

SCENES AND PORTRAITS

BY

DENNIS WHEATLEY

A Stamp Table
of
SCENES AND PORTRAITS
for
DIANA and WENT
Arranged and with an Historical Commentary
for
James and Allan
by
GRANDPA DENNIS

HISTORICAL COMMENTARY

1. The 100-ton ship, Santa Maria, and the two little caravels Pinta and Nina, with which Christopher Colon (Columbus) discovered the “New World”. With 88 companions he sailed from Spain on August 3rd, 1492 and reached the West Indies on October 12th, after a voyage of 71 days. The Continent became known as America because a few years later another explorer, Amerigo Vespucci, wrote a book about it for his wealthy patron, Lorenzo di Medici. Editions of the book were printed in several languages and thus it became widely believed that Amerigo was the discoverer of the Western Hemisphere.
2. Christopher Columbus was an Italian born in Genoa; then a Republic famous for its sea-captains and the rival of the other still more powerful Serene Republic of Venice. In those days the ships of these two nations carried the greater part of all goods that came from the East to Europe.
3. Isabella of Castile. Until the latter part of the XV century, Spain consisted of several Kingdoms. By Isabella’s marriage to Ferdinand of Aragon the whole of the Christian north was united under one Crown. The “Catholic Sovereigns” as they were called, then drove the Moors out of the South of Spain. Ferdinand was a good general but he might have failed had not his Queen performed extraordinary feats while acting as his Quartermaster-General. She was a remarkable woman but so bigoted that she was largely responsible for establishing the terrible Spanish Inquisition. As against this, it was she who encouraged and financed Columbus.
4. Columbus sighting the first land in the New World. Watling Island (Little San Salvadore) in the Bahamas.
5. Columbus landing. On his first voyage, his principal discoveries were the big islands of Cuba and Haiti. He left behind him some fifty Spaniards to form a colony. On his second voyage he found that they were exploiting the natives. He sought to protect the Indians, but his avaricious followers conspired against him and brought about his disgrace later he was restored to favour.
6. Columbus being received by the Catholic Sovereigns. Between 1492 and 1520 many other captains in the pay of Spain explored the Indies and the coast of the American mainland to north and south of them. Among these was:-
7. Vasco Nunez de Balboa. He crossed the isthmus of Panama and, as seen here, was the first European to sight the Pacific “from a peak in Darien”, in 1513. He named the Ocean the Pacific because it appeared to be so peaceful. After Columbus, however, the two most famous “Conquistadores” were Francesco Pizarro and
8. Hernando Cortes. With only a few hundred Spaniards, Cortes defeated the Aztec Emperor, Montezuma, and conquered Mexico; while Pizarro, with equal audacity defeated the Inca Emperor, Atahualpa, and conquered Peru. Unlike the primitive Carib Indians who inhabited the West Indies, both the Aztecs and the Incas had achieved a high degree of civilisation. Their nobles were richly dressed and wore splendid jewels. From their temples, Cortes and Pizarro looted many million tons of gold and silver, which they sent back to Spain.
9. Pedro de Alvarado was one of Cortes’ Captains. He had golden hair, so the Indians took him for a god whom their religion taught them would one day come from the Western Ocean bringing them great happiness. Instead, the Spaniards, who were very cruel, tortured, robbed, enslaved and slew countless thousands of the natives. Later Alvarado founded a Spanish colony in Guatemala.
10. Fernandez de Cordoba was another great Spanish General of this period, but he won his fame in Europe. First he acted as King Ferdinand’s lieutenant in driving the Moors out of Spain, then he was sent to Italy where, in a war for the possessions of the Kingdom of Naples, he defeated the French. He became known as “The Great Captain”. In the main square of Cordova there is a curious equestrian statue to him; the horse and his body are made of bronze, but his head is white marble.
11. The Emperor Charles V was the grandson of Ferdinand and Isabella. Through his mother, he inherited Spain and through his father the great territories of Burgundy, which included what we now know as Belgium and Holland. Later, from his other grandfather, he inherited Austria and was then elected by the Confederation of German Princes as their Emperor. Thus he became the ruler of half Europe and a greater area than any other monarch up till the time of Napoleon. However, at the age of 55, he grew tired of wielding such immense power; so abdicated and went to live in a monastery. He resigned his Spanish and Netherlands dominions to his son, Phillip II, a bigoted catholic, who married Queen Mary I of England. On her death, Phillip claimed the English throne but England, under Queen Elizabeth I,

had become strongly Protestant and defied him. He then sent the Armada to conquer England but, mainly owing to Sir Francis Drake and a great storm it was utterly destroyed. The Dutch Protestants also rose against him and, after a terrible Civil War, gained their freedom. From that time the might of Spain declined.

12. Alfonso XIII, the last King of Spain, as a child. His father died before his birth, so he was a king from the moment he was born. He married an English Princess, a grand-daughter of Queen Victoria. Alfonso was a gay and gallant man, a fine horseman and an intelligent monarch; but his predecessors had been bad rulers so a great part of the Spanish people wanted Spain to become a Republic. Many attempts were made to assassinate him, but he survived them all.
13. Alfonso again, in the prime of his manhood, with Pope Pius XI who is wearing the “Tiara” or Triple crown. In 1931, Alfonso abdicated in order to save his country from Civil War. But Spain having become a Republic did not prevent civil war from breaking out a few years later. After a long and terrible conflict, in which many atrocities were committed by both sides, the Nationalists won. Spain then became a Totalitarian State, under:-
14. General Francisco Franco. He is known as the “Caudillo” and has since ruled Spain as a Dictator. Under him the liberties of the Spanish people are much more restricted than they were under the monarchy and people who seek to overthrow the Government are sent to concentration camps. But Franco has kept law and order in Spain for a quarter of a century and had he not triumphed over the Socialists, Communists, Syndicalists and Anarchists, Spain would almost certainly have become a Communist satellite of Russia’s. This, in the event of war, would have proved utterly disastrous for the Free World.
15. Gibraltar. This great promontory of rock forms the southernmost tip of Spain. It was captured by the British in 1704, and ever since the Spaniards have naturally done their utmost to regain possession of this part of their country. They could have done so in 1940/41, when Britain stood alone in arms against the might of Germany, had Franco yielded to Hitler’s pressure to become Germany’s ally. But, tempted as he must have been, Franco showed great statesmanship in keeping Spain neutral so that his people should continue to enjoy the blessings of peace. The most desperate attempt by Spain to recapture Gibraltar was in 1779/83, while Britain was also at war with France and her Colonists in the United States. The demands to keep Gibraltar reinforced were so great that very few ships and troops could be spared to be sent to America; so it was afterwards said that we had “lost a Continent to save a Rock”. But Gibraltar was held by General Sir George Elliot for four years, during one of the greatest sieges in history, to the eternal honour of British valour.
16. George Washington. The great American who was so largely responsible for the defeat of Britain during that war and became the first President of the United States.
17. Benjamin Franklin. Another great American; a Bostonian, philosopher, statesman and man of letters. During the War of Independence, he was sent to France, later becoming the first United States Ambassador there. He won the friendship of King Louis XVI, obtained from him generous help in money and supplies for the war against the British and, finally, succeeded in negotiating an alliance, thus securing for the U.S. recognition in Europe as a Sovereign State.
18. Thomas Jefferson. The most conspicuous American apostle of democracy. First, Governor of Virginia and later the Third President of the United States, it was he who drafted the Declaration of Independence.
19. James Monroe. Another Virginian and the Fifth President of the United States. From sympathy with the struggles of the peoples of Latin America to free themselves from Spain and Portugal and as a move to check Russian ambitions in Alaska, Monroe formulated the famous “doctrine” that bears his name. It consists of a declaration of neutrality, following Washington’s principle that the U.S. should isolate herself from all political entanglements in Europe; with the addition that she would contest any steps taken by a European Power to interfere in affairs in any part of the American continent.
20. Abraham Lincoln. The President of the United States who ranks with Richelieu, Cromwell, Colbert, Chatham, Talleyrand, Pitt, Metternich, Bismark and Disraeli as one of the greatest statesmen in the past three centuries. After one of the most terrible Civil Wars in history he united the North and South into what was to become the richest and most powerful nation in the world.
21. Theodore Roosevelt became President of the United (States) overnight, having been Vice President when President McKinley was assassinated in Buffalo in 1901. He had a greater knowledge of Europe than any previous President and this enabled him to handle U.S. Foreign policy with great skill. Tactfully, but firmly he applied the Monroe Doctrine, maintaining that it ensured permanent peace in at

- least the Western Hemisphere. He negotiated a peace in the war between Russia and Japan, and was largely responsible for averting an outbreak of war between Germany and France in 1906. He initiated the making of the Panama Canal, was a great big-game hunter and much beloved by the British people.
22. Woodrow Wilson was President when the United (States) entered the final stage of the 1914/1918 war against Germany. With Lloyd George representing Britain and Clemenceau representing France, he dictated the Peace. The treaties of Versailles and Trianon that they forced upon their defeated enemies later had disastrous results; partly, at least, owing to Wilson's lack of knowledge about Europe. But he was a great idealist and conceived the League of Nations which, had it not been repudiated by his own people, might have been the first step to permanent world peace.
 23. Georges Clemenceau, with the battleship named after him. As a journalist and politician, Clemenceau was a rabid Socialist but a great patriot. His fiery articles and *by* speeches in the Senate urging the French to fight on to victory earned him the nickname of "The Tiger". In November 1917, at the darkest period of the war, when France seemed near defeat, although by then 76, he was called on to become Prime Minister. He succeeded in instilling new life into the French; but it was his intense hatred of the Germans which led, even more than Wilson's ignorance, to the terms of the Peace being so harsh that, twenty years later under Hitler, the Germans launched another war to get their revenge.
 24. Prince Henry the Navigator. At the time when Columbus, Cortes and Pizarro were opening up the New World for Spain, Portugal was also a great sea-power. Prince Henry was not himself an explorer, but he was a most gifted geographer and, although he died in 1460, it was mainly due to his theories and enthusiasm that the expeditions of the Portuguese Captains, a generation later, were so successful. The greatest of them:-
 25. Vasco de Gama sailed from Lisbon in July 1497, with the object of discovering a sea-route to the fabled East. He circumnavigated Africa and reached India in May 1498.
 26. Vasco de Gama's squadron of four little ships.
 27. The Rajah of Cealicut receiving Vasco de Gama. Previous to this time all trade with the East had been carried out by Arab merchants, who brought the goods to Mediterranean ports, whence they were collected by Venetian ships and then distributed throughout Europe. The new sea-route proved much cheaper, so the Portuguese established trading posts on the coast of India. Soon afterwards the Dutch, British and French also sent their ships round South Africa to share in this new source of wealth, and some of them penetrated as far as China and Japan. Ferdinand Magellan was another great Portuguese captain. In 1521/22 he led the first expedition to circumnavigate the world by going round Cape Horn. Yet another was Pedro Cabral. On a voyage to India he went too far west, so landed by accident in Brazil and annexed it for the King of Portugal. But early in the XIX century the peoples of Latin America began to clamour for independence and revolted against the rule of Spain and Portugal.
 28. Simon Bolivar was the greatest of these patriot Latin American leaders. He was born in Venezuela and he drove the Spaniards out of Central America, securing independence for the countries that are now Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru (and) Bolivia, the last being named after him. While he was waging his wars of liberation, the other Latin American territories also rebelled against Spain and became Republics.
 29. Chile celebrating her independence, won in 1810. The Portuguese were also driven out of Brazil. A hundred years later Portugal, too, became a Republic. Her last King was:-
 30. Mancel II. His father and elder brother were assassinated and after a reign of only two and a half years, in October 1910, he was driven from his Kingdom. He sought refuge in England and was given a house in Richmond Park.
 31. John Cabot, like Columbus, was an Italian, born in Genoa, but he entered the service of King Henry VII of England. Like Columbus, too, by sailing west he hoped to discover a new route to Asia. In 1497, after a voyage of 52 days, he reached Nova Scotia, believing it to be China. But he had discovered Canada and in later voyages while seeking Cipangu, as Japan was then called, he visited Greenland and sailed up the coast of Labrador.
 32. Jacques Cartier and Samuel de Champlain, two great Frenchmen. Cartier was the first explorer to enter the Canadian mainland and in 1536 sailed some way up the St. Lawrence. Champlain was a fine soldier as well as a great explorer and fought the English, Dutch and Indians to gain supremacy for France in Canada. He sailed up the St. Lawrence as far as Montreal, in 1608 founded Quebec and was appointed first Governor of Canada by King Louis XIV. One hundred and fifty years later, the British sent an expedition under General James Wolfe to conquer Canada. On the night of September 13th, Wolfe's Highlanders secretly scaled the Heights of Abraham, above which lay Quebec. In the battle that

- followed, both Wolfe and the French commander, the Marquis of Montcalm, were killed. The French were defeated and Canada then became a British possession.
33. Sir Humphrey Gilbert was the first to explore much of north-eastern Canada, in 1578/9, during his unsuccessful attempt to find the North-West Passage. His stepbrother was Sir Walter Raleigh, another of Queen Elizabeth's great Sea Captains. It was Raleigh who spread his cloak over a patch of mud so that the Queen should not soil her shoes. He explored the Orinoco in South America but later fell into disgrace with King James I. Among Elizabeth's other great Captains were Sir Francis Drake, the first Englishman to sail round the world and Sir John Hawkins, the brilliant ship-builder who designed the small, fast, well-armed ships that defeated the great galleons of the Spanish Armada.
 34. The Olive Blossom. One of the ships of the period that took men and women out to form colonies in many places in the Americas. Virginia was one of them, being named after Elizabeth, who was known as "The Virgin Queen". During Queen Elizabeth's reign there was a great upsurge in talent in England. William Shakespeare wrote his unrivalled plays, Ben Johnson and Christopher Marlowe were also gifted playwrights. The latter was in Prime Minister Walsingham's Secret Service. Inigo Jones, who had studied Palladian architecture in Italy, was building for the great nobles a new type of house that had bigger rooms, taller windows and was altogether more spacious and graceful.
 35. King James I. Under him, in 1603, on the death of Queen Elizabeth, England and Scotland became one kingdom, as he was already King of Scotland. He was not a likeable man but during his reign British possessions overseas were greatly extended and, for the first time, the Bible was fully translated into English.
 36. Abel Tasman. At this time Holland was also a great sea-power and Tasman was the greatest of the Dutch navigators. In 1639 he discovered Tasmania, the big island that lies south of Australia. He was sent on this expedition by Antony van Diemen, who was the Governor of the Dutch East Indies. That is why Tasmania, during its first colonization, was known as Van Diemen's Land. Tasman also discovered New Zealand.
 37. Captain James Cook. The greatest of all English explorers. Between 1755 and 1779, he made many voyages. He discovered Tahiti and many other Pacific Islands, and charted the whole coast of New Zealand, where he met his death, through being clubbed from behind by a Maori warrior. He had already run up the Union Jack and annexed the country, but it was not formally recognised by the Government as British Territory until 1840.
 38. Immigrants arriving in New Zealand in 1840.
 39. Melbourne, the second largest city in Australia, named after Queen Victoria's first Prime Minister, Lord Melbourne. The Dutch were the first Europeans to land in Australia and for a long time it was known as "New Holland". But no permanent colony was established there until 1788, when the British started sending convicts sentenced to "Transportation for life" out to a settlement at Botany Bay, which became Sydney. Later, other coastal areas were settled and in the huge island five colonies grew up independently of one another – New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and Queensland. In 1901, these five, together with Tasmania, were united as The Commonwealth of Australia.
 40. The Fathers of the Confederation. Canada had also developed as a number of separate colonies – Upper and Lower Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Rupert's Land and British Columbia. In 1867 they were Federated under one government and Canada was given independence as a Dominion. Australia was given Dominion status in 1901, New Zealand in 1907, South Africa in 1910. Newfoundland has since become part of Canada and South Africa has become a Republic.
 41. The Cardinal Duke de Richelieu. Prime Minister to King Louis XIII and France's greatest statesman. It was Richelieu who after the decline of Spain enabled France to take her place as the most powerful nation on the Continent. For over 400 years a great part of western France was ruled by the Kings of England and Brittany was a separate Kingdom. Even after the English were driven out, many provinces of France were ruled independently by great nobles. Richelieu suppressed them and by forcing them to acknowledge the King's authority united France as one nation.
 42. Carcassonne. A fortified city in south-western France, which is typical of many of the great fortresses built by Richelieu to keep the rebellious nobles in subjection.
 43. Caen, the capital of William Duke of Normandy who, as William the Conqueror, became, in 1066, King of England. This is how Normandy became a fief of the English Crown. Other French territories were added to the English dominions in France by the marriage of Plantagenet Kings to French heiresses and by famous English victories such as the battles of Agincourt and Cressey.

44. Rouen. This great city-port near the mouth of the Seine was for centuries one of the most important English strongholds in France. Another was Bordeaux, the centre of the great wine-producing district from which comes Claret and Sauternes.
45. Clos Vougeot. One of the most famous vineyards of France's other great still-wine producing district, Burgundy. The French hold it in such honour that whenever a French regiment marches past it, the order to salute is given. It was the Romans who introduced vine-growing into France and Germany; but during the Middle Ages the best vineyards were cultivated by the monks and Clos Vougeot, like Steinberg, Merestrem (amended by hand to *Marcobrunk* ?) and Johannesburg, on the Rhine was, for many centuries, a Monastery.
46. King Louis XIV. France's greatest King. He came to the throne as a boy in 1638 and ruled for 77 years. As the son of Louis XIII he reaped the benefit of Cardinal Richelieu's great work in uniting all France under the central government. To prevent the nobles from rebelling against his authority Louis XIV made them all live at his Court. This concentrated the wealth of the nation there and gave his Court such brilliance that he became known as "Le Roi Soleil." He was the finest horseman and shot in his Kingdom and a very able strategist, as for many years he directed the successful campaigns of his generals. But toward the end of his life the tide turned against him and the French suffered a succession of crushing defeats by Britain and her allies under Sir Winston Churchill's ancestor, John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough. Louis XIV was also a generous patron of the arts.
47. Jean de la Fontaine, the author of the celebrated "Fables", was one of the writers who flourished at Louis XIV's Court. Others were the play-writers Moliere, Racine and Corneille and the great naturalist Buffon.
48. Rene Descartes, a famous philosopher and mathematician wrote his treatises when Louis XIV was a young man.
49. Fontainebleau. Through many reigns the Kings of France lived during the winter at their Palace of the Louvre in Paris, but for the summer they moved their Court out to this magnificent Chateau in the country. It is situated in the middle of many square miles of beautiful forest in which there was splendid hunting.
50. Versailles. Louis XIV had a passion for building and, considering himself to be the greatest King, wished to have the finest Palace in Europe as a setting for himself; so, a few miles outside Paris he built the splendid Palace of Versailles. Its beautiful grounds and fountains were planned for him by the great gardener, Le Notre. On this stamp, you see only one of its gateways but the picture is by Utrillo, one of the finest painters the XIX century. King Louis was also a great gourmet. To the inventiveness of his principal Chef, more than to any other man, we owe all that is finest in French cooking.
51. Napoleon decorating a soldier with the Legion of Honour. After the French Revolution, a young Corsican, Napoleon Bonaparte, became Emperor of the French. He was a great soldier and between 1795 and 1814 he conquered the greater part of Europe. He was also a great administrator and by his wise decrees restored France from the ruin into which she had fallen owing to the Revolution. He restored religious toleration, re-established people's rights to own their own property and formulated the Code Napoleon, - the laws by which justice is still administered in France. Great soldier as he was, he does not quite come up to Marlborough, because Marlborough never lost a single battle, whereas Napoleon was forced to retreat from Moscow in 1812, defeated by the Germans at Leipzig in 1813 and finally driven from the field of battle by Wellington at Waterloo in 1815.
52. Horatio Nelson. During the XVI and XVII centuries Britain had broken the might of Spain and destroyed the sea-power of the Dutch. In the XVIII century France became her great enemy. Early in it Marlborough defeated the armies of Louis XIV on the continent at Blenheim, Oudenarde, Ramillies and Malplaquet. In the middle of the century General Wolfe drove the French from Canada and Robert Clive gained a great victory over them at Plassey, which made British influence paramount throughout India. At the end of the century Britain was pitted against the man who had defeated every nation in Europe - Napoleon. For over twenty years Britain carried on the war against France, sometimes with the Austrians, Prussians and Russians as allies, but for long periods alone. Five men were mainly responsible for Napoleon's defeat. Young William Pitt, who became Prime minister at the age of 23 and, however black the situation would never give in; Admiral Sir Sidney Smith, who by holding Acre in Palestine, thwarted Napoleon's ambitions to make an Empire in the East and conquer India; General Sir John Moore, who created the Rifle Brigade and taught British soldiers to fight as single men instead of in massed formations, but who died in the hour of victory at Corunna in Spain; Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, who defeated Napoleon's Marshals one after another in the long-drawn-out

Peninsular campaign, and finally, Napoleon himself at Waterloo; and Admiral Viscount Nelson. It was Nelson who, however great Napoleon's victories might be on land, denied him the seas and oceans and inflicted a crippling blockade on the French-ruled Continent of Europe. In 1798 Nelson annihilated the French fleet in Aboukir Bay, thereby cutting off Napoleon's army in Egypt and in 1805 at Trafalgar, he defeated the combined fleets of France and Spain, dying gloriously in that action. The Spanish Navy never recovered from this blow; that of France was never again capable of challenging the British Navy. From the fall of Napoleon, the strength of France declined and for a hundred years Britain became the most powerful nation in the world.

53. The Empress Maria Theresa of Austria. The three countries that, after Britain, made the greatest contribution to the defeat of Napoleon were Austria, Russia and Prussia. Maria Theresa was a woman of great strength of character but a benevolent despot. In 1770 her youngest daughter, Marie Antoinette married the Dauphin of France; who later became King Louis XVI. During the French Revolution, which started in 1789, they were de-throned, imprisoned and finally guillotined. The resentment of Marie Antoinette's relatives was naturally great and her brother:-
54. Leopold II was responsible for initiating the first Coalition of monarchies for the purpose of destroying the new French Republic. But he died before the war opened.
55. Francis I, Marie Antoinette's nephew, succeeded Leopold and carried on his father's policy. Austria was defeated by Napoleon and, in 1797 forced to sign a peace at Campo Formio. Austria re-entered the war later but was again defeated and Napoleon captured Vienna. In 1810, Napoleon divorced his first wife, Josephine, and forced Francis to give him his daughter Marie Louise as his second wife. But Austria continued to be France's inveterate enemy and Napoleon's downfall was largely contributed to by Austria's most brilliant statesman, Prince Metternich.
56. A Mediaeval Russian Warrior. For a long period Russia formed a part of the Mongol Empire and this explains why the Russians, although Europeans, have a distinctly Asiatic streak in their character. Russia did not emerge as a nation until the end of the XV century. Even a hundred years later no more was known about "Muscovy" than about China. Richard Chancellor was the first Englishman to visit Russia, and he did so only by accident. He was one of the Captains Queen Elizabeth dispatched to attempt to find the North-West Passage. He got off his course and arrived in Archangel. Thence, he made his way to Moscow, where he was received by Ivan the Terrible. Chancellor was told that he must kneel and knock his head on the ground three times in front of the Czar. This he refused to do, saying that since he did not do that in front of his own Queen, he certainly would not for a foreigner. When Ivan was told this, he said, "She must indeed be a great Queen who is served by such proud and courageous people". Then he treated Chancellor with honour and sent him back to England as his Ambassador. As a result, a lucrative trade developed between Russia and England, by way of the Baltic.
57. Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden. A few centuries ago, Sweden was much more powerful than she is now and she was Russia's hereditary enemy. Gustavus was a great soldier and known as the "Lion of the North". Early in XVII century he fought many battles in Poland, which was also a powerful country until it was overwhelmed and, at the end of that century, split up between Russia, Prussia and Austria.
58. Peter I, Russia's greatest Czar. He decided that Russia must have a navy and as English ships were the finest in the world he came in disguise to London and worked for a year as a common ship-wright in the shipyards on the Thames. On his return to Russia, he felt that Moscow, being so far inland, made a bad capital for trading with the outer world and that a city port at the head of the Gulf of Finland would be much more practical. But the head of the Gulf consisted of miles of mud. Peter had a million trees cut down, drove them into the mud and on them built the city of St. Petersburg in 1703. It is one of the most beautiful cities in the world and remained the capital of Russia until the Revolution, when it was renamed Leningrad and the capital transferred back to Moscow.
59. Catherine the Great of Russia, the greatest woman sovereign who ever reigned. She was German by birth, brave, intelligent, strong-willed, beautiful and, as a legislator, a hundred years in advance of her time. While in the rest of Europe Protestants and Catholics were still cutting one another's throats, she declared complete religious toleration throughout Russia. She abolished the death penalty and while every other great city in Europe teemed at night with robbers, she has St. Petersburg so well-policed that no-one was ever molested. She extended her dominions over a vast area, including the Crimea, and acquired the biggest slice of Poland when that country was partitioned. Toward the end of her reign there occurred the French Revolution and she planned to join the Coalition against France, but died before she could despatch an army to support Austria and Britain.

60. Paul I succeeded Catherine. He so hated his mother that he immediately reversed all her policies and cancelled the arrangements for a Russian army to march against France. But he was both mad and vain and his vanity later led him to join the war.
61. Malta had for centuries been the stronghold of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem. This order had originally been formed from young nobles of many nationalities to protect pilgrims going to the Holy Land. After the last Crusade the Knights had been driven out of Palestine and later from their strongholds in the island of Rhodes. From Malta, after there were no more pilgrims to protect, they assumed the duty of protecting Christian shipping in the Mediterranean from Barbary pirates. By 1797 they had become so weak and inefficient that they decided to seek the protection of the Czar Paul I by electing him as their Grand Master. Paul I, greatly flattered, accepted and strutted about in the gorgeous robes of a Grand Master, that he had made for himself. But in the summer of 1798, Napoleon, on his way to conquer Egypt, seized the island. Paul was furious, declared war on France and sent a Russian fleet to the Mediterranean. He then despatched an army under his mother's great General, Suvoroff, and the Russians drove the French out of Italy. After Nelson's great victory in the Battle of the Nile, the British captured Malta and have held it ever since. Together with Gibraltar it gave them for 150 years dominance in the Mediterranean. Paul was murdered in 1801 and succeeded by his son:-
62. Alexander I. This Czar was an intelligent man and an idealist who would have liked to bring about universal peace by the creation of a body similar to the League of Nations. The allied armies having been defeated by Napoleon, the two Emperors met, in 1807, in a setting of great splendour on a huge raft in the middle of a river at Tilsit. Fascinated by Napoleon, Alexander agreed to become his ally, but the alliance did not last. In 1812, Napoleon invaded Russia, after three days of battle at Borodino the French entered Moscow; but in the depths of winter the Russians set fire to their capital and drove out their enemies. The Russian army was still undefeated and their General Kutazov destroyed the French piecemeal during their terrible retreat through the icy snow. Napoleon abandoned his army and only a remnant of it under Marshal Ney, the "Bravest of the Brave", as he was called, succeeded in getting back to the river Niemen where on the bridge at Kovno he was the last man to fire the last musket before reaching the safety of German soil. Alexander continued to fight Napoleon to the end and finally entered Paris with the Duke of Wellington as one of the conquerors of France.
63. Frederick the Great of Prussia. Unlike France which had been welded by Cardinal Richelieu into one nation, until less than a hundred years ago, Germany remained split up into a considerable number of independent states which were often at war with one another. Some of them were only pocket Duchies but others, such as Bavaria, Saxony, Hanover, Werttemberg and Baden were quite large countries. The Kingdom of Prussia was the largest of all, but had no natural resources and poor soil; so the only way the Prussians could make a living was to hire themselves out to other nations as soldiers; thus they became a race of born warriors. Frederick was a clever man, a fine General and a terrible martinet. Taking advantage of his people's natural inclination to become soldiers, he greatly increased his own army, instilled a harsh discipline into it and set out on a career of conquest. He died in 1786, three years before the beginning of the French Revolution, but he had founded the modern German army and left it as a mighty weapon to his successors. Napoleon soon ate up the German petty States and conquered Prussia; but the Germans formed a secret society called the Tugenbund. They then revolted against the French and defeated them in a great battle at Leipzig in 1813. At Waterloo too, after the British had fought all day, General Blucher arrived on the scene with a Prussian army and that evening assisted in the final defeat of Napoleon.
64. Arc de Triomphe. This splendid arch stands at the end of the Champs Elysees to celebrate Napoleon's victories.
65. Queen Victoria. History naturally divides itself into "ages", the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Elizabethan Age, the Georgian Age and so on. The Napoleonic age was followed by the Victorian Age. The Queen was born in 1820, two years before Napoleon died in exile on the island of St. Helena. She came to the throne in 1837 and reigned for 63 years. This is the classic portrait of her, engraved for the first postage stamp ever to be issued; the penny black in 1840. This penny brown was issued only one year later; so it is over 120 years old.
66. Queen Victoria. This Canadian stamp issued in 1870 is an excellent portrait of the Queen As a young woman.
67. Queen Victoria. This stamp gives a good impression of the Queen in middle age. In 1840 she married Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, on whom she conferred the title of Prince Consort; but he died in 1861. She never ceased to grieve at his loss, and for many years made few public appearances, shutting

herself away at Windsor or at her Palace of Balmoral in Scotland. Owing to a poem by our great “poet of Empire” Rudyard Kipling, she became known as “The Widow of Windsor”; but to countless thousands of her subjects of all creeds and races all over the world she was known as “The Great White Queen”.

68. Windsor Castle. The castle’s keep, like that of the Tower of London, was built by William the Conqueror. Ever since, for close on 900 years it has been the principal residence outside London of England’s Kings and Queens.
69. Queen Victoria was an old lady in 1897, the year of her Diamond Jubilee. In this year also Grandpa Dennis was born; so he can claim to be a Victorian.
70. King Edward VII, Queen Victoria’s eldest son. He succeeded in 1900 and reigned till 1910. As Prince of Wales he had for many years mixed freely in society, filling the Royal role this his widowed mother refused to play, and he made a most popular King. He was very fond of pretty women, racing and dinner parties, but he also had a serious side and was a very skilful diplomat. His greatest achievement was bringing to an end the centuries-old hostility between Britain and France. In 1904 he brought about the Entente Cordiale which led to the two countries becoming allies in the two world wars against Germany. The First World War opened only 4 years after his death, so his reign can be considered as an extension of the Victorian Age, as it was not until the 1914/48 war that the structure of society changed materially.
71. Leopold I of Belgium was Queen Victoria’s favourite uncle. He was a good and wise man and as a young Queen she was frequently guided by him. Owing to the innumerable battles that had been fought on the soil that until 1793 had been the Austrian Netherlands it had become known as “The Cockpit of Europe”. Charles Maurice, Prince de Talleyrand, Napoleon’s great Foreign Minister, survived the Emperor for many years and in his old age became French Ambassador to London. It was at his suggestion that to prevent future clashes of armies in “the Cockpit”, it should be made into a new country to be guaranteed from aggression by the Great Powers. Thus, in 1830, the nation of Belgium was created and Leopold became its first King. Eighty-four years later, Kaiser Wilhelm II ignored this treaty and sent a German army into Belgium as the easiest way to invade France. It was this which led Britain, as one of the guarantors of Belgian neutrality, to enter the First World War.
72. Adelaide, Grand Duchess of Luxembourg, in 1914. Luxembourg is a small, independent country situated between Belgium, Germany and France. When the Germans marched into Belgium they also entered Luxembourg. This tiny state had no army with which to oppose them, but this brave and beautiful young Duchess drove in her Rolls Royce to a bridge over which the German troops had to march, had her car slewed round to block the bridge and defied the Germans to pass. Her protest was in vain, but it was a very gallant action. The present Grand Duke of Luxembourg was an officer in Uncle Jack’s regiment.
73. King Leopold II of Belgium. It was during this King’s reign that Belgium colonised the Congo. Unlike the British and French, who brought great benefits to the natives in the countries they colonised, the Belgians exploited the Congolese shamefully. Many thousands of the natives died under the whips of the overseers while in forced labour gangs, and the wealth derived from the Congo was all sent back to Belgium, instead of a large part of it being spent to improve conditions there. It was this that led many people to condemn Colonisation as evil; but they have done so only because they are ill-educated and know little or nothing about the wonderful work done by the Great Powers in bringing civilisation to the peoples of far greater territories in Asia and Africa.
74. Sir Henry Stanley, who founded the Congo Free State. He was an explorer and brilliant journalist. Although an Englishman, in 1871, he was commissioned by the New York Herald to go out to “darkest Africa” and find Dr. Livingstone, another famous explorer of whom no news had been received for two years. Stanley succeeded and when they met, although there were no other white men within a thousand miles, Stanley greeted the doctor with a phrase now sometimes used as a joke, “Doctor Livingstone, I presume?”
75. Cecil Rhodes, scholar, statesman and the man who played the greatest part of all in the development of South and East Central Africa. Rhodes went to South Africa in the ‘70s at the time of the diamond and gold rush there. He made himself a great fortune, then went into politics. He became Premier of Cape Colony in 1890 and again in 1896. In those days Egypt and Sudan formed part of the British Empire. Rhodes was a great patriot and his greatest ambition was to create an “All Red” (British) Route across the 8,000 miles between the Cape and Cairo. He did not fully succeed but he did bring the vast territory of Rhodesia under British rule and is immortalised by it being known by his name.

76. The Principality of Monaco. This tiny, independent State lies on the Mediterranean between France and Italy. It consists only of a lovely bay between two headlands and, behind them, a steep cliff with a golf course on its top. On one headland is the Palace, in which there is a very fine Aquarium, on the other lie the steep streets and Casino of Monte Carlo. The Casino and Sporting Club are the most famous gambling rooms in the world. During Queen Victoria's reign scores of Royalties and millionaires of every nation had villas nearby on the lovely coast and lived in them for a few months every winter. King Edward VII, who was a great gambler, often stayed in Monte Carlo.
77. Garibaldi, a great Italian patriot. Right up to the middle of Queen Victoria's reign Italy had consisted of varying numbers of independent States, many of which were for a long time subject to Austria. The principal among them were The Kingdom of Piedmont and Savoy, which included the great island of Sardinia; the Republic of Genoa and Venice; the States of the Church, ruled by the Popes from Rome; the Grand Duchy of Tuscany; the Duchies of Milan, Parma and Modena and the Kingdom of Naples which included the other great island of Sicily. In 1860 Garibaldi raised a great volunteer army which united the whole of Italy under King Emanuel I.
78. Leonardo da Vinci. Although Italy had never been a great nation, for many centuries it was the richest country of all in both wealth and intellect. It was there, in the XIV century that the Renaissance started – the reawakening of the love of beauty and a breaking away from the monkish traditions of the Dark Ages. This produced many men of genius and Leonardo was one of the most remarkable of them all. He was not only one of the greatest painters who has ever lived but a brilliant sculptor, architect and military engineer. He even invented the prototype of our first heavier-than-air flying machines. His contemporary Michelangelo Buonarroti was another all-round genius – sculptor, architect, poet and the greatest painter of the Florentine school. Titian and Tintoretto, who worked in Venice, were also great painters of this golden age which lasted about a hundred years and came to an end in the 1540s.
79. Dante Alighieri, the greatest of the Italian poets. His greatest work was "The Divine Comedy". He is also famous for his love for a beautiful girl named Beatrice. Another great Italian writer, who lived a generation later than Dante, was Giovanni Boccaccio. Before his time there were very few works of fiction and his "Decameron" a collection of amusing tales, was translated into every European language. It can still be read with enjoyment. Both these authors are typical of the Renaissance although they lived in the century before it.
80. The Castello of San Marino, a typical castle of the Renaissance period. San Marino is a tiny Republic in central Italy. Like Andorra, another tiny Republic in the Pyrenees, it still retains its independence.
81. Alfred Durer. The Renaissance spread through Europe and Durer was a German artist of this period. He produced many exceptionally fine etchings.
82. Nicholaus Copernicus was a Polish mathematician and astronomer. The Renaissance inspired men to think independently. The Church had always taught that the Earth was the centre of the Universe and that the Sun moved around it. Copernicus was the first man to show that this was not true and that the Earth moves round the Sun.
83. Gisbert Voetius was a Rector of the University of Utrecht when the Philosopher Descartes was living in Holland. They had a bitter quarrel because Descartes supported the Copernican theory, whereas Voetius was a die-hard and rejected the new knowledge. He is included in this collection only because his triangular stamp balances that of Vasco da Gama.
84. The Vatican City. After the Popes were deprived of their great territories, they were allowed to retain as a tiny independent State, this small walled area in the middle of Rome. St. Peter was the first Bishop of Rome so all the Popes who have succeeded him carry that dignity; and every Cardinal is, technically, the Vicar of one of the Parishes in Rome, with his own Church. The Vatican City contains St. Peter's and a vast palace in which the Popes have lived for many centuries. The frescoes on its walls and ceilings were painted by some of the greatest artists of the Renaissance; among the Botticelli, whose beautiful work can also be seen in Florence.
85. The Acropolis and Stadium at Athens. The Renaissance was largely due to the Italians beginning to find out about the great civilisations of the ancient world, knowledge of which had for a thousand years been kept from the people by the Church because these civilisations were pagan. Of these the greatest contribution to thought and beauty was that of the Greeks. Its highest development was during the V and IV centuries B.C. This is known as the "Age of Pericles", who was at that time the First Magistrate in the powerful City State of Athens. Even in ruin, the temples on the Acropolis and in other parts of Greece show them to have been some of the most beautiful buildings ever erected by man. Nearly all modern learning is founded on that of the ancient Greeks. The geometry of Pythagoras is still taught in

our schools; as philosophers Aristotle and Socrates have hardly been surpassed; the Iliad and the Odyssey of Homer remain among the great classics of the world. The Histories by Herodotus and Thucydides and the poems of Sappho are still read and the witty plays of Aristophanes still make people laugh. In portraying the human form in stone, the ancient Greeks are still unrivalled.

86. The Head of Hermes of Praxiteles. This is an example of Greek sculpture at its best. A work of supreme beauty. Another, equally famous, is the Venus de Milo.
87. The Pyramids. The great civilizations preceding that of Greece were those of Egypt, Chaldea and Crete. That of Egypt is thought to have begun in the valley of the Nile at least 6,000 years ago. The Great Pyramid of Cheops was built as a tomb for this Pharaoh about 3,500 B.C. It is still the biggest man-made building in the world. The Chaldean civilization started at about the same time as the Egyptians in Iraq between the rivers Tigris and Euphrates. The Chaldeans were followed there by the Assyrians who built the great cities Nineveh and Babylon. The Minoan civilization in Crete did not develop until much later, starting at about 2000 B.C. This spread to the Greek mainland but was wiped out by barbarian hordes some 600 years before the new, great era of Greek civilization began. The Persians also developed a high state of civilization several hundred years B.C. They were great warriors and under Darius and Cyrus they conquered most of the then known world, but were defeated by the Greeks off the coast near Athens in the great sea-battle of Salamis. During the age of Pericles, Greece was divided into independent City States. Their power gradually declined and about 250 B.C. a Prince from northern Greece, afterwards known as Alexander the Great, became ruler of the whole country. Alexander was one of the greatest conquerors in history. He conquered both the Persian and Egyptian Empires and led his armies as far east as India. When he died, at the early age of 33, his Generals divided his vast Empire between themselves. Ptolemy secured Egypt and his descendants reigned there for over 200 years. The last of his line was Queen Cleopatra.
88. Byron at Missolonghi. In 146 B.C. Greece was conquered by the Romans. Several centuries later the Roman Empire split in two, with one Emperor in Rome and another in Byzantium, as Istanbul was then called. Greece was included in the eastern Empire and for over a thousand years ruled from Byzantium. In A.D. 312 the Emperor Constantine accepted Christianity; so the Greeks gradually became Christians. But in 1453 Byzantium fell to the Ottoman Turks. These fierce warriors from Central Asia over-ran the whole of the Balkan peninsula; so the Christian Greeks became virtually slaves under Mohammedan rule. Time and again they rebelled in the hope of securing their freedom, but it was not until 1829 that they succeeded in throwing off the Turkish yoke. Lord Byron, one of England's greatest poets, although a cripple, went out as a volunteer to fight for the Greeks. He died at Missolonghi and to this day is greatly honoured by them.
89. Rumanian postal service by sleigh. Rumania, like Greece, was another Balkan State that for several hundred years formed part of the Turkish Empire, being at that time divided into two great provinces, Moldavia and Walachia.
90. Rumanian Royalties giving Charity. Rumania had become civilized while part of the Roman Empire and when the Roman upper classes accepted Christianity the Rumanians followed suit. Under the Turkish tyranny the Rumanians fell into a state of poverty and illiteracy; and it was not until the 1860s that Rumania won her freedom.
91. King Carol of Rumania. During the First World War Rumania fought on the side of the Allies. She was over-run but later liberated and rewarded by being given Transylvania, a huge slice of Hungary which, as part of the old Austrian Empire had fought on the side of Germany. Apart from South Russia, Rumania is the only country in Europe where oil has been discovered in any quantity and this, between the wars, made her much richer than her neighbours. It was during that period that Carol was King and he was good friends with Britain. King Carol was succeeded by his son Michael, whose Prime Minister, General Antonescu, the leader of the Iron Guard, turned Rumania into a Fascist State. In consequence, in the Second World War Rumania sided with Germany. This led to her being over-run by the Russians and she has since been a Communist State controlled from Moscow.
92. King Ferdinand of Bulgaria. Serbia, Montenegro and Bulgaria were the other Balkan territories for a long time under Turkish rule. Serbia, like Rumania achieved her independence in the 1860s. She later became Jugoslavia and, since the end of the Second World War has been a Socialist Republic ruled by Marshal Tito. Montenegro, a tiny, mountainous territory on the Adriatic, freed itself from the Turks ten years later, but its people alone among those of the Balkans, had become Mohammedans and they still follow that faith. Montenegro is now called Albania, and is so die-hard Communist that it is a satellite of China rather than Russia. Bulgaria was the last Balkan State to gain her freedom. She did not do so

completely until 1908. Her King was known as “Foxy Ferdinand”, because he was so sly. In the First World War he allied his country to Germany, hoping that when the Germans won he would be given big slices of the territories of his neighbours Serbia and Rumania, which had sided with the Allies. But as it was Germany who lost the war, he had instead to give up big chunks of Bulgaria to them. The people of Bulgaria are mostly Slavs; so it is sometimes known as “Little Russia”. Since 1946 it has been one of the Communist Republics subject to Moscow.

93. Kemal Atatürk. His first name was Mustapha and Atatürk means “No One Turk”. From the time that Greece won her independence the vast Turkish Empire began to fall to pieces. One after the other the Balkan Territories gained their freedom and in 1913 Turkey lost Tripoli and Libya in a disastrous war against Italy. The corruption and inefficiency of the old regime led to the formation of a party called the “Young Turks”, led by Enver Pasha. They dethroned the Sultan and made Turkey a Republic. In the 1914 was Turkey sided with Germany and Kemal emerged as Turkey’s best General. He opposed British landings in Gallipoli and, after much desperate fighting, forced them to return to their ships. Toward the end of the war, General Allenby inflicted a final defeat on the Turks in Palestine and entered Jerusalem as a conqueror. He was the first Christian to do so since the Crusades. After the war all that remained of the Turkish Empire became the independent States of Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Lebanon, Transjordan, Syria and Palestine. But Kemal survived to become Dictator of Turkey. He was a ruthless man but a great one; and by many reforms, such as liberating the women from the harems and having to wear veils, he transformed Turkey herself into a modern nation. However, the old Ottoman Empire was a blot upon civilization. Not only did the Turks fail to develop the great culture of their predecessors in the Near East and North Africa, the Byzantines and the Moors, but during their 400 years as masters of vast lands inhabited by many peoples, they did nothing to improve health or education and produced nothing of beauty by which to remember them. But in Europe great advances had been made and, as the Renaissance spread, many splendid works of art began to grace the palaces of Kings and wealthy people.
94. Peter Paul Rubens. One of the most famous painters of the Flemish School. Anthony Vandyke studied under him and, after also studying in Italy, became an even greater painter. King Charles I, who was a great patron of the arts, invited them both to England, rewarded them lavishly for their work and knighted both of them.
95. Diego Velasquez, a great Spanish painter of the same period.
96. Witches flying to a Sabbath by Francesco Goya, another great Spanish artist. He lived in Napoleon’s time and often painted such imaginative subjects, but also very fine portraits. A little before his period there flourished several of the greatest English portrait painters; Gainsborough, Reynolds and Raeburn. From the early part of the XVIII Century men of genius began to emerge in Germany, particularly musicians and poets, such as:
97. Ludwig von Beethoven, one of the greatest musicians the world has ever known.
98. Johannes Bach, another very great German musician.
99. George Handel, yet another. He was born in Saxony but at that time the state of Hanover still belonged to Britain, so the ties between Germany and Britain were very strong. Handel became a naturalised Englishman and wrote most of his great oratorios here. He is buried in Westminster Abbey.
100. Johann Schiller was a German dramatist and poet of great eminence. Another even more famous, who lived a generation later, was Heinrich Heine.
101. St. Stephen who brought Christianity to Hungary. From Roman times the Hungarians have been a civilized people. Although in 1711 Hungary became part of the Austrian Empire she retained a large degree of independence and her own Parliament.
102. Alexander Pushkin, a Russian poet and one of the many brilliant men who emerged all over Europe from the beginning of the XIX Century. Born in 1799 he had only a short life, for he was killed in a duel the year Queen Victoria came to the throne.
103. Hans Anderson, a Dane, was another. He was the most gifted of all writers of Fairy Tales.
104. Victor Hugo, born three years after Pushkin, lived to be 83. He was the leader of the “Romantic” school of French writers. His great novels were “Les Miserables” and “The Hunchback of Notre Dame”. Alexandre Dumas, Père, the greatest historical novelist of all time and author of “The Three Musketeers”, was Hugo’s contemporary. Gustave Flaubert, the finest writer of French prose was born 20 years after Hugo and started the “Realist” school in opposition to him. Emile Zola was not born until nearly 40 years after Hugo. He developed “Realist” novel-writing to a degree of frankness that would not give offence today; but in Queen Victoria’s time the English people were the most terrible

- prudes and towards the end of her reign, Ernest Vizatelly was put in prison for two years for translating and publishing Zola's novels in English.
105. Louis Pasteur, (1822-1895) was a great French bacteriologist. He cultivated serums to counter tetanus, cholera and many other terrible diseases. His services to humanity are incalculable.
 106. Paul Cezanne was one of the greatest among a group of French artists who, in the '80s, revolutionized painting. This new school was known as "The Impressionists". Others among them whose paintings now fetch many thousands of pounds were Renoir, Degas and Gauguin.
 107. Sarah Bernhardt was a contemporary of these painters. She is considered to be the greatest actress who ever lived. She did not die until 1923 and was then nearly 80.
 108. Count Leo Tolstoy was the greatest of all Russian novelists. His greatest work was "War and Peace", the background of which is Napoleon's campaign in Russia in 1812. It runs to six long volumes. He lived to be 82 and did not die till 1910. His contemporary and great rival was Feodor Dostoevsky. Like Charles Dickens, who was writing at the same time in England, he was a great reformer and the books of both helped to bring about better conditions in prisons, lunatic asylums, schools, mines and factories. It was not until Dostoevsky was 40 years of age, in 1861, that Serfdom was abolished in Russia.
 109. Charles Darwin wrote his famous books, "The Origin of the Species" and "The Descent of Man" in the middle years of Queen Victoria's reign. He was bitterly attacked by the clergy, because his theories blew sky-high the old Biblical account of the Creation in the Garden of Eden; but since then it has become generally accepted that "man" if not actually descended from a race of monkeys, has ancestors not very different from them. Another great scientist and anthropologist of those days was T.H. Huxley. Two of his grandsons are Sir Julian, the present distinguished head of our London Zoo, and Aldous Huxley one of the greatest novelists, essayists and thinkers of our own time.
 110. Karl Marx was an intellectual of a very different kind. It has always been the policy of Britain to give asylum to political exiles and in this case we nurtured a viper in our bosom. He was a German and the founder of Communism. Having been expelled from the Continent he settled in London and, in 1848, issued his first "Manifesto" calling on workers of all countries to unite and overthrow their established governments. He wrote his famous book, "Das Kapital", which is regarded as the Bible of Communism, in the library of the British Museum. It was published in 1867 and has since been translated into every language. Marx must not be regarded as altogether an evil man, because his aim was to improve the lot of the great majority, who in the Victorian age were compelled to labour long hours for a wage barely sufficient to live upon; but he was evil in that he was the "apostle of violence" and urged his followers to secure an equal division of wealth by the use of force. Thus, in due course, his doctrines led to many millions of innocent people being robbed, rendered homeless, driven from their countries, tortured and murdered.
 111. Frederick Engels, a German business man who supported Marx when he had no money and became his life-long friend. Engels also collaborated with Marx in writing the famous "Manifesto".
 112. Franz-Joseph, Emperor of Austria, came to the throne in 1848 and reigned for 68 years, 5 years longer than Queen Victoria. His vast Central European Empire included, in addition to Austria, the Kingdoms of Hungary and Bohemia – which we now call Czechoslovakia – and large parts of Poland and Italy. These lands were peopled by a dozen different races, all of whom wanted to be independent. He was not a clever man but all his life he worked incredibly hard; so succeeded in keeping them all together. But this political discontent caused him many troubles. His wife, the Empress Elizabeth, was assassinated by an anarchist and in 1914 his heir, the Archduke Ferdinand, was also assassinated at Sarajevo by a Serbian. This led to the First World War. Austria demanded such harsh terms from Serbia as compensation for the Archduke's murder that Serbia refused them. Russia backed Serbia up and Germany supported Austria. The armies of all four countries were mobilised and the fighting started in spite of the wish of their governments that it should not. Austria invaded Serbia, Russia invaded Germany, Germany fought back and at the same time invaded France because she was Russia's ally; then, because the Germans had attacked France through Belgium, Britain came in too.
 113. The Emperor Charles II succeed Franz Joseph on his death in 1916. He was the last Austrian Emperor and his reign was short; for directly the war was over he was deposed. His Empire went to pieces owing to a series of revolutions and the decisions made by the victorious allies in the Treaty of Trianon. Hungary, which during the Middle Ages had been one of the great nations of Europe had half her lands taken from her and became a Republic. Czechoslovakia, also became an independent Republic. Italy and Yugoslavia, as Serbia was now called, both secured large slices of her old Empire. So did Poland which, after 112 years again became a separate nation. Austria proper was thus left as a

small Republic with few resources but still in possession of her splendid capital, Vienna, one of the loveliest cities in Europe. Whether the splitting up of the old Austrian Empire was a good thing remains highly debatable. Under old Franz-Joseph his many peoples enjoyed a reasonable prosperity and their peace was troubled by nothing worse than occasional student riots in “national” days.

Afterwards the standard of living of the majority went down and the young Republics became Police States in which they enjoyed far less freedom than under the old monarchy.

114. Marshal Pilsudski, a great Polish patriot and soldier. Like Hungary, during the Middle Ages Poland had been a large and powerful country but, on three sides, she was surrounded by enemies. In 1772, Catherine the Great of Russia, Frederick the Great of Prussia and Marie-Theresa of Austria combined against her and forced her to cede each of them a large slice of her territory. In 1793 the process was repeated and in 1796 a final Partition took place by which Poland was finally eliminated as a sovereign state. For a few years, under Napoleon, a part of Poland regained semi-independence but, in spite of numerous rebellions, the Poles remained enslaved until after the First World War. The Allies then re-created her as a Nation. Russia has always been Poland’s most inveterate enemy and in 1920 a Bolshevik army endeavoured to reconquer Poland, but it was defeated at the gates of Warsaw. Marshal Pilsudski then ruled Poland as a Dictator. The unfortunate Poles were not fated to enjoy their independence for long. Soon after the opening of the Second World War Hitler invaded Poland from the west and Stalin from the East; Germany and Russia then shared Poland between them until the final phase of the war, when the Russians drove the Germans out. Since then Poland has been, in theory, an independent Republic but it is in fact under the domination of Moscow.
- 115., 116, 117 & 118 Scenes from Lithuanian History. Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia are three small territories on the Baltic. For many centuries they formed part of Russia, but in 1918, during the Russian Revolution, they declared themselves independent Republics. Like Poland, they did not enjoy their independence for long. When Hitler invaded Russia in 1940 Stalin feared that these small countries might be used as German bases; so he over-ran them and they have since remained incorporated in the U.S.S.R. They are included as examples of the elaborate and colourful stamps so frequently issued by small, new countries.
119. President Masaryk of Czechoslovakia. This part of the old Austria-Hungarian Empire was more highly industrialised than any other and it contained the great Skoda arms factory. That was one of the reasons why Hitler coveted it. A part of Czechoslovakia called the Sudetenland was mainly inhabited by people of German stock and Hitler used this as an excuse to demand that it should be incorporated into Germany. In 1938 at a Conference in Munich at which Prime Minister Chamberlain represented Britain, Premier Deladier France and Mussolini Italy, Hitler was given his way. But, not content with the Sudetenland, in the spring of 1939 his armies marched into Prague, the Czech capital and took the whole country over. It is often argued that Britain and France should have refused Hitler’s demands at Munich, as had we gone to war with Germany then, we should have had the Czechs, who are brave people, as our allies. But Britain was then totally unprepared for war. She and France could not have saved Czechoslovakia from being overrun and it is very doubtful whether we should have defeated the Germans sooner by doing so. Until the final phase of the war Czechoslovakia was tyrannised over by the Nazis. The Germans were then pushed out by the Russians and it has since been a Communist State, controlled by Moscow. Owing to the high proportion of factory workers in Czechoslovakia, she has accepted Communism more readily than any other of Russia’s satellites.
120. Chancellor Dolfuss, known as “The Pocket Chancellor”, because he was a tiny man. After the partition of her Empire, Austria became a small and poor country but, considering the limitations of her resources, Dolfuss did well for her. However, the Austrians are a Germanic race. Hitler was an Austrian and, at one time, a house-painter in Vienna. With the object of increasing his territory and the number of people who had to take his orders Hitler, using the excuse that the Germans and Austrians had the same blood, decided to join Austria to Germany. To achieve what was termed the “Anschluss”, in 1938, he sent an army that marched into Vienna. There was little resistance, as many Austrians were in favour of the Anschluss but Dolfuss refused to submit; so a gang of Nazi bullies murdered the little man in his bedroom.
121. King George V and Queen Mary. Having dealt with Central Europe we return to Britain. George V was known as “the sailor King”, because, as the second son of Edward VII he was trained for a permanent career in the Royal Navy. Princess Mary of Teck was already engaged to his elder brother, the Duke of Clarence, when Clarence died. A year later she became engaged to George and this apparently cynical act caused her at first to be unpopular. But she was a woman of fine character and high intelligence so later in life she became greatly beloved. She also has excellent taste and collected many beautiful works of art.

King George, unlike his father, was a dull, shy man but he was a most conscientious King and, on his death bed, in 1936, his last words were, "Is all well with the Empire?"

122. King George as Emperor of India. During George V's reign the Empire reached its greatest extent and India was known as "The Brightest Jewel in the British Crown." During the XVIII Century the British drove the French out of India and became the masters of considerable areas in the vast sub-continent from their principal trading bases at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. The remainder continued to be ruled by a number of independent Princes, some of whose territories were larger than European countries. But in 1877 they all agreed to accept British sovereignty and Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India. The "British Raj" lasted for 80 years. During them the native Princes were no longer allowed to go to war with one another, and several who were bad rulers were deposed; religious toleration was maintained but many barbarous practices connected with ancient rites were suppressed; precautions were taken against famine and epidemics; huge sums were spent on bettering the health and education of the people and peace and justice were maintained by the British officials responsible for India's 300 million population. With the spread of education a small minority led by the Mahatma Gandhi – a saintly man who preached passive resistance – began to demand independence. Based on their own experience of British rule, a great part of the people in the United States believe that Colonization is a bad thing and that every race, however backward, has the right to rule itself. There is much to be said for this but in practice it does not always work out well. After the Second World War the U.S. brought pressure to bear on Britain to give India her independence, and Britain agreed. The first result was a terrible civil war between Hindus and Mohammedans in which several million people were killed and still more millions were driven from homes their families had occupied for generations. Now India is split into two parts, the Republic of India and the Republic of Pakistan; the peoples of which hate one another and may at any time go to war. Moreover, since the withdrawal of the British, the standards of health, education and living in India have all gone down; and she is now dependent on big loans from the U.S. and Britain to keep her going. Above all, strategically the decision to withdraw from India was a piece of folly, which ultimately may have terrible consequences for the West. While British officered and led, the Indian Army was one of the finest fighting forces in the world. The Staff's extensive knowledge of the Himalayan frontier accumulated through generations of suppressing rebellions by wild tribesmen, would have enabled it to hold at bay in that difficult country an army many times its size. Without that knowledge and leadership, should China decide to invade India, the whole sub-continent will fall into Communist hands like a ripe plum.
123. Dr. Sun Yat Sen, the founder and first president of the Chinese Republic. Chinese civilization is probably as old as that of Egypt; perhaps even older. As long ago as 2250 B.C., the Chinese had become socially conscious to the degree of temporarily introducing Prohibition. For thousands of years they have observed a high code of manners and produced objects of great beauty. Many of them were immensely rich and their patronage of art led to the creation of buildings, statues, porcelain and embroidered silks which in many cases surpass anything achieved in the Western World. Marco Polo, a Venetian who lived in the XII Century, was the first European to visit China. His journey there and back overland took several years. He was most kindly received and returned with a great fortune in jewels that had been given him. But later China began to fear that Europeans would corrupt the well-ordered way of life of her people; so Europeans were allowed to settle and trade only in small territories, known as Treaty Ports, that were allocated to them. Yet Western ideas did corrupt the Chinese, and early in this Century some of their intellectuals began to agitate for China to become a Republic. There was always terrible poverty in China and the Imperial government had become inefficient so, in 1912, it was overthrown and Dr. Sun Yat Sen became President. A long period of anarchy followed, during which numerous War Lords fought one another and, for a limited time, reigned as Dictators over areas the size of Kingdoms. The Japanese then invaded China which caused further havoc. During the Second World War a three-sided conflict raged among the Republican Generalissimo, Chiang Kai-shek the Japanese and a Chinese Communist army supported by Russia. After the war the Japanese were thrown out, Chiang Kai-shek was forced to retire to the great island of Formosa, and the Communists gained control of the whole of the Chinese mainland. There can be no doubt that the Communists have done an immense amount to improve the lot of the Chinese masses and that the majority of the people are behind them. But China is now feeling the tremendous strength given her by her 600 million population and has become the greatest menace to World Peace. She believes it to be her mission to spread Communism over the whole of Asia. The great Colonial powers, Britain France and Holland have been persuaded to give up their bases in India, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya, Annam and the Dutch East Indies;

and these countries are now powerless to resist unaided the might of China. These “soft” countries have gained their so-called freedom, but how long will they retain it? And if Communist China swallowed Asia, ultimately, that may well lead to the end of all Democratic governments in the West.

124. A Bodhisatva . This is a disciple of Gautama Buddha. Buddhism is one of the four great religions of Asia. This stamp is one of those issued by the new Republic of India. It was there, in the V century B.C. that Prince Buddha left his splendid palace, his riches and his beautiful young wife, to walk all the way to Ceylon preaching a new and better way of life to poor people in the villages through which he passed. In India however there are many religions. In Central and Southern India the majority of the people are Hindus; in the north Mohammedans. It is in China that Buddhism obtained its greatest hold. There it was rivalled only by Confucianism, a code of conduct initiated by the sage Confucius, who lived about a hundred years before Buddha.
125. Admiral Viscount Togo. The Japanese follow a form of Buddhism called Shintoism. Their civilization, although not so old as the Chinese, also dates back many centuries. Artistically their culture cannot be compared with that of the Chinese, but their artists produce delicate and charming paintings on rice-paper and silk. The Japanese have always been a race of warriors and their Knights, who were known as Samurai, developed a high code of chivalry. It was the Dutch who discovered Japan, but, like the Chinese, the Japanese long resisted the infiltration of Europeans. It was not until the 1880s that a Mikado, as they call their Emperors, decided that the time had come to take advantage of Western knowledge. But his main interest was to learn about modern methods of making war, so having selected a number of boys from noble families he sent some of them to train in the German Army and others to train in the British Navy. Young Togo was one of those chosen to be a sailor and he was sent as a Cadet to H.M.S. Worcester, in which thirty years later Grandpa Dennis spent four years as a cadet. Togo worked hard, because the Mikado had told all these boys that if they failed to pass their exams he would have their heads chopped off when they got back. In 1904 Russia went to war with Japan. By then the Mikado had created a modern fleet and army. The Japanese defeated the Russians in battle after battle and captured Port Arthur, the great Russian fortress-base on the mainland. In the final naval battle of the Yellow Sea, Togo, who was the Admiral commanding the Japs, destroyed the entire Russian fleet. This made him the only man who has ever sunk the whole of an enemy fleet of steam-powered, steel armoured battleships.
126. A native craft off Papua, in South East New Guinea. The savages there were head-hunters. It is one of the innumerable territories to which the British brought justice and at least the beginnings of civilization.
127. Britannia. This mythical figure was the symbol of Britain’s power and prestige in the days when she kept law and order throughout one fifth of the world. That was the first duty of the Royal Navy and wherever there was a threat of rebellion or civil war a warship was promptly despatched to prevent people killing one another. After “God Save the King”, our great patriotic song was “Rule Britannia”, the chorus of which ran:-

“Rule Britannia, Britannia rules the waves.
Britons never, never shall be slaves.”

In those days, too, we had another jingle which used to be sung at any time when an international crisis arose. It ran:-

“We don’t want to fight, but by jingo if we do,
We’ve got the ships, we’ve got the men,
We’ve got the money too”.

128. Germania. This was the mythological figure symbolising the German warrior-race. It will be noted that whereas Britannia is seated on bales of goods, portraying her as the protectress of commerce and wears only a loose robe, Germania is in the act of drawing a sword, wears breastplates and has a most aggressive face. Unlike the other great nations of Europe, Germany was never civilized by becoming part of the Roman Empire. For centuries the Germans remained barbarians and have never lost the love of fighting for its own sake. Divided as they were into many Kingdoms and Principalities, they did not become one nation until late in Queen Victoria’s reign. Count Bismark, a great Prussian statesman known as “The Iron Chancellor” was mainly responsible for this. In the late ‘60s Prussia fought two victorious wars against Denmark and Austria. In 1870 she went to war with France. The French were defeated, their Emperor, Napoleon III – the nephew of the Great Napoleon – was taken prisoner and, after a terrible siege Paris surrendered. In this war all the German States rallied round Prussia and sent

- armies to aid her. In January 1871, while Paris was still being besieged Bismark convened a meeting of all the German heads of state at the Palace of Versailles. There, they agreed to accept King William I of Prussia as their overlord and, in the splendid “Hall of Mirrors” he was crowned Emperor of Germany.
129. The Prince Regent Luitpold of Bavaria. Although the German States had accepted Prussian suzerainty, as far as foreign policy and war were concerned, like the States in the U.S., they still managed their own internal affairs and their rulers continued to enjoy the status of royalties. After Prussia, Bavaria was the biggest and richest. Its capital, Munich, is a finer city than Berlin and in it there is one of the best collections of pictures in the world. Besides being a war-like people the Germans are very hard-working, clever scientists and business men. Having become one nation in 1871, they soon forged ahead and became one of the Great Powers. In 1888, William II, later known as “Kaiser Bill”, succeeded to the Imperial throne. He was a vain, ambitious man, and loved nothing so much as prancing about on a horse at the head of his soldiers while directing mock battles. His vanity led him to increase greatly the size of his army and to build a Navy that he hoped would one day be stronger than that of Britain. By the time Germany became a Great Power, Britain, France, Holland, Spain and Portugal had already acquired nearly all the undeveloped lands in Asia, Africa and Australasia, so the only places left in which Germany could establish Colonies were small and poor. This made the Germans very jealous and to obtain a great Empire was the basic cause which led the ambitious Kaiser to launch the 1914 war.
 130. British troops leaving Jamaica to fight the Germans. Immediately war was declared the whole of Britain’s Empire rallied to the Mother country. In those days we did not have conscription; but men of every race, religion and colour and from every Dominion and Colony volunteered and came in their hundreds of thousands to, as they sang, “Put the Kibosh on the Kaiser.”
 131. General Gallieni. To begin things went very badly for the allies. The Germans proved much better soldiers than the French and defeated them in two great battles. The Germans were also pouring through Belgium unopposed. The tiny British Expeditionary Force was placed out on that flank. Its four divisions, under General Sir John French, attempted to check the Germans at Mons, but were overwhelmed by weight of numbers. They made another splendid stand at Le Cateau and there Uncle Gran, then a young artillery officer won the D.S.O. for gallantry. But again they had to retreat and a great gap had been torn in the allies’ front. Through it the Germans streamed. They reached the river Marne near Meaux, only a little over 20 miles from Paris, so it seemed certain that the French capital was doomed. General Gallieni was the Commander of the Paris garrison. There were considerable numbers of troops in the depots, but no means of swiftly getting them to the front. To do so he commandeered every omnibus and taxi cab in Paris, piled his men into them and hurled them into the gap between the British and the rest of the French army. Thus he saved Paris. The Battle of the Marne was fought, the Germans were held and were never able to break through again. Four years of terrible trench warfare followed, until Germany, utterly exhausted, asked for an armistice on November 8th, 1918.
 132. King Albert of Belgium, known as “Albert the Good” was on the throne when, in 1914, the Germans invaded his country without warning. Instead of trying to make a deal with the Kaiser, he immediately ordered his small army to resist to the utmost of its power. But it was soon overwhelmed and all Belgium occupied by the Germans except for a small corner of it in which stands the ancient town of Ypres. Even there, before the Germans could be halted they had established positions like a horse-shoe round the town and no more than a few miles from it. With only a narrow lane on one side by which to reinforce the town, it was madness to endeavour to continue to hold this salient; but for political reasons, because it was the last little bit of unconquered Belgium soil, the British decided to do so. It cost them dear. The struggle for Ypres continued for more than four years and there were three great battles for it. In the first the British brought the Germans to a halt at the Menin Gate. In the second, for the first time, the Germans used Poison Gas. The British were taken entirely by surprise, but they managed to hang on to the town. The third was in 1918 and a great British offensive aimed at capturing the German positions on the ridge of Passchendaele. They failed, but the battle raged without ceasing for three whole months, until the millions of shells fired by both sides had turned the country for miles around into an impossible sea of mud. It was the most terrible land battle that has ever been fought. As a young Artillery officer, Granpa Dennis was in it for two months.
 133. The rebuilt Menin Gate at Ypres, erected in memory of the hundred thousand British and Empire Soldiers who died at Ypres.
 134. Queen Astrid of Belgium. This beautiful lady was the first wife of King Leopold III of Belgium, the

son of Albert the Good. Leopold is still alive but abdicated in favour of his son, the present King Baudouin. Queen Astrid's death was a great tragedy. She was killed in a motor crash while being driven by her husband. In the Second World War, when Belgium was again invaded by the Germans, after fighting for a few days Leopold surrendered to them and came to terms. But his Government escaped to England and helped to carry on the war.

135. The Dowager Queen Emma of Holland. In the First World War the Germans did not invade Holland so she remained neutral. In the Second World War they attacked Holland without warning on the same day as they went into Belgium. After a brief resistance the small Dutch army had to surrender. But the Queen and her Government escaped to London and as Holland still had considerable naval and military forces in her East Indian Empire, she was able to become a valuable ally.
136. Field Marshal von Hindenburg, the greatest of the German Generals in the first World War. In 1914 the Germans threw nine-tenths of their army against France, in the hope of achieving a decisive victory in the West, while retaining only a few divisions on their Eastern Front, to stall off the great Russian army until they could reinforce it with troops sent from France. But the Russians launched an offensive more swiftly than the Germans expected, and invaded Prussia. Hindenburg was already 68 and had been retired for some years. But he knew more about Germany's Eastern frontier than any other General; so he was recommissioned without warning and rushed through the night in an express train to take command of the retreating Germans on the Eastern front. Although he had far fewer men than the Russians, within a few weeks he inflicted two crushing defeats upon them at the battles of Tannenberg and the Masurian Lakes. In the latter he used his knowledge of the country to drive whole divisions of Russians into the water and many thousands of them were drowned. Later he was made Supreme Commander of the German Army and had built across France a great wall of fortified trenches known as the Hindenburg Line. Outside Cambrai on November 20th 1917 the British broke through it. Grandpa Dennis was also present at this great victory for which, on the only occasion during the war, the joybells were rung in England. When Germany collapsed the Kaiser and all the other German Royalties went into exile. The defeated troops mutinied, tore the rank badges from their officers and streamed back to their homes in disorder. At the War Office in Berlin everyone fled, fearing to be murdered – except Hindenburg, who remained at his desk and faced the angry mob. The capital fell into a state of anarchy and, for a time workers' battalions, led by Communists controlled most of the city. But Officer battalions were formed to fight them while other officers bombed them from the air, until the communists were overcome and order was restored. Hindenburg then became President of the new German Republic.
137. Nicholas II was "Czar of All the Russias" when the First World War broke out. He was a weak and stupid man and for many years he refused to agree to reforms that were long overdue. Already in 1905 there had been one revolution in Russia and the country was ripe for another. The Russian armies were ill-armed, ill-led and ill-fed. By 1916 they were thoroughly disgusted with the war and began to refuse to fight any more. The factory workers, too, staged strikes and demonstrations. Even the majority of the rich sympathised with them, as everyone wanted a Democratic government like that of England. The Czar's government was overthrown and the liberal leader Kerensky formed one on Democratic lines. But he wishes to honour Russia's obligation to her allies by continuing the war, so for some months anti-war riots continued.
138. Lenin, the greatest of all Revolutionary leaders. When Lenin was seventeen he was already studying the writings of Karl Marx and in that year his elder brother was executed for participating in an attempt to assassinate the Czar. As a fanatical Communist he was, like many other agitators, several times exiled to Siberia. This did not mean, as is often supposed, that he became a prisoner slaving in the salt mines. Such treatment was inflicted only on hardened criminals; political prisoners were simply ordered to live, with their families if they wished, in a distant town and forbidden to return to European Russia; so as often as Lenin was exiled he ignored the ban and returned, to enter again the fight aimed at overthrowing the Monarchy. But at length, this got too much for him and he went to live with other Russian Communists and Anarchists in Switzerland. Some months after, Kerensky came to power and declared his intention of carrying on the war against Germany, someone in the German Foreign Office had what he thought was a brilliant idea. If Kerensky could be overthrown and replaced by a Socialist, Russia would make peace and many German divisions could then be brought from the Eastern to the Western front, to launch a new offensive against France. Acting on this idea they put Lenin and his friends in a sealed train and sent them through Germany to Russia. On Lenin's arrival in St. Petersburg, which was still the capital of Russia the Workers and Soldiers Councils that had been set up greeted

him with a tremendous enthusiasm. He was at once called on to lead the Bolshevik Party, as the Russian Communists were called. In November 1917 he led a Second Revolution. Kerensky's government was overthrown and Lenin became Dictator. Soon after, he signed a peace with the Germans at Brest-Litovsk. The Germans had achieved their object but their plan proved a boomerang, for great numbers of their soldiers had fraternised with the Russians and became infected with their Bolshevik ideas. Those who had, refused to go to fight in France and later were the hard core of the Communist attempt to seize power in Berlin. To begin with, Lenin was faced with many difficulties as the Bolsheviks controlled only a small area round Moscow. By far the greater part of Russia was held by monarchist "White Russian" armies and, realizing the danger of communism, the Allies sent armies in an attempt to defeat Lenin's Bolshevik troops. Among them, Churchill sent an expeditionary force to Archangel to attack Moscow from the north and the French and Italians sent armies to the Crimea in the south. Colin's father was one of the officers who fought in South Russia under the Czarist General Denekin and later he escorted the Dowager Czarina to safety in Malta. But Lenin had a brilliant brain and for many months kept his Council in perpetual session, himself sleeping only two or three hours out of every twenty four. Mainly owing to his efforts, the new Communist Government survive and gradually drove its enemies from Russian soil. Lenin was utterly ruthless. He ordered the executions of the Czar, the Czarina and their three young daughters, all of whom were shot in a cellar; and at his orders the whole of the Russian upper and middle classes who failed to escape were murdered. In this most terrible of all civil wars it is estimated that the Communists killed 20 million people.

139. Klementi Voroshilov leading the First Cavalry Army of the Republic in review before Stalin. Voroshilov started life as a factory worker in the Don Basin. He was an ardent Communist and one of those who were on the railway platform at St. Petersburg to give Lenin such an enthusiastic welcome when he returned from exile. Later Voroshilov was appointed to lead a workers' army against the Whites in the Ukraine and he proved a born General. In the great railway centre at Lougansk he assembled all the trains he could find then, using them as a moving base, made a great fighting retreat that lasted for three months along the railway line to Tzaritzin on the Volga. The city was then besieged and, like Ypres, was surrounded on three sides. It became known as "The Salient of Death". If it had fallen, the line of the river up which the grain barges supplied Moscow would have been cut and Moscow would have been starved into surrender. From June to December, Voroshilov fought off the hordes of Cossacks, held Tzaritzin and saved the Revolution. As the Civil War continued the Reds found themselves at a great disadvantage because they had no cavalry. At Voroshilov's suggestion they formed their First Cavalry Army. Under him it "liberated" all South Russia, in a great sweep of 400 miles from Tule to the Crimea and the last White Army, under General Denekin, was driven into the sea. Voroshilov was made a Marshal of the U.S.S.R. and later Commissar for Defence. In the Second World War, Leningrad was cut off by the Germans, but Voroshilov held the city and by so doing prevented the northern flank of the Russian army from being turned. He was later made President of the Soviet Union.
140. Joseph Stalin was a Georgian and as a boy was put in a seminary to become a priest. But in his teens he became a Communist and committed a number of bank robberies in order to obtain funds for the movement. He was several times exiled to Siberia and escaped, but remained in Russia. In Lenin's government Stalin was given only a minor Ministry, then sent as Political Commissar to help Voroshilov hold Tzaritzin. They became great friends and together, on several occasions, defied Lenin's right-hand man, Trotsky, who was Minister of War. On Lenin's death Trotsky appeared to be his natural successor but, by then, Stalin was Secretary of the Communist Party and this gave him power to influence events in secret. Stalin and his friends conspired against Trotsky, brought about his downfall and drove him into exile. From then until his death, Stalin was the most powerful man in Russia and his rule as Dictator was made more absolute than had been that of any Czar. In the Second World War he proved a great leader. To begin with, the Russian armies were defeated on all fronts and the Germans overran most of European Russia, but Stalin called on them to stand on the line of the Volga. Tzaritzin, the key point of the front had been renamed Stalingrad, and the city was again besieged. It was here that the Germans met with their greatest defeat, the whole of their central army being surrounded and captured.
141. The Dnieprostroy. After the First World War, the Revolution and the ghastly Civil War that went on until 1920, Russia was for several years in a terrible state. Half the buildings in the cities and towns had been destroyed and the rest were falling into ruin; hundreds of bridges were down and the railway tracks so bad that trains could run only short distances; trade was at a stand-still, the government had

no money and, as it was communist no foreign power would lend it any. Nine-tenths of the educated people who would normally have brought order out of chaos had been murdered or driven into exile. But the Bolsheviks showed remarkable toughness and resolution. By keeping the people on a semi-starvation diet and refusing to allow factories to make clothes and other things that would have bettered their lot, the government saved enough money to launch projects that would have a long-term value. The first was the building of this huge dam across the river Dnieper. Then completed it supplied towns and factories for over 1,000 square miles with electricity at only a very small cost. They then pit forced labour to work on making thousands of miles of canals; so that ships can now come up them to Moscow from five seas; the Baltic, the White, the Azov, the Black and the Caspian.

- 142,143. Two of the many magnificent buildings in the new Russia. In the Second World War a great number of Russian cities and towns were again destroyed; not only by the Germans but also because Stalin decreed a “scorched-earth” policy, by which his retreating armies blew buildings up rather than leave them to the enemy. By an extraordinary effort, which we must admire, within a few years of the peace they were all rebuilt and in many of them there are now buildings that for beauty rival any in the world. It is now forty-five years since the Bolshevik revolution. Before it, Russia was, industrially, the most backward of all the Great Powers and her people were the worst educated. During the Revolution her intelligentsia were almost entirely eliminated and her country has suffered more damage than any other in two prolonged and terrible wars. Yet, today her standard of education is extremely high, her industrial capacity enormous and her scientific achievements, particularly in the field of exploring space, marvels to wonder at. This has been accomplished only by enslaving her people; but one must acknowledge that, on the material plane, it is an achievement unrivalled by any other race in the history of mankind.
144. Benito Mussolini (in steel helmet) with Hitler. Owing to the success of the Russian Revolution, after the end of the First World War Communist doctrines spread like wild-fire among the workers all over Europe – particularly in the defeated countries where the old monarchist governments had been overthrown and there was widespread hunger and poverty. In that war Ital had fought with the allies, but her people, too, were in a state of great unrest. Soldiers and Workers Councils were set up there and in many parts, cities and towns were taken over by the Communists. Fortunately, Italy, like Germany, had a very large property-owning middle class which, although much fewer in numbers than the workers, possessed much more intelligence and drive. All over the country small groups of landowners, business men, doctors, lawyers, ex-officers and other well-to-do people got together in small bands to defend their property. They became known as Fascists and Mussolini, who had been a journalist, became their leader. Many of the Fascist bands then formed an army and marched on Rome. After some months the Communists all over the country were suppressed and law and order restored. As Italy was still a monarchy, the head of King Victor Emanuel continued to be used on her stamps, except for a few special issues such as this, which commemorates Mussolini’s meeting with Hitler. But the King had little power; for 20 years Mussolini, who was known as Il Duce – the Ace – ruled Italy. Before the Fascist regime the streets of Italy’s cities were always full of beggars, one could leave nothing in the room of an hotel from fear of its being stolen, the trains never ran to time and very little was done for the health of the people. Mussolini altered all that. He would allow no opposition to his government and had Socialist agitators who made trouble forcibly given big doses of castor oil; but he cleaned up Italy, electrified her railways, cleared away great areas of slums and gave the Italian people a new pride in their country. Like Germany, having become a united nation only in recent times, Italy had few Colonies. In Italy, too, there is only one-tenth of the agricultural land there is in France, although France has a smaller population; so Mussolini was anxious to acquire new lands overseas to which he could send families from their overcrowded country. This led him to disregard the protests of the other Great Powers and send an army to conquer Abyssinia. That ancient country in North East Africa was very backward. The slave trade still flourished there and its Emperor, Haile Selassie still followed the barbarous practice of chaining convicts to great logs of wood. The Italians are hard workers and fine colonisers so, in a few years they greatly improved conditions in Abyssinia. Mussolini also built model new towns in Libya and sent thousands of Italians to settle there. His downfall was brought about by the Second World War. Had Italy remained neutral, by providing goods and services for both sides she could have become enormously rich; but Mussolini’s success had made him swollen headed, and he wanted to become the ruler of a new Roman Empire. When France was near collapse in June 1940, he thought that if he attacked her from the south and so helped Hitler to put her swiftly out of the war, as his share of the spoil he would be able to grab the rich lands of

Algeria and France's other North African territories. Individually the Italians are brave men, but they are not good soldiers and, as Britain has always been the friend of Italy, their hearts were not in the war. Again and again Britain defeated the Italians on land, at sea and in the air. After the Anglo-American army had invaded Italy and advanced on Rome the Fascist regime collapsed. Italy asked for an armistice and Mussolini was shot by his own people. Although he ruled as a Dictator he did an immense amount for Italy and it is one of the great tragedies of modern times that his ambitions should have brought about his ruin.

145. Thomas Mann. During the first 30 years of this century the number of authors increased enormously, and a number of them will always retain a high place in literature. Among the most famous were, in Britain, Arnold Bennett, H.G. Wells, Bernard Shaw, John Galsworthy and Somerset Maugham; in the U.S. Sinclair Lewis, James Branch Cabell, Theodore Dreiser and Thornton Wilder; in France, Marcel Proust, Anatole France and Adre Maurois; in Spain Belasco Ibanez; in Germany, Leon Feuchtwanger, Jacob Wasserman and Thomas Mann.
146. Adolf Hitler, whose real name was Schickelgruber. He was the son of an Austrian Customs official, so came from the lower middle class and, during his early life gave no indication that he had either brains or ability. In the First World War he never rose higher than the rank of Corporal. But he had an extraordinary gift for oratory and first became known as a soapbox agitator during the years of poverty and unrest in Germany after the war. He was a rabid Socialist but violently anti-Communist and gradually formed a party that became known from its initials as the N.A.Z.I.s. He was aided mainly by five men, Herman Goering, who had been one of Germany's flying aces during the war; he was well connected and secured Hitler the support of a considerable number of rich and titled people; Heinrich Himmler, a small grocer who was a glutton for work and proved a great organiser; Joseph Goebbels, a very clever journalist who later became Hitler's Minister for Propaganda; Joachim von Ribbentrop who was married to the daughter of a wealthy champagne magnate; being a good linguist he translated for Hitler, who was ill-educated, all the most important news in the foreign newspapers; and Ernst Roehm, the leader of the Brown Shirts, an organisation of patriotic ex-soldiers. When the Nazis felt strong enough they staged a "putsch" in Munich, hoping to seize power; but were overcome. Hitler was then given a term of imprisonment and during it he wrote a book called Mein Kampf, setting out his political opinions. By the time he was released the strength of the Nazi movement had greatly increased. But Communism was still a threat to the weak government of which Hindenburg by then a very old man, was still president. To defeat Communism several millionaire industrialists decided to back Hitler and finance his party. The result was that in the elections of 1933 the Nazis got a majority and Hitler, legally became Chancellor of Germany. However, he feared the rivalry of Roehm so one night he and his unscrupulous bodyguards surprised Roehm in bed and next day murdered him and some 2,000 of the Brown Shirt leaders. Hitler had been voted into power largely because Germany was then in a very bad way industrially and there were eight million unemployed. He soon found them work on making Germany's fine "autobahns" and building many hospitals and schools. Like Mussolini, he taxed the rich heavily and used the money to improve social services; so he became immensely popular and a great part of the German people began to regard him as an idol. But they were still smarting under the harsh peace inflicted on them at Versailles and hoped that the day would come when they could avenge themselves on the French. Hitler, therefore, had his people's approval when he ignored the treaty and set about greatly increasing the German army and building a powerful air force and navy. France wished to stop him, if necessary by force of arms, but Britain short-sightedly refused to support France and the United States was then pursuing her policy of Isolation; so nothing was done. Hitler first used his army to reoccupy the Ruhr. In 1938 he marched into Austria and made it part of Germany. He next blackmailed the Powers into letting him take over the Sudetenland because its people were mostly of the German race. A few months later, he occupied the whole of Czechoslovakia. Meanwhile the state of things in Germany shocked and distressed everybody who believed in freedom. Hitler was a fanatic and he not only hated Communists but also Socialist, Liberals and, particularly, Jews. He ruthlessly suppressed expression of free thought in both Press and speech. Anyone who dared to criticize the Nazi regime was seized in the middle of the night by the Gestapo and hurried off to a concentration camp. He created a tyranny that has rarely, if ever, been equalled in the world. Many thousands of people died in the concentration camps from torture or starvation or being put into gas-chambers. The Jews were robbed of their property, and it is estimated that he murdered over eight million of these unfortunate people. In September 1939 Hitler made yet another demand. He wanted back the old German city of Danzig and threatened to invade Poland. On this Britain saw that she must

at last make a stand against him. He refused to yield so Britain declared war on Germany. After hesitating for 24 hours, France decided to honour her obligation as Britain's ally and came in, too. For eight months, which was called "the phoney war", the armies faced one another on the Continent but remained almost inactive. The real war began in April 1940 by Hitler sending a secret expedition to Norway, seizing Oslo and in a short campaign overrunning that country. The following month he invaded Holland, Belgium and France. The Allied army was swiftly split and overwhelmed. By a miracle the greater part of the British army was saved by being taken off in a fleet of small ships from Dunkirk. But France was finished and towards the end of June asked for an armistice. During the year that followed Britain stood alone in arms facing the new might of Germany and, in addition the Italian army, navy and air force. She was saved from invasion only by a few hundred gallant fighter pilots who, against heavy odds, defeated the Luftwaffe in the Battle of Britain. In the summer of 1941, Hitler invaded Russia which at last gave Britain one powerful ally, but the majority of the American people were still strongly averse to again entering a war in Europe. However, President Roosevelt was Britain's good friend. He did everything he could to help her by "Lend Lease" and gradually persuaded his countrymen that if Hitler succeeded in putting Britain out of the war the United States might later have to fight him alone. In December 1941 Japan made her treacherous attack on Pearl Harbour. Britain's great war leader, Winston Churchill, instantly supported the United States by ordering all Empire forces in the Far East to commence hostilities against the Japanese, and the United States joined Britain in her war against Germany. By the summer of 1943 the British, assisted by the Americans, had driven the Germans and Italians out of North Africa. By the autumn of 1944 the Americans, assisted by the British, had driven the Germans out of France and the Russians were driving the German armies in the East back through Poland, Rumania and Hungary. For a considerable time past the German General Staff had realised that there was no longer the least hope of Germany winning the war; so a number of Generals formed a conspiracy to assassinate Hitler, so that they might stop it. The conspiracy failed and Hitler had these officers hung up naked on butchers' hooks. In spite of pride and malice, Hitler refused even to contemplate surrender in order to spare his people further suffering and declared that they should perish with him. By April 1945 the Anglo-American armies had penetrated deep into Germany and the Russians reached Berlin. In the cellars of the Chancery there, Hitler blew his brains out, and a few days later the war was over.

147. King Edward VIII was the oldest son of King George V. While Edward was Prince of Wales he was very popular for, unlike his father who was stiff and formal, he was unconventional and enjoyed mixing with people of all classes. When he came to the throne in 1936, already over 40, he had never married. He was, however, in love with a Mrs Wallis Simpson, a smart and witty American woman, and he wished to marry her. With this in view, Mrs. Simpson got a divorce, but the King's Ministers and the majority of the British people were most strongly opposed to a divorced woman becoming Queen of England. Rather than give her up, after a reign of only ten months, Edward abdicated, married her and has since lived abroad with the title of Duke of Windsor.
148. King George VI was the oldest of Edward's four brothers. The others were the Duke of Gloucester, the Duke of Kent and Prince John. Kent was killed while on duty as an R.A.F officer during the Second World War and Prince John died when a boy of nine. King George, like his father, being a second son, was brought up to go into the Royal Navy. As a young officer he was present at the Battle of Jutland, in which Admiral Beatty inflicted such damage on the Kaiser's fleet that it never again left harbour.
149. King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, now the Queen Mother; a Rhodesian stamp issued to celebrate their Coronation in May 1937. The Queen was the daughter of a Scottish Earl and had made herself greatly beloved. When they married, George was the Duke of York and, as a second son, it was not expected that they would have become King and Queen, but no foreign Princess could have filled this exalted role with greater charm and dignity. In the background are the Victoria Falls, which are in Central Africa and the biggest waterfall in the world.
150. King George and Queen Elizabeth, a Jubilee stamp issued in 1948 to celebrate their having been married for 25 years. Throughout the war they set a fine example to their people, by remaining in London all through the air-raids and frequently going down to the slums that had been badly bombed to comfort and encourage those who had been rendered homeless. Buckingham Palace was twice bombed while they were in it. As a young man, King George was afflicted with a terrible stutter, but by persistent efforts he managed to conquer it after he became King. Like his father, he was a shy man, but much more intelligent and at his death he was deeply mourned.
- 151,152,153 Stamps of Jamaica, St. Vincent and Pitcairn Island. Up to the 1930s with comparatively few

exceptions, the stamps of the British Empire were small in size and carried only the head of the Sovereign. It was then decided to make them more interesting and colourful depicting views, animals and industries, and having the head of the Sovereign only in the corner. The above are typical examples of these modern “pictorials”.

- 154,155. The Elysée Palace and French Jet Aircraft. France, Italy, Holland and numerous other countries have also issued much more attractive stamps during the past 30 years. As it has always been the practice to have on British stamps the head of the Sovereign, very few carry portraits of our most famous men. For example, there is not even one of Sir Winston Churchill, one of the greatest Englishmen who has ever lived, who by his courage and statesmanship carried Britain through the darkest day of the Second World War. There are none of Wellington, Marlborough, Pitt, Disraeli or our great artists, scientists and writers. That of Nelson is only a picture of his statue and that (of) Charles Darwin is a Rumanian stamp. But France and Italy have issued many stamps in honour of their countries’ greatest sons and, in addition, many portraying their finest buildings or special activities. The Elysée Palace, in Paris, has been for the past 100 years the official residence of the Presidents of the French Republic. At present it is occupied by General Charles de Gaulle, who refused to surrender when France was defeated by Germany, returned with the Anglo-American army of Liberation and has since shown himself, although a difficult man to deal with, a great statesman.
156. Queen Elizabeth II succeeded her father, King George VI in 1952. She is shown here surrounded by our national emblems; the Rose of England, the Thistle of Scotland, the Shamrock of Ireland and the Leek of Wales.
157. Queen Elizabeth II. A New Zealand stamp and one of the most beautiful portrait stamps ever issued. The Queen is a very little lady. She had bright blue eyes and a beautiful complexion, so she is much more attractive than one might suppose from seeing photographs of her in the papers. She is also very charming and easy to talk to. As a Colonel of her Guards, Uncle Jack gave a cocktail party for her at Windsor in 1961.
158. The Houses of Parliament. This building was built only in Queen Victoria’s reign, but the Parliament of England has existed for over 800 years. To begin with it consisted only of the great feudal Barons who were called together for consultation to support the King in times of national crisis such as the outbreak of a war; but later a Lower House was formed from simple gentlemen elected to represent the Shires, and they were known as “The Commons”. This was the first Democratic assembly since ancient times ever to have a say in the government of the country. Over the centuries the power of the commons grew until the King could no longer levy taxes without their consent, and they controlled all expenditure in the country and its foreign policy. When Scotland and Ireland were united to England they, too, sent their representatives to Westminster. After each election the Sovereign still chooses the Statesman that he considers most suitable to become Prime Minister and asks him to form a Government; the Ministers selected must also be approved by the Sovereign before he hands them their Seals of Office. From that point all real power becomes vested in the Cabinet. The Sovereign takes no part in politics and, by established custom, never shows more favour to one party than to another, but still exercises great influence on events, particularly in times of crisis and in the appointment of Governors for British territories overseas the Lords Lieutenant of Counties, the Bishops and other Great Officers of State.
159. Julius Caesar was born 100 years before Christ and was one of the greatest men who ever lived. In his day Rome was a Republic governed by a number of aristocrats who formed the Senate. During the preceding two centuries Rome had developed from a small City State until all Italy was ruled by her; in two great campaigns, known as the Punic Wars, she had defeated and destroyed the great rival power of Carthage in North Africa; she had also conquered Greece, Asia Minor and parts of Southern France and Spain. So by the date of Caesar’s birth she was already the dominant power in the Mediterranean. Caesar was a brilliant General. He conquered Gaul – as France was then called – and, in 55 B.C. landed in Britain on the coast of Kent; but only to find out what the country and people were like. He then conquered Egypt and fell in love with its beautiful Queen, Cleopatra who accompanied him back to Rome. He was made Pontifex Maximus – High Priest of his nation – an office which was held by all the Caesars who came after him, but he was never Emperor, although he assumed the powers of a Dictator. A number of his colleagues, led by Cassius and Brutus became jealous of his power, so conspired against him and stabbed him to death in the Senate. Caesar’s greatness did not lie only in his having enormously increased the territories governed by Rome; he was also a very gifted author, a far-

seeing statesman and a great law-giver. He was the real founder of the mighty Roman Empire.

160. The Roman Empire. Although Julius never became Emperor, after him Rome was ruled for nearly 200 years by members of his family, who became the first twelve Caesars. A terrible Civil War followed his death, in which his great friend Marc Anthony was finally defeated by Octavius Caesar, Julius's nephew. As the first Emperor of Rome, Octavius took the title of Augustus. He, too, was a fine soldier and a very clever statesman. Under him and his successors the Roman Empire expanded until it included the whole of North Africa and the Middle East, Egypt as far south as the Sudan, Central Europe as far north as the Danube; and Western Europe, including England, from the tip of Spain up to the Rhine. It reached its greatest extent about A.D. 100 under the wise philosopher Emperor Marcus Aurelius. Later the Empire was at times split by ambitious Pro-Consuls with powerful armies claiming succession to the "Imperial Purple", then setting themselves up as rulers in large portions of it and going to war with their rivals. Still later it fell into two parts, the Western Empire ruled from Rome and the Eastern, Byzantine Empire ruled from what is now Istanbul. Dissentions so weakened the Empire of the West that about the year 400 A.D. the legions on the Rhine and Danube could no longer hold back the barbarian hordes. They swarmed over the provinces and down into Italy. In 410 A.D. they captured and sacked Rome, bringing the Western Empire to an end. The Eastern Empire declined only very gradually. It lasted for another 1,000 years until it was finally wiped out by the Ottoman Turks, a race of fierce Mohammedan warriors who came out of Asia. The Romans were the greatest civilizing force that the world has ever known. They assimilated the art, culture and learning of the Greeks and added to it their own practical genius for administration, building and colonization. When they arrived in Spain, France, Belgium, England, Switzerland, Germany west of the Rhine, Austria, Hungary and the northern Balkans, they found only poor, uneducated primitive tribes that were always fighting one another. The Romans put an end to the fighting, taught the people agriculture, planted vineyards, built fine cities like Marseilles, Lyon, Paris, Trier, Mayenne, Cologne and London with aqueducts, often several miles long, to bring water to them. They bridged the rivers and built fine, straight roads, many of which still form the basis of Europe's modern highways, linking all parts of their Empire to Rome. Every few miles along these roads there were post-houses where horses could be changed and each had a small garrison of soldiers to protect travellers; so that it was possible to ride all the way from the border of Scotland to the border of Persia without fear of being robbed by highwaymen. Under the Romans there was complete religious toleration and in every town there were Roman magistrates who dispensed justice. The Roman governors built beautiful public baths, temples, theatres and handsome villas. They had the people taught trades such as leather and ironworking, mining and ship-building, so that they became rich and contented under Roman rule. They also taught them to appreciate the arts, so that many of them became fine writers, painters and sculptors; and any educated man, whatever his race, religion or colour, could become a Roman citizen. They ruled over what was then practically the whole known world for nearly as long as it is now from the day Columbus discovered America. Before their coming the peoples of Europe had been savages, they left them in a higher state of civilization than any that has been known until modern times. They were able to achieve this because, although there were frequent wars on the frontiers to hold back the fierce barbarians who inhabited the dark forests outside the Empire, there were no wars inside it. This was known as Pax Romana. For over 400 years the Romans gave peace, justice and security to their subjects; thus creating a Golden Age in Europe. After the fall of Rome, her Empire went to pieces. The Goths, Vandals, Visigoths (sic), Saxons, Norsemen and other fierce invaders swarmed over the old Roman Provinces and the Dark Ages followed. During the succeeding centuries innumerable local War Lords made themselves into petty Kings and fought one another; commerce and industry almost ceased; the beautiful Roman buildings were destroyed or fell into ruin and there was no peace any more so that people could no longer pursue learning or practice art or medicine. But the tradition of Roman Justice lingered on, so that a great part of our modern law is still founded on it, and when the Renaissance came, much of the Graeco-Roman culture was rediscovered and flowered anew. The debt the world owes to Rome is, therefore, inestimable, for her Empire was the greatest civilizing influence that ever blessed mankind.
161. The British Empire has been the only civilizing influence on mankind that is in any way comparable to that of Rome. It has not lasted as long, for it cannot be said to have really begun until the middle of the XVII Century, with our settlements on the mainland of America, in the West Indies and in parts of India. Unlike the Spaniards, who forced Roman Catholicism upon the peoples they conquered, enslaved them and brutally murdered great number of them, the British allowed religious toleration in the lands in which they established themselves and treated the natives with humanity. In consequence,

in by far the greater part of our Colonies British Rule was accepted and it was only in the United States that discontent led to the British being driven out. But this was not by any native race; it was by the Colonists themselves, owing to a justifiable resentment at the stupid way in which the Home government refused to listen to their grievances and sought to enforce unreasonable taxes upon them. Elsewhere in the Americas, in Asia, Australasia and later, Africa, lands settled by the British flourished and showed complete loyalty to the British Crown. Four of them, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa have since developed into powerful, independent nations while still treasuring their ties with the Mother country. During the past 100 years, no fewer than 165 territories have been ruled from London, and by far the greater part of them were permanently subject to the British Crown. It was rightly said that: "On the British Empire the Sun never sets". Apart from the Dominions and a few of the older colonies, the majority of these colonies were inhabited by savages or backward peoples. To them the British government brought similar benefits to those bestowed by Rome or Western Europe. The natives were taught to improve their agriculture and to start industries; British capital was used to build dams to irrigate barren lands and to lay railways and docks by which the products of native labour could be brought to ports and shipped to Europe. Slavery and barbarous customs were suppressed and fighting between tribes prevented. This was known as the Pax Britannica. During it Britain grew rich on the commerce with her many Colonies, but their peoples enjoyed peace, their standard of living, education and health was greatly raised and throughout the Empire British officials took pride in administering justice with the same incorruptible impartiality as it has for long been administered in England. The majority of these peoples are now being given independence and left to rule themselves. It is to be anticipated that, in Africa at least, a new, if temporary, Dark Age will set in, during which ambitious and corrupt native politicians will make themselves Dictators, despoil their people and again involve them in murderous local wars; or that agitators will suborn them into accepting Communism and becoming satellites of either Russia or China. But we may hope that the traditions of the British Raj will not altogether perish, and that in due course a new Renaissance will bring them again justice. Toleration and true liberty.

162. The Statue of Liberty, which stands at the entrance to New York Harbour. The waging by Britain of two World Wars to retain those liberties of the individual which the citizens of her Empire have long enjoyed, left her exhausted; and modern World opinion, which calls for all people, however ignorant and backward, to be given self-government, has brought twilight to her as an Imperial Power. Into both these wars the great United States came to her assistance only belatedly and has now emerged as the richest and most powerful nation in the world. The finest traditions of the United States are inherited from Britain and the responsibilities that Britain shouldered for so long are now hers. She alone now has the might to defend democracy. The free peoples of the world now put their trust in her, that with honour, courage and wisdom she will keep the Torch of Liberty alight so that, in the words of her greatest citizen, "government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

DESCRIPTION OF STAMPS ON TABLE

<u>No.</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Year of issue</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Spain	1930	40c	Blue
2	Colombia	1938	20c	Black
3	Spain	1937	25c	Red
4	Nicaragua	1892	50c	Violet
5	United States	1893	2c	Purple
6	Costa Rica	1923	10c	Brown
7	Honduras	1892	2c	Blue
8	Spain	1948	35c	Black
9	Guatemala	1943	15c	Blue
10	Panama	1909	2c	Black & Red
11	Belgium	1955	2f	Green
12	Spain	1889	2c	Black
13	Spain	1928	3c	Black & olive
14	Spain	1955	3p	Blue
15	Gibraltar	1938	3d	Blue
16	U.S. Internal Revenue		10c	Blue
17	United States	1869	1c	Blue
18	United States	1869	10c	Brown
19	United States	1922	10c	Yellow
20	United States	1959	1c	Green
21	United States	1922	5c	Blue
22	United States	1922	17c	Black
23	France	1939	90c	Blue
24	Mozambique	1938	1e75	Blue
25	Nyasa	1924	50c	Violet
26	Madeira	1898	2 1/2c	Green
27	Portugal	1898	5r	Black
28	Venezuela	1882	5c	Green
29	Chile	1910	1c	Green
30	Portugal	1910	2 1/2r	Violet
31	Newfoundland	1897	2c	Red
32	Canada	1908	1c	Green
33	Newfoundland	1933	1c	Black
34	Barbados	1906	1d	Black, brown & green
35	Newfoundland	1910	1c	Green
36	New Zealand	1940	2d	Green & brown
37	Cook Islands	1932	1d	Blue & red
38	New Zealand	1940	3d	Purple & red
39	Australia	1956	2/-	mulicoloured
40	Canada	1927	2c	Green
41	France	1935	1f 50c	Red
42	France	1938	5f	Blue
43	France	1951	50f	Brown
44	France	1957	35f	Magenta & red
45	France	1945	30f	Brown
46	France	1944	4f+6f	Orange
47	France	1938	55c	Green
48	France	1937	90c	Red
49	France	1946	12f	Brown
50	France	1946	18f	Maroon
51	France	1954	12f	Red

52	Barbados	1950	4c	Red
53	Austria	1908	2p	Violet
54	Austria	1908	6p	Brown
55	Austria	1908	12p	Red
56	Russia	1914	1k	Green & red on yellow
57	Sweden	1920	20 o	Violet
58	Russia	1913	1k	Orange
59	Russia	1916	20k on 14	Green
60	Russia	1913	35k	Green on violet
61	Malta	1899	1/4d	Brown
62	Russia	1913	20k	Olive
63	Germany	1933	12pf	Red
64	France	1938	65c+35c	Brown
65	Great Britain	1841	1d	Brown
66	Canada	1870	5c	Green
67	Niger. Coast	1894	1/2d	Green
68	Canada	1935	10c	Green
69	Canada	1897	1/2c	Black
70	Newfoundland	1897	2c	Red
71	Belgium	1930	60c	Purple
72	Luxembourg	1914	10c	Claret
73	Belgium	1930	1f	Red
74	Belgian Congo	1928	60c	Sepia
75	Southern Rhodesia	1940	1 1/2d	Black & brown
76	Monaco	1924	1f	Black on yellow
77	Italy (Garibaldi)	Local stamp		
78	Italy	1938	50c	Red
79	Italy	1938	50c	Brown
80	San Marino	1894	25c	Claret & blue
81	Germany	1961	10pf	Green
82	Poland	1923	100m	Slate
83	Netherlands	1936	12 1/2c	Blue
84	Vatican City	1933	21 50c	Brown & blue
85	Greece	1896	1d	Blue
86	Netherlands	1937	121/2c+31/2c	Blue
87	Egypt	1933	20m	Brown & green
88	Greece	1924	2d	Black & violet
89	Rumania	1903	1b	Brown
90	Rumania	1907	15b	
			10b	Brown & black
91	Rumania	1934	6l	Lake
92	Bulgaria	1918	1s	Slate
93	Turkey	1939	6k	Brown
94	Belgium	1930	35C	Green
95	Spain	1961	80c	Black, green & brown
96	Spain	1930	5c	Blue & olive
97	Germany	1926	20pf	Green
98	Germany	1935	12pf	Green
99	Germany	1935	25pf	Blue
100	Germany	1926	5pf	Green
101	Hungary	1938	20f	Red
102	Russia	1937	10k	Brown
103	Denmark	1935	15o	Red
104	France	1936	50c+10c	Red
105	France	1936	1f+50c+50c	Blue
106	France	1939	2f 25c	Blue

107	France	1945	4f 1f	Brown
108	Russia	1935	10k	Brown & blue
109	Rumania	1959	55b	Black
110	East Germany	1953	24pf	Brown & yellow
111	Russia	1935	5k	Red
112	Austria	1908	50p	Green
113	Austria	1918	2k	Red on buff
114	Poland	1928	50g	Slate
115	Lithuania	1932	5c	Purple & red
117	Lithuania	1932	60c	Black & orange
118	Lithuania	1932	1l	Black & blue
119	Czechoslovakia	1928	3k	Sepia
120	Austria	1934	25g	Black
121	Rhodesia	1910	1d	Red
122	India	1935	1a	Black & brown
123	China	1931	1d	Sepia & brown
124	India	1949	1a	Blue
125	Japan	1937	7x	Green
126	Papua	1907	1/2d	Black & green
127	Trinidad	1909	1/2d	Green
128	Germany	1902	80pf	Black & purple on buff
129	Bavaria	1911	5pf	Yellow, read & black
130	Jamaica	1919	1 1/2d	Green
131	France	1940	1f 50c	Violet
132	Belgium	1919	5c	Green
133	Belgium	1929	35c	Green
134	Belgium	1935	1f75+25c	Blue and Black
135	Surinam	1936	50c	Green
136	Germany	1928	25pf	Blue
137	Russia	1913	10k	Blue
138	Russia	1924	20k	Black & red
139	Russia	1938	80k	Black & Red
140	Czechoslovakia	1953	1k.50h	Black
141	Russia	1932	10k	Blue
142	Russia	1937	40k	Violet
143	Russia	1937	50k	Brown
144	Italy	1941	11.25+11	Blue
145	Germany	1956	20pf	Claret
146	Germany	1939	6pf+19pf	Blue
147	Great Britain	1936	1 1/2d	Brown
148	New Zealand	1938	3/-	Brown & grey
149	Southern Rhodesia	1937	6d	Black & purple
150	Great Britain	1948	2 1/2d	Blue
151	Jamaica	1938	2/-	Blue & brown
152	St. Vincent	1938	3d	Orange & purple
153	Pitcairn Islands	1940	1/-	Violet & grey
154	France	1957	30f	Myrtle
155	France	1954	100f	Brown & blue
156	Great Britain	1953	4d	Blue
157	New Zealand	1953	1/9d	Black & orange
158	Ceylon	1946	6c	Blue
159	Italy	1929	7 1/2c	Violet
160	Italy	1937	1I+I	Blue
161	Canada	1898		Black, red & brown
162	United States	1934	8c	Red and blue.

All © Dennis Wheatley