meet and chat at a member reception. Dinner plans are up to individuals tonight, although there will be a dinner meeting of the international board of directors.

\* \* \*

**SATURDAY AUGUST 18TH** — Registration and exhibits open all day. In the morning, the ICS Annual General Meeting, followed by a program of "Churchill Pursuits," in which members give brief talks and answer questions on their particular Churchill interests.

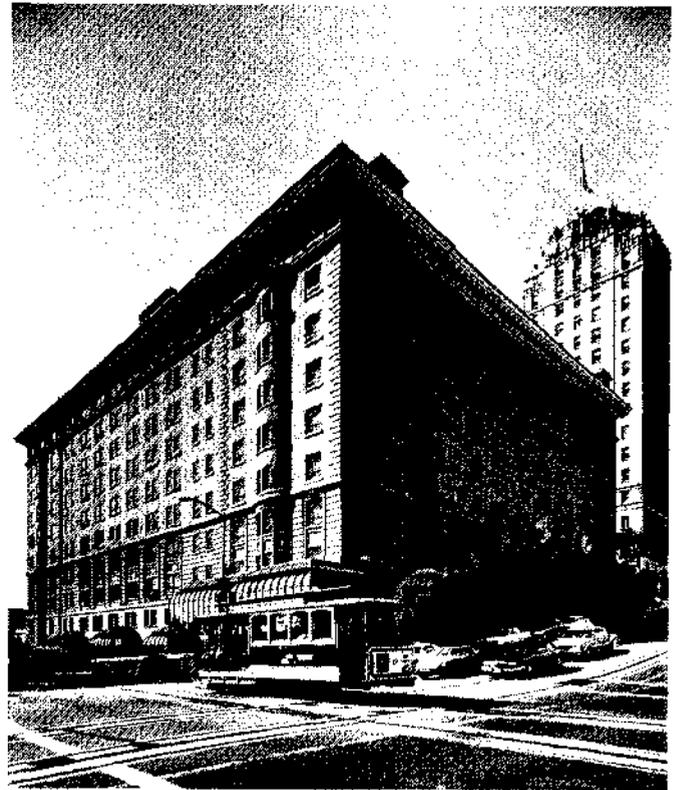
Already scheduled for "Churchill Pursuits" is Dr. Frank Mayer's "Churchill's Postwar Influence on the Conservative Party." Frank wrote his dissertation on Churchill and studied at Oxford while doing Ph.D. research at Cambridge. He worked with Sir John Colville, Lord Blake and Lord Fraser. His article on this subject appeared in *Finest Hour* 61.

Also scheduled is a discussion of Churchill's literary career by James Muller, who is writing a book on the subject. Dr. Muller is associate professor of Political Science at the University of Alaska-Anchorage.

If you wish to discuss your own "Churchill Pursuit," please contact Merry Alberigi (see address under "register now," later in this article).

After lunch: "Glasnost and Churchill: Sir Winston's Wisdom as a Guide for the 1990s": a panel discussion hosted by Larry P. Arnn, president of the Claremont Institute. Here notable scholars will discuss the Churchill to present-day world politics, and consider how nations might benefit from his instincts and philosophy at similar periods during his lifetime.

Evening: after a cocktail reception, a formal dinner for our guest of honor at the Stanford Court ballroom, followed by an address by that guest — whose name will be announced in



gTANFORg COURJp  
A STANFORD HOTEL

due course. The menu will be an outstanding one, complemented by fine California wines and music.

\* \* \*

**SUNDAY AUGUST 19TH** — Exhibits will be open during the morning at the India suite.

Mid-morning: "Military Men Look at Churchill," with Cdr. Larry Kryske (USN) and Lt. David Sampson (USAFR). Did Churchill meddle too much in the business of his officers? How knowledgeable was his use of strategy and tactics? Did he save or cost lives in battle? The speakers contend that Churchill cannot be looked upon in a vacuum; he must be compared with others who have had similar opportunities to exercise civilian control over the military. They will consider such diverse commanders as Abraham Lincoln (who virtually ran the North's strategy in the Civil War), and John Lehman (former Secretary of the Navy). They will also touch briefly on Churchill's involvement in India, the Sudan, South Africa, Gallipoli and the trenches of World War I.

Mid-day: a boat cruise of San Francisco Bay with a light lunch aboard. This event is optional to attendees. The seaborne sightseeing is spectacular, especially at this time of the year.

Evening: After a cocktail reception you are invited to a formal dinner honoring our Patron and Sir Winston's daughter, the Lady Soames, DBE, who will address the Society for the

first time since 1983. Striving for an approach different from her past speeches to ICS and similar groups, Lady Soames will respond to questions submitted in advance by convention registrants only. (You must register if you wish to ask a question — and you will hear it answered in person from your table.)

This promises to be a most lively and educational event, and certain to shed important light on hitherto dark corners of our knowledge.

As is traditional, the Society will toast the heads of state of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the UK and the USA, and a musical ensemble will present the appropriate national anthems, at the Sunday evening dinner. There will of course be ample opportunity for you to meet all our guests personally afterward.

\* \* \*

MONDAY AUGUST 20TH — A Wine Country Tour for

those remaining in town. You will be driven through Golden Gate Park, Sausalito and on to the famous Napa Valley. Following a tour and tasting at one of the most prestigious Napa wineries, you will enjoy a fine catered meal with selected wines served with each course.

\* \* \*

HELP US! REGISTER NOW - If you reasonably expect to attend, please register now! This will greatly aid our planning and allow us to add to and round out the programme. Your registration is refundable through June 30th and costs only US \$50 per person (payable to "ICS/N. Calif. Chapter") to PO Box 624, San Anselmo CA 94960.

If you wish to assist, to discuss your own "Churchill Pursuit," or need any questions answered, contact chairlady Merry Alberigi, PO Box 624, San Anselmo CA 94960, telephone (415) 394-398-5191 or fax (415) 394-7158.

## The Stanford Court: All The Best



James Nassikas, creator of the Stanford Court, imbued a spirit of perfection which has left it the most comforting hotel in the most elegant city in the United States. To Billy Wilder's famous line, "Nobody's Perfect," the Stanford Court defiantly strives for nothing less. "What I feel is our greatest problem," Nassikas says, "is a universal compulsion to mediocrity." You won't find it here.

There is a freshness about the Stanford Court that has been sustained on high standards of cleanliness. It is one thing to feel a clear sense of well-being when one enters the spacious lobby, which has the aura of an affluent private club. But it is even more reassuring to discover that all areas of one's quarters could easily pass an admiral's inspection. Just the right number of carefully chosen antiques, prints and paintings comfort the eye and the spirit. The room decoration has been done with a positive determination to avoid looking like a room in a chain hotel.

Within the Stanford Court the art of remaining unique has been mastered as well as any hotel in the world. It has an image of luxury — outstanding service, fine food. It is a hotel created literally to suit a hotelier's personal desires: a property on Nob Hill, constructed as a luxury apartment building in 1913, situated next to the Mark Hopkins Hotel, across the street from the Fairmont and at the junction of the California and Powell Street jump-offs of the San Francisco cable car system.

The history of the actual building goes back to the late 1800s, when Leland Stanford, railroad magnate, United States senator, governor of California and founder of Stanford University, built a mansion on the site. A new building, the Stanford Court Apartments, opened in 1913, and it was

later remodeled to create the hotel as it is today.

A unique aspect is that staff goals and guest goals tend to overlap. The striving to deliver excellence produces in Stanford Court guests an overpowering tendency to appreciate it for all that it is, rather than to complain if it falls short of perfection. Its regular guests include sixty-two chairmen of the board and forty-six United States senators, congressmen, state governors, Cabinet officers and Supreme Court justices, not to mention a prime minister and His Majesty Juan Carlos of Spain. Eight ambassadors have stayed at the hotel, three Miss Universes, seven college presidents, four astronauts, a purple plethora of showbiz people, seven peers from duke and duchess to standard-issue lord and lady, and forty-six plain, ordinary distinguished folk who walked with kings yet kept the common touch. The Stanford Court's real triumph, however, is the hall of fame of gastronomic and wine notables that wine and dine there constantly.

Convinced that people believe hotel fare is inferior to the food in non-hotel restaurants, Mr. Nassikas pretended that Fournou's Ovens, the distinguished restaurant that he created, was not in the hotel, by giving it its own street entrance and a separate telephone number. The restaurant soon became so popular that there was no room in it for hotel guests, and it had to be enlarged. Fournou's Ovens is one of the first restaurants of San Francisco, a city renowned for its restaurants, and it has one of the largest collections of fine California wines.

Even the coffee shop is special. It is the Cafe Potpourri, a nest of three rooms contrasting in decor, of which one is a soda fountain, one resembles a men's club, and one is an airy garden with white chairs that are usually occupied by ladies.

A conscientious manager of The Plaza in New York City once rang Sir Winston Churchill's suite shortly after the latter had checked in, to inquire whether there was anything in particular that WSC might fancy. Unknown to him, the call was answered by Churchill himself. "Mr. Churchill's wants are very simple," came the English voice over the phone to the anxious manager. "He is quite easily satisfied with the best of everything."

We are sure that the Great Man would approve of our hotel of choice for the 1990 Churchill Society Convention.\*

## DESPATCH BOX

### MAURICE ASHLEY DINNER

I was disappointed not to be present at the dinner for Maurice Ashley, who I have long regarded as my mentor. Long before I began work with Randolph Churchill on his father's biography I had read and used Maurice's books, both as a schoolboy and then at university.

I remember my excitement at coming across the first traces of Maurice's work for Churchill, when I was preparing the material for Volume V. I do not think I have ever been so impressed at the energy and effort put in by an historian in the archives and in the assembly of material.

Churchill was superbly served by Maurice Ashley. He, and his successors, John Wheldon, Bill Deakin, Denis Kelly and Alan Hodge, have each inspired me to try to continue with the work which they did, which is now in its final phase with the preparation of the remaining companion document volumes.

May I take this opportunity to send Maurice Ashley, and all who gather to hear him, my very warmest greetings.

- MARTIN GILBERT, JERUSALEM

### OUR PLEASURE, JOHN

May I formally express my thanks and appreciation for the presentation by the ICS directors of the framed citation given to me at the UK meeting in August. I was taken by surprise and am most grateful. It will take pride of place in my office.

Need I confirm that I will continue to "feed" *Finest Hour* with a regular flow of press cuttings relating to Churchill. Kindly convey my heartfelt thanks to the directors and members.

- JOHN FROST, NEW BARNET, HERTS. UK

### GALLIPOLI REGRETS

I hope you had a fine pilgrimage on the Churchill Tour. A possibly useful quotation I have just found in Lord Hankey's *The Supreme Command 1914-1918* (Allen & Unwin 1961, Vol 2, p460):

"Personally I felt desperately depressed at this decision. I believe it to be an entirely wrong one. Since Churchill left the Cabinet and the War Council we have lacked courage more than ever."

The decision, followed by much vacillation, was to evacuate the Gallipoli Peninsula in late 1915.

- GERALD MC CUE, LEXINGTON, MA, USA

### DELIVERANCE VERIFIED

I have noticed lately that quite a few of my letters have been late or not delivered. Upon receipt of *FH 63* I noticed that my name was not included in the list of supporters on page 22. I had at the time thought it strange that you had not answered my letter containing a

bank draft, but had put it down to pressure at work. But please let me know whether you received the check. Thank you for your tremendous contribution to ICS.

- HILLEL SHNAPS, MENASHE, ISRAEL

*Hillel and others who were not acknowledged in FH 63 will be acknowledged in this issue or the next. Donations to our fund appeal were enormous and, at least temporarily, swamped me. My apologies.*

RML

### CHAPTER FORMATION

As an ex-serviceman of World War III appreciate the debt which we owe to Winston Churchill and consequently my membership in ICS, as well as *Finest Hour*, which means a great deal to me. I am looking forward to the *Chartwell Bulletins*. [Hope received by now! Ed.]

In regard to the formation of a local chapter in South Africa I think that it is a good idea but do not know exactly how much I could handle. Perhaps you would give me more information.

- GORDON COUL, PO BOX 214  
RONDEBOSCH, R.S.A. 7700

*South African members interested informing an ICS chapter may wish to write Mr. Coull. Merry Alberigi, PO Box 624, San Anselmo CA 94960 USA is our chapter coordinator and can provide detailed guidelines on forming an ICS chapter on request. She has responded to Mr. Coull. We would very much like to see our chapters expand beyond the five nations represented on our board of directors and will provide a directorship for any nation with an active chapter.*

### STAMPS: WSC QUOTES

I enjoy *Finest Hour* and find it full of "meat" — there is so much about this wonderful man that is little known.

My Churchill stamp collection embraces anything in the way of credo/sayings, and naturally WSC comes into this. I thank you for your assistance in citations of his various words on stamps and enclose the result.

- JOHN W. HODGSON, PLUMSTEAD, R.S.A

*Mr. Hodgson's four pages of stamps with Churchill quotes appear in this issue under "Churchill in Stamps."*

### FUND APPEAL NOTES

How exciting to have received the generous contribution from Mrs. Reves (*FH 63*). She has also endowed the College of William and Mary, where I attended law school. I have long wanted to write her. Is it possible to receive her address?

- MARCIA RACHY, ARLINGTON, VA. USA

*Mrs. Wendy Reves would love to hear from ICS members who approve of her support for our "Target '90" project. Her address is Villa La Pausa, Avenue de la Torracca, 06190 Roquebrune, Cap Martin, France.*

It is very enjoyable to be a member of the Churchill Society, and I thank you for your acknowledgement of my contribution. I'm delighted that it's been so successful, thanks to Mrs. Reves. I would like to be listed as a member in the next membership listing for Florida. I hope to be able to attend an annual meeting soon.

- WINIFRED AMATURO, FT. LAUDERDALE, FL, USA

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending the ICS lapel pin. It is charming, and a very nice size. We met in 1984 at the Royal York Hotel at the ICS AGM. I was fortunate enough to see WSC on two occasions when I was doing some post-graduate work in England. Keep up the good work. There are many of us out there who admire what you are doing very much.

- DR. D.W. MC LENNAN, GRIMSBY, OH

Just a short note to express my thanks for the lovely society pin. I am gratified to learn that the financial drive has ended in total success. Congratulations!

- DR. I.W. GOLDFARB, PITTSBURGH, PA. USA

What exciting news on the Society's successful fund appeal. Thank you for the note enclosing a copy of "The Dream." I did indeed purchase an extra copy, and will pass the new one to an appropriate party.

- E.M. BREDIN, QC, CALGARY, AB, CANADA

### CHURCHILL GLASNOST?

Last June my wife and I visited the USSR, spending five days in Yalta. A highlight of our journey was the tour of Livadia Palace, site of the Conference. I was struck by the absence of any memorial or reminder of Sir Winston in the entire city. I asked our guide about the omission. He replied that the "Iron Curtain" speech at Fulton was the reason.

Many things have changed in the Soviet Union since that speech in 1946. It occurs to me that ICS should consider lobbying an appropriate government body to persuade the Soviet authorities to correct this wrong. As you know, Yalta's main thoroughfare is named after President Roosevelt.

- STANLEY H. WINFIELD, NEW WESTMINSTER BC

*It's a challenging thought, but it may be asking a bit much even of Glasnost. The matter has been referred to our chairman, who regularly visits the Soviet Union and has also been to Livadia.*

### LITERARY TREE ADDENDUM

I had the Eastern College Library run a computer search on the data missing from the Churchill Literary Family Tree (*FH 64* centerspread). Here are the missing dates.

Clare Sheridan: "West & East" 1923, "Mayfair to Moscow" 1921.

Shane Leslie: "The Isle of Columcille 1910 (2nd on list).

Anita Leslie: "Rodin: Immortal Peasant" 1937, "Love in a Nutshell" 1952, "Mrs. Fitzherbert 1960, "Mr. Frewin of England" 1966, "Sir Francis Chichester" 1975, "Madame Tussaud" 1978, "The Cult and the Gingerbread" 1981, "A Story Half Told" 1983.

Winston S. Churchill, MP: "Great Issues '71: A Forum of Important Questions Facing the American Public" (with John Glubb) 1972.

Sarah Churchill: "The Unwanted Statue" 1968, "Collected Poems" 1974, "Prince with Many Castles" 1967.

Vic Oliver (1898-1964): "Mr. Show-business" 1954.

I suppose we ought to have made a box for Leonie Leslie's husband, Sir John Leslie (1967-1944).

— JIM LENEHAN, RADNOR, PA, USA



### JAMAICAN DATA REQUESTED

I am sending as a gift to the Society the enclosed brochure, which pictures Sir Winston receiving a gift when he visited our University, the College of the West Indies, in 1953. Among the persons photographed with Princess Alice are two survivors, Sir Hugh Springer, now Governor General of Barbados, and Sir Phillip Sherlock, a former vice chancellor of the University.

I wonder if any readers are familiar with the enclosed extract made from Sir Winston's compassionate speech, made 79 years ago when he was Home Secretary. Is it thought that the spirit or the system has improved much since then?

Finally, I should like very much to learn whether Martin Gilbert, in his painstaking and excellent research, discovered what part, if any, Sir Winston played as Prime Minister in 1953 (July-October) to suspend the Constitution of British Guiana (now Guyana).

— DR. H. AUBREY FRASER  
PO BOX 165, MONA, KINGSTON 7, JAMAICA

*We have forwarded Dr. Fraser's letter to Martin Gilbert; would any reader who is able write Dr. Fraser (and us) on this?*

### EXTRACT

"We must not allow optimism or hope or benevolence in these matters to carry us too far. We must not forget that when every material improvement has been effected in prisons — when the temperature has been rightly adjusted, when the proper food to maintain health and strength has been given, when the doctors, chaplains and prison visitors have come and gone — the convict stands deprived of everything that a free man calls life. We must not forget that all these improvements, which are sometimes salves to our consciences, do not change the position.

*Dr. Aubrey Fraser sends us these photos marking Sir Winston's visit to the College of the West Indies in 1953. At right, Princess Alice, with still-active Gov. Gen. Sir Hugh Springer and Sir Phillip Sherlock (checked).*



"The mood and temper of the public in regard to the treatment of crime and criminals is one of the most unfailing tests of the civilisation of any country. A calm and dispassionate recognition of the rights of the accused against the State; a constant heart-searching by all charged with the duty of punishment; a desire and eagerness to rehabilitate, in the world of industry, all those who have paid their dues in the hard coinage of punishment; tireless efforts toward the discovery of surative and regenerating processes, and an unfaltering faith that there is a treasure, if only you can find it, in the heart of every man — these are the symbols which, in the treatment of crime and criminals, mark and measure the stored-up strength of a nation.

— WSC: HOUSE OF COMMONS, 20 JULY 1910  
DURING DEBATE ON THE PRISONS REFORM ACT  
HANSARD: H.C. JULY 20TH, COL. 1354

### HISTORIC CORRESPONDENCE

*A collector who recently acquired the originals sent us the following letters for Finest Hour, although two appear (somewhat mis-edited) in Companion Volume 1 Part 2 of the Official Biography (q.v.).*

*We publish them here first to answer a question by Bill Ives: was 35A Great Cumberland Place WSC's home? Answer: no, it was his mother's; his letter documents his move to his first flat, 105 Mount St. (Bill tells us that 35A is now a fairly run-down London B&B!)*

*We also thought the note on Jack's letter, by Shane Leslie (Leonie's son and Winston's cousin) which is not in the Companion Volume, worthy of interest. — Ed.*

105 Mount Street, London  
September 8th, 1900

Mrs. Leonie Leslie  
Glaslough, Ireland  
My dear Leonie,

So many thanks for your letter which I was very pleased to get. I have been very lucky in finding a place to live in. You will remember Sunny [Marlborough] had some beautiful rooms, 105, Mount St., and he has very generously handed these over to me for the unexpired portion of the lease, nearly two years, so I have moved most of my household gods [sic] from Cumberland Place, have bought a few things from Maples', and am now, so far as housing goes, much more comfortable than I was at Cumberland Place. But of course I no longer live for nothing.

I should be very grateful if you would come here when you return and help me get a few more things. I am sure the rooms would be capable of more improvement, but you cannot imagine how that kind of material arrangement irritates me; so long as my table is clear and there is plenty of paper, I do not worry about the rest.

I have just come back from Paris where we have had a very pleasant week. Sonny [sic], Ivor and I. I don't think much of the [Paris International] Exhibition, the buildings are fine, the scale is colossal, but the arrangements do not seem to me to be inspired with any cleverness in catering for the public taste. Large areas of the Exhibition only resemble parts of Whiteley's shop; side shows of all kinds are equal to what you see at a village fair in England; the arrangement of no less than three people, the ticket seller, the ticket puncher, and the ticket collector at the door-way, shows there is bad business instinct about the whole concern, and I do not wonder that, apart from their manners, the French have not made a financial success of the enterprise.

/s/ Yours affectionately, Winston  
forgive dictation

\* \* \*

Bachelors' Club, Piccadilly  
Undated [circa 19 September 1898]  
(To Lady Randolph Churchill)  
My dear Mama,

I have just heard some further details of Winston and the Charge [at Omdurman] via Cecil Grenfell from his brother Harold, who arrived last night.

It appears that the Charge was a great mistake and that the Sirdar [Kitchener] was furious, so furious about it that he has hardly mentioned it in despatches.

The 21st [Lancers] were supposed to be kept fresh, and prepared to catch the Khalifa when he bolted.

They charged and crippled themselves, so that they could not go after the Khalifa. Col. Broadwood whose "Gyppi" cavalry had been working hard all day, had to try to catch him. He started with 400 horses and came back 30 hours afterwards with 200 alive having killed 501 on the road. [Numbers are set - E d.]

Col. Martin did not do at all well — his horses all had sore backs and he galloped them about until they could hardly stand.

Winston, on the 'sound' of Charge, sheathed his sword at once and went into it with his 'Mouser' [sic] pistol. He said — all this comes from H. Grenfell — that after firing 4 shots the Dervish would not come near him. When he was through he turned back & rescued his troop non-com. But I am afraid that he will not get anything for it as the Sirdar, I believe, has not mentioned anybody who took part in the charge. Col. Franky [Rhodes] told me the Sirdar was furious at Winston arriving up there. However, Winston held aloof I fancy.



Young Winston shortly after his first, unsuccessful campaign for Parliament in 1899, following his controversial activities with Kitchener in the Sudan. To his aunt Leonie he wrote, "As long as my table is clear and there is plenty of paper, I do not worry about the rest." Photo courtesy Time, Inc. Picture Collection.

I am so sorry about your ankle, is it badly sprained. I hope it wont take long. Winston will be back on Friday next I calculate.

Best love,  
Jack SC [Spencer Churchill]

\* \* \*

*Handwritten note by Shane Leslie on the above letter:*

Jack Churchills' letter about the Charge. Winston managed to attach himself to the 21st Lancers. He said afterward that when the mens' lances got entangled in the bodies of the Arabs they lifted them up to be shot with Winston's revolver.

Afterwards Kitchener sent for Winston and said he understood he wished for a job? He told him to go to the rear and look after the mules! They never spoke again till they met in the War Cabinet of 1914 when Kitchener generously shook hands and said, 'Call me K.'

Lady Randolph injured her ankle in Torosay when seeking G. West [George Cornwallis-West, whom she married on 28 July 1900]. I helped her as a schoolboy. It was the weak ankle wh killed her [in 1921 when it gave way on a stair, eventually developing to gangrene, leading to amputation and a fatal hemorrhage].

**S**ir Winston Churchill  
statue unveiled  
May 24, 1989



## Edmonton Remembers

### A Noble Achievement Marks the Edmonton Society's 25th Year

*The Edmonton Branch of the Sir Winston S. Churchill Society unveiled a fine Neman statue of Sir Winston with WSC's daughter Lady Soames present last May, culminating an ongoing fund appeal for the statue and an Oxford scholarship endowment. The statue is similar to the one Neman created for Parliament but, perhaps in deference to Alberta winters, it portrays WSC in a topcoat!*

*Edmonton columnist Barry Westgate had some melancholy reflections on the event, which we thought worthy of your consideration, and we quote here Mr. Westgate's column from the 25 May 1989 edition of the Edmonton Journal . . .*

\* \* \*

In far simpler times, in a much simpler place, in weather reminiscent, the scene was so very vividly the same.

There would be a band, an honour guard usually of high school cadets, a statue of some sort, and a lot of flowers. It would be raining, a grey and dank day that seemed to fit the mood of melancholy soon to be deepened by the playing of The Last Post on a lone bugle. I would stand there, in the rain, and *know* what that moment meant, *know* what the ceremony stood for — though not because I was one of the assembled veterans standing stiffly in ranks. Indeed

I had no medals, no scars, no camaraderie of hard times to draw upon. I would know not for any of that, but for a then-undiluted sense of the sacrifice the occasion marked.

Many of the people gathered at Churchill Square had the mark of the years on them, and that kinship with earlier times that was taking me back to Remembrance Days (well, Anzac Days, to be precise) past, to strains of appreciation and understanding that inevitably are dulled by the swift passage of time — would have been a finite thing in them, too. It is really why they were there.

The numbers fade of those who care or know, who chanced the weather for the unveiling Wednesday, who gather on a November day every year to pay respect.

Some of that is only inevitable. People and eras do pass. Time sees to that, leaving only statues in parks, glass cases in museums, books on shelves: dry-as-dust or impervious-as-bronze artifacts that only scholars care enough about to look for deeper reasons for their being. We rush on with it. There is seemingly less and less time for looking back.

In Wednesday's smallish crowd there were a few young adults beyond the passing curious, hardly any children other than those massed in cadet uniforms. The interest was polite; about as much as could fairly be expected.

For the younger, too much time has

passed. In a way that is good, but when "not for nought" so easily turns into nothing in the mind's eye of generations now and beyond, there is a waste.

I know there was more, much more, to Churchill than his warrior years, but it was those we went there to honour. Of all the things that he was in a remarkable lifetime, that he was a warrior for all time, a symbol of defiance and indestructibility through some of the darkest years of our history, is why the statue should have a place among us.

In her address, Churchill's daughter Lady Soames talked of the statue being a future place for children to play at and for lovers to meet at. Pretty pictures. Proper pictures, in a way. This is a park.

But the replica hunched there in the corner, exuding even in inanimate facsimile a strength and obstinacy that recalls magnificent history and a great man, should never be only another crusty statue in a park.

During the ceremony, when the Canadian flag was pulled away and the bronze was revealed, the name CHURCHILL stood out on the base in huge letters.

When I saw it I wondered: How soon will it be before just the name will not be enough? Already, perhaps?

"I hope there is a plaque explaining who he was," muttered someone next to me, locked in the same grey thoughts.

- BARRY WESTGATE

# The Canadian World Crisis, Impressions of Into Battle, et. al.

RICHARD M. LANGWORTH

I now require only Volumes 1 and 5 to complete my collection of Canadian *World Crisis*, and would be willing to consider American editions if they are uniformly bound and a cheaper alternative to Canadian first editions. Did the Canadian issue follow the same pattern as the American, and were there subsequent impressions?

- CHRIS BELL, CALGARY AB

As far as my limited experience with the Canadian (Macmillan, Toronto) issue goes, I have not seen subsequent impressions, and would be glad to know if readers have spotted any. The Canadian issue was bound using USA sheets with a title page cancel, and was identical to the US (Scribner) version (dark brown scored cloth and gilt), with 'Macmillan' replacing 'Scribner' on the lower backstrips. There were several subsequent impressions of the American Volumes 1 (1911-1914) and 5 (The Unknown War); the cheapest way to complete a uniform set would be to seek these.

Addenda, corrigenda and amplifications to the Churchill Bibliography by Frederick Woods (2nd rev ed 1975), available for \$60 from the ICSNew Book Service, Burrage Rd, Contoocook NH 03229 USA. Numbers in quote-marks are inserted where they would be if Woods were ever updated. Comments and contributions are welcome: write the editor.

### A3(a) SAVROLA

Contrary to Woods' publication date of February 1900, the American (World) First Edition of *Savrola* appeared in November 1899 and came very close to (but did not succeed in) preceding the First Edition of *The River War*. I began to suspect that Woods' date was wrong when I found a copy hand-dated "1/25/1900" by an owner.

A???

COMMUNISM is the title of a single sided 8'2xH" broadsheet published by the American Coalition, Washington, excerpting Churchill's comments on Communism from his Trotsky essay in *Great Contemporaries* (A43). Since his byline is followed by the description "English Historian, Statesman, Member of British Cabinets, etc.," we construe that the date is pre-1940 but, with the

US publisher Putnams prominently credited, after 1937 (first issue of *Great Contemporaries*). Can anyone pin this down?

### A66(a) INTO BATTLE

It is commonly known that Woods' report of seven "impressions" between February 1941 and June 1947 is belied by the books themselves, which list twelve impressions (incorrectly stated as "Editions") through May 1947. Woods states "?30,000" copies were published in February 1941 with a second impression of 5000 in October 1941, admitting by the question-mark that he is guessing. It is possible that the first printing of "?30,000" supplied the first through seventh impressions, since it seems unlikely that all 30,000 would have been bound for sale at once (Churchill's previous book, *Step by Step*, had a first impression of only 7500). Also, the sheet added as a cancel with the second edition (pp 128A/128B) is still a cancel with the seventh edition.

Woods lists a total of 16,200 for his "impressions" of October and November 1941 and January 1942, which presumably would have supplied sheets for the eighth, ninth and tenth actual impressions. The printing of March 1944 (6000) could have supplied sheets for the tenth and eleventh impressions, though it seems early, since the next actual impression after that date was May 1945. Perhaps Cassells were just stockpiling. The press run of 5000 in February 1946 might be accounted for in the 12th impression — but why does Woods report yet another 2500 copies pressed in June 1947, when the last impression anyone has ever seen is dated May? Comments?

### "C208/VIB"

Churchill's retelling of Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities," which first appeared (per Woods) in 1933, was reprinted in the *Sunday Dispatch*, London, on 6 April 1941, page 5. Since the story promises "NEXT WEEK . . . another famous book rewritten as a short story by Mr. Churchill," we must assume that many C208 items were thus republished. Will a UK reader kindly check this against *Dispatch* microfilms?

### "C517/1"

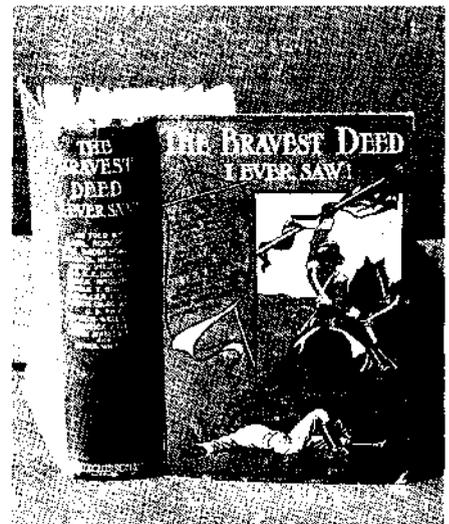
Letter to the *Yorkshire Post*, congratulating the paper on its Bicentennial,

reproduced from the original on 10 Downing St. notepaper. Leeds: *Yorkshire Post*, 2 July 1954.

### "D(b)61/3" - MAYBE

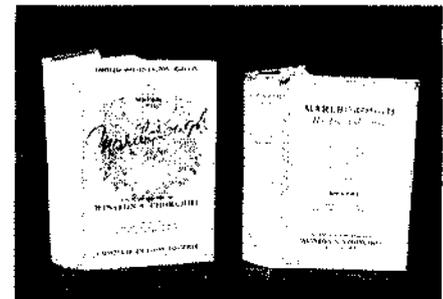
"Lest We Forget That Noble and Immortal Nation — Greece", compiled and edited by Georgios J. Karamanos, New York: The Athenian Press, 1943. At page 23, a statement by Churchill entitled "Assures Aid to Greece." At page 87, excerpts from a Churchill speech on Mussolini.

Whether this qualifies as a legitimate entry depends on whether the statement on page 23 is a first appearance; this appears unlikely since it sounds like a speech excerpt. The page 87 excerpt is of course not a first appearance. Neither are attributed. (Reported by Marvin Nicely)



### Questions: Woods B1

We are asked how many editions there are of the first known volume with a Churchill contribution. We don't know: at least six. There are also at least three cover variants of the first edition, in red, green and turquoise-blue.



### A40: Later Editions

Woods is not clear on the so-called "Limited Presentation Edition" of 1939 (left). It consists in fact of first edition sheets of Volumes 3 and 4, and later impressions of Volumes 1 and 2, uniformly bound in purple and silver, with jacket as shown. (At right is one of the two volume postwar edition, A40d.)

# Churchill in Stamps: Quotes from the Canon

JOHN W. HODGSON

THE SAYINGS OF CHURCHILL



"This then, is the message which we send forth today to all the States and Nations, bond or free, to all the men in all the lands who care for Freedom's cause, to our allies and well-wishers to Europe, to our friends and helpers growing ever closer in their might across the ocean: take to the seas and - LIFT UP YOUR SAILS - THE ALL WILL COME RIGHT, out of the depths of sorrow and sacrifice will be ours again the glory of making"

Speech at the Dominion House of Representatives and allied Countries' Ministerial Conference, London : 18 July 1941



"IN WAR, RESOLUTION; IN DEFEAT, DIGNITY; IN VICTORY, MAGNANIMITY; IN PEACE, GOODWILL"

A report from Sir Edward Marsh's edition after the Great War, 1914-18 "A number of People's Voice" Used in Churchill's book "The Second World War" Vol. 1 - "The Gathering Storm 1940" also proposed by Churchill for the French was removed inscription.

THE SAYINGS OF CHURCHILL



"YOU CAN BRAB CHAIHEL ISLANDS ARE ALSO TO BE BRKID TODAY"

Speech in the House of Commons, London : 9 May 1945



"A HIGH AND A GUILTY RESPONSIBILITY RESTS UPON US THIS AFTERNOON IS THIS CONGRESS OF A RUSSIAN SPEAKING TO US: KH-HIM!"

Address to the Council of Europe, Strasbourg : 7 May 1948

THE SAYINGS OF CHURCHILL



"I would say to the House as I have said to those who have joined this Government, I have NOTHING TO OFFER BUT BLOOD, TOIL, TEARS AND SWEAT"

Address to the House of Commons, London : 13 May 1940



"Let us therefore brace ourselves to our duties and so bear ourselves that if the British Empire and its Commonwealth last for a thousand years, we will say THIS WAS THEIR 'BEST HOUR'"

B.B.C. Broadcast : 18 June 1940

"We shall not fail or falter, we shall not weaken or tire. Neither the sudden shock of battle nor the long trials of vigilance and execution will wear us down, here is the answer which I will give President Roosevelt: GIVE US THE TOOLS AND WE WILL FINISH THE JOB"



B.B.C. Broadcast address to the United States President : 9 February 1941

THE SAYINGS OF CHURCHILL

"I THINK IT IS ONLY NATURAL THAT THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE WHO ARE OF GREEK DESCENT, SHOULD REGARD THEIR IDENTIFICATION WITH WHAT MAY BE CALLED THEIR NATION COUNTRY AS AN IDEAL TO BE SACREDLY, DEVOTELY AND LOYALTY OBSERVED. SUCH A FEELING IS AN EXAMPLE OF THIS PATRIOTIC DEVOTION WHICH SO NOBLY CHARACTERISED THE GREEK NATION."



Six stamps were issued by Greece in 1954 to mark the Union of Greece and Cyprus: 1 with the Greek text; 2 in French and 1 in English. Each stamp shows an extract from the Hansard Report of his House of Commons London speech of 1907. Originally, as order-possessing for stamps, had just returned from a visit to Cyprus.



"The government simply cannot make up their minds, or they cannot get the Prime Minister to make up his mind. I think it is a pity that the Government should be in this position. I think it is a pity that the Government should be in this position. I think it is a pity that the Government should be in this position."

Speech in the House of Commons, London : 11 November 1954

My philatelic specialty is "Credos and Sayings," so Churchill naturally comes into play. Upper left: Pitcairn #144, sg 155 and Qatar SG MSI 17 (I credit the origin of "In Victory, Magnanimity" to Eddie Marsh; am I right?) Lower left: Uruguay #284, sg 1284, New Zealand #249, sg 669, and Pitcairn #145, sg 156 invoke war speeches. Upper right: Jersey #27, sg 35 and Netherlands #606, sg 1345 cover the aftermath of World War II. Lower right: Greece #569, sg 729 contains the 1954 "Enosis" speech (see FH 38); Nicaragua Minkus 2355, sg 1907, a famous prewar Commons speech.

# The Debt We Owe . . .

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The list of contributors to our "Target '90" fund appeal has grown to 238 members from the United States, Canada, Australia, France, Greece and the Caribbean. Contributors not previously listed in *Finest Hour* no. 63 (page 22) are:

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Since *Finest Hour* 63 an additional 33 copies of our numbered, limited edition of Sir Winston Churchill's "The Dream" have been distributed to contributors of US\$100, C\$135 or the equivalent. Refer to the *Churchill Handbook* (pages 4.10-4.11) for the first 220 copies assigned and to *FH* 63 for numbers 220 to 331. At this writing (26 December) we have 136 copies left. These are available to any member contributing US\$100 or the equivalent; we are also keeping track of those who renew at higher than the basic level, and will send their copy of "The Dream" when their extra support reaches that figure.

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"We have not journeyed across the centuries, across the oceans, across the mountains, across the prairies because we are made of sugar-candy."

Speech to the Canadian Parliament, 30 December 1941

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"I am a child of the House of Commons. I was brought up in my father's house to believe in democracy. Trust the people.' That was his message."

Speech to the American Congress, 26 December 1941

# Reviewing Churchill

EDITED BY JOHN G. PLUMPTON

## THE AFTERMATH 1918-1928

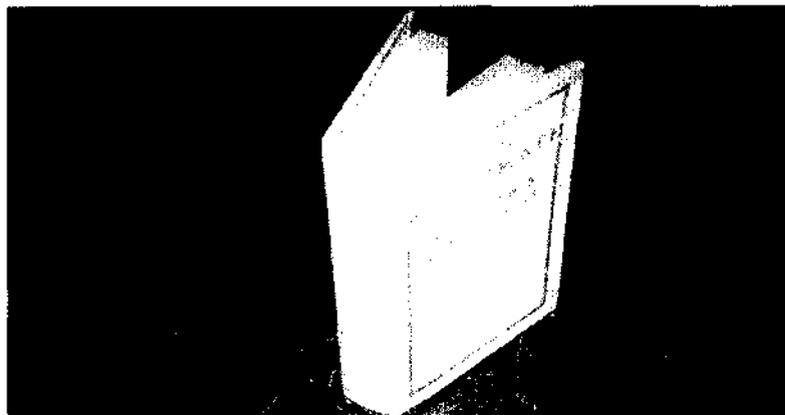
AMERICAN HISTORICAL  
REVIEW, Vol. XXXIV, No. 2,  
January 1930.

The dates 1918-28 appear on the cover and raise expectations that this is a history of the last decade. It is not. It is a vivid picture of Europe on the morrow of the Armistice, an intensely graphic description of the struggle with the problems of peace and reconstruction. It is partial and incomplete.

But the author did not set out to tell the whole story; his aim was "to show the stepping-stones of fate," to choose "out of an incomprehensible fecundity of violent and interesting facts . . . those that really mattered." So he chose British Demobilization, the Peace Conference, Bolshevism and the Allies, the Irish Settlement, Turkish Nationalism. That is all. Those certainly mattered but so also did the German Revolution, the setting up of the Succession States, the Fascist Revolution. They, too, were big with consequences. But the former mattered more to Mr. Churchill, and rightly, for he was deeply involved in them. *The Aftermath* is a "personal narrative;" not a history, but "a contemporary contribution to history" and, as such a contribution, invaluable.

It disregards nearly every canon of scientific history, being neither objective, impersonal, judicial, nor even well documented. But it is precisely these technical defects that give it its peculiar value. Would that we had more personal narratives and that they were all as spontaneous and thrilling as this one! *The Aftermath* will be read when the standard histories are only referred to. For, think what one will of Mr. Churchill's politics, there is no gainsaying his art. His pen moves with a freedom and a sweep that fairly fascinates, with an ease and sureness that proclaim him a master of phrase and figure. His style is vigorous, racy, picturesque and dramatic.

Few books have provoked livelier discussion or more diverse opinions. The reviewers have run the whole gamut, from extravagant praise to



*The first  
American  
Edition,  
extremely  
rare in  
dust jacket*

unsparing condemnation, it has been called one-sided, fiercely polemical, rancorous, and a perversion of history as well as greatest contribution, indispensable and classic. Curiously, nearly every verdict on the book seems to entail one on the man. So we find audacious, vindictive, disingenuous, militaristic, adventurer matched by candid, human, broad-visioned and moderate.

Too often judgment has been warped by feeling and the blows aimed at the book seem intended for the author. To persons of the opposite temperament Mr. Churchill is anathema. His realism antagonizes the sentimentalist; his zeal for action alarms the irresolute; his opportunism outrages the consistent.

But our present criticism is with Mr. Churchill's own opinions, not with the critics. As regards the Peace, Mr. Churchill would have had a prompt settlement, with effective guarantees: a League of Nations with force; reconciliation with Germany; reparations on the principle of equality of sacrifice. But the one moment when prompt and decisive action might have availed was lost and the blame must fall upon the leaders, chiefly upon President Wilson. Churchill says that "he might have made everything swift and easy but he made everything slower and more difficult."

Mr. Churchill has been charged with seeking to discredit Lloyd George, and, to make it worse, by innuendo rather than openly. Read with an unprejudiced

eye, his words lend little support to such a charge. Although he criticized his colleague for surrendering to popular clamour in 1918, for failing to include Asquith in the Peace Delegation, for hesitating regarding Russia and, above all, for his costly and irreparable miscalculation in the Near Eastern situation, he charitably allows much for the complexity of the problems, for the confusions of the times and for the exigencies of politics. And, in the Irish Settlement, though he does not agree with his conduct, he accords him the honour of the solution.

His own positions on Ireland, Russia, the Near East, and Reparations can be summed up as prompt, energetic, unequivocal action, with a view to a speedy settlement — no halfway measures.

On most points the event has proved the soundness of his position. On Russia, however, his judgment slipped. His premises were too narrow; his perspective too limited; he showed himself singularly lacking in historical sense. His language is immoderate and his tone has all the stridency of the anti-Jacobin.

Such is *The Aftermath*, a brilliant picture by a master hand, instinct with movement, aglow with colour. It is not the last, not even on the few topics of which it treats. But, however much it may be corrected or supplemented, it will always challenge attention as a prime source of information, and a most illuminating commentary on the men and the events of its time.

TEST your skill and knowledge! Virtually all questions can be answered in back issues of *FINEST HOUR* (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).

145. What American statesman and friend of Churchill's also realized the duplicity of Stalin in the 40 's? (C)

146. Churchill's series of articles on defense were subsequently published under what title? (L)

147. How many coronations did Churchill attend? (M)

148. Clemmie and Winston had a pet name for Randolph before and just after he was born. What was he called? (P)

149. What governmental position did WSC hold that was the same as his father? (S)

150. "This was their finest hour" was said in reference to the success of what event? (W)

151. Who said to F.E. Smith in 1911 that he would give five pounds to dine with "that fellow Churchill"? (C)

152. How much did Churchill receive for each of his African journey articles which appeared in *The Strand*? (L)

153. "Cats look down on you; dogs look up to you; but \_\_\_\_\_ treat you as an equal." (Complete this WSC quote) (M)

154. What finally got Winston's parents to visit him at school in Brighton? (P)

155. "... to prevent as many people from getting there at all," was Churchill's first principle of what 1910 reform? (S)

156. Which Australian Prime Minister accused WSC of leading Australian

troops into impossible situations without sufficient support? (W)

157. To whom was Churchill referring when he said 'He had the art of backing uneasily into the limelight'? (C)

158. How was the majority of Churchill's income earned? (L)

159. When a boy, Winston had a great ambition to play which musical instrument? (M)

160. How much older was Winston than his wife Clementine? (P)

161. What three social reforms did WSC support state-sponsored insurance programs for in 1910 (have things changed)? (S)

162. What event did Churchill feel might seriously impinge on his efforts to engage American support against the Germans? (W)

163. With whom did Churchill found The Other Club? (C)

164. An article in *The Nation*, "The Untrodden Field of Politics," was written when WSC was campaigning in what constituency? (L)

165. Churchill College, Cambridge, was founded in Churchill's honor to encourage which disciplines? (M)

166. Where did Churchill first become a cigar smoker? (P)

167. "Anyone can rat — it takes a certain amount of ingenuity to re-rat," was said in reference to what action by Churchill? (S)

168. In what year did Churchill tell his cabinet, "Relations between Britain, United States and USSR have never been so cordial and intimate."? (W)

#### ANSWERS TO LAST TRIVIA (*FINEST HOUR* #63)

121. Sir John Colville
122. Julius Caesar
123. John Churchill, First Duke of Marlborough
124. Which hat WSC would wear to the fancy dress ball.
125. Bonar Law
126. Auchinleck
127. General Sir Richard Haking
128. *Step by Step*
129. "Jock"
130. Victorian music hall songs
131. The Other Club
132. Anti-aircraft
133. Mr. Dewsnap
134. *Marlborough* (Vol. III) & *A History of the English-Speaking Peoples*
135. 28 Hyde Park Gate, Kensington
136. Oscar Nemon, the sculptor
137. semi-circular
138. Sir Desmond Morton
139. Superman
140. Churchill College, Cambridge
141. 1965
142. Polo
143. Napoleon
144. Nazi Germany

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NOT TRIVIAL is the amount of advertising using images good and bad of WSC; a survey of the numerous examples is building for a future issue, and we always welcome more. This is not an advert, nor an endorsement. . .

## IMMORTAL WORDS

### EUROPE UNITE

This noble continent,  
comprising on the whole the fairest and the most cultivated regions of the earth,  
enjoying a temperate and equable climate,  
is the home of all the great parent races of the western world.  
It is the fountain of Christian faith and Christian ethics.  
It is 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 . . .  
There is a remedy which  
if it were generally and spontaneously adopted,  
would as if by a miracle transform the whole scene  
and would in a few years make all Europe,  
or the greater part of it,  
as free and happy as Switzerland is today.  
What is this sovereign remedy?  
It is to re-create the European Family,  
or as much of it as we can,  
and provide it with a structure under which  
it can dwell in peace, in safety and in freedom.  
We must build a kind of United States of Europe.  
The salvation of the common people of every race and every land  
from war or servitude  
must be established on solid foundations  
and must be guarded by the readiness of all men and women  
to die rather than submit to tyranny.  
In all this urgent work  
France and Germany must take the lead together.  
Great Britain,  
the British Commonwealth of Nations,  
mighty America,  
and I trust Soviet Russia  
— for then indeed all would be well —  
must be the friends and sponsors of the new Europe  
and must champion its right to live and shine.

*Zurich University  
19 September 1946*