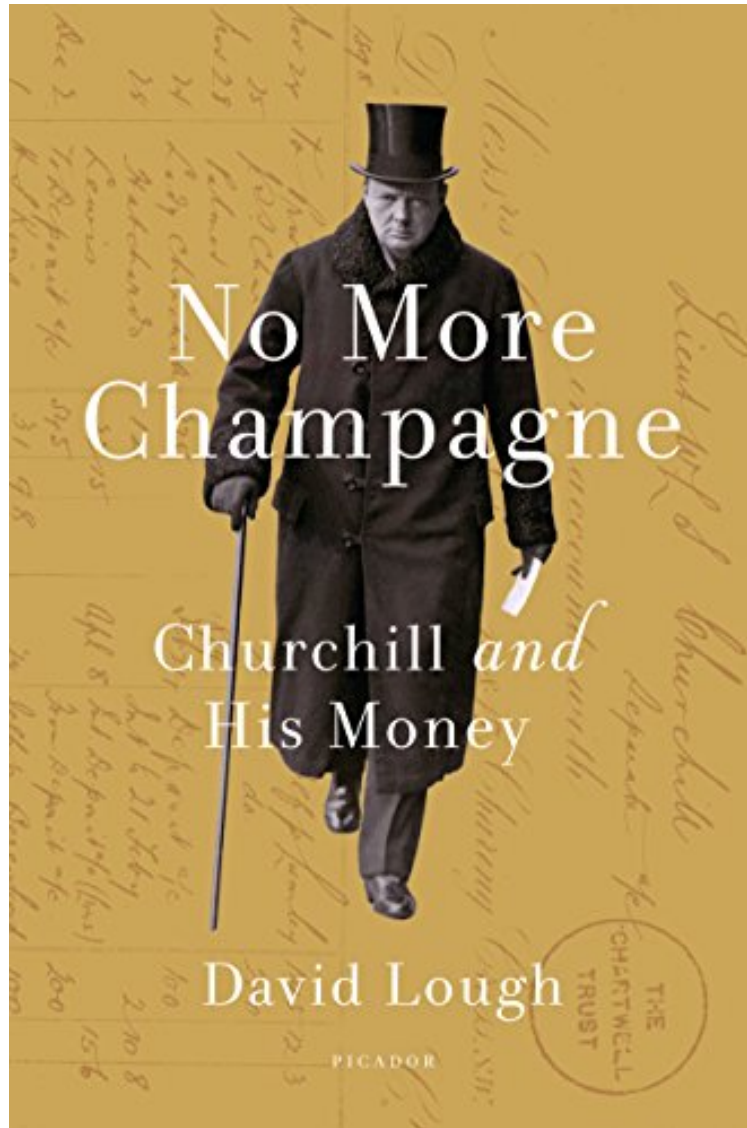


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No More Champagne: Churchill and His Money

Von David Lough

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Von David Lough : No More Champagne: Churchill and His Money before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised No More Champagne: Churchill and His Money:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.
Rezension-No more ChampagneVon Jacqueline KickDas Buch ist leider spt angetroffen. Allerdings ein sehr interessantes Buch und lsst sich einfach lesen.Vielen Dank.MfGJ.Kick0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. A specialised biography of Winston Churchill...Von Jill MeyerIt's difficult for a biographer to find an "in" or a "niche" to write a biography around. Particularly a biography of Winston Churchill, who not only was the subject of

many books, but who also wrote numerous autobiographies and memoirs. There's not much left for a new biographer to cover but British author David Lough finds one in his new biography, "No More Champagne: Churchill and His Money". Lough comes at his subject not as an historian, but rather after a long career as a private banker. He has an expertise that shows well in his examination of Churchill's life from a financial point of view. Winston Churchill was in debt most of his life. But it was a "gentleman's" debt; he owed money to maintain his lifestyle. His parents - American mother and British father - lived beyond their means. His mother, in particular, lived on the edge of financial failing which was the result of her profligate spending. There seemed to be little incentive for any of the Churchills to maintain a budget; borrowed and gifted money was easily obtained. Bills to shops were wrung up with little regard to their ultimate payment or the effect of late payment to the vendor. David Lough's book is filled with detail about Churchill's spending on houses, drink and cigars, and gambling. He gambled in casinos and in the stock market. He also tended to lose more than he won. Periodically, when pressed for money, he would decree a period of budgeting, but the periods never seemed to last for very long or were effective. Churchill cobbled together an income by writing and government service. But what David Lough doesn't attempt to do is to psych analyse Winston Churchill through his handling of his finances. Most readers of the book are familiar enough with Churchill's "black dog" periods. Was his over-spending a reaction to the reappearances in his life of that "black dog"? Lough rather writes about Churchill's life equating where he was financially, politically, and socially in various points. I'd say that David Lough's book is not for someone looking for a general biography of Winston Churchill. The book is very heavy with facts and figures as well as dates and places. The last two things are common in a biography but Lough's book is special because he writes with emphasis on the first two. He includes at the beginning of each chapter a handy guide to Exchange rates and Inflation multiples which help the reader understand the worth of the money at the time. Also included is a fine set of illustrations of Churchill and the people important in his life. This is a detailed and well written book.

0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Churchill, der Steuervermeider Von Kunde Der Autor schildert sehr detailliert und mit Bezug auf eine große Materialfülle die finanziellen Herausforderungen, die Churchill sein Leben lang begleiteten. Churchill war zwar Abkömmling der britischen Hocharistokratie, allerdings zu einer Zeit, zu der diese sich schon unter ganz erheblichem wirtschaftlichem Druck befand. Zudem lebten schon seine nächsten Vorfahren, aber ganz besonders seine Eltern, weit über ihre Verhältnisse. Churchill selbst gestaltete sein Leben mit allen Annehmlichkeiten, deren er bedurfte, ohne Rücksicht auf seinen Beziehungskredit. Zudem hielt er sich noch für einen großartigen Investor an den Aktienmärkten (mit nicht sehr überzeugenden Resultaten). Auch seine Ausflüge in die Kasinos Frankreichs und Monte Carlo waren nicht durchweg von Erfolg gekrönt. Diese Kalamitäten führten zu einer sein Leben unablässig begleitenden Folge von Umfinanzierungen und Rückgriffen auf das Vermögen von Familienstiftungen (die auch nicht sonderlich gut dotiert waren). Freunde und Weggefährten mußten mehrmals zu seiner finanziellen Rettung in die Tasche greifen. Dies hinderte ihn aber nicht daran, immer wieder in die Vollen zu gehen: in den Monaten April und Mai 1949 z.B. wurden im Churchillschen Haushalt 454 Flaschen Champagner konsumiert. Diese Hilfestellungen von Freundeskreisen gegenüber einem aktiven Politiker sind zumindest aus heutiger Sicht ziemlich problematisch. Insbesondere in den letzten Jahrzehnten seines Lebens, in denen er seine größten Erfolge als Autor erzielte, war Churchill sehr stark von dem Gedanken der Steuervermeidung beherrscht: bei einem Spitzensteuersatz von 97,5% wohl verständlich. Aber auch schon in seiner Amtszeit als Schatzkanzler zögerte er nicht, den ihm nachgeordneten Chef der Steuerbehörde vorzuladen, um ihm seine Sicht der Churchillschen Steuerangelegenheiten deutlich zu machen. Dem Autor kommt entgegen, da er gelernter Historiker ist, heute aber in der Finanzbranche arbeitet. Diese Kombination stellt eine qualitativ hochwertige Darstellung sowohl der Finanzlage Churchills sicher, aber auch, da der Leser sehr viel über die Entwicklung des Finanzwesens in Großbritannien während der Lebensspanne Churchills erfährt. Aus dem politischen und dem privaten Leben Churchills werden nur die wichtigsten Ereignisse aufgegriffen, die Finanzen Churchills stehen halt im Mittelpunkt. Dies führt aber dazu, da das Buch nur für denjenigen Leser uneingeschränkt empfehlenswert ist, der schon über gewisse Grundkenntnisse des Lebens und des Wirkens Churchills verfügt.

Produktbeschreibung Meticulously researched by a senior private banker now turned historian, No More Champagne reveals for the first time the full extent of the iconic British war leader's private struggle to maintain a way of life instilled by his upbringing and expected of his public position. Lough uses Churchill's own most private records, many never researched before, to chronicle his family's chronic shortage of money, his own extravagance and his recurring losses from gambling or trading in shares and currencies. Churchill tried to keep himself afloat by borrowing to the hilt, putting off bills and writing 'all over the place'; when all else failed, he had to ask family or friends to come to the rescue. Yet within five years he had taken advantage of his worldwide celebrity to transform his private fortunes with the same ruthlessness as he waged war, reaching 1945 with today's equivalent of 3 million in the bank. His lucrative war memoirs were still to come. Throughout the story, Lough highlights the threads of risk, energy, persuasion, and sheer willpower to survive that link Churchill's private and public lives. He shows how constant money pressures often tempted him to short-circuit the ethical standards expected of public figures in his day before usually pulling back to

put duty first-except where the taxman was involved.