

History Lesson —C. 2900 A.D. A Hopeful Fantasy

(Written for The Listener by
WHIM-WHAM)

NOW Boys, as Most of you should know,
About Nine Hundred Years ago—
On Page Sixteen you'll find the Dates—
The World was formed of separate States
Each having its own Government,
And great Armed Forces to prevent
Attack. Some did indeed endeavour
To keep some Sort of Peace; however,
The Upshot was, the World was more
Or Less continually at War
Throughout this Time, especially
The early Twentieth Century.

Johnson, I've told you once to-day,
Don't fiddle with that pocket Ray.
You'll hurt Someone.

The Class had done
The Chapters about World War One.
Skip War in Spain, and Slump, and turn
To Chapter Seven. There we learn
How Germany—but first of All,
What did the Twentieth Century call
The German State? Smith, look alive!
World Culture Canton Number Five?
That's China. No, the German State
Is Culture Canton Number Eight.
Some Boys are slacking here. Now then,
The German State grew strong again.
A Leader, hitherto obscure,
Named Hitler, or "the German Fure,"
Convinced that Germans were designed
To conquer and to rule Mankind,
By Propaganda, Persecution,
Infected with his own Delusion
Most of that miserable Race;
Though every Nation had a Trace
Of It, in Germany, it seems,
It ran to virulent Extremes.
Italians took the same Disease,
So likewise did the Japanese,
And thus inevitably these
Three Powers formed what's called a
Pact,
Or Axis, to be more exact—
Please note the Terms, archaic, odd,
But vital in this Period.
This paved the Way for World War
Two:
At present, it's Enough for You
To know this last and worst of Wars
Had at least One immediate Cause
Which was the German State's Demand
For Lebensraum, a Place somewhere
In Poland—but our History there
Is Vague; some Experts have persisted
In holding no such Place existed
As Lebensraum, and Others try
To prove it was a Battle Cry.
However,

Jenkins, if—you—please,
Our Subject's World Antiquities,
NOT Bio-chemistry. Just bring
Those White Mice here — the very
Thing:—
And see me Afterwards.

Now then,
I'll tell you about three Great Men
Of ancient Times when Wars occurred:
Churchvelt and Roosevelt, and the
Third,
A Russian named Jo-stalin. Those
Three men in Time of Need arose
To lead the Free World—free, albeit
Unused to Freedom as we see it—
Against the Axis. Long they waged
That War. Six years the battles raged,
Famine, Disease, and Desolation
Erupting Nation after Nation.
Yes, Williams?

Please Sir, what's a Famine?
That was a word the Ancients had
For Shortages of Food, my Lad,
When people died of hunger. Now
Time's up. Next week we'll deal with
how

The Axis Nations were defeated
And World Security began. It's treated
You'll find, in Chapter Nine, quite fully.
Now you may go.

You little Bully!
Wilkins, stop punching Jackson's Nose!
Miss Mullet, see that Wilkins goes
At once to Matron for Inspection
And 'Anti-Bellicose Injection!

THE WAR IN CARTOONS

CARTOONISTS have not exerted the same influence in the second world war as they did in the first, but they have been very active just the same. On these two pages we have collected examples of cartoons from different countries, including Germany. Those below are in chronological order. The small one to the right of this paragraph, called "Totalitarian Eclipse," comes from Natal, South Africa.



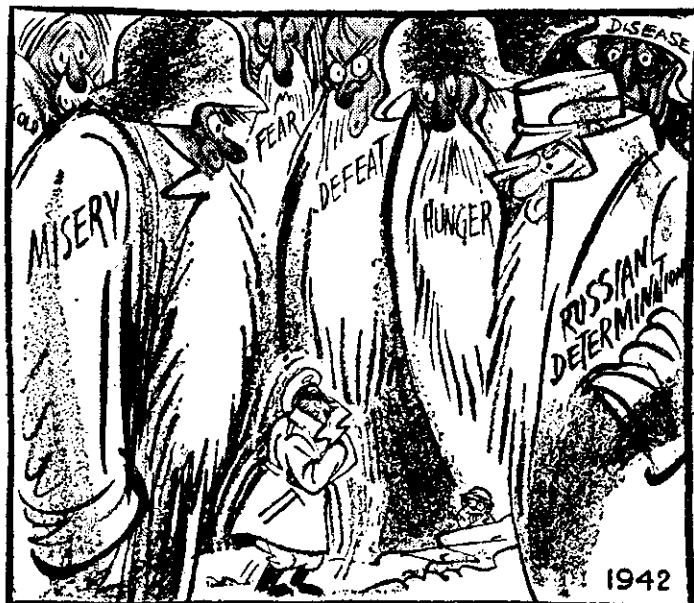
"Ooo, That Wicked Chamberlain! See What He's Going to Make Me Do Now!"



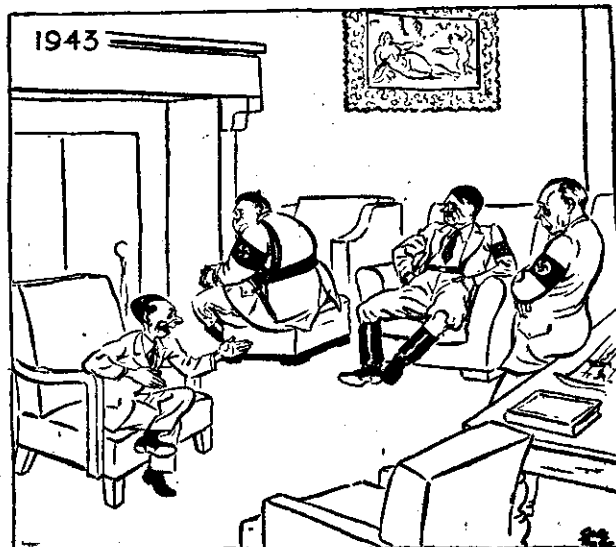
"The Wooing of Japan."—London.



"Running Over the Script."—Panama.



Snowfright and the Seven Giants.—South Africa.



"... And As for Those Post-war Trials, We Can Always Plead insanity."—New York.



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"Rehabilitation."—Minhinnick, Auckland.