

Should England Have Refused Germany's Demands

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A few months ago Europe faced a great crisis. The situation was such that England was in a position to turn the continent into a stormy sea of warfare or a land of tranquility and peace. She could, by opposing the determination of Germany, summon the armies of the various European countries to battle, to protect their respective possessions from the devastation of Germany. Or she could yield to Hitler and permit Europe to continue in peace, at least for the present time.

Of the two alternatives the second one was chosen. England under her new Prime Minister, Mr. Neville Chamberlain, succeeded in reducing the demands of Hitler to a minimum without bringing war to the continent. She was, however, compelled to yield to Germany's determination to occupy a part of Czechoslovakia. Thus did England avert war.

Since England, under Premier Chamberlain, succeeded in preserving peace, thousands of British men and women have found, and are still finding, fault with the British Government because it did not advocate war. These people cannot realize what war means, nor can they be conscious of how its disastrous results would affect not only themselves but the whole world. Young men with all the vigor of youth would be torn from their pursuits and placed in filthy trenches to give Hitler's horde target practice. Many of them, who would not be killed, would be left to live in agony as a result of both physical and mental injuries. Numerous hospitals, with their patients and nurses; churches, with renowned varieties of architecture and their more important influence on mankind; libraries, with their priceless stores of printed material; and many other important buildings, would be left in ruins.

Disregarding the immediate results, England has yielded to Germany. She has been forced to allow Germany to occupy a part of Czechoslovakia. This act, in all probability, gave Germany the idea that England was afraid to oppose her. Britain's former foreign secretary, Sir Anthony Eden, has clearly stated that sooner or later England will have to take a stand against Germany and

that the sooner this is done the better for England. He points out that Britain is strengthening her future enemy by ceding territory to Germany. The more land Germany gets in this manner the more she will want, and will be able to take in future. It is not known when Hitler may demand some new territory, but it is quite certain that he will not be satisfied with what he has when he can get more as easily as he got a piece of Czechoslovakia. Undoubtedly, therefore, another situation such as the last one will present itself.

Since Britain did yield in the last crisis it is almost certain that Germany will continue to use pressure to enlarge herself. But if Britain had not yielded the result would very probably have been war. With this consideration of facts, then, can you say that England should have refused Germany's demands ?



Finale

Brain dumb; can't think,
Can't write; no ink;
Can't find an inspiration,
Need a little consolation,
Thinking cap on the bum,
Getting tired; Ho Hum !
Writing poor; spelling wrong,
Guess I'll quit; so long !

Joseph E. Kerns, (Chronicle).



A little learning is a dangerous thing;
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring;
There shallow draughts intoxicate the brain,
And drinking largely sobers us again.

—Pope.