

LORD STRABOLGI SUMS UP--- Cont'd. from P. 1.

the "Record" on a wide variety of topics.

Some of his views were terse, some cryptic, all interesting. Here are questions and answers.

Is it true that there is a growing tendency towards Fascism in Britain? There have been rumours of Press control by Lord Halifax.

No, said Lord Strabolgi. English people won't stand for it, and Fascism there has lost ground. The present Government in England would like to control the Press, but have not been able to get away with it yet.

Asked whether there was any truth in the statement in the British House of Commons by Liberal Geoffrey Le M. Mander that newsreel films of Czechoslovakia had been banned for political reasons, Lord Strabolgi said there had been some unofficial pressure through the American Ambassador.

Is the Spanish position not a paradox? asked the "Record." Is it not true that appeasement can only come through a rebel victory which will challenge Britain's position in the Mediterranean?

The Spanish position is not a paradox, said Lord Strabolgi, but a scandal and disgrace.

Rebel victory would be very dangerous for British interests and French interests and for democracy everywhere.

Therefore, in their own interests the democracies should see that the Loyalists received assistance.

How? asked the "Record."

By giving the Loyalists the right to buy arms, said Lord Strabolgi, by denouncing the so-called Non-intervention Committee, which has been a farce and has had its rules violated by the dictators, and restoring the status quo before the committee came into existence.

Is a General Election likely? Will the British Government go to the country?

Not till the autumn, when they have to, said Lord Strabolgi. If a man knows he is going to be hanged and can choose his time, will he choose the spring or the autumn?

Is there a chance that Labour will be returned in Britain?

Every chance.

What is the general attitude in Britain about returning the former German colonies?

Dead against.

What more does Germany want for her Empire?

All she can get.

Is there ever a likelihood at some future time of Britain uprooting herself and going to Canada or Australia?

No.

Are serious crises likely in the year 1939?

It depends how seriously we take them.

Will the Duke of Windsor go back to England?

Yes. As a peer.

Should not Britain set up a Ministry of Propaganda to combat the propaganda of the totalitarian States?

No. Emphatically not.

IN all his public statements since he came to New Zealand, dark, massive Lord Strabolgi has stressed the fact that the real danger to world peace and the Empire at present lies in the position of Spain.

Fascist victory in Spain, he considers, would make Britain's

strategic position serious indeed from the naval viewpoint, both for the Atlantic and Mediterranean Fleets.

European dictators, he says, are bluffing, stirring up the waters of world affairs so that they can catch the fish.

Germany and Italy, he holds, are not in an economically safe position to go to war, but the best people in Germany would welcome a war solely for the purpose of ridding the country of the Hitler regime.

Just a million and a half of the members of the Nazi Party have got control of the means of Government—police, weapons, and so on—have coerced the rest of the people.

Danger is that dictators in Germany and Italy may de-

cide on war as a last desperate throw because of growing economic difficulties or internal dissensions.

Against this is the American change of attitude under Roosevelt, and the fact that Britain is becoming much more powerful with a strong Fleet and an Air Force that is growing rapidly in numbers and efficiency.

Declares his lordship: "If one looks back through history, one finds that as a rule a big war occurs only once in a hundred years. It takes that length of time to recover from one, be in a position to foot the bill for another."

ALL his life impatient of official red-tape, Lord Strabolgi has ever given his opinions with ardour and sailorly candour.

But for a lecture at his prep. school, which fired his imagina-

tion with tales of Polar exploration and eventually made a sailor of him, he would have entered the Church, post-war politics might have been less lively.

As Lieutenant-Commander Kenworthy, before he succeeded to the family title, he was a brilliant younger member of Parliament on the Labour side.

Title of his lordship, pronounced Straboji, is hereditary, goes back to 1318. Present holder succeeded in 1934.

His life has been crowded, stormy and colourful. He believes that "by the time most of us have died through natural causes at the accepted age, my generation will have lived through the most interesting and exciting period of European history since the downfall of the Roman Empire."

This World of Ours

Rome hails England as Italy's understanding friend. Caesar Borgia called people his pals too.

The pain of one maiden's refusal is drowned in the pain of the next.—Old jingle.

They Say . . .

MUSSOLINI was entertaining a foreign visitor in Venice. To impress him with the dog-like loyalty of his stooges, Mussolini called a man from the street, ordered him to jump from the balcony window.

Instantly the man jumped, pulping himself on the pavement below. A second victim obeyed a similar command.

A third was summoned, but the sickened foreigner intervened: "Don't jump; save your life," he implored. "You don't call this a life, do you," cracked back the Fascist—saying which, he, too, jumped.

O, Dearie Me

A STORM of protest, led by Dr. Dafeo, has arisen in Northern Ontario over the failure of the Canadian Government to include a visit to the Dionne quintuplets in their Majesties' itinerary, though they are scheduled to pass an hour in Sudbury, only 80 miles away from the home of the quintuplets.—Press cable.

The King asked the Queen and the Queen asked Dafeo-the-doc.

"Must we see this Sudbury before we got to bed?"

Dafeo-the-doc was peeved and he went to her Majesty, Dafeo-the-doc, he curtsied and he shook an angry head.

"Excuse me, your Majesty, for taking of the liberty, But quintuplets are nicer, and they're not too thickly spread."

The King said "Bother!"; the King sobbed "O, dearie me, It's just this silly ballyhoo that makes us chaps turn Red."

Not Cricket, Sir

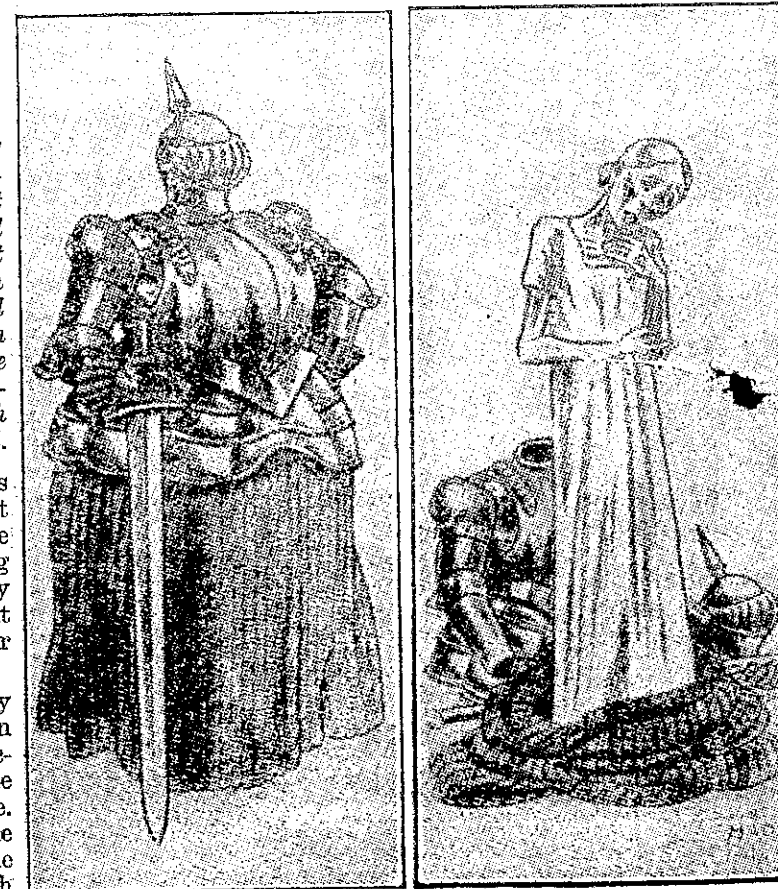
"In New Zealand, Sir Harry Batterbee would be undertaking very important work, but he was 'a carefully selected bottle of champagne of excellent vintage,' and he would launch the new office on a long and happy voyage."—Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, Secretary to the Dominions, at a farewell in London to the new British High Commissioner to New Zealand.

With these rather careless words, Mr. MacDonald has lent colour to the suspicions of those of us who have thought all along that there was something pretty sinister about the appointment of a British High Commissioner to New Zealand this year.

Asked to comment exclusively for this page, a well-known Labour chap said: "Mr. MacDonald has let the cat out of the bag this time with a vengeance. It wouldn't be so bad if the High Commissioner had come out as, or even qua, a High Commissioner, but this new idea of smuggling him in disguised, apparently, as a bottle of champagne, is little short of revolt-

ing. In our view, if they had to do it at all, it would have done better to have sent him out as a bottle of Bass, which is less class-conscious, if you see what I mean. Even then, however, the principle behind the whole affair is not right. It isn't the sort of thing you'd expect a cricketing nation to do, and even marble players wouldn't stoop so low. However, we'll probably catch him," said the Labour chap, rubbing his hands, "we doubt if there'll be an import licence granted to bring him in as spirituous liquor."

"What concerns us even more," added the Labour chap bitterly, "is that it sets a dangerous precedent. Already there's a bit of a panic in the House over rumours that the next thing will be a lightning tour of the country by Mr. A-d-m H-m-l-n, disguised as a bottle of liver salts and worming his way into the internal affairs of the Government. Goodness knows what upsets that might cause, especially since we hear there's quite a chance of his slipping in a crystal or two of weedkiller as well."



—"Marianne," Paris

GERMANY

Abroad:

"I want the whole world"

At Home:

"I want some butter"