

Eckhardt

He is a typical "almost successful" politician, an opportunist who was always keenly interested about the possibilities "over the fence." When in the Govt party, he was uncooperative and "too radical", when in the opposition, he was always in sympathy "with the Govt." In the rapidly changing picture of the post-war H. politics this manoeuvring could have been successful only by chance - but this chance never came for E. There is nothing substantial, solid about him.

In his present role he sees nothing else but one of the many missed "chances" - maybe the last one. (He is 54 in 1942.)

As a politician he was always on the losing side. In 1922 he was elected Deputy on the Govt program - next year he went into opposition, becoming leader of the most relentless attacks against

his former party. in 1923 before being  
elected the same year (~~already being~~  
Pres. of the Antisemitic and terroristic  
Awak. M's) he with 4 others founded  
the political arm of his antisem.  
activities: the Party of the "Race-  
Defenders."

In 1926 this party was  
annihilated in the elections, E.  
himself being left without a  
mandate. This was his first major  
defeat

Being out of Parl. his only  
field of activity remained  
the "Awaken. M's" until  
1928 when he became Direct.  
of the Revisionist League.

In 1931 was elected deputy  
again and after the death of  
Gaston Soal, same year  
became leader of the Small  
Farmers' party.

In 1934 because of his versatility  
in several lang. he was sent to  
Geneva, to represent H. in the  
case of the assass. of Yugoslav  
King



In 1935

his party gets only 24 seats in Parl. He charges Govt. with irregularities, ceases collaboration. This was his second grave defeat at the polls.

The third came in 1939 when his party hardly escaped a disaster.

Election results: only 14 seats in Parl.

E. ceases polit. activity, goes abroad (although he was elected) and tries to resign leadership in Small Farmers party in 1939 and in 1940