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Cultural Relations and U.S. Foreign Policy

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esoteric research of economics majors or graduate students, but for the easy comprehension of anyone motivated to read it, the book points up, among other things, problems of comparing standards of living between nations, where definition of terms is not consistent, standard nor agreed upon.


In this recounting of the events leading to and resulting from the Munich Pact of September 1939, Keith Eubank has produced an extremely well-detailed and documented chronicle of that fateful meeting. The greater portion of the book is virtually an hour-by-hour review of every action of each of the principals involved. The detail is staggering, and goes to great lengths to relate the story of the agreement which has come to be universally equated with appeasement and even cowardice. The author neither defends nor blames the leading actors in the drama—Chamberlain, Halifax, Bonnet and Daladier. Instead, he meticulously identifies every facet of the problems faced by them in dealing with Hitler at a time when both Britain and France were neither morally nor physically prepared to go to war to defend distant Czechoslovakia, over a question about which they knew or cared little. Mr. Eubank’s meticulous research takes the reader into countless conference and meeting rooms and allows him to witness the rantings of Hitler, the forbearance of the British, and the frustration of the Czechs. The results of the Munich Pact are now history, but were accurately predicted by Emile Krofta, Czech Foreign Minister, at the time of Munich, when he said, ‘We are certainly not the last: after us, there are others who will be affected and who will suffer from those decisions.’ Munich is surely an outstanding documentary showing the diplomatic maneuverings which resulted in the fateful decisions. It is an unbiased and objective encyclopedia of the failure of diplomacy without power.


This book presents a precise and quite detailed résumé of the cultural exchange activities in which the United States has participated during the past 25 years. It traces this country’s efforts through private organizations, semi-official groups, and official government agencies. The term ‘cultural’ is used in its
broadest sense, and includes not only the fine arts, music, drama and literature, but sports, education, scientific and technical knowledge, and other endeavors of this nature as well. There is coverage of the efforts of organizations within the United Nations and of the Peace Corps. The authors contend that sincere, two-way cultural exchanges are now, and will continue to be, a necessary and vital action in support of the foreign policy objectives of the United States. In this connection, the text presents the general features which must characterize a large, well-planned, long-range program that would be carried out through effective co-ordination of government and private efforts. The historical analysis, which takes up two thirds of the book, is exceptionally well documented and should serve as excellent reference material for any student interested in tracing the development of the present United States cultural exchange programs.