

BOOKS

Viscount Rothermere: My Campaign for Hungary; Foreword by Ferenc Herczeg (Eyre & Spottiswoode, London.)

The author rightly points out in his Story of the Book that "this is the account of a unique interlude in the history of present-day European politics." It is unique for an author to concentrate in his book on:

a) describing how he initiated an entirely new chapter of international law, the revision of peace-treaties by pacific methods which, in territorial questions, were unknown before;

b) summarising his own innumerable and highly interesting contacts with post-war Hungary, on behalf of which country he strove for twelve years of unremitting activity and considerable material sacrifice to obtain "redress of the grossly unjust treatment inflicted upon her by the Peace Treaty of Trianon";

c) picturing the memorable days when, in November 1938, after Munich, the Hungarian people, of which the book records "the courage and constancy under suffering and oppression greater than any other country in Europe has had to endure", recovered the lost Northern territories, thus illustrating the possibilities of peaceful change;

d) analysing the causes and effects of wars and pointing out the outstanding duties of the statesmen of our times in questions of adjustments without bloodshed. "War can only produce a fresh crop of wrongs and injustice... Wrong can be righted without war..."

Lord Rothermere's book is thus much more than a simple work on a political problem: it describes the initiation and the fulfilment of a great task "not so much in the interests of Hungary as in those of Europe as a whole, including Great Britain". It is at once theory and practice, hope and life.

For Hungary all that is recorded in this book will be a sacred chapter of national history; for Britain, a manifestation of the exceptional political capacity of her sons.

de P. P.