

DIPLOMAT IN BERLIN, 1933–1939: PAPERS AND MEMOIRS OF JÓZEF LIPSKI, AMBASSADOR OF POLAND. By *Józef Lipski*. Edited by *Wacław Jędrzejewicz*. New York and London: Columbia University Press, 1968. xxxviii, 679 pp. \$17.50.

This is not the place or the occasion to analyze Polish foreign policy in the years preceding the German invasion of Poland. Nor is it in order to subject to examination the qualities of Lipski's diplomacy. Suffice it to say that most scholars consider Beck's foreign policy catastrophic for Poland and that Ambassador Józef Lipski played a key role in the development of Polish-German relations in the critical years that led to the outbreak of World War II. According to Wacław Jędrzejewicz, editor of this volume, Lipski was the "main author and architect" (p. vii) of the Polish-German Declaration of Nonaggression of September 26, 1934, which—it is today generally recognized—opened the road to Nazi expansion and the collapse of the French system of security in Europe (though not without a French share of responsibility). Five years later he was the crown witness to the ruins of his own architectural structure when his policy of "neighborliness" with Germany ended in her invasion of Poland.

However, criticism aside, the volume presented by Professor Jędrzejewicz is a most significant documentary contribution to our knowledge of the intricate relations between Poland and Germany in the turbulent prewar period of European diplomacy. It contains 163 documents, many of which offer new insights and complement in a substantial way the governmental documents—Polish, British, French, and German—published in the past. The useful comments provided by the editor serve to establish the sequence of events mentioned in the documents. The book is an indispensable source for students of the diplomatic history of the interwar period.

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POLAND AND THE WESTERN POWERS, 1938–1939: A STUDY IN THE INTERDEPENDENCE OF EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE. By *Anna M. Cienciala*. London: Routledge & Kegan Paul. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1968. x, 310 pp. \$9.00.

The object of Professor Cienciala's study, as she states it in her preface, is twofold. First, she seeks to explain "the nature and historical roots of the problems facing Polish foreign policy in 1938–39" and the way in which the Polish leadership responded to them. Second, she attempts to illustrate the political interdependence of Western and Eastern Europe, the interdependence that hinged on the German problem. The author stresses that the attitude of France and Britain toward Poland and Eastern Europe as a whole was essentially a reflection of their policy toward Germany. At the same time (and it is perhaps the most important and original contribution of the book), she demonstrates that the policy of Paris and London toward Berlin was a decisive factor in the individual reactions of Germany's eastern neighbors to the threat of the resurgent, revisionist, and increasingly militarist Third Reich.

In an excellent introductory chapter, entitled "The Background, 1918–1938," the author points out that among the post-Versailles states of East Central Europe, Poland was in a uniquely disadvantageous position because she was the neighbor of