

you gentlemen know, and they did not bring any serious results. It has been said here, and it has been said before, that the reason for the failure of a pact between Great Britain and the Soviet Union is that Russia refused such a pact. I am going to be forced to disagree with that and I think that if all the records and the whole history of that event is carefully reviewed it will bear out that was not the case. You recall that Great Britain could find nobody else but a third-rate person to send to Russia to negotiate the world alliance. Now, that in itself would not suggest to anyone --

BY MR. HAZEN:

Q. Who was that? A. Strang, William Strang. He was not the Minister of Foreign Affairs; he was not the deputy; he was not the person that was responsible for establishing British foreign policy. When we were on the verge of war and world-shaking events certainly at least someone could have been sent there with authority to deal with matters of that kind. Then when the military mission went to Russia to discuss matters it was found that no -- first of all, they took a boat to travel, which took a long time; secondly, they came there without credentials or authority to decide a military pact, and they would have to take more time, time was the most important and most valuable, the most precious thing that we had at that moment.

BY MR. SLAGHT:

Q. Why did Britain have to chase Russia; why didn't Russia come to Britain if she was sympathetic with Britain?
A. Mr. Maisky, the ambassador, if I recall correctly, and Litvinoff, who was the commissar for foreign affairs, made a proposal to Great Britain and France that they should advance an international front -- I think these were the words he used -- of strength that would do more than anything