

Our War Album.—8. Ambassador in Berlin



Sir Nevile Henderson

After a long and distinguished career in the Diplomatic Service, which he began as an attaché at St. Petersburg in 1905, Sir Nevile Henderson was appointed British Ambassador in Berlin in 1937. The Blue Book which included his last dispatches, and his Final Report, were widely read.

Photo, Bassano

ODD FACTS ABOUT THE WAR

Worth Noting Today and Re-reading in Years to Come

Eton Top Hats Banned

Because of the handicap they might prove in the quick fitting of gas masks, the headmaster of Eton College has forbidden the wearing of top hats, and the boys now go hatless.

They Read Our Leaflets

German prisoners taken in the most recent French advances have had in their possession copies of the pamphlets distributed by the R.A.F. over Germany.

Gare aux Anglais!

German wireless stated that German troops on the Western Front awoke to observe opposite them a large notice put up by the French troops. It said: "Look out, comrades, the English are coming." The German soldiers, the announcer added, "greatly appreciated this friendly warning against the common enemy." (The Times)

Home Spies

The German Government has organized a special branch of the Gestapo, to be called the National Reporting Service. Members of it will spy upon the civilian population and report any expression of dissatisfaction.

"Lambeth Walk" Greeting

French peasants now return the "thumbs up" gesture with which they are greeted by British troops on their way to the Front.

So Near and Yet...

Cheers greeted an advertisement for soup made from beef when it was thrown on the screen in a Berlin cinema.

Guns or Cars?

A scheme by which German artisans paid in advance by weekly instalments for their long-promised "people's car" would appear to have fallen through, for the great works at Fallersleben, the supposed factory of these cars, are now stated to be turning out munitions. Neither does anyone seem to know whether the vast sums paid in are recoverable.

"Fortress of Warsaw"

German newspapers have been instructed to refer to Warsaw as a fortress, in order, apparently, to justify the piteous results of incessant and ruthless bombing.

Instructing the Blind

Permission has been given to the National Institute for the Blind to publish a Braille edition of the Blue-book on German and Polish relations and the events leading to the outbreak of war between Great Britain and Germany. (The Times)

When Thieves Fall Out

It was reported that Admiral Raeder had tendered his resignation to Hitler as a protest against Von Ribbentrop's "errors in the Baltic." The resignation was not accepted.

Love in Flight

Eros, the figure on the Shaftesbury Memorial Fountain in Piccadilly Circus, has once more been removed and stored in a place of safety. He survived the Great War unhurt, but had his bowstring broken on Armistice night.

Dog Census

In order to obtain dogs suitable for work with the army, Germany has ordered the registration of all big dogs.

New Penalty for Treason

A new law in Germany prescribes immediate beheading for treason. Under the old law an offender could escape with the penalty of imprisonment, sometimes for as little as five years.

More Tightening of the Belt

Goebbels has announced that the "one-dish Sunday" will in future be replaced by "Sundays of Sacrifice."

Forced "Voluntary" Work

The wives of textile workers on active service have been requested by the German authorities to fill their places in the mills. To refuse means the loss of rationing rights and other benefits.

H.M.S. Blank

In future, when naval ratings come ashore, they will wear cap ribbons with only the letters H.M.S., since the name of a ship might give information about the movements of the Fleet.

World-famous Alien

Among the thousands to appear before an aliens' tribunal was Captain Franz von Rintelen, who described his adventures as a spy during the Great War in the book "The Dark Invader."

"On Ne Passe Pas"

These words are inscribed on the "Maginot Medal," the emblem worn by defenders of this great line of fortifications. The first Englishman to be "awarded" the medal was a pilot in the R.A.F.

Liner's Disguises

The liner "Cap Norte," rounded up by the British Navy after three weeks' freedom, had adopted various methods of disguise to avoid capture. She had painted her funnel yellow, instead of yellow and black, the Swedish flag was painted on her side, and she had rechristened herself "Ancona."

Exhibition Closed

The rebuilding of the old Reichstag is now under consideration. Since its destruction by fire "by direct orders of Stalin," it has served as an anti-Communist museum.

Medical Tests at Swiss Frontier

All travellers arriving at Basle from Germany are subjected to a stringent medical examination, owing to the fear of epidemic disease breaking out in Germany and being carried into Switzerland.

Rum for Raid Sufferers

Some A.R.P. first-aid posts are including rum in their store of equipment, to be used as a restorative in severe cases of air-raid shock.

Speeding Up

One Army clothing factory near London is turning out in the next six months as many greatcoats as would be required in 25 years of peace, while the number of shirts ordinarily required in the space of 14 years have been ordered for delivery to the Ministry of Supply within four months.

Coal for Wheat

Britain is importing wheat from France, where last season's harvest was particularly good, and is sending cargoes of coal in exchange.

Our Thirsty B.E.F.

British beer to the amount of 4,800,000 pint bottles was shipped to France by the Navy, Army and Air Force Institute.

Avoided Vivisection

Many of the German minority in Lithuania have refused the offer of repatriation on the grounds that they do not want to be "rabbits for Hitler's political experiments."

Soap Substitutes

German housewives have been instructed over the radio to use solutions made from soaked potato peelings, or ivy leaves boiled in water, as substitutes for soap on washing-day.

Women Buy Guns

While the Finnish-Soviet talks were going on in Moscow, women in Helsinki were queuing up outside gunsmiths' shops to buy revolvers.

Blind Guides

Blind people are stated to "see" in the black-out better than those with normal sight. Their services as A.R.P. guides are being considered.

No More Water Sports

All swimming pools in Germany, whether public or private, are to be given over to the breeding of edible fish. There are penalties for persons continuing to use them for their daily dip.



THE BALTIC POWERS. "This is my dinner. You eat yours!"

From the cartoon by E. H. Shepard. By permission of the Proprietors of "Punch."