

A PENGUIN SPECIAL

EDGAR MOWRER

GERMANY
PUTS THE CLOCK BACK

NEW EDITION
STILL FURTHER REVISED

“In May 1938 Hitler launched his long expected offensive against Czechoslovakia. He ordered a partial and secret mobilization on the French and on the Czechish frontiers. The Germans did not, of course, expect to fight . . . they counted on the threat of war and British stupidity. For once they were wrong. Hitler received the second and greater reverse of his incredible career.”



4 754

GERMANY PUTS THE CLOCK BACK

BY
EDGAR ANSEL MOWRER

"When, therefore, you hear men ask if that which is called the future belongs to liberty, you must answer that liberty has still better, the eternal."—BENEDETTO CROCE.

A NEW EDITION
WITH NEW MATERIAL ADDED
APRIL AND AUGUST 1938



PENGUIN BOOKS LIMITED
HARMONDSWORTH MIDDLESEX ENGLAND

First published in 1933

Reprinted 1933

Published in Penguin Books with revisions and
an additional chapter DECEMBER 1937

Reprinted DECEMBER 1937

Reprinted FEBRUARY 1938

Reprinted MARCH 1938

Reprinted with further revision APRIL 1938

Reprinted „ „ „ AUGUST 1938

who had found it useful to support the movement. Among them were a Baron Buttler and a Baron von der Goltz.

Climbing a step higher one reached the circles of the deposed German sovereigns. Beside the Duke of Coburg, who seems to have got in at an early date, a later list (*Die Weltbuehne*, Berlin, April 30, 1932) mentioned the Duke of Brunswick, the Grand Duke of Oldenburg and the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg as financial backers.

Is this the social limit? Certain critical publications went even further and maintained that money actually reached National-Socialist groups and undertakings from no less a personage than his "all-highest Majesty", Wilhelm II. After all, "Majesty's" own son, August Wilhelm, marched in procession and sat on the orators' bench with Adolf Hitler. And according to the *Vorwaerts* (Berlin, April 30, 1932), Hitler was presented to the ex-crown Princess Cecilie, by Frau Viktoria von Dirksen, a noble lady who was at that time canvassing her friends for subscriptions in favour of the (momentarily) disbanded Storm Battalions ("S.A." and "S.S.") of the Leader.

What foreign financier or Republican industrialist outside Germany would not have been proud to see his name on the list with such social stars as these? Rumour in Germany had it that Henry Ford befriended the party, perhaps out of admiration for its vigorous opposition to the Jews and its cavalier attitude to history. An American banker informed me that the late Ivar Kreuger told him before leaving New York on his last voyage that his (Kreuger's) business interests in Germany would profit greatly by Hitler's election to the German presidency. Sir Henry Deterding was accused by unfriendly Germans of having put up a considerable sum for the 1932 presidential campaign in the hope (or on the promise?) of being granted an oil monopoly in the Third Empire. Lord Rothermere, the English newspaper owner, was not overlooked as a probability.

Most thrilling of all, according to the *Bohemia* of Prague (September 7, 1930) and to the French Socialist leader, Paul Faure (speech before the Chamber of Deputies, February 11, 1932), among Hitler's financial backers were certain "unnamed