



THE SINEWS OF PEACE

[1948]

(Cohen A234) (Woods A124)

After the war was over, Randolph Churchill reassumed the editorship of his father's speeches, which were published over the years in five separate volumes, of which this collection of orations from October 1945 through the end of 1946 is the first. The faithful Desmond Flower at Cassell immediately arranged to publish *The Sinews of Peace* in Britain, but the Americans took more convincing, and it was almost a year after its UK appearance that Houghton Mifflin agreed to issue an American Edition. For years I owned a First English Edition that Randolph had taken to America in order to sell the project, with editorial notes in his hand (although the American text was unaltered when published).

Sinews of Peace is named for one of two dominant themes in the speeches within, namely the title Churchill gave to his March 1946 address at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, better known as the "Iron Curtain" speech. At Fulton in the presence of President Truman, Churchill had urged a "fraternal association" of the English-speaking peoples to maintain the forms of cooperation, military and political, that they had established in the war, but critics took this to mean he was proposing a formal alliance. "The Fulton speech drew cries of horrified alarm, not only from Communists and their dupes, but from many usually right-minded and sensible politicians and journalists," writes Randolph in the Introduction. "Re-reading that speech in the light of after-knowledge, many people may wonder what the fuss was all about. They may perhaps conclude that one of the most dangerous and thankless tasks in politics is to tell the truth and to give warning of danger in good time instead of late in the day."

A year after the First Edition of this book was published, NATO was founded, and America and Britain found themselves in an alliance along the lines Churchill proposed at Fulton, along with Canada and a number of non-English-speaking, democratic states of Europe.

Six months after Fulton Churchill spoke at Zurich University, voicing the second major theme of this volume: European Unity. "I am now going to say something that will astonish you," he said. "The first step in the recreation of the European family must be a partnership between France and Germany. In this way only can France recover the moral leadership of Europe. There can be no revival of Europe without a spiritually great France and a spiritually great Germany." Thus it was Churchill, so often first to recognize compelling truths, who first voiced the advice Europe needed to hear. The result in due course was the European Coal and Steel Community, the European Economic Community, and the Council of Europe.

Like Fulton, the truths Churchill uttered at Zurich are now taken for granted.

-Richard M. Langworth

From the Reviews

"The prize for moral leadership should surely go to Mr. Churchill, rather than to any of the official leaders. That is the recognition which fairness demands should be given....Who in this country—and indeed in the world—could more legitimately claim to have displayed these virtues, at Fulton and after, than Mr. Winston Churchill? Who had enough faith in the Western way of life, not merely to proclaim its superior merits, but to propose that something should be done to safeguard it, regardless of the threats and censure such self-protective measures would evoke from the enemies of liberty? Who showed enough originality of mind to break with the traditional conception of the 'quivering, precarious balance of power' and to plead for the replacement of 'such narrow margins offering temptations to a trial of strength' [quotes from Fulton] by a new and infinitely more stable system of retaining a balance of power in hand? Who had enough vision, imagination and insight to realise as early as the beginning of 1946 that it was practical politics to count on the Americans making such a system possible? Who was not afraid to confront the British public as early as November, 1945, when it was still flushed with the pride of victory, with the extremely unpalatable fact—surely to none more unpalatable than to this proudest of Britons himself—that the leadership in such a novel system would inevitably pass to the Americans?....In short, who has led and who has followed?"

-H. J. Huizinga, a Dutch journalist, in *Time and Tide*, 1946

Comments and Appraisal

The first and most important collection of Churchill's postwar speeches, the *Sinews* assembles the key speeches surrounding the author's early postwar political themes. The supply has thus far been ample, and copies are available for little. Copies without jackets quickly become dull and faded, and the pulpy paper is inclined to slight yellowing. A fine copy with bright gilt in an unmarked, unchipped dust jacket is fairly uncommon.

-EDITIONS-

[THE SINEWS OF PEACE]
First Edition: Cohen A234.1 / ICS A124a

Publisher: Cassell and Co. Ltd.: London 1948

Orange-tan cloth blocked gilt with title, author's name and CASSELL on spine. 8vo, 260 pages numbered (i)-xii and 9-256. Page (ii) lists twenty-six other works by the author. Dust jackets were printed black, maroon and light green on white paper. Published 19 August 1948 at 16s. (\$3.20) in a single impression of 10,000 copies.

Variants

Publisher's presentation copies were bound in full black pebble grain morocco. A minor point of interest: this edition was printed in Luxembourg.

[THE SINEWS OF PEACE]
American Issue: Cohen A234.2 / ICS A124b

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Co.: Boston 1949

Medium blue cloth blocked dark blue on spine: "Sinews of Peace | [star] | CHURCHILL (reading down) and "H.M.Co." at the foot (reading across). 8vo, 256 pages numbered (1)-256. The title page and verso are reset and the latter mentions the American publication date. Four preliminary leaves have been eliminated by deleting blank leaves and a half-title before the speeches. Dust jackets are printed black, blue and grey-blue on white paper. Published 1949 at \$3.00 in a single impression of 3000 copies.

Appraisal: An altogether more satisfying production than the First Edition, printed on better paper and bound in finer cloth, this issue is never found spotted. In America it remains in good supply, but it commands a higher price elsewhere. A short press run means low prices won't last, so this edition is best acquired soon.

Foreign Translations

Swedish: ATT VINNA FREDEN

Published by Skoglund: Stockholm 1949 in both card wrappers and blue cloth with the same dust jacket on either version. Later included in a four-volume set of war and postwar speeches. The Swedes were the only translators of the postwar speech volumes; the world hungered for peace and quiet, and few wanted to hear, or heed, Churchillian oratory.

TERMINOLOGY

This guide follows John Carter's *ABC for Book Collectors* commonly used terms:

Edition: "All copies of a book printed at any time or times from one setting-up of type without substantial change, including copies printed from stereotype, electrotype [we must now add 'computer scanning'] or similar plates made from that setting of type."

Impression: "The whole number of copies of that edition printed at *one* time, i.e., without the type or plates being removed from the press." A particular conundrum was posed by the discovery that the stated third impression of the Colonial *Malakand Field Force* (pressed November 1898) carried the same extensive textual corrections of the Silver Library Edition (pressed at the same time—indeed both these books used the same sheets). How then to classify the third Colonial? It is clearly not a new impression. Our solution was to make it part of a new entry, not cited by Woods, the "Second Edition," along with the Silver Library Edition.

State: "When alterations, corrections, additions or excisions are effected in a book during the process of manufacture, so that copies exhibiting variations go on sale on publication day indiscriminately, these variant copies are conveniently classified as belonging to different states of the edition." Example: the two states of the first English *My Early Life*.

Issue: "An exception [to the above] is the regular use of issue for variant title pages, usually in respect of the publisher's imprint...[also] when similar variations can be clearly shown to have originated in some action taken after the book was published, two [or more] *issues* are distinguished." Example: the two issues of *The People's Rights*, one with an index and appendix, the other with two appendices and no index.

We occasionally sidestep Carter's strict definitions for clarity. With *Savrola*, for example, Woods states that the first English "edition" was produced from a set of electroplates made up in Boston, a duplicate set to the First American Edition. The English "edition" might therefore be called an "issue," but we do not do so because no one else does, including Woods, and because this book is quite distinct in appearance.

Offprints: Carter defines this as "a separate printing of a section of a larger publication," which is not exactly how modern publishers use it. To us an offprint is a reprint, sometimes reduced but sometimes same-size, of *all* the pages of an earlier printing (for example the five Canadian offprints of American war speech volumes from *The Unrelenting Struggle through Victory*. In earlier years offprinting was accomplished by using plates from the original (like the Canadian issue of *My African Journey*) or by reproducing the type on negatives (like the Australian issue of *Secret Session Speeches*) In the latter case, the offprint usually exhibits heavy looking type, not as finely printed as the original. Offprints are not usually considered separate editions, but a contretemps arises with modern reprints of long out-of-print works made by photo-reproduction.

Proof copies: From *The World Crisis* on, proof copies bound in paper wrappers are occasionally encountered. This is a task best left to the bibliographer, except to say that in general they tend to lack illustrations, maps and plans that appear in the published volumes. Although not widely collected, proofs do usually command high prices when they are offered for sale.

Dust Jackets = Dust Wrappers: We generally use the term "dust jacket" to refer to what English bibliophiles usually call a "dust wrapper." The two terms are interchangeable, though words that describe the *parts* of the dust jacket, aside from "spine," are common to both countries. These are as follows: *Flap:* The parts of the jacket that fold in around the edge of the boards, front and rear. *Face:* The front or back panel of the jacket that you see with the book lying flat in front of you.

SIZE

Books vary—especially old books—and one finds variations between identical editions. Except where distinct size differences help identify various editions or impressions of the same title, one from another, this guide describes books by the traditional cataloguer's terms:

Folio (Fo.): Very large format, now commonly known as "coffee table" size; among Churchill folio works is the Time-Life two-volume *Second World War*, measuring 14 x 12 inches (365 x 305mm) which deserves this description.

Quarto (4to): Normally lying between folio and octavo in size, though varying considerably in this respect. A telephone directory is quarto; but so is *The Island Race*, A138(c), which measures 12 1/4 x 9 3/4 inches (310 x 248mm), although Woods calls it "octavo" and says it measures 12 x 9 1/2! Other quarto volumes are the Danish and Norwegian translations of *The Great War*, which measure 8 1/2 x 11 1/2."

Octavo (8vo): The commonest size of book since the early 17th century. A large (demy) octavo is about the size of *Frontiers and Wars*, A142/1, which measures 9 1/2 x 6 3/8 inches (232 x 162mm). A small (crown) octavo is about the size of the English *Young Winston's Wars*, A143(a), which measures 8 3/4 x 5 5/8 inches (222 x 143mm), although Woods calls it "16mo" and says it measures 8 1/2 x 5 1/2! (You see the problem...)

Duodecimo (12mo, commonly called "twelvemo"): A bit smaller than 8vo but taller than 16mo: the size of a conventional paperback, say 6 7/8 x 4 1/4 inches (175 x 107mm).

Sextodecimo (16mo, usually pronounced "sixteenmo"): The smallest size of book covered herein, shorter but perhaps wider than a paperback, for example the 1915 edition of *Savrola*, which measures 6 5/8 x 4 1/2 inches (168 x 114mm).

My only other reference to size will be when an obvious difference can be ascertained between related editions or issues: I thought it useful to mention, for example, that the first edition *Malakand* bulks about 1 1/2 inches, while the first Colonial issue bulks only about 1 1/4 inches; or that there's about a half inch difference between the first impression Macmillan *Aftermath* and the later impressions. Even here, the key word is "about," since old books swell or shrink depending on storage conditions, and many were not uniform to begin with.

FOREIGN TRANSLATIONS

Collectors of editions in foreign languages are enjoying a little-known but rewarding branch of Churchill bibliophilia, not the least for the sometimes magnificent bindings of these works (leading examples: the Monaco edition of *Savrola*, Scandinavian editions of *The Great War* and the Belgian French edition of *The Second World War*). Foreign translations also often differ importantly from the English editions, depending on what Churchill wished to emphasize or de-emphasize. For example, Sir Martin Gilbert's official biography records that the Dutch, through Churchill's foreign language impresario Emery Reves, were offended by no mention in *The Grand Alliance* of the activities of Dutch submarines in the Allied cause. Churchill replied that he would make no alteration in his English text but had no objection to an amplifying footnote on this subject in the Dutch edition, which was duly entered. (*Winston S. Churchill*, Vol. VIII, "*Never Despair*," London: Heinemann 1988 page 549). While we have not gone into great descriptive detail, we have indicated the broad reach of Churchill's foreign translations.

MAJOR WORKS CITED

Three works are commonly referred to in this guide:

Woods is shorthand for *A Bibliography of the Works of Sir Winston Churchill, KG, OM, CH* by the late Frederick Woods, the Second Revised Edition, second issue (Godalming, Surrey: St. Paul's Bibliographies 1975). The late Mr. Woods recognized that his work badly needed updating, and was beginning work on the update before his untimely death in 1994.

Frederick Woods, the pioneer bibliographer of Sir Winston, published his first edition in 1963, astonishing not only bibliophiles but also the Churchill family with the number of items he uncovered. Dissatisfaction with the completeness and accuracy of his work was inevitable as time passed, and Fred, to whom many of us passed our corrections and suggestions, characteristically recognized this. He was hoping to rectify the situation before his death. He can truly be said to have inspired everyone who has researched or seriously collected the works of Churchill.

Cohen is the new Ronald Cohen Bibliography, published by Continuum, a product of more than twenty-five years' labour by the author, aided and abetted by scores of bibliophiles and, through the pages of *Finest Hour*, journal of The Churchill Centre.

Both Frederick Woods, before he died, and Ronald Cohen kindly gave permission to quote their bibliographic numbers here as a cross reference.

ICS refers to a publication of the International Churchill Societies, *Churchill Bibliographic Data*, Part 1 ("Works by Churchill"). Pending release of the update, which he did not succeed in publishing, Mr. Woods also permitted the International Churchill Society to publish an "Amplified list" based on his numbers, but with more detailed sub-designations to pinpoint the various editions and issues. For example, *The World Crisis* has assigned three "Woods" numbers: A31(a) through A31(c). The ICS "Amplified Woods list" runs from A31a through A31k (in order to distinguish certain deservingly distinct editions and issues. Except for deleting the parentheses, in no case did ICS alter any basic Woods numbers. For example, even *Blenheim*, which undeservedly holds Woods number A40(c)—it is only an excerpt, and probably should not be among the "A" titles at all—is retained by ICS. Thus, "ICS" numbers are merely an extension of Woods numbers.

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