

was that he represented the United States in Warsaw as the Ambassador to the Government of National Unity, which he disliked, while his sympathies were with the London Poles, from whom the Allies had withdrawn their recognition. That, in part, explains Mr. Lane's active effort to further the cause of Mikolajczyk, leader of the Polish Peasant Party.

The paradox becomes even more confounding when our ambassador's relation to the Yalta agreement is considered. From the outset he regarded Yalta as the betrayal of Poland, achieved by a cunning Stalin in personal victory of a weak and sick Roosevelt (in utter disregard, on the part of the author, of the presence of a very healthy and vigorous Churchill). Subsequently Mr. Lane's appointment made it his duty to see to it that the Yalta terms would be carried out by the Warsaw Government, and, although he despised Yalta's provisions, he despised the Communists more for not abiding by them.

Mr. Lane speaks of the present Polish Government as a solidly Communist group, calling the Socialists and Peasant Party coalition a complete fraud. Yet it is immediately apparent to the visitor to Poland that most of the Socialists and Peasant Party members in the Government are quite definitely opposed to Communism. When the author rightly charged that the Polish "use of the term 'Fascist' was often very elastic," one wishes that he had not stretched his own terms as precariously toward the other extreme.

According to Mr. Lane's own account the Polish land reform was supported by all parties without exception. And yet the author ascribes to "one Socialist cabinet minister" the complaint that the reform had serious economic drawbacks since the Polish peasant was inefficient unless "directed by an overseer." "Under the prewar system," Mr. Lane reminisces, "the large landowners had organized their properties on a very business-like basis and were able to produce the maximum output at the best prices obtainable." This is probably as cynical a defense of feudalism and serfdom as even the most eloquent, disowned Polish gentry could put up.

Perhaps the most unfortunate chapter in Mr. Lane's book discusses the Kielce pogrom of 1946; for it infers that the Polish government may actually have instigated the anti-Jewish action in an effort to overshadow the rigged elections. As an alternative possibility Mr. Lane repeats the charge, made in some quarters, that the Polish people turned against the Jews in resentment against the pres-

ent Government "in which the Jews played a prominent part." These statements are not only contradictory and unproven, but they omit the fact that the current Government, for the first time in Polish history, has declared discrimination a punishable crime.

It is strange, indeed, to find an American official thinking in terms of race and racial classifications. But again and again there are almost Hitlerian references. The Minister of Public Security is described as "a good-looking man, apparently of Russian Semitic origin, with carefully combed, oily black hair. . . ." The chief of the Foreign Office press section is "a Communist of the Jewish race." And of an important general it is said that "Semitic in origin, he did not have the physical appearance of the average Polish officer."

Poland's almost miraculous reconstruction, plainly visible to every traveler, is honored with exactly one paragraph of the report. On the other hand, a great deal of space is given to examples of intrigue as the outstanding attribute of the present Government. But this reviewer, who has had some opportunities of observing officers of the London Polish Government during the war, remembers that intrigues were the order of the day among that group as well.

Mr. Lane rightly objects to Russian methods of tying political strings to economic help, but he went all-out

in his effort to prevent the State Department from allowing credits to the Warsaw Government. "I determined to take advantage of the eagerness of the Polish Government for economic assistance and to use it as a lever by which we would obtain fulfillment of Polish commitments . . .," he writes. Any other course to him seemed "appeasement," and the title of "appeaser" is applied to such men as former Ambassador Joseph E. Davies and implied to fit a great many Americans from F.D.R. down. One wonders whether anyone working for the attainment of peace is to be so labeled.

The Ambassador resigned to tell his story. He expressed his belief that he could accomplish more in the United States for Poland and the Polish people than in Poland. But while Mr. Lane is undoubtedly honest, he is at the same time partisan, and therefore limited, in his outlook. The pattern of Poland, as that of any police state, is undoubtedly gray and at times dark. There are even some entirely black spots in the fabric. "I Saw Poland Betrayed" is focused on those spots with a morose glee of hopelessness.

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## Your Literary I.Q.

By Howard Collins

### RED-HEADED CHARACTERS

David Bernstein, of Rolla, Mo., presents ten literary figures who had, among other memorable characteristics, red hair. Allowing five points for each one you can name and another five for either the story or the author, a score of sixty is par, seventy is very good, and eighty or better is excellent. Answers are on page 21.

1. This red-headed London pawnbroker had a part-time job copying the Encyclopedia Britannica in long hand at four pounds per week.
2. The marriage between this outspoken red-head and his red-haired wife was blessed with four red-headed sons.
3. In punishment for the attempted murder of the wife of a traveling peddler, her lovely red hair was cut off and she was sent to a convent.
4. The world population of red-heads was destined to rise dramatically as this red-head was the sole potent male left in the world following an atomic bomb explosion.
5. This red-headed princess lived in violent times, for her mother was beheaded by her father and her lover by his brother.
6. The great-grandfather of this Irish orphan was pleased to note that the lad had inherited his red hair.
7. A young Harvard student was attracted to this sergeant's unusual military organization by his green buckskin uniform, Scotch hat, and scarlet hair.
8. A South American millionaire rescued this red-haired English governess from drowning and she joined him on his journeys, carrying her coffin wherever they traveled.
9. In this middle-aged sea captain a South Sea island woman failed to recognize the red-headed lover of her youth.
10. These auburn-haired twin brothers from Georgia gallantly went off to war and died together at Gettysburg.

# War Criminals and a Mental Case

NUREMBERG. By Peter Calvocoressi. New York: The Macmillan Co. 1948. 176 pp. \$2.75.

THE CASE OF RUDOLF HESS. Edited by J. R. Rees, M.D. New York: W. W. Norton & Co. 1948. 224 pp. \$3.

Reviewed by  
WILLIAM ELDRED JACKSON



IT IS curious that while laymen often belabor the law for exalting technique over substantial justice, there is generally none so fond of technicalities in arguing legal matters as the layman. The Nuremberg trial, with its issues of *ex post facto* and the rest, is a conspicuous instance. In an attempt to explore legalities dear to the lay heart Peter Calvocoressi, a member of the British prosecution at Nuremberg, has written a lucid explanation of the trial in terms of the facts, the law, and the consequences.

This, of course, is already well-trod ground and invites comparisons. As an exposition of the law Mr. Calvocoressi's slender effort is hardly definitive, and falls far short of the thorough work of Sheldon Glueck and Quincy Wright. His résumé of the facts is likewise sketchy, especially when compared with the incisive summary which recently appeared in the *Harvard Law Review*. A more serious inadequacy is the failure to consider the enormously important question of conspiracy, the only practicable means of dealing with an aggressor government, which the Tribunal's verdict whittled almost to the vanishing point. Yet it remains to be said that Mr. Calvocoressi's work has the excellence of good writing and broad appeal, and if what he says has often been said before, perhaps it has been never so well expressed.

Mr. Calvocoressi is clearly at his best in dissecting the military case, on which he is an unsurpassed expert. His demonstration of the obvious fallacies advanced by the Tribunal as grounds for declining to convict the General Staff as a criminal group is logically unassailable. The most alarming aspect of this acquittal, he points out, lies in its potentially disastrous legacy for the future. Today the General Staff as an entity stands untouched, save for the judge's passing censure where they refused to condemn.

It is unfortunate that a work of such general merit should be marred with needless manifestations of chauvinistic partisanship. It is neither simple nor prudent to distribute garlands when one's possession of the

facts is not complete. Mr. Calvocoressi should be informed, for example, that two of the decisions he praises highest—trial instead of summary execution, and indictment of the General Staff—were reached over the most determined British opposition. His rather foolish remarks on personalities are also subject to discount on the record as a whole. Be it remembered that he is an Englishman (and it's greatly to his credit), writing for an English audience, and the book remains a creditable contribution to popular understanding of a unique, Four-Power undertaking.

One of the most intriguing by-products of Nuremberg is the light shed on the incredibly complex personality of Rudolf Hess, that "paranoid mystical fantasist" who startled the world with his strange excursion to the Scottish moors, and later with his on-again, off-again bouts of forgetfulness. The eight British and American psychiatrists who attended the Deputy Fuehrer from his internment in England through his trial have combined their observations of his erratic conduct into a fascinating record.

It is a revealing commentary on the capacities which achieved high station in the Nazi state that Hess, a believer in the occult and devotee of Tibetan elixirs, embarked on his baffling flight largely because his friend Haushofer had dreamed of Hess flying across the ocean. The object of the mission was equally woolly. Through the Duke of Hamilton, a much unjustly maligned man whom Hess had met briefly and but once, Hess expected to make peace with King George. Hess's naïve terms called for British capitulation without German occupation. Shocked by the chilly British reception of this magnanimous proposition, Hess developed a psychosis marked by delusions that his "glassy-eyed" warders were mesmerized by the powers of Jewry and

seeking to encompass his doom through food poisoning.

Despite his evident balminess the psychiatrists are definite that Hess was at no time insane in the medico-legal sense, although he did suffer recurrent memory lapses. They also believe that when at Nuremberg he made his sensational confession of having simulated amnesia he was largely pretending to have pretended. This astonishing "admission," which exaggerated both his previous amnesia and his current recovery, was made partly to avoid not being tried with his cronies, partly to grab the limelight.

It is perhaps a fitting irony that the man who was once a paladin of the Thousand-Year Reich will be remembered instead as one of history's most interesting mental cases.

## Rémy's Conspirators

MEMOIRS OF A SECRET AGENT OF FREE FRANCE: *The Silent Company*. By Rémy. Translated by Lancelot C. Sheppard. New York: Whittlesey House. 1948. 406 pp. \$4.

Reviewed by LAWRENCE G. BLOCHMAN

THE AMAZING story of the French Resistance Movement will take many volumes to tell in its entirety. Some of it—the stories of the men and women who vanished from Fresnes prison into the dreadful silence beyond the Rhine—may never be told. But several books have recently appeared in France which detail distinct aspects of the Resistance. Soustell's "Envers et Contre Tous" tells the story of DeGaulle's organization outside France, from the dingy second-floor office in London to the Provisional Government in Algiers. Bénouville's "Le Sacrifice du Matin" describes the rise of the Secret Army inside France. And Rémy (Colonel Gilbert Renault-Roulier) chooses a smaller canvas—his own network, the *Confrérie de Notre Dame*, which gathered intelligence for the Allies inside Occupied France.

Volume I of Rémy's memoirs, "The Silent Company," is the first of the lot to reach the American reader. It has all the fascination of a novel by E. Phillips Oppenheim, although its characters are not the bejeweled ladies and sleek international gentlemen of the Old Master's intrigues. Rémy's conspirators are leather-faced farm hands, headwaiters, country doctors, pimply young radio operators, the madam of a bordello, photographers, typists, fishermen, housewives, tavern keepers—in a word, France. They are brave, doubly brave, because they are constantly afraid. Although they find the sinister Gestapo incredibly stupid