THE AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN DIARY LETTERS

THE AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN DIARY LETTERS

THE CORRESPONDENCE OF SIR AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN WITH HIS SISTERS HILDA AND IDA, 1916–1937

edited by

ROBERT C. SELF

CAMDEN FIFTH SERIES Volume 5



FOR THE ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY University College London, Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT

Published by the Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RP 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011–4211, USA 10 Stamford Road, Oakleigh, Melbourne 3166, Australia

© Royal Historical Society 1995

First published 1995

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

Library of Congress cataloguing in publication data applied for

ISBN 0 521 55157 9 hardback

SUBSCRIPTIONS. The serial publications of the Royal Historical Society, Royal Historical Society Transactions (ISSN 0080-4401), Camden Fifth Series (ISSN 0960-1163) volumes and volumes of the Guides and Handbooks (ISSN 0080-4398) may be purchased together on annual subscription. The 1995 subscription price (which includes postage but not VAT) is £35 (US\$56 in the USA, Canada and Mexico) and includes Camden Fifth Series, volumes 5 and 6 (published in July and December) and Transactions Sixth Series, volume 5 (published in December). There is no volume in the Guides and Handbooks series in 1995. Japanese prices (including ASP delivery) are available from Kinokuniya Company Ltd, P.O. Box 55, Chitose, Tokyo 156, Japan. EU subscribers (outside the UK) who are not registered for VAT should add VAT at their country's rate. VAT registered subscribers should provide their VAT registration number.

Subscription orders, which must be accompanied by payment, may be sent to a bookseller, subscription agent or direct to the publisher: Cambridge University Press, The Edinburgh Building, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 2RU, UK; or in the USA, Canada and Mexico: Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011–4211, USA. Copies of the publications for subscribers in the USA, Canada and Mexico are sent by air to New York to arrive with minimum delay.

SINGLE VOLUMES AND BACK VOLUMES. A list of Royal Historical Society volumes available from Cambridge University Press may be obtained from the Humanities Marketing Department at the address above.

Printed and bound in Great Britain by Butler & Tanner Ltd, Frome and London

CONTENTS

	Preface	vii
	Editor's note	viii
	Austen Chamberlain, 1863-1937. The man and his diary	
	letters.	I
I.	'Times Strange Revenges': Coalition and the India Office,	
	November 1916 – July 1917.	33
2.	'One ought to be useful where one can': Committees	
	and Commissions, August 1917 - April 1918.	51
3.	'I feel bound to serve': The War Cabinet, April 1918 -	
	January 1919.	83
4.	'The times make everything extremely difficult': The	
_	Treasury, January 1919 – April 1921.	103
5.	'How strange is fate': The Leadership, March – December	
	1921.	147
6.	'Fighting one's own friends is hateful work': Coalition	
	troubles, January – October 1922.	173
7.	'D—— politics: cultivons notre jardin': Into the	
	Wilderness, November 1922 – December 1923.	211
8.	Return of the 'exer ex-Ministers': The Opposition front	
	bench, December 1923 – November 1924.	24I
9.	'The true author of European peace': The Foreign Office,	
	the League and Locarno, December 1924 – December 1926.	263
0.	'What a troubled world it still is': The Foreign Office	
	after Locarno, January 1927 – June 1929.	299
I.	'B.M.G "Baldwin (this time) must go!" ': The frustrations	
	of Opposition, June 1929 – July 1931.	331
2.	'I am going through a mental hell': Political crisis and	
	the Admiralty, August – December 1931.	377
3∙	'These are not really my proper jobs': Searching for a role,	
	January 1932 – April 1933.	399
4.	'I continue very loquacious!': Leading from the backbenches,	
	April 1933 – June 1935.	$4^{2}5$
5-	'Sly, Sir, devilish sly!': The torments of Baldwin, July 1935 -	_
	March 1937.	485
	Bibliography	521
	Index	535