

Chapter 1 : Twenty-five Years, - Edward Grey Grey of Fallodon (Viscount) - Google Books

*Twenty-five years, , [Edward Grey Grey of Fallodon] on blog.quintoapp.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. Volume 1 and Volume blog.quintoapp.comck, ex-library, with usual stamps and markings, in poor all round condition.*

Anthony Eden and Lord Halifax. Grey attended Temple Grove School from until Apparently an indolent student, he was tutored by Mandell Creighton during the vacations and managed a second class honours degree in Honour Moderations. Grey subsequently became even more idle, using his time to become university champion at real tennis. Returning to the University of Oxford in the autumn of , Grey switched to studying jurisprudence law in the belief that it would be an easier option, but by January he had been expelled. Nonetheless, he was allowed to return to sit his final examination. Grey returned in the summer and achieved Third Class honours. Grey left university with no clear career plan and in the summer of he asked a neighbour, Lord Northbrook , at the time First Lord of the Admiralty , to find him "serious and unpaid employment. Grey had shown no particular interest in politics whilst at university, but by the summer of Northbrook found him "very keen on politics," and after the Egyptian conference had ended found him a position as an unpaid assistant private secretary to Hugh Childers , the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He was not called in the Home Rule debate, but was nonetheless convinced by Gladstone and Morley of the rightness of the cause. A year later Grey summoned up the courage to make a maiden speech, at a similar period to Asquith. During the debate over the Land Purchase Bill he began "an association and friendship" with Haldane, which was "thus strengthened as years went on". The nascent imperialists voted against "this passing exception". Grey would later claim that at this point he had had no special training nor paid special attention to foreign affairs. There was continuity in presentation and preparation during the Scramble for Africa ; foreign policy was not an election issue. The Liberals continued to incline towards the Triple Alliance , causing the press to write of a "Quadruple Alliance". Grey later dated his first suspicions of future Anglo-German disagreements to his early days in office, after Germany had sought commercial concessions from Britain in the Ottoman Empire ; in return they would promise support for a British position in Egypt. According to Grey, Kimberley suggested "pretty firm language. He seems to have left office with few regrets, noting, "I shall never be in office again and the days of my stay in the House of Commons are probably numbered. We [he and his wife] are both very glad and relieved Asquith and his allies Grey and Richard Haldane would refuse to serve in the next Liberal government unless the Liberal leader Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman accepted a peerage, which would have left Asquith as the real leader in the House of Commons. The plot called the " Relugas Compact " after the Scottish lodge where the men met collapsed when Asquith agreed to serve as Chancellor of the Exchequer under Campbell-Bannerman. Haldane became Secretary of State for War. The party won a landslide victory in the general election. In the event, Grey continued as Foreign Secretary, and held office for 11 years to the day, the longest continuous tenure in that office. Anglo-Russian Entente [edit] See also: Agadir Crisis Grey did not welcome the prospect of a renewed crisis over Morocco: Initially Grey tried to restrain both France and Spain, but by the spring of he had failed on both counts. Grey believed that, whether he liked it or not, his hands were tied by the terms of the Entente cordiale. The despatch of the German gunboat Panther to Agadir served to strengthen French resolve and, because he was determined both to protect the agreement with France and also to block German attempts at expansion around the Mediterranean, it pushed Grey closer to France. Grey, however, tried to calm the situation, merely commenting on the "abrupt" nature of the German intervention, and insisting that Britain must participate in any discussions about the future of Morocco. Grey at this point was resisting efforts by the Foreign Office to support French intransigence. By the time a second cabinet was held on 21 July, Grey had adopted a tougher position, suggesting that he propose to Germany that a multi-national conference be held, and that were Germany to refuse to participate "we should take steps to assert and protect British interests. He visited Germany and invited their delegation to the Windsor Castle Conference in They returned several times, with Haldane acting as interpreter. His attempts to mediate the dispute between Austria-Hungary and Serbia were ignored by both sides. On 16 July, British ambassador to Austria-Hungary advised that Austria-Hungary regarded the Serbian government as having been complicit in

the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife , and would have to act if Austria-Hungary was not to lose her position as a Great Power. The British Cabinet were preoccupied with the crisis in Ulster , and Grey failed to realize the urgency of the situation, and chose to await further developments. On 24 July, the French ambassador in London tried to waken Grey to the realization that once Austrian forces crossed the Serbian border, it would be too late for mediation. Grey again proposed a four-power conference on 26 July. He also suggested that Russia and Austria-Hungary should be encouraged to negotiate. The other powers were open to the idea, but Germany had other intentions. Asquith, Grey and Haldane had a late night talk at the Foreign Office. Firstly, the Armed Forces were placed on alert the "Precautionary Period" was declared and the War Book was opened at 2pm. Grey was authorised to tell the German and French ambassadors that Britain had not yet made a decision as to whether or on what terms to join in or stand aside. Besides issues of party management many Liberal MPs, including at least a third of the Cabinet, and the Liberal press apart from the Westminster Gazette, wanted Britain to stay out , Asquith and Grey genuinely believed that openly backing France and Russia would make them more intransigent, without necessarily deterring Germany. German forces were already massed at the Belgian border, and Helmuth von Moltke convinced Kaiser Wilhelm II it was too late to change the plan of attack. At a meeting with Prince Lichnowsky , the German Ambassador, early on 1 August, Grey stated the conditions necessary for Britain to remain neutral, but perhaps with a lack of clarity. Grey did not make it clear that Britain would not ignore a breach of the Treaty of London , to respect and protect the neutrality of Belgium. Nor it seems did he make it clear that Britain would support Russia, for at The Cabinet were divided, but with the notable exception of Churchill predominantly against war. Grey threatened to resign if the Cabinet pledged not to intervene under any circumstances. The first of two Cabinets on Sunday 2 August was from 11am to 2pm. After much difficulty it was agreed that Grey should tell Cambon and the Germans that the Royal Navy would not allow the German navy to conduct hostile operations in the Channel the French fleet was concentrated in the Mediterranean, under an Anglo-French naval agreement of That afternoon Grey made an hour-long speech to the House of Commons. We shall not see them lit again in our time. On the afternoon of Tuesday 4 August the House of Commons was informed that an ultimatum had been given to Germany expiring midnight Berlin time 11pm in London. In terms of public appeal, the Liberals made a great deal of German violation of Belgian neutrality, but this was not the main cause for its decision to go to war. He exhibited a judicious understanding of European affairs, a firm control of his staff, and a suppleness and tact in diplomacy, but he had no boldness, no imagination, no ability to command men and events. During the war, Grey worked with Marquess of Crewe to press an initially reluctant ambassador to the United States, Sir Cecil Spring Rice , to raise the issue of the Hindu-German Conspiracy with the American government; this ultimately led to the unfolding of the entire plot. In the early years of the war, Grey oversaw negotiation of important secret agreements with new allies Italy and the Arab rebels and with France and Russia the Sykes-Picot Agreement which, among other provisions, assigned postwar control of the Turkish Straits to Russia. Otherwise, Asquith and Grey generally preferred to avoid discussion of war aims for fear of raising an issue that might fracture the Entente. In a 12 February paper the new Chief of the Imperial General Staff William Robertson proposed that the Allies offer a separate peace to Turkey, or offer Turkish territory to Bulgaria to encourage Bulgaria to break with the Central Powers and make peace, so as to allow British forces in that theatre to be redeployed against Germany. Grey replied that Britain needed her continental allies more than they needed her, and imperial interests could not incur the risk e. Grey was one of those Liberal ministers who contemplated joining Sir John Simon Home Secretary in resigning in protest at the conscription of bachelors, due to be enacted in January , but he did not do so. By mid July Lord Robert Cecil , a moderate and staunchly pro- League of Nations Conservative, was keen for a party realignment under Grey, who was also a strong supporter of the League. Grey wanted British troops simply pulled out of Ireland and the Irish left to sort themselves out, a solution likened by Roy Jenkins to the British withdrawal from India in Cecil wanted a genuine coalition rather than a de facto Liberal government, with Grey rather than Asquith as Prime Minister, and an official manifesto by himself and Grey which the official Liberal leaders Asquith and Lord Crewe would then endorse. Grey himself was not keen, and his eyesight would have been a major handicap to his becoming Prime Minister. He missed the third

meeting, saying that he was feeding squirrels in Northumberland, and was late for the fourth. He did, however, make a move by speaking in his former constituency in October , to little effect, after which the move for a party realignment fizzled out. Widdrington, of Newton Hall, Northumberland, in There were no children from either marriage. During his university years Grey represented his college at football and was also an excellent tennis player being Oxford champion in and winning the varsity competition the same year and won the British championship in , , , and He was runner-up in , and , years in which he held office. He continued to fish by touch after his deteriorating eye-sight meant he was no longer able to see the fly or a rising fish. He was also an avid ornithologist ; one of the best-known photographs of him shows him with a robin perched on his hat; *The Charm of Birds* was published in He was among his Liberal friends Asquith and Haldane, a member of the Coefficients dining club of social reformers set up in by the Fabian campaigners Sidney and Beatrice Webb. Lord Grey remained a widower until his death at Fallodon on 7 September , aged 71, following which he was cremated at Darlington.

Chapter 2 : Twenty-Five Years, by Edward Grey

Twenty-Five Years, has 2 ratings and 0 reviews: Published by Hodder and Stoughton.

Without question, Grey was a talented writer and a sagacious observer of the European political scene. He provides us with a front-row seat, as it were, at the various crises in , , and and eloquently reminds us of how close Europe came to the brink of war. But beneath the veneer of his soft-spoken, self deprecating manner lies a man of passionate opinion and stubborn predilection. Contrary to world opinion, for instance, Grey believed that the Boer War was a noble British cause and the absorption of the Boer republics was entirely justified by the policies of Paul Kruger. As a young lad, Grey absorbed the French version of the Franco-Prussian war on the knee of his adored Francophile father and, later, his grandfather. In his introduction, Grey wrote: My age was then about 8 years and. I replied that I was on the side of the Germans. My father had been in the Rifle Brigade and had fought in alliance with the French in the Crimea. My answer did not please him; he reproved me for my preference, and I relapsed into the indifference from which, but for his question, I should never have emerged. It must have been a few months later that I was called out onto the balcony at Fallodon on a winter evening to see a display of the Aurora Borealis. A great part of the sky was not only irradiated with light, but suffused with pink. The recollection of the apparition has always been very positive and distinct to me, and I have never, in after-years, seen any display of Aurora Borealis that approached this. It may be, therefore, that imagination has enhanced the glory and beauty of it, but it remains in memory as a wonderful vision. I remember my grandfather saying, as we stood on the balcony, that if Paris had not been so distant we might have thought that the Prussians were burning it and that this was causing the illumination of the sky. Grey writes that "I believe that neither the Emperor nor Bethmann-Hollweg nor Jagow desired war" page 26 but writes on page 29 that "Germany was deliberately aiming at world predominance. Germany did not believe that they existed in other nations, and she did not assume them for herself. If Grey held such views, is it credible that he would not have acted upon them in his formal capacity as Foreign Minister? Was it for nothing that he allied himself with viciously anti-German ministers such as Nicolson and Crowe? Grey built upon the foundation laid by King Edward VII and approved military "conversations" between the French and British military staffs in He further approved far-reaching accommodations with Russia and approved [] Anglo-Russian naval "conversations. Only on July 31st, , when the the German ultimatum was ticking on the Russian general mobilization did Grey finally acknowledge: If the peace of Europe can be preserved, and the present crisis safely passed, my own endeavor will be to promote some arrangement to which Germany could be a party, by which she could be assured that no aggressive or hostile policy would be pursued against her or her allies by France, Russia, and ourselves, jointly or separately. Grey, who spends many pages on bird-watching with Theodore Roosevelt and other irrelevancies, gives us a single sentence on Russian mobilization: We know today that the slightest whisper of opposition from London would have stopped Russia in her tracks. In short, Grey picked up the long-discarded spear of the Franco-Russian alliance. He cleaned it, polished and sharpened it, and used the Sarajevo crisis to hurl it at Germany.

Chapter 3 : Twenty-Five Years , Viscount Grey of Fallodon – Back Lane Books

But one bit of real history of World War I that I can recommend to anyone is the viewpoint of the fellow on the other side of this "encirclement" business: Lord Grey of Fallodon, the British foreign minister during the war.

Chapter 4 : blog.quintoapp.com: Customer reviews: Twenty-five years, ,

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Edward Grey, 1st Viscount Grey of Fallodon, KG, PC, DL, FZS (25 April - 7 September), better known as Sir Edward Grey (he was the 3rd Baronet Grey of Fallodon), was a British Liberal statesman and the main force behind British foreign policy in the era of the First World War.