

GORDON MARTEL is Professor and Chair of History at the University of Northern British Columbia, Canada, and Senior Research Fellow at De Montfort University, Leicester. He is the author of *Imperial Diplomacy: Rosebery and the Failure of Foreign Policy* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1986) and *The Origins of the First World War* (Longman, 1987). He has edited *The Origins of the Second World War Reconsidered: The A.J.P. Taylor debate after twenty-five years* (Allen & Unwin, 1986), a fully revised version of which has now been published as *The Origins of the Second World War Reconsidered: A.J.P. Taylor and the Historians* (Routledge, 1999). Other edited works include *Modern Germany Reconsidered* (Routledge, 1992). His current projects include a book on the impact of the First World War, to be published by Edward Arnold.

PRINTED IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CAMDEN FIFTH SERIES

THE TIMES AND APPEASEMENT
The Journals of A. L. Kennedy, 1932–1949

30 November 1934 Had a lively $\frac{1}{2}$ hour with Grandi this morn^g. He told me a lot about Musso's meeting with Hitler at Venice last summer. H: was a *great* disappointment to M. M: had thought too highly of him at a distance; after a close-up he thought (said Grandi) even too badly of him. In any case he sets no store by him now. He c^d not get him to discuss a question properly. Hitler went off at a tangent & broke the thread.

31 January 1935 Last night Lothian came into the Office, on his return that day from Berlin by air. The day before he had had a $2\frac{1}{2}$ hour talk with Hitler; & on arrival he sat down in the Travellers & wrote a Turnover for us. I held up my leader $\frac{1}{2}$ way through, so as to have a talk with him before finishing it. He is *convinced* that Germany doesn't want war. Her preoccupation is with domestic affairs; & insofar as she looks outwards it is anxiously towards the East, & not to the West.

8 March 1936 Heard Hitler's speech in the Reichstag (Kroll Opera House) yesterday, when he denounced Locarno. A master orator — played on the audience as he liked, even tho' he read his speech. Looked pale, & exhausted at the end. May be about his last effort of this sort.

I was embarrassed, being betw: 2 Germans in the Gallery, who were perpetually (with everybody else) jumping up, holding forth their right arm, & "Heiling Hitler." On the other side of one German was L^d Riverdale [...] & Lord R. jumped up & saluted with ignominious alacrity. I did it towards the end, not wishing to attract too much attention; but refused to budge when Locarno was denounced & when the 'Horst Wessel' song was sung!

4 April 1939 Great row over our leader of Apr 1, on the nature of our guarantee to Poland for her "independence", given by Nev: Chambⁱⁿ in the H.o.C. on Fri: March 31.

I had seen Cadogan the day before (Thursday) & wrote the leader entirely on the line of our talk & of what he told me. Possibly GD & I between us put a shade too much stress on the *limitations* of the guarantee, & too little on its *implications*. But surely of all blunders the worst is to allow more to be read into a guarantee than is intended.

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS



ISBN 0-521-79354-8

