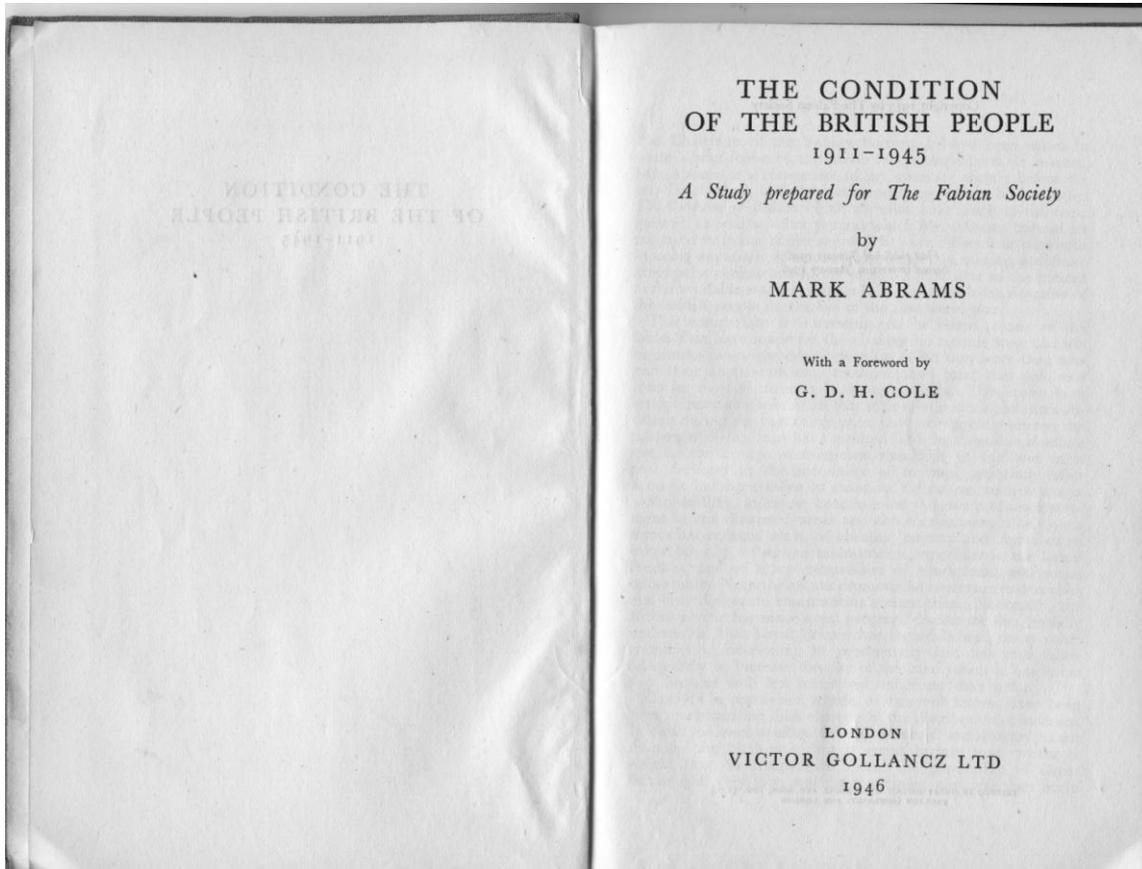


9. After the War

And then at the end of the war I thought well they don't need people like me any more, it was time I went back to my old job. No, no there was so much bureaucratic delay and confusion that I didn't get out for about a year. And during that year I wrote another book called *The Condition of the British People: 1911-1945*.



The Condition of the British People (1946)

DA: What did that concern? What was it based on?

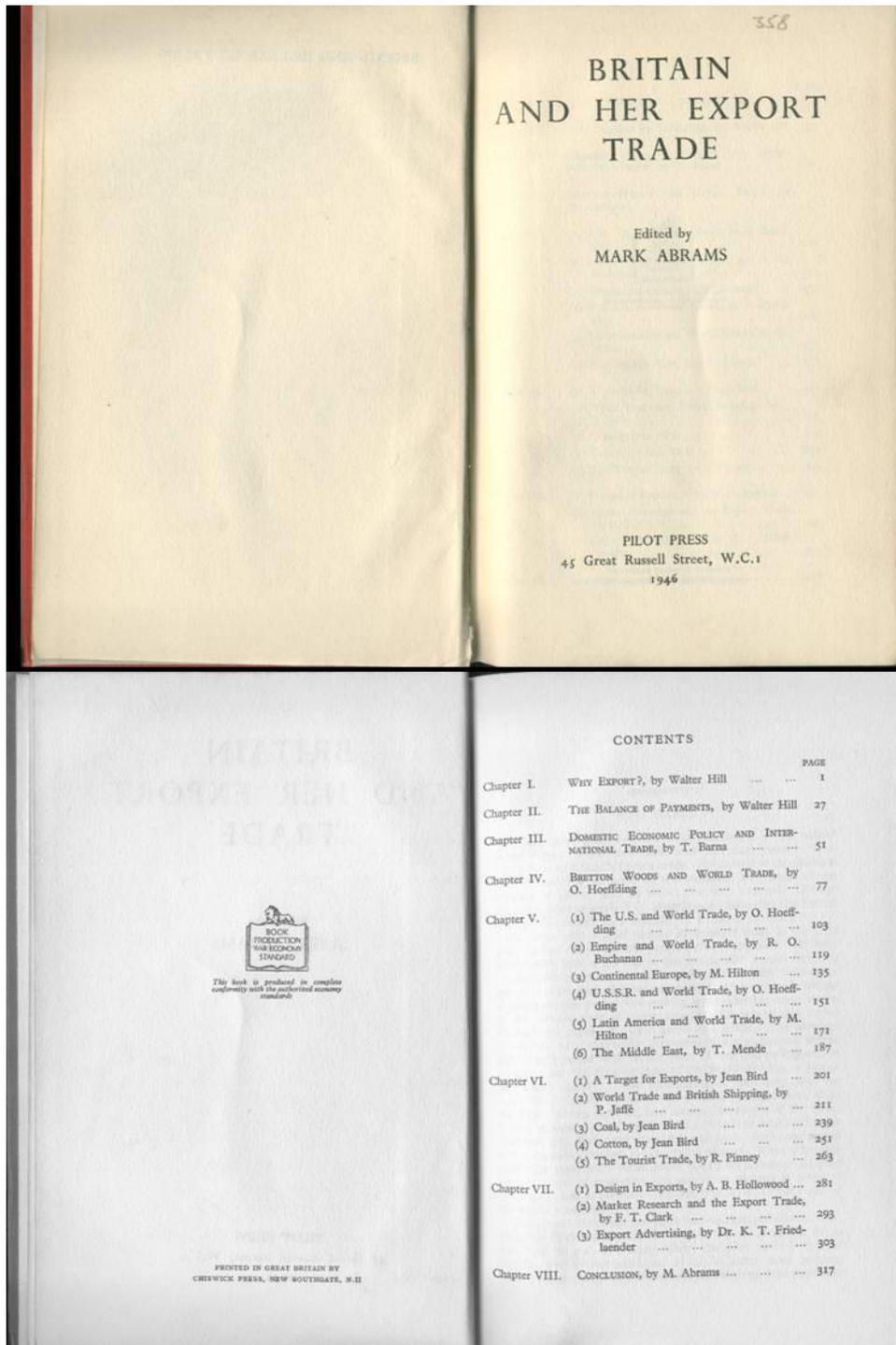
MA: It was based on official statistics on the living conditions, housing conditions, work conditions of the British people. Over that period. I think it was meant to do two things – first of all to show how awful conditions were in 1911, that things had improved a bit after 1939, but there was still a hell of a lot to do. In fact G.D.H. Cole wrote a foreword to it and I gave the copyright to the Fabian Society, and they took all the royalties [laughs]. It was part of the Fabian campaign on, you know, a preparatory document for *Agenda For A Post-war Britain*, under Attlee.

DA: And do you think ... I mean, as you saw it, had the desired impact on the desired people?

MA: No, I think it became a well read text among undergraduates. It sold quite well. And in fact when Gollancz came to me, and said they would like a new edition of it, I discovered that the Fabians had sold the copyright and we could not get it back.

DA: Who had they sold it to?

MA: An American publisher. They said they sold it because they were no longer getting royalties on it, because what was happening was that students were xeroxing, you know were making photocopies of the thing ... that's no good to them.



Britain and her Export Trade (1946)

DA: So, that was what ... 1947?

MA: Yea, it came out about '46/'47, something like that.

DA: Where were you living then? You have moved from Kimble.

MA: We lived then in Bourne Hill, Southgate, North London.