

use it would necessitate the demand for supplies and ériel in Russia and thus prevent their acquisition by many. Masaryk was prevailed upon to keep the *Czechoslovak* in Russia. This force proceeded in its attempt to pierce Siberia and the "longed-for eastern front was established."

What part the American expeditions played in establishing a rallying point for the Czech troops in Russia, in guard-stores which had been assembled for the Imperial German armies, in preventing the establishment of German marine bases and the assistance rendered the Czechs in greatest anabasis in history are all ably presented by Mr. Dupuy in his thrilling account, well documented, carefully indexed and generously illustrated. The many personal experiences undergone by the American officers and steel men involved are impressive of the courage and carefulness of the American soldier faced with trying difficult situations. The entire affair is "the most topsy-turvy, irrational drama of cross-purposes that a fevered brain could imagine." To organize the material embody it in a digestible form must have been a tremendous task.

## THE SECOND WORLD WAR First Phase

By DUFF COOPER

346 pages . . . New York: Charles Scribner's Sons  
Reviewed by Major William H. Spedel, Infantry

Duff Cooper had been Secretary of State for War but, when Chamberlain formed his cabinet in 1937, he was transferred to the office of First Lord of the British Admiralty, agreeing with Mr. Chamberlain over the results of the new engagement, he resigned. Since then he has written and spoken considerably on matters pertaining to British foreign policy and world affairs, including a number of appearances before American audiences. *The Second World War* consists largely of Mr. Duff Cooper's speeches and notes in the year preceding the outbreak of the war. In light of events which followed the final chapter, the book remarkably prophetic.

Mr. Cooper deals frankly in his criticisms of British policy both before and after the opening of the war. In opinion the failure of Great Britain and France to gain support of Russia resulted in the outbreak of the present war. He had claimed "that the only way to prevent the war was to convince Germany that she would lose it." When many became assured of Russian neutrality "this was no longer possible." The way had been prepared and "she then that the risk could be taken." So ended the era of unopposed aggression and bloodless victory. The second world war entered upon a new phase.

## THE BRITISH WAR BLUE BOOK Miscellaneous No. 9 (1939)

PRESENTED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO PARLIAMENT

251 pages . . . New York: Farrar and Rinehart  
Reviewed by Major William H. Spedel, Infantry

This volume contains the documents concerning the man-Polish relations and the outbreak of hostilities be-

tween Great Britain and Germany, 3 September 1939. It also includes the *British White Paper*, Germany No. 1 (1939), an appendix (pages 251 to 282), covering Sir Neville Henderson's final report on the circumstances leading to the termination of his mission to Berlin.

A study of these papers will enable the reader to follow the development of those conditions which effected the widening of the breach between London and Berlin, and the useless efforts by other powers to intervene. Here are the telegrams exchanged by Lord Halifax and the British Ambassadors in Germany and Poland, the documents which indicate Britain's desire for a settlement as well as her determination to fight in defense of Poland, and the German speeches and proclamations which express Germany's fear of encirclement and her demand for a free hand in the East.

The value of this book is enhanced as a reference work by the inclusion of an elaborate table of contents and a brief summary of the documents.

## CAN AMERICA STAY NEUTRAL.

By ALLEN W. DULLES AND HAMILTON FISH ARMSTRONG

277 pages . . . New York: Harper & Brothers  
Reviewed by Major William H. Spedel, Infantry

In the production of this book the collaborators have employed certain sections of their book *Can we be Neutral*, published in 1935, to which they have added a historical record of American neutrality legislation and experience which have transpired subsequent thereto. They present their appraisal of the various proposals which have been offered as a guarantee to the protection of American neutrality. A point upon which they lay great emphasis is that "the popular American conception that neutrality is a clearly defined status is erroneous."

The authors cover a brief review of American neutrality in the early days of our country, and the contributions made by Washington and Jefferson toward establishing a definite policy. They likewise present a digest of the policy of American neutrality during the period 1914-1917, which they conclude with the warning—"If we wish to enforce those rights we must use our Army and Navy."

## MEN IN BATTLE

By ALVAH BESSIE

354 pages . . . New York: Charles Scribner's Sons  
Reviewed by Major William H. Spedel, Infantry

*Men in Battle* is the story of the International Brigade and that varied assortment of American volunteers known as the Lincoln Battalion. Alvah Bessie had gone to Spain as an International volunteer early in 1938 and took part in the retreat to the sea and the offensive of the Ebro River. He tells the story as he and the members of the Lincoln Battalion personally experienced it. Regardless of our personal opinions concerning the general character of the