

FRENCH WARSHIPS WHICH NATIONAL LEADERS: Anthony Eden

HAVE VISITED NEW ZEALAND

SINCE the last war several well-known ships of the French Fleet have visited New Zealand, either for repairs or on goodwill tours.

The most recent visitor was the Dumont d'Urville, which arrived from Saigon, Indo-China, only a few months ago, to be present at the Centenary celebrations at Akaroa as the representative of the French Government. Because of the illness of the late Prime Minister, the Right Hon. M. J. Savage, the celebrations were postponed, but the warship paid her official visit to Akaroa, taking as passengers from Wellington the French Consul, M. André Pouquet, and Madame Pouquet. After spending a

time she was commanded by Commandant Abrial, now an Admiral. He was recently decorated by the British Government for his work during the evacuation of the Allied forces from Dunkirk.

Another French Admiral recently in the news, Admiral Decoux, visited New Zealand some years ago when he was in command of the sloop Cassiopée. Since the German occupation of France he has been appointed the new Governor of French Indo-China.

Other French warships and gun-boats to visit New Zealand were the Savorgnan de Brazza, the Admiral Charner and the Aldabaran. Each visit has been a happy occasion for French residents in New Zealand and for New Zealanders who are students of the French language. French Clubs, which are branches of the Alliance Française and have a large membership in Auckland and Wellington, always entertained the visiting officers and men and, in return, were entertained in the ships. These visits enabled French-speaking New Zealanders to exercise their knowledge of the language and, similarly, the visitors were able to improve their knowledge of English.



regarded as a critical period in our history. There was a great outcry when he resigned that office.

Anthony Eden is 43, the second son of a baronet. At Oxford University he took his B.A. degree with First Class Honours in Oriental Languages after he returned from the last war, where he fought from 1915 to 1919 with the King's Royal Rifle Corps. At 18 he was a 2nd Lieut.; at the end of the war he had gained his M.C. and was Brigade Major.

In 1923 Anthony Eden married a daughter of the Hon. Sir Gervase Beckett, one of the leading newspaper proprietors of England. After that he dabbled in journalism and in 1925 he attended the Imperial Press Conference in Melbourne, afterwards coming on to New Zealand. The year of his marriage also saw his entry to the House of Commons as member for Warwick and Leamington, a seat which he has held ever since. Three years later he became a private secretary to Sir Austen Chamberlain who was then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; in 1931 he was appointed Parliamentary Under Secretary to the Foreign Office. From 1934 to '35 he was Lord Privy Seal and the following year Minister without Portfolio for League of Nations Affairs.

Mr. Eden has always advocated an anti-Fascist and anti-Nazi policy. He has two sons at school.

THE defence of Britain is now the responsibility of the Right Hon. Robert Anthony Eden, P.C., M.C., Minister of State for War in Mr. Churchill's Cabinet. His choice of commanding officers for that onerous duty has been made, and reports on their activities, at least those which are permitted to be released, are encouraging.

From 1935 until 1938 he was Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, now

Echelon Required For Soldiers' Mail

Now that the units of the New Zealand Expeditionary Force are divided — the 1st Echelon in Egypt and the 2nd Echelon in England—it will be necessary to mark the number of the echelon distinctly on letters being sent to soldiers overseas.

The Postmaster-General, the Hon. P. C. Webb, emphasises the necessity for the use of the full address on any letter or parcel for troops overseas and, in addition, the number of the echelon with which those men sailed.

If letters and parcels are not marked "1st Echelon" or "2nd Echelon," as the case may be, considerable delay may be caused by despatching such mail to the wrong country. Full and accurate addresses are of great help to postal officials both in New Zealand and overseas.

Vichy and its Springs

Vichy, where the Bordeaux Government has been in session since the German occupation of France, is known to the world because of its famous mineral waters, millions of bottles of which are exported annually. Here in New Zealand large quantities of Vichy water are sold each year. The town is one of the most lovely in France. It is in the very heart of the country, situated on the banks of the River Allier. On either side of the river stretch great areas of rolling hills covered with vineyards and orchards. Vichy is the most celebrated watering place in France because of the benefit derived from its mineral springs, the temperature of which ranges from 54

deg. to 113 deg. F. Although these springs were well known to the Romans, who used them extensively, they did not become popular in Europe until the 19th century when Napoleon III. made them famous and sent everyone there to take the waters. Among the town's famous buildings are the ruins of the old Roman baths.

Kiel and the Canal

Kiel, over which British 'planes flew recently to bomb the docks and the German cruiser Scharnhorst, lies at the head of a bay on the Baltic. It has great ship-

building yards, slips and wet and dry docks, and is the beginning of the canal which connects the North Sea with the Baltic. Before the outbreak of the last war Kiel was the headquarters of the German Baltic Fleet and the opening of the canal to ships of war greatly increased the strategic value of the German Grand Fleet. The original Kiel Canal was opened in 1895, but in those days ships of only 120 tons could pass through it. In 1887 the canal was enlarged and extended to Brunsbüttel, at the mouth of the River Elbe. Then, in 1908, the depth of the canal was again increased, this time to allow the passage of battle cruisers, but it was not finished until after the outbreak of the last war, at a cost of £11,000,000. The canal is strongly defended, both at Kiel on the Baltic and at Brunsbüttel on the North Sea, where there is another naval base.

Hero of Calais

Brigadier Claude Nicholson, whose gallantry in refusing to surrender Calais during the German advance was revealed recently by General Gough, was only 42 years of age. At 19 he was a captain serving with his regiment in France, where he remained until the Armistice of 1918. Brigadier Nicholson was gazetted 2nd lieutenant with the 16th Lancers in 1916. After the war he served with his regiment as adjutant of his battalion and then went to the War Office in 1930 as General Staff Officer (3). From 1932 to 1934 he commanded an officers' training corps of cadets at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Then he was appointed G.S.O. (2) at the Staff College until 1937.

INDEX

Aunt Daisy	43-45	Old Man Milon	10
Boxing	55	Our Greatest Book	22
Chart	28-29	Programmes:	
Cynthia's Mistake	16	Commercial	49-53
Do You Know?	13	National	24-39
DX Notes	54	Overseas	54
Editorial	5	Puzzles	21
Extracts from Talks	8	Shortwaves	7
Farming Front	12	Stars of To-morrow	48
Generals on the Mat	14	Static	6
In the Programmes	9	Things to Come	6-7
Land of Olives	18	War Diary	2-4
Letters	5	Women	40-42
Mine-laying	3	Young Playwrights	19
		Your Garden	55
		ZB News	46-47

few days in the south the Dumont d'Urville left again to take up duty on one of the ocean routes.

Before the recent tragic circumstances intervened and forced the British Navy to take action against units of their former companions in arms, a cruiser of the French Navy helped to convoy the troopships of the 1st Echelon of the New Zealand and Australian Expeditionary Forces to Egypt.

Another French warship, the Rigault de Genouilly, which was recently reported sunk off Algiers, called at Auckland a few years ago. She was a gun-boat of the French Colonial service. The Jeanne d'Arc has also paid an official visit to New Zealand within the last two years, spending some days at both Wellington and Auckland.

The largest French warship of recent years to visit the Dominion was the Tourville, a new cruiser which was making her first world tour. At that