

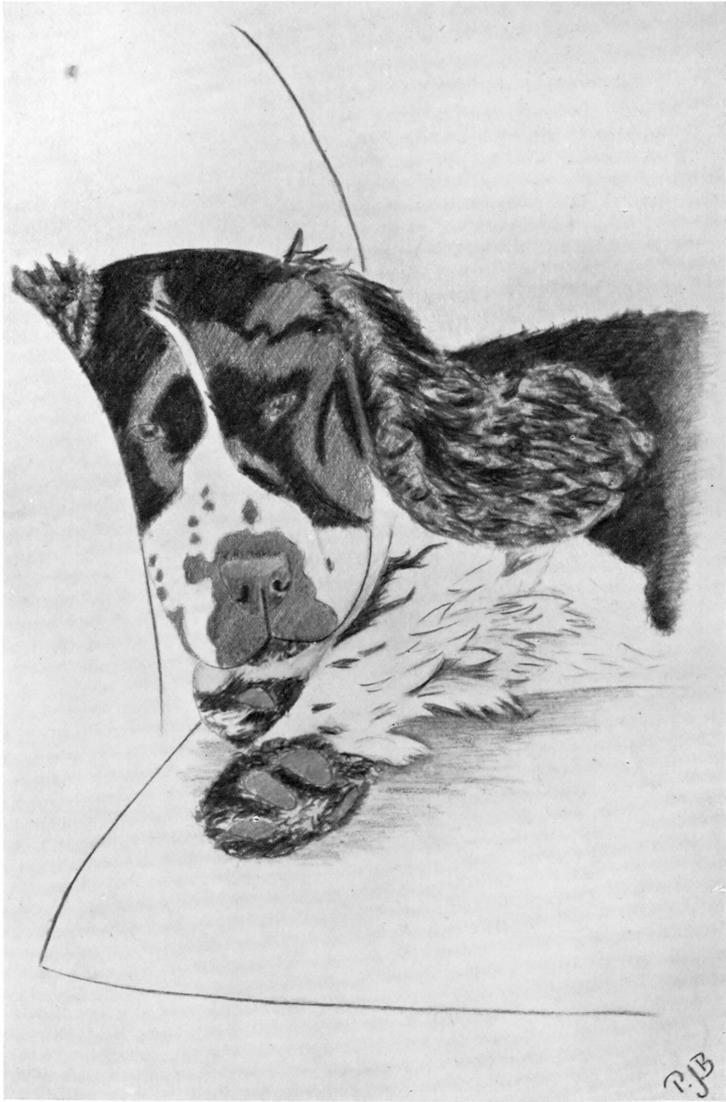
# THE DIAL

LENT TERM 1939

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# THE DIAL

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No. 91.

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## EDITORIAL

**I**T is not without trepidation that I present this "International Dial" for it is at once a labour of love and a declaration of faith.

The world is becoming smaller and smaller ; that the main result of this increasing proximity of peoples is increasing suspicion, I can consider only as tragic.

I think of the good will, of the humanity of the man in the street, and I am appalled at the filthy poison which is steadily pumped into the air he breathes ; pumped by unscrupulous interests of all kinds, by 90 per cent. of the world's press obstreperously flaunting a wicked abuse of their freedom under our democratic noses, or with the fierceness of blinkered fanaticism echoing the totalitarian blast.

For I believe unshakeably in the fundamental goodness of the ordinary man, in the power of broad and sane education, I am convinced that good will is not the monopoly of this nation or that nation, and just as firmly that the acceptance

of some international secondary language, if only by four or five nations, would have more effect than any other single factor in improving our international life.

Idealism? Of course it is idealism to those who can rise no higher than the infamous fiction that man is a grasping, avaricious, ruthless animal, and that realism is the recognition of that fact.

My attitude seems to me to be the highest realism, and rests on the attempt to see the world as it is and not as it is accused of being. In this "Dial" the attempt is continued and if we feel the attempt is hopeless or useless, let us remember that "tout comprendre, c'est tout pardonner" is a challenge we cannot ignore, to "comprendre" at least a little of the world around us.

If some of what follows makes bitter music in our British ears, the effect may be all the more salutary. The ostrich-act is only too common in this country, and the smiling excuse of insularity is worn very thin.

That I have thus chosen a leitmotiv is one of the main objections raised to the plan. But the fear of blocking the way to literary glory for one term of a man's nine weighs, I confess, lightly on my conscience, and the number of articles usually offered salves it completely. I have unblushingly considered the readers more than the writer, attempted to give the great majority something to think on, rather than cast myself on the slender mercy of a few painful literasters.

The leitmotiv has at least attracted contributors with a live, often passionate interest in their subject which stands the chance of attaining a style and animation beyond the reach of all dandling dilettantism, and which is in fact the foundation of any literary achievement of real value.

For the curse of our generation, the so-called modern style, indiscriminately worshipped and solemnly aped, still lures too many of us along the paths of pompous obscurantism to the most wondrous compositions; many who with recognition, instead of fear, of their own individuality, would often produce something worthy of the "Dial".

Like the previous Editor, I cannot too cordially condemn those who refuse to recognize the community of effort necessary to produce a college magazine, and yet on its appearance hastily mount the critic's armchair and even thence fail to summon the courage for a printed objection. And like all my predecessors, I dream of the day when it will be an honour to "appear" in the "Dial".

It is not because I fear association with

*"The idiots who praise with enthusiastic tone  
All centuries but this, and every country but their own"*

that I state once and for all that I do not agree with all the contributors: on many of the subjects I knew little or nothing, with some views I disagree violently. But all are the sincere opinions of sincere people, and all representative of much opinion in their respective countries.

*I make no apology whatever for a rather political strain in parts—that is a sign of the times and that is far more than drowned by the note of the contributions to previous “Dials”. I have been greatly amused by the assurance that it will strike many as too “serious”—for alas! I am far from convinced that college magazines are an excuse for the elephantine frivolities usually contained in them.*

*And with that I make my bow.*

## REGINALIA

**W**E congratulate Mr R. G. D. Laffan most heartily on his marriage to Lady Stevenson on January 3rd, 1939.

\* \* \* \*

The President and Mrs Venn are at present in the West Indies where the President is giving two lectures.

\* \* \* \*

There is at the College Office a number of copies of the enlarged edition of the Memoir of the late President compiled by Mrs Fitzpatrick. Any subscriber to the Fitzpatrick Memorial who has not received a complimentary copy has only to write to the College Office and ask for one. Copies are also on sale at half-a-crown, post free.

\* \* \* \*

We congratulate Mr A. W. G. Kean, M.A., on his election to the Yarborough-Anderson Scholarship of £100 per annum.

Congratulations, too, to W. G. Pottinger on his Bell Exhibition and to G. J. Camfield on his Barnes Exhibition.

\* \* \* \*

Hearty congratulations to A. S. Eban on being elected to the Browne Scholarship at Pembroke College.

\* \* \* \*

Heartiest congratulations to M. N. Evans on being awarded the Black Belt, the highest award of the International Judo Association of Japan. This is the first time a Cambridge man has obtained the Belt during his period of residence and the number of English holders is very small.

\* \* \* \*

We congratulate G. B. Kenyon on his Hockey Blue, E. S. Washington on once more representing the 'Varsity at Soccer, D. C. Snow on his highly successful captaincy of 'Varsity Lacrosse.

\* \* \* \*

We also extend hearty congratulations to

1. the man who has invented a game at which F. S. Aldercotte will not obtain colours in less than six months.
2. B. Samways on possessing the most piercing voice in Queens'.
3. D. M. Annett on rendering the most funereal graces ever heard in Hall.
4. the Boat Club on being excluded from the Erasmian fields.

We commiserate with

1. ourselves on thus losing our place in Hall.
2. the Modern Languages freshman who, after compiling his time-table with his Director of Studies, went to bed for a week—delirium tennans?

## FLOREAT DOMUS

*L. D. Blathway* is at Wells Theological College.

*J. P. Bull* is a Medical student at Guy's Hospital.

*D. W. F. Charlton* is a medical student at Guy's Hospital.

*H. S. Clarke* is a mathematics master at Hillstowe School, Malvern, Worcs.

*J. G. F. Clews* is residing for a fourth year in Cambridge at the Training College for schoolmasters.

*E. G. Goodrich* is engaged in social service at the Dockland Settlement, Heathway, Dagenham, Essex.

*R. Hills* is doing aeronautical research on the staff of the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough.

*H. T. D. Holgate* is a departmental manager of Thos. Hedley & Co. Ltd., Manchester.

*J. P. B. Keith* is an assistant engineer in the civil department of the L.N.E.R. at King's Cross.

*G. W. W. Markwick* is a student at the Carnegie Physical Training College, Leeds.

*E. G. Marquis* is an articled clerk to a solicitor in Liverpool.

*P. H. Nash* is a medical student at the Middlesex Hospital.

*E. T. O'Reilly* is a 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Tank Corps and is playing for the Dorset County Hockey Club.

*T. F. Oxley* has a commission in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

*F. S. Palmer* is at the Cambridge Teachers Training College.

*W. H. Petty* is a student at Guy's Hospital.

*R. F. Roberts* is working in a London stockbroker's office, with a view to learning the work and gaining business experience.

*F. A. R. St John* is a medical student at the London Hospital.

*P. Savory* is studying massage.

*R. A. Shone* is an ordinand at St Stephen's House, Oxford.

*P. St V. Tabberner* is with a firm of scientific instrument manufacturers.

*J. D. M. Taylor* is completing his architectural training at the Architectural Association School of Architecture, London.

*C. C. Walker* is articled to a firm of solicitors.

*D. J. Watt* is a student at the London Hospital.

## ON THE VALUE OF IRREVERENCE

THE French are noted for a complete lack of respect for many things—themselves included. If you like to hear France being run down, apply to the French for that. They are a strange nation who, through endless chops and changes, always seem to be looking for the right man to control them, without being able to find him—a respect in which they differ from other countries who, though they think the wrong man is in power, are hard put to it to get rid of him. A strange people who spend such a long time in apparently fruitless palavers, chattering just like those mischievous creatures the python breakfasts on in Kipling's jungle. Sometimes they get so heated over their discussion, they seem to be on the point of coming to blows. Only they pay the people they send to Parliament to do the job for them. Financial scandals are known to have broken out there: a queer lot they are, who not only have their Staviskys but dare to arrest them. Indeed, in every way, a most irreverent nation!

They once carried irreverence so far as to proclaim that all men were equal—whether black or white, whether rich or poor. Someone had said the same thing before (it had been such a scandal then that respectable people had had to nail Him upon a cross). But the scandal had long died out and all about it had been forgotten when those mischievous killjoys, disturbers of the peace of mind of decent, godless citizens, took it into their heads to revive it. They have been hated for it to this very day. And they deserve it. But they can't help it. Irreverence is part and parcel of their nature. You find it even in their philosophers. Descartes, no doubt,

finally sets up again many time-honoured ideas he had seemed to destroy. This master of sleight-of-hand only takes out of his hat the apples he had put there before—but not without having carefully scrutinized them and made sure they were fit for consumption.

But perhaps this ineradicable strain in their national character, this unpleasant habit they have formed of calling in question, at the most awkward moment, the oldest traditions, the most securely patented values, is just what the world needs at the present moment? Perhaps the spirit was never before in such danger of being stifled by the letter as it is now? It is dying of surfeit. A stupendous mass of information is being poured upon it from many quarters—through the newspaper, through the radio. The method of advertisement, the manipulating of the mind from the outside, reigns supreme in all spheres, in the politician's as in the barber's. How will the spirit escape being crushed under all this weight of unsifted evidence? How will it lift up the burden and take stock of a wealth which, like Midas' gold, threatens to prove more injurious than poverty? How will the modern mind sort the tares from the wheat if all this wisdom is not to result in a plentiful lack of wit? By undergoing a purgative process—by bringing into action what Descartes called methodical doubt—which is nothing else than irreverence dressed in philosophical garb and a most useful asset in an age when people seem too busy keeping time shouting together to bother about *what* they are shouting.

ROGER HIBON.

## GERMAN COLONIAL CLAIMS

WHEN in 1871, after long ages of piecemeal existence, Germany was finally welded into an Empire and thus entered the ranks of the Great Powers, she quickly found that the other great nations had already satisfied their colonial needs and taken over the richest territories.

In the first years after the founding of the Empire the colonial question did not become acute. But with increasing industrialization, the consequent need of raw materials, and with growing population, Germany's interest in the possession of colonies of her own grew.

After much difficult negotiation she obtained a colonial empire and energetically set to work developing it. In a few years through great industry and iron determination great things were accomplished and German East Africa, for instance, became a model colony. Everywhere small, clean towns arose; hygiene made great strides; the natives were actively interested and given every consideration. During the war thousands voluntarily fought for Germany—sure proof that they were satisfied. Very soon an exceedingly lively trade with the Fatherland developed.

The Versailles Treaty made an end of this. France and England alleged as reason for the robbing (for it was nothing else) that Germany was unfit to govern colonies, that she had exploited the natives and their land. This is not the place to expound German views on Britain's dealings with Egyptians, Arabs and in India: suffice it to say that the completely untrue assertions were made only to veil real aims: with Togo and the Cameroons France was able to round off her colonial empire and England to realize Cecil Rhodes' passionately cherished

dream of uninterrupted Cape—Cairo communications. To put a good face on the proceedings France and England had German colonies allotted to them as mandates. There was of course never the least intention of returning them.

To-day Germany is the greatest nation in Europe. More than ever before is she in need of colonies to cover her need of raw materials and provide opportunities of colonization for her inhabitants. She will never give up her very justified demands ; fine words and half measures will avail nothing ; the time is come for action. For Germany demands only what was hers and what by rights still is hers.

KURT SCHMIDT.

## GERMANY AND ENGLAND

**T**O portray Anglo-German relations and explain the reasons why a point of contact, much less a real friendship, has never been reached, is at once very interesting and incredibly difficult. Whole libraries have been written on the subject but common to almost all has been the one-sided view taken.

As a neutral<sup>1</sup> I should like to enumerate the factors which seem to me most potent.

Firstly, difference of character, despite close relationship which perhaps in itself explains much mutual misunderstanding : for precisely because it was hoped to exploit this relationship (in Germany more so than in England) the disappointment has been all the greater.

---

1. The writer is a Luxemburger who has made extensive studies in modern European history and has lived for long periods both in Germany and England.—EDITOR.

Secondly, mutual distrust arising from commercial and naval competition. On the German side the strongest factor was an injured sense of honour and great conceit: "Why should we not do the same as England?" then "If England doesn't like it, all the more reason." (A political blunder of course which only the German character can explain). These latter two reasons have played a great part since 1933.

It is perhaps best to regard these relations in three stages: 1900 to the war; 1919—1933; 1933 on.

The pre-war relations are not without their tragedy: friendly gestures from the one roused always suspicion in the other. Joseph Chamberlain's attempts at alliance, for instance, were rejected for fear of offending Russia, whilst in reality Germany had long before driven Russia into France's arms by a long series of political stupidities.

As late as the 3rd August, 1914 Bethmann-Hollweg and the Foreign Office were confident of English neutrality and blissfully directed their policy towards conciliation. England's declaration of war was received with amazement which gradually turned into bitterness aggravated by the blockade and English propaganda.

After the war England adopted a more benevolent attitude to Germany; a weak Germany suited her immensely and French power had to be limited. Other interests such as oil were not for nothing in the game but if it cannot be said that relations were cordial, they were at least good.

Since 1933 things have changed. In pre-war Germany political education was nil; now German youth is being politically educated, but so viciously that the danger of a conflict increases daily. It is continually dinned into them that Germany is the first and strongest nation on earth, that mistakes are made exclusively by the others—

the inconsistency of such nonsense is of course ignored.

English mistrust of Germany is now greater than ever and I see no hope of improvement. The concessions which would have to be made on both sides are infinitely too great for the present position. England must *volens nolens* maintain the French alliance and I very much doubt whether good relations between a strong Germany and a strong England are at all possible.

H. J. DE L. MAES.

### THE DANISH-GERMAN FRONTIER

“**V**OULD you like a little bit of viting, my dear?” said the lady to me. “It’s not worth halving,” observed the gentleman in a surly tone, taking up the fish with his own knife and fork and putting it on his plate. A prominent Dane quoted to me recently in Copenhagen the above passage from Marryat’s *Peter Simple* as an instance of the German attitude towards Denmark. There is a general fear that the propaganda for the revision of the Danish-German frontier which is carried on by the German minority in Denmark is based on a plan which envisages the incorporation into the Reich, not only of the whole or part of the territory handed over to Denmark after the plebiscite in 1920, but of the entire peninsular of Jutland. Much has been said recently of German intervention in Danish affairs, of demands for the elimination of non-aryan employees in Danish firms trading with Germany, of the dismissal of journalists responsible for anti-German articles in the Danish press, of undue political pressure on the part of Germany in negotiating trade treaties, of German military aeroplanes flying over Danish territory and of

German naval exercises in Danish waters. All these charges have been categorically refuted by the Danish foreign minister, Herr Munch; the policy of the Danish Prime Minister, Herr Stauning, has been acclaimed as a model for all frontier states in German official quarters, Hitler alluded to satisfactory Danish-German relations in his speech of January 30th, confirming the judgment of the "Deutsche diplomatisch-politische Korrespondenz" which already in 1936 took the line that "by her loyal attitude in the minority question the Danish State might well serve as an example to other states."

It is however an undeniable fact that many of the charges against Germany have been substantiated, while it is also undisputed that the German government has never lost the opportunity of openly proclaiming its good-will towards its little northern neighbour. This is a fundamental problem which faces the foreign observer in Denmark, the reconciliation of these contradictions of word and deed.

These contradictions can only be explained by investigating the situation as it presents itself to us to-day with all its far-reaching implications back into the past and forward into the future. One thing to remember is that the situation is not a new one. There has been a frontier question in South Jutland ever since the dawn of history. Place-names bear witness to the priority of settlement of Danes in the territory and the frontier has moved northwards and southwards according to the vagaries of history ever since early Danish kings appointed special frontier earls to guard the border at the Ejder against the Germans and the Vends in the 9th century A.D. It was the evolution of the earldoms into the hereditary Duchies of Schleswig-Holstein, in which the houses of Schauenburg and Gottorp subsequently held

sway, that led to the tragic dynastic conflicts in these territories, so that their history reads for us nowadays as a series of inextricable princely intrigues and one forgets the population that suffered under their rule and still in Schleswig retained its Danish character and sympathies and often even language in spite of the encroachments of German administration, German clergy and German schools. Gradually the border shifted northwards until the Schleswig-Holsteinism of the middle of the last century could use the watchword "Schleswig-Holstein upp ewig ungedeeft" (Schleswig-Holstein for ever one) as a distortion of history to further the German claims of liberating the inhabitants of the duchies from Danish rule and pushing back the frontier to the Kongeaa. This is what happened in 1864, the darkest year in Danish history. Danish Schleswig, unnaturally coupled with German Holstein, came under German administration.

But now we must pause to consider what we mean by the word frontier. There is the national frontier which is based on the sovereignty of states, there is the historical frontier which can be claimed on the grounds of once having existed in the past, and there is the present racial frontier which can be determined to a certain extent by language but most satisfactorily by a recognition of the right of the population to self-determination. It is on the principle of the right of self-determination that the frontier is based to-day and it is thus in no way comparable to the other German frontiers. This principle was already admitted by Bismarck in 1866 when after the defeat of Austria the Treaty of Prague transferred all Austrian rights in the Duchies to the king of Prussia "with the reservation that the population of the Northern districts of Schleswig shall be re-united to Denmark if they express their desire to do so by a vote

freely taken." But the Austro-German convention of October 11, 1878 formally repealed this article of the Treaty of Prague and it was not until 1920 that a plebiscite actually took place for the revision of the frontier as it stands at present.

Here it is important to note justifiable German grievances at the administration of the plebiscite. After the Great War appeals were made in Sweden and Norway for the application of President Wilson's principle of self-determination to redress the injustice done to Denmark in 1864. The German government expressed its willingness to apply this principle in the case of the Danish frontier. But, instead of the matter being settled by Denmark and Germany between themselves, the Danes were forced by the Allies, through the medium of the British Chargé d'Affaires in Copenhagen, to abandon direct negotiation and to submit the question to the Peace Conference. This unfortunate association of the frontier question with Versailles has been galling to Germans and has been a misfortune for Denmark in her relations with Germany. Germans have also complained that three of the border parishes which voted German in the northern zone were included in Denmark. This was however due to important geographical and administrative reasons and the German majority vote has now been reduced to two only of these parishes, Højjer and Ubjerg.

Now when talking of minorities in this connection it is important to remember that there is no German minority in Denmark in any sense comparable to that which exists elsewhere. The population of this frontier district is homogeneous and bilingual and the predominance of the Lutheran Church in the duchies excludes also any religious minority. It is a minority purely based on sympathy

for Germany. This makes it all the more difficult to assess, but by correlating the figures of the plebiscite with those of later parliamentary and municipal elections we arrive at a total of about 30,000, which is about 16 per cent. of the population of North Schleswig and less than 1 per cent. of the total population of Denmark. German authorities, however, state the figure to be twice as large. Among the German sympathisers are to be found a number of Polish seasonal labourers who have taken up permanent work on the big German estates and also Russians, originally prisoners of war, who have settled in the territory round their former prison camps where they worked as farm labourers during hostilities when Danish labour was scarce.

In the absence of a minority in the proper sense of the word, the so-called German minority is not protected by minority statutes but by the liberality of the Danish constitution, which provides for the exercise of free rights of education, religion, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, the inviolability of personal property and protection against summary treatment by the authorities for all Danish citizens of whatever race, language or religion. In the public schools in the towns instruction is divided into two groups, one German, one Danish and 4-6 hours weekly are devoted to the language which is not the medium of teaching. In the country the instruction is imparted in the language predominating in the district, but so as not to lead to any injustice special German teaching is granted where 20 per cent. of the local electors wish it and represent 10 children of school age, or a smaller percentage of electors when these represent 24 children. This law has been made use of to the full by the Germans for the establishment of German schools for the minority and in one case I came

across a Polish workman with 9 children who had been moved from one district to another at the expense of the German minority as a make-weight in districts with a weak German element. But the public German schools have been losing ground fast in face of the establishment of private German schools with funds from Germany. There are now 52 of these and they account for 1,484 pupils while there are 1,942 pupils taught in German in 33 public schools. Out of these 52 schools, 24 have been established since 1933. It is noticeable that the German element becomes stronger in periods of political or economic crisis and supporters of Germany were successful last autumn in persuading many Danish peasants to send their children to German schools and make them join the German youth organisations by enlarging on the advantages that would accrue to them when Germany took over the territory. The majority of the teachers in these minority schools are German subjects and they are responsible to German organisations south of the border, such as the "Volksbund für das Deutschtum im Ausland." The Danes have been equally liberal in their special legislation in respect of the exercise of religion and the administration of justice.

It is however in the land question that the Germans are most successful in their peaceful penetration. Here they have the inestimable advantage of being able to exploit the economic distress of a territory which was bled dry by Germany in the course of the war. The Danes have been faced with a terrific programme of reconstruction and this has been carried out systematically. Practically all the capital of the population was drained during the war and when inflation came there was a rush for real property, but too late, as it was practically impossible to procure loans and real property

values sank with the rise in prices. There was a total loss of many millions, half of which was written off for depreciation of plant and machinery, reduction in stock of cattle and deterioration of the soil combined with an absence of repairs to buildings etc. Fifty-eight million krøner were contributed as a gift by the Danish government to reinstate farmers and inhabitants in the area. The advantage lies with the German element, as, unlike the rest of Denmark, agriculture is still mostly in the hands of large estates and the majority of the big landowners near the frontier are Germans. Whereas these big landowners, in spite of a scarcity of German labour, see to it that their tenants and labourers are Germans, they are assisted in the case of smaller detached farms by German capital which has been systematically used to purchase farms in the frontier districts for Germans and German sympathisers. This activity is carried on by a German barrister in Haderslev, Herr Georg Vogelgesang, whose credit institute, Kreditanstalt Vogelgesang, was established by Germans in 1926 with backing of the 'Société anonyme de participations et de crédits continentaux' of Zurich, a company which is financed by the German state. Not only does this society assist German farmers to remain on their farms but it also purchases properties with the object of settling Germans on them in order to increase the German element in the border districts. Officially these loans are available to Danes as well as to Germans and they have also been procured by Danes, but it is essential in every case to have extensive credentials as a sympathiser with German National Socialism. Danish credit societies do what is possible for combating this menace and one special organisation, Landeværnet, exists especially for the purpose, but the Danes are in most cases unable and unwilling to compete in paying

prices which are far in excess of the value of the properties concerned. Vogelgesang's activities have however not been so marked of late and the Danes have perhaps injudiciously taken over six frontier farms that were recently auctioned. A prominent Danish banker of Tønder even went so far as to express to me his conviction that Vogelgesang's activities are perfectly justified and are a considerable help to the farming of the territory. On the other hand there is certainly no truth in the German claims that Danish agrarian policy has been concentrated on the expropriation of German farmers, whereas a good case can be made out against Germany on this count in the treatment of the Danish minority south of the border.

In facing the facts of the case and trying to reconcile the good-will of the German government with the practice of German individuals identified with official German organisations we are forced to explain the anomaly by attributing it to the dualism of the present German system, the two-pillar system as it is known. The Nazi party and the Government act independently, often together but equally often the action of the one is not recognised or known by the other. The Danish frontier seems to be the victim of such National Socialist organisations as the Schleswig-Holsteiner Bund whereas the central government in Berlin does not officially take cognizance of its activities. In actual fact the relations between Danes and Germans on the border are extremely cordial in private, tension is produced only by pronouncements in public when official loyalties are dominant. The headmaster of a large public school instanced the good feeling between the boys whatever their political opinions happened to be, and stated that during political debates in his civics class even the most

violent differences in political opinion were very good-humoured. Much of the anxiety resulting from the present situation is due to the fact that firstly Denmark has not fortified the frontier and secondly that the German government has not officially recognized the frontier. Denmark would not conceivably give Germany grounds for complaint by erecting fortifications. If the official good-will of the Wilhemstrasse is really authoritative an official recognition of the boundary would allay all fears. Even the Schleswig party has now eliminated frontier revision from its programme. It now rests with Germany to assert the authority of the government in this matter or to acquiesce in the activities of agitators and thus belie the good intentions which it professes.

P. F. D. TENNANT.

## SO NOW WE KNOW !

**T**HE most striking feature of English university life to the foreigner is of course the colleges but even more the amazingly democratic, communal life led, the social existence it brings.

The danger of that social life is however only too apparent ; entertainments seem often to come first and work suffers. In Switzerland students work more intensely and on a larger scale ; in England two extremes predominate : the one active in social life and sports, the other slavishly swotting and swotting.

For a foreigner it is very difficult to become friends with an English student. We notice the proverbial English reserve. The English seem to be indifferent and sometimes suspicious. They seem to have a dislike

of everything coming from the continent, which has to be attributed to their "splendid" isolation. Later on the relation between English student and foreigner depends on the foreigner. An Englishman very seldom meets a foreigner half-way; but if the foreigner understands and tries to adapt himself to English traditions and really seeks friendship, he will generally succeed. A person who is unable to adapt himself will always be lonely and find it difficult to get into touch with English students. Consequently there is a great danger of foreigners always sticking together and forming a community of their own. These are merely observations and I don't want to generalise. Each university probably has its own character which may be very different from that of the others.

M. MEERWEIN.

## DUTCH MUSIC

MUCH is written about the music of our days and the experts draw a conclusion, optimistic or guarded, from that for the future.

Henk Badings (born 1907), who first was a teacher of technical science at Delft University, now has dedicated himself completely to music and we can be proud of him.

He has written a little book about modern Dutch composers, wherein he goes back to about 1880. "The eightiers" he calls the older generation in comparison with his contemporaries, who comprise the younger one. Between these two lie the revolutionaries. Among the first he mentions above all Johan Wagenaar, Cornelis Dopper and Willem Dandré. The revolutionaries are Jem

Dresden, Willem Oyper and Alex Voormlen ; the "youngsters" Robert de Roos, Rudolf Escher, and of course the author himself. His expectations are doubtless to be called hopeful.

The only thing, however, which I wanted to bring to your attention by this short essay about Dutch music, is something about Sweelnick, for his greatness, reaching over all time, immediately justifies this.

Yan Pieter Sweelnick, born at Deventer in 1562, died at an age of 69 years. Not a long life really, but his spirit is still alive, his life is eternal.

Sweelnick studied in Venice, under the great Italian Zarlino. After his years of study, he returned to Holland and appeared to be a great pedagogue. Many foreigners travelled to Holland to get lessons from him, Praetorius and Scheidt amongst others.

Sweelnick is the founder of the fugue for the organ ! He called into existence this beautiful lofty type of composition and this creation found J. S. Bach as the one, who made it perfect.

It is for that reason that I wanted to go back, not to 1880, but to the 16th century, wherein this great Dutchman lived.

My personal opinion is that, when we want to have a great future the only way will be to go out from Sweelnick again and not to take any other Dutch composer as a basis for a Dutch school.

ROBERT MUNTING.

## HUNGARY AFTER THE CRISIS

1. The Crisis, September—November.
2. The Vienna Arbitration. 3. Home Policy, Legislative Reforms.
4. Foreign Policy. Hungary and Germany.

THE crisis of last September reached its peak with the Munich Conference; this however does not mean that all problems had been solved by it and by then. Quite apart from the doubt whether the Munich Protocol solved the problems of Peace and of Germany's territorial demands in Europe, it served merely as a basis in principle, as a framework which had to be completed by negotiations between the countries concerned. Germany and Poland relying on their armed forces had no difficulties in determining and immediately occupying their several zones and the district of Teschen-Bohumin respectively. But Hungary had to suffer from a long delay. Although by that date her army was expected to be stronger than that of Czecho-Slovakia which was completely undermined morally and by the hostilities of the minorities, Hungary insisted on a loyal attitude which she had taken up ever since the first days of the crisis. Unfortunately the period within which her demands were to be satisfied had been fixed too far ahead, and the extremist elements in the country who always grasped every opportunity to overbid the Government in promises, threatened unrest and could not be suppressed, because (a) no one knew what forces stood behind them, (b) they were backed by Germany against which the Hungarian Government could not take any hostile step, owing to their extreme dependence,

especially in foreign trade.<sup>1</sup> But apart from the dangers of a revolution, public opinion of Hungary, pregnant with the moral right of her claims and discovering in September 29th the long expected day of justice, could not be kept in silence for long.

For the Hungarian claims were the most justified of all territorial demands on Czecho-Slovakia, if one believes in what is called "historical justice" or the sanctity of acquired rights. And the Magyar people have a very deep sense for that sort of justice, a similarity with the British, due probably to her equally old constitution which is of a like character. In addition, ever since the National Government was restored in 1920 an emphatic revisionist propaganda has been carried on, proclaiming loudly to all civilized peoples: "Justice for Hungary", and which obviously found an enthusiastic response in all political, cultural and social bodies within the country, in all individuals without exception. Poland founded her claims on nothing else but the weakness and exposedness of Czecho-Slovakia, while Germany built hers upon her own strength and the doctrine of exclusive nationalism, the validity of which was disputable even in September 1938 on the principle of historical unity, as Bohemia was a hereditary dominion of the House of Hapsburgs. But Hungary's case was different: she not only laid claim to the Magyar population severed from their body but also to the territory of the Holy Hungarian Crown,<sup>2</sup> the integral part of a state with an uninterrupted past of over 1000 years. This political and geographical unity was dismembered by the Peace Treaty of Trianon in 1919,

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1. Forty-seven per cent. of exports, 42 per cent. of imports.

2. All the dominions, indeed all land of Hungary is considered as primarily and in the last resort property of the Holy Hungarian Crown. This constitutional fiction has deep roots in common knowledge.

two-thirds of the integral body of the country being allotted to the so-called Successor States including Slovakia, Ruthenia and the Northern parts of the Hungarian Plain, an area nearly as large as post-war Hungary. It included cities firmly interwoven with the, at times glorious, at times mournful days of Hungarian past. Pozsony (now Bratislava) the old coronation town of the kings, residence of the diets and the first Hungarian Independent Government (1848), capital of the remnants of the Hungarian Kingdom—while the rest was under Turkish subjugation and the suzerain prince of Trans-silvania — consisted exactly of those parts which were allotted to Czecho-Slovakia in the Palais Trianon of Versailles. Kassa, Rakoczi's capital, fought the despotic Hapsburgs in the early 18th Century and as such was the centre of a movement for Hungarian independence. Finally Ruthenia was the first part of the country occupied by the Hungarian conquerors in 896 and hence the oldest Hungarian settlement.

These ideas had been in the mind of a whole nation which after the victory of the German case at Munich was also conscious of the truth that the validity of the 1919 Treaties would not hold for ever and that they had become ripe for revision. Behind the calm surface of a nation united for a common cause without any friction, expectations overstrained throughout a long crisis might have blazed at any moment into the sudden conflagration of a mass movement. The Government had to attain some result as quickly as possible. There was no time for awaiting a more advantageous balance of powers, it had to accept the absurd situation of relying on German arbitration which by that time already had become the champion of a Czecho-Slovakia entirely exposed to her.

The Slovaks took advantage of these circumstances by negotiating in a most arrogant way, delaying the solution and thus straining the tension. Their offers were unacceptable and had it not been for Italy the failure of Hungarian demands might have led to a great disaster, perhaps to revolution, more likely to a desperate fight. Thus the decision was transferred to the board of arbitration consisting of the Italian and German foreign ministers and residing in the Palace Belvedere of Vienna. Italy had to throw in all her weight in order to balance German diplomacy which was then advocating Czecho-Slovak territorial integrity. The result was a compromise based rather on the German ideas of national cohesion and not on Hungary's historical claims. It was unsatisfactory and particularly unfortunate as frustrating the common frontier between Poland and Hungary which was destined to open a Central European alliance including these countries and Yugoslavia to safeguard their independence against both Eastern and Western territorial and ideological imperialism.

And yet there was no sign of disappointment; the joy over the solution of a long tension was to give the impetus to a happy and prosperous era in a larger country. The magic of the peace treaties had been broken at last and the annexation of the recaptured territories to the body of the country was to give employment to every citizen. But events took a different course. Hungary had to pay a dear price for her territorial gains and that had to be paid to Germany. As soon as the festivities and celebrations were over an internal crisis came into the foreground. Dr. Imrédy the prime-minister wanted to overthrow the centuries old constitution and turn his responsible power into dictatorship. Only a split in the Government Party

could save the parliamentary constitution which has been sorely tried ever since the throne was vacated. Simultaneously the national unity appearing in the critical days dissolved into its component parts. Since that time diplomacy and legislation have shown an ever growing German influence. First the eminent foreign minister M. K. de Kánya had to resign under German pressure because he tried to pursue the same policy as the other Central European states, a balance between the Axis and the democratic countries. Then anti-Jewish legislation on the lines of the Nüremburg laws was launched. This bill in co-operation with the new—and incidentally necessary and universally welcome—defence law reduced economic life to a disastrous situation, and conditions have been aggravated by the fear of an untimely radical land reform which pursued in a moderate way is the most necessary step towards saving the internal peace of the country. Though radicalism has been characteristic of Hungarian legislation ever since General Gömbös seized power the latest laws undeniably bear the mark of German influence. In the meantime the race-conscious, i.e. not assimilated and relatively very prosperous German minority of the country organized itself into a national group (Volksgruppe) with the aims tending towards a great German Empire, and this movement—remarkably enough—found no obstacles in its course. Further efforts have been made to organize the civil population on lines of the fascist—N.S.D.A.P.—parties but with no apparent success. On the other hand the re-incorporation of the territories regained has been proceeding too slowly. Dissatisfaction with this policy especially among the representatives of the historical classes and political, social, cultural and other bodies, expressed by the Upper House of the Parliament resulted in the resignation of

Dr. Imrédy on February 15th. The composition of the new cabinet however has not changed and Count Teleki the new premier has declared his intention of continuing his predecessor's work. But the individuality of Count Paul Teleki, who is a descendant of an old Hungarian aristocratic family besides a world-famous scholar, is reassuring by itself and promises to re-establish national unity and order.

In foreign policy there is no sound alternative to an adhesion to the Axis. Not only does the example of Czecho-Slovakia teach that it is wiser to be, at any price, a friend of that mighty neighbour, Germany, unrivalled in her penetration towards the East than to try to oppose her openly or secretly, but the history of Hungary proves as well that any anti-German policy based on support from western countries (France) is unreal and bound to drive her into disaster. True, a strong pro-German policy is not free of dangers; to use an outworn metaphor one never knows whether the powerful clasp of the German friend will not suffocate the embraced. Hungary too is faced with the "German menace" though not openly, perhaps more seriously, than any other country at the moment. Many of vital Hungarian interests are parallel with those of Germany at present, such as the desire for a revision of the territorial provisions of the peace treaties; still one must not forget she has been Hungary's arch-enemy and chief threat and hinderer of her independence in the past centuries.<sup>1</sup> Thus it is not at all surprising if doubts are cast on a genuine Hungaro-German friendship in the long run.

Whatever the trend of events is likely to show at

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1. The Roman later Austrian Empire not Prussia and the young Germany of the Hohenzollerns.

present there is no fear that as long as those classes that have been responsible for it in the past centuries have a decisive part in shaping Hungary's fate, her independence will be the primary goal of her policy and she will make distinction between friends and enemies on this issue of how far their interests agree with this aim. There is hope too that she will be able to preserve her constitution in spite of her being largely surrounded by and allied to totalitarian and dictatorial states, and if she succeeds there will be a common basis on which friendship with the Western Democracies can be built up and preserved.

G. VÁGÓ.

## PALESTINE

**I**N discussing the problem of Palestine one must do justice to the three parties concerned: the Arabs who are the original inhabitants of the country, the Jews who are immigrating in large numbers, and the British who conquered the Turks—with the help of the Arabs—in the Great War and afterwards occupied Palestine.

The Arabs, who laboured under continuous pressure and injustice at the hands of the Turks, began about seventy years ago to work for their independence from within the Turkish Empire. Secret societies were formed to this end and many who were persecuted for Nationalist activities had to flee to Egypt or to Europe. There they had their Nationalist organs and slowly their number increased and spread throughout the Arabic-speaking countries. During the World War a number of Arab Nationalists were executed after part of their correspondence with the British and French Consuls had been discovered by the Turks.

The Jews regarded Palestine as the Holy Land where once their prophets lived. Until lately their longing had been for centuries a spiritual and religious one. Even during the War many of the best leaders of Zionism were against political Zionism which slowly gained the upper hand. While spiritual Zionism aimed at developing in Palestine a moral and religious centre for the Jews, its political counterpart set out to create a Jewish State, a Jewish Commonwealth.

The best relations existed between the Arabs and the Jews before and during the War. A Jewish writer acknowledges that the Mohammedan countries of the East were the only countries into which the persecuted Jews could immigrate. In the latter part of the last century they had even more privileges than the Arabs themselves; for the majority were European subjects enjoying Consular protection. Dr Wiener writes, "I have heard from a competent person that the leaders of Palestine have before and during the War successfully resisted the Turkish attempt to instigate trouble among the Jews".

What is then the cause of this complete change in the relations between the Arabs and the Jews? It is the Balfour declaration, and the wish of the Jews to read in it the justification for a Jewish majority in Palestine, and a Jewish State protected by British bayonets.

The Balfour Declaration of 1917 was given at the most critical moment in the war, when Great Britain was "anxious to secure the good will of the Jewish community through the world on the side of the Allies," for the British Cabinet knew that "the great American Jewish bankers made their cooperation depend on the explicit engagement" of Great Britain to support the Jewish National Home.

It has unfortunately come to be considered as char-

acteristic as it is deplorable that Britain has broken every single pledge given to the Arabs before and after the Balfour declaration.

The main pledge is the Hussien-MacMahon engagement of 1915 in which Britain undertook to acknowledge the independence of the Arab lands including Palestine. This promise was confirmed by the combined Anglo-French declaration, of 1918, and by Allenby's declaration on entering Jerusalem. In 1917, Mr Lloyd George, as Prime Minister, made the following statement in Parliament: "Mesopotamia, Syria and Palestine are in our judgment entitled to a recognition of their separate national conditions".

Although Palestine was not a country of defeated people, since the Arabs fought with the Allies, yet it suffered worse treatment than did any conquered nation; for it was promised to people or rather individuals who wrongly claim religious and historic rights to it when they never lived in Palestine proper more than ninety years. International principles do not admit such rights as the Jews claim in Palestine, namely that a people who lived in a country ages ago and for a short period have the right of getting it back and evicting its present population. If so, then it is only just and right that the English should be evicted in favour of the Italians and the Americans in favour of the Red Indians.

The Arabs of Palestine will not accept the Judaizing of their country. The Arab autonomous Governments will rise to aid their brothers and will not accept the bondage of a part of their people. Therefore Palestine will never be an easy mouthful that can be swallowed by the Zionist wolves. If the British Government determines to enforce the fantastic Balfour declaration, it will store up an historic enmity between the British and the Arab

nations. Moreover, it will permanently antagonise the Moslems of the world on whom British interests in the East largely depend.

For twenty years the Arabs of Palestine have refused to recognise a policy which will inevitably effect their existence as a nation. They refused to admit that any foreign people can have any claim to their own country ; and though they made their points of view quite clear to the British Government and to the, so called, League of Nations, it did not appear that their appeals received any listening ears.

The Arabs' only appeal was for the application of the recommendations of the British experts, but they have seen by experience that where Jewish interests are concerned they must be the victims.

One Commission after the other has been sent to Palestine but with no result. In 1923, Mr Simpson headed a Commission which recommended the stopping of Jewish immigration and emphasised the fact that the country cannot absorb any more.

In 1929, Sir Walter Shaw headed another Commission which recommended the establishment of Self-Government. This report was studied by H.M. Government and a White Paper was issued in 1930 stating that "H.M. Government will do, and cannot be prevented from doing" according to the reports of the Commission. But this was not carried out for the influence of the Jews in Britain is very great, and their influence on the Government is most probably greater than that of the British people themselves. This influence of theirs made the then Prime Minister, Ramsay Macdonald, shiver in his boots and send a letter to Dr Wieszman in which he said that nothing in the statement of the Govern-

ment was really meant, and that what appeared to be black was really white.

In examining the kind of immigrants arriving in Palestine during the last few years one is astonished to see that the proportion of "dependants", *i.e.* economically passive elements who are a burden on others, is increasing year by year. In 1934 they constituted 61 per cent. of all the immigrants, in 1935, 66 per cent and in the first four months of 1936, 68 per cent. These are the officially known numbers. Such facts constitute a threat to the economic prospects of the country.

In 1936, a Royal Commission headed by Lord Peel was sent to Palestine. The report, which suggested and recommended the partition scheme, was in favour of the Jews; but though it was so, the Jews were not satisfied for they want the whole of Palestine; but this atrocious scheme was abandoned as it did not gain the moral support of the parties.

In examining the Zionists' policy in respect of the purchase of land, Mr Bentwick wrote, "Nor need the Palestine of the future be confined to its historic borders. Jewish civilization may extend from the Mediterranean to the Euphrates, and from Lebanon to the Nile". Now the great pig-headed Bentwick is not satisfied with Palestine alone, but even includes Iraq, Lebanon and Egypt with it.

A question is always put by the Jews, namely: Who forced the peasant to sell his land? Was he not paid a good price? Such arguments originate in the materialistic, egotistic spirit of modern Zionism in which feelings of moral and social responsibility have no part. Is not Britain the Mandatory Power over Palestine, the guardian to protect the interests of the inhabitants? In various

colonies Britain has invariably issued regulations to protect the interests, especially land-property interests, of the inhabitants. In Palestine, not only has the Government been afraid to issue any protective measure, but the Land Transfer Ordinance of 1920—1921 supposedly designed to protect Arab interests, actually protected the Jews. Moreover, the assertions of the Zionists that the peasant has been greatly enriched by land-sales is not true, for the largest transfers of land were bought from Non-Palestinians, actually resident outside Palestine.

Another means by which the Zionists are fighting the Arabs, is the boycott of Arab labour. The Zionist regulations for the Colonies are very strict. The 23rd Article of the Keren Kayemet draft-lease reads: "The lessee undertakes to execute all works connected with the cultivation of the holding ONLY with Jewish labour. Failure to comply with this duty, shall render the lessee liable to the payment of £10 for each default .... Where the lessee has contravened the provisions of this article three times, the Fund may apply the right of restitution of the holding, without paying any compensation whatsoever". Thus it is clear that every acre sold to the Jews is not only an acre lost to the Arabs, but the slightest possibility of ever getting any employment on this acre is also lost.

Dr Wiener in 1919 wrote "It is characteristic that already many Jews do not employ non-Jewish workers, do not use non-Jewish cars and do not set foot in a non-Jewish shop". Nevertheless the Zionists boast that they employ many Arabs.

Still a further means by which the Zionists are fighting the Arabs is through the British Government and Members of Parliament. Colonel Wedgwood in a letter

of his dated May 30th urges the Jews to arm and erect such defences as are possible. "Last year" he said, "some Jewish illegal immigrants were marched in chains to gaol. I think if you had freed them on that march, even by violence, British public opinion would have supported you..... Now Jews are sent to concentration camps or gaol and no protest or demonstration is made. You expect me to protest in Parliament. I am not going to do so any more. It is for the Jews in Palestine to stop that sort of thing. The same applied to Jews arrested for carrying arms..... Like you I want to see free, manly, fighting people. I want to see an army of 40,000 Jews fit to defend all that you and I hold dear".

This letter was circulated in Palestine as a pamphlet with the heading "Colonel Wedgwood calls Jewish youth to revolt. Jewish youth, we present here a letter from Wedgwood, the friend of Zionism and an M.P. Will you awake after all and read in this letter the pathway to revolution and success?"

Josiah Wedgwood protests against the arrest of illegal immigrants and those Jews arrested for carrying arms. He incites the Jews to revolt against the Government and urges them to take up arms and fight. He very cutely shuts his eyes to the thousands of Arabs sent to gaol and concentration camps with no trial, and those executed for carrying arms. It is deplorable to find such a highly educated M.P. inciting people to fight his Government. But why blame only old Josiah!!! I feel I must congratulate the British people on having an M.P. like Josiah who looks not after the welfare and prestige of the British Empire, but after the destruction of that prestige.

This age-long problem of Palestine has reached its climax. That is shown by the Nationalistic revolutionary

spirit inspiring the Arab activities pictured by the so-called terror in Palestine ; which lately has been given the adjective of being the only modern head-ache of the British Government. The case being of such importance to the British Empire, from an imperialistic point of view, it must be solved to insure the interests and spare the human anxiety of the population of Palestine which at present is considered as a secondary factor by the responsible Colonial officials.

Disregarding all morality and conscience, the authorities in England are insisting on restoring law and order in Palestine ; and in assuming such a policy, these high officials sitting at their comfortable desks, and probably smoking a cigar or a pipe, are dispatching one regiment after the other without uprooting and stemming the cause of the trouble.

The political view that the Arab rising is not Nationalistic and that it is financed by Germany and Italy is quite false ; because before the appearance of modern Germany and Italy the situation was grave, and the non-existence of rebellions is significant because it proves the power of Arabic self restraint which rested on the hope that peaceful negotiations would bring a satisfactory solution.

The British failure to bring about these expectations, forced the Arabs to resort to arms. There is no sense in fighting oppression by oppression, since this is the exact outcome of an operation based on driving the Arabs from their own homes and substituting persecuted Jews instead.

The only possible way is to solve the problem of the persecuted Jews internally in the different countries of Europe, thus effecting the stoppage of immigration and giving Palestine the right of self-determination.

The position of the Jews in Palestine under such a political status will have all the privileges of minorities since the Arabs have no hatred for the Jew for being a Jew ; but they dislike and are hostile to the Zionist policy. They oppose violently their practical desires which aim at a Jewish Palestine. This policy of theirs is being imposed upon the Arabs by force and deprives them of their National rights in their own country.

In all Arab countries of the Near East, where the Jews have not imposed upon the population unjust and presumptuous demands, they have lived peacefully with the inhabitants, were honoured and respected by them, and amongst them they achieved not only considerable material riches, but also influential positions.

The Arabs of Palestines who have always treated the Jews in a friendly spirit, would be prepared to continue to do so, and are ready to live and cooperate with the Palestinian Jews if they will give up completely their fantastic dreams of a Jewish State in the Holy Land of Christ whom they crucified, with Dr Wieszman as their champion and dictator, and work collectively for the welfare of the country and the two peoples.

SÄID J. D. DEJANI.

## INDIA'S STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

I SHALL endeavour, in this short article, to trace at broad outlines the growth of the national movement in India, analyse the present situation and indicate the trend of future development. The history of the national movement in India is indeed the history of the Indian National Congress. The Congress was founded in 1885. It was then essentially an organisation of the big bourgeoisie. But to-day it represents the entire Indian people—it is the supreme organ of mass struggle in our country. This transformation of the Congress is one of the remarkable features of our national movement.

During the latter part of the nineteenth, and in the beginning of this century, the British Government in India was attempting to strangle the industrial development of our country. British Capitalism needed an ever-expanding market and also raw materials to feed her industries. The aim of British policy in India was, therefore, to develop India as a dumping-ground for her industrial products and to force her to produce raw materials for Great Britain. This policy was evidently not only against the larger interests of India, but also against those of the rising bourgeoisie. This economic factor explains the predominantly bourgeois character of our movement in that period. Our movement was then conducted on strictly constitutional lines.

Two events at the beginning of this century diverted the movement from constitutional channels: Defeat of Russia in the Russo-Japanese War in 1905 gave a serious blow to the prestige of European powers among the peoples of the east; Bengal was then the storm-centre

of Indian politics, and so Lord Curzon decided to partition the province. This attempt of his gave birth to the Partition movement in Bengal, which gradually increased in intensity and scope. This local conflict assumed a wider national significance and prepared the whole of India for the coming struggle.

By this time the petty bourgeoisie had also joined the Congress. The slogan of "Boycott British Goods" was first raised in India at that time, and it proved very effective as a political weapon. Young men of India, and specially of Bengal, dissatisfied with the slow growth of our freedom movement turned towards anarchism. Study of world history will convince us that national revival often takes an anarchist form in its initial stages and so this outburst of anarchism in the period concerned was not peculiar to India.

I have already remarked that the Partition movement was not strictly constitutional, but it should be added that it did not, however, develop into a mass struggle. The Congress did indulge in extra-constitutional activities, but it did not then think in terms of actual capture of political power. During the Great War the Congress followed a policy of weakness and vacillation and failed to utilise the opportunity. The British Government also promised to fulfil India's claim for self-government and thereby tried to neutralise the political movement. Unfortunately for India, it succeeded to a large extent in doing so. Some of the Congress leaders were taken in by its promises. The anarchists did attempt to organise an armed rebellion, but they failed due primarily to lack of resources, and secondly to insufficient popular support.

In 1920, India was at the cross-roads. Constitutionalism was dead, because the British Government had broken its pledges. And indeed the history of British

India is a history of broken pledges. Armed revolution was sheer madness. At this critical juncture Gandhi emerged with his weapon of non-violent mass struggle and was thereupon hailed as the undisputed leader of India. One of the effects of the War was a change in the economic policy of the British Government. During the War a few industries had to be developed in India, Instead of strangling the industrial development the British Government now attempted to control it and therefore had to come to terms with the big bourgeoisie. Its economic policy was now mainly directed against the petty bourgeoisie and the masses in India. This economic factor inevitably changed the social composition of the Congress and the big bourgeoisie left it to form the All India Liberal Federation. Since 1920 the Congress is becoming increasingly an organisation of the people. It is gradually identifying itself completely with the interest of the masses, i.e. the peasants and workers of India. The non-co-operation movement of the 1920's and the civil disobedience movements of the 1930's are, I suppose, well known in this country, and therefore, need not detain us. It should, however, be added that the Government of India Act, 1935, which is now in force, is a result of these mass movements. Our attitude towards the present Constitution, which we characterise as the "Charter of Slavery" may be summed up in one sentence. We deny our oppressors the right to frame our Constitution. We demand complete transference of political power to the people of India, represented by the Indian National Congress. We want complete national independence and severance of British connection.

The present Constitution has two parts—the provincial and the federal. The so-called provincial autonomy is in operation now—the Federation is yet

to come. The Congress Ministers are now ruling eight out of eleven provinces of British India. The Congress Party has not taken office for the sake of "working" the Constitution for what it is worth. It has taken office because it wants to consolidate its position thereby. Speaking metaphorically, acceptance of office is like the creation of a buffer state—a jumping-off ground—which may prove useful in a future emergency. With regard to Federation, the Congress attitude is perfectly clear. It is one of uncompromising hostility. It has declared that an attempt to impose Federation will be resisted by the people of India. Through this monstrous scheme of Federation, the foreign power is attempting to strengthen its agents in India. It is perhaps the last gamble of our rulers to save a crumbling Empire. We are not against Federation of India as a principle. We indeed stand for an Indian Federal Socialist Republic. But that is precisely the reason why we reject the Federal scheme as envisaged in the Government of India Act. Our federal constitution will be drafted by us. We cannot accept the intolerable position of the Parliament at Westminster as the arbiter of India's destiny.

The recent victory of the Left Wing in the Congress over the issue of the Presidential election will, perhaps, open a new chapter in the history of our struggle. In that election, Subhas Chandra Bose defeated the Right Wing candidate, supported by Mahatma Gandhi and other Congress veterans, and was re-elected President of the Congress. His re-election means a victory of the militant wing in the Congress, and an intensification of our struggle for freedom. The following quotation from an interview given by Bose to the *Daily Worker* (24th January, 1938) will illustrate his idea regarding the rôle of the Congress in our national movement—"My personal view to-day is that the Indian National Congress

should be organised on the broadest anti-imperialist front and should have the two-fold objective of winning political freedom and the establishment of a socialist regime.”

It is expected that in the ensuing annual session of the Congress in March, our National Demand will be formulated and the people of India will deliver an ultimatum to the British Government for its acceptance. In the event of its refusal to accede to our Demand, another mass upheaval seems to be inevitable.

Now a few words about our attitude towards the British Empire and the British people. I should, perhaps, make it clear that we who are fighting for social and political emancipation of our country are fighting British Imperialism and not the British people. We believe that “reaction in Great Britain is strengthened and fed by the enslavement of a number of nations” (Lenin). For this reason we believe that our struggle is vitally linked up with the proletarian struggle in this country. And we who are fighting for our liberation are also fighting for socialist Britain.

The British Empire is at the present moment suffering from strain at a number of points. Externally, it is facing the challenge of the Fascist and Nazi powers in Europe and the militarist Japan in the East. Internally it is facing the organised resistance of the peoples of the Empire. It is trying to meet the Fascist challenge by following a pro-Fascist policy and by hoping to usher in an era of imperialist partnership and world reaction. Personally, I feel, however, that this pro-Fascist policy can only postpone the inevitable conflict. It is, at the same time, trying to suppress by force the legitimate aspirations of the peoples of the Empire. I am confident, however, that its efforts in this direction are doomed to

failure—British bayonets will not succeed in curbing the spirit of our people.

India holds a key position in the British Empire, and it is generally admitted that freedom of India will hasten the collapse of British Imperialism in the East. Disintegration of this system based on crime and exploitation will mean strengthening of socialist forces all over the world. For this reason India freed means humanity saved.

In view of the critical international situation it is perhaps necessary to restate the policy of the Indian people as expressed in the resolution of the Indian National Congress regarding the war danger in Europe. The Congress has declared that India can be no party to a war in which Great Britain is involved as long as she is a subject country, and will not permit her power and resources to be exploited in the interests of British Imperialism. Nor can India join any war without the express consent of her people. In the event of an attempt being made to involve India in a war, it will be resisted.

AMIYA NATH BOSE.

## BUDDHIST CELEBRATIONS IN CEYLON

**D**URING May and August of every year, Buddhists from all parts of the world visit Ceylon to pay homage to their great teacher, at one of the most sacred Buddhist shrines in the world. The spot upon which this shrine stands is believed to have been hallowed by the presence of Gautama, who was born in Northern India—Modern Nepal—on the full-moon day of Wesak (May) in 623 B.C. according to orthodox reckoning, or about sixty years later according to the calculations

recently made by some scholars. In his 29th year, appalled by the miseries to which human flesh is heir, he went forth from his father's sumptuously appointed home and wandered from place to place, studying and meditating upon the tribulations of life. Six years later, also on the full-moon day of Wesak, seated under a fig tree (*ficus religiosa*) at Gaza (Behar) he solved the problem of Salvation and attained Buddhahood (Enlightenment). The tree of that particular species has been known to Buddhists as the Bodhi or Bo—tree of knowledge. After forty-five years of ministry he attained Parinibbana (passed away)—again on the full-moon day in Wesak—and was cremated at Kusinara in Upper India. A mound-like structure was erected over his ashes, and Buddhist shrines designed in imitation of it are known as stupas, topes, or dagabas.

The approaches to this particular shrine are a sight to behold on a festival day. At the hour when the moon is full-orbed, all avenues leading to it are packed with human beings fired with the zeal to acquire merit that will enable them to overcome the miseries of transmigration. A veritable city of stalls from which flowers, fruits, comestibles and souvenirs of various kinds are sold, comes into being. The lame, the halt, and the blind occupy places of vantage, and even the able-bodied beggars are sure of a shower of alms from charitably inclined pilgrims, drawn from all parts of the Buddhist world.

The left canine tooth of the Buddha was, according to tradition, picked up from the cremation ground at Kusinara, where the last obsequies of the great Teacher were performed in 543 B.C. It was brought to Ceylon by the Princess Hemamala of the dynasty which ruled over Kalinga (probably modern Orissa) in the fourth century A.D., and which had for centuries been in

possession of the relic. King Kittissiri Meghavanna (A.D. 304-332) received it with great gratitude and rejoicing, and, with ceremony befitting the occasion, deposited it in a beautiful casket of phalika stone. This precious relic of Buddhism now reposes in Kandy—one time capital of Ceylon—guarded with care such as no other treasure receives anywhere else in the world.

Every August Kandy is *en fete* for a week and a half. The festival marks the anniversary of the arrival of the tooth in Ceylon. Elephants belonging to the Temple of Tooth and to the various Kandyan chiefs, gaily decorated and caparisoned, are taken to the entrance of the temple soon after sundown. Troupes of masked dancers and musicians, accompanied by torch-bearers who for generations have performed these functions, arrive and take their stand, in order of precedence. The procession passes through the principal streets of the town, which are brilliantly lit for the occasion, and are thronged with spectators. The most resplendent procession takes place in the afternoon of the last day of the festival. Relics of the Buddha other than the tooth are mounted upon the most majestic elephant, paraded through the streets and then taken back to the temple.

Fa Hiau, the Chinese Buddhist scholar and traveller, who made a pilgrimage to Ceylon not long after the tooth was received, relates that it was “exposed to the public in the middle of the third moon every year.” At that time “every man in the kingdom, enlightened by the doctrine” of the Buddha “and anxious to promote happiness, came from his quarter to level the roads, to adorn the highways and streets and to scatter all sorts of flowers and perfumes. The King caused to be displayed on both sides of the road representations of the five hundred and fifty manifestations through which the Buddha passed. For ninety days it reposed in the

Chapel where, throughout that period, perfumes were burned and religious rites were performed without intermission night and day.”

A. C. M. AMEER.

## CHINA TO-DAY

**W**HAT is the truth about China? An enormous tract of land inhabited by a huge race of people, daily bombed to death by enemy's planes and without so much as utter a cry loud enough to waken her friendly neighbours! A race of people that does not believe in the use of force, or does not know the value of it, and yet in the last resort is driven to employ it to defend their country in a highly troubled world! A nation that has made her particular contribution and seen her own day, but is now aged and weak and helpless, and all that it means now is that money can be invested there and got back double its original value. And with a jerk the problem is closed, though not for ever.

For we must not deceive ourselves. If China has survived all her fortunes and misfortunes of the past fifty hundred years, there is no reason why she should not continue to do so. Are not conditions in Europe unsettled enough to make us ponder a little on the great issue of mankind? We arm and arm. We make the swiftest and deadliest weapons for the destruction of human lives,—tanks, machine-guns, explosives, poisonous gases, bombing planes, and so on—all to what purpose? Schools, universities, hospitals, churches are the best targets, and women and children the best victims. To-day a crisis here, and to-morrow a crisis there, and nothing is too good an excuse for the acquisition of more and yet more wealth and power or for not

yielding one inch of our acquisitions. It is only by studying these problems and seeing China against this background that we learn to appreciate the worth of the whole mentality and philosophy of the Chinese people.

“To produce and not to possess, to perform and not to assert one’s self, to achieve and not to dominate!” so runs the famous teaching of Laotze. It may be, we Chinese have made too much of it, perhaps we had better become a militaristic people. Actually we are doing it, as seen in the determination during the present conflict to struggle to a bitter end. But there need be no fear, we cannot transform ourselves, and a Chinese will always remain a Chinese. The only thing is, in the present instance, that the world should give more thought to Laotze’s teaching, for herein lies the salvation of the world.

I. GAN.

## RENASCENT WEST AFRICA

“**W**EST AFRICA—The White Man’s Grave.” Even now one still hears this ugly phrase. People here still think of West Africa in terms of her reputation fifty years ago. It is not difficult for people to think of West Africa as still living in the Dark Ages. I sometimes wonder how many men here genuinely believe that the West African is capable of taking part in deciding the fate of his own country or how many can think of self-government for West Africa in our life-time. In these days when wolves are prowling in Europe, there is real danger that the fate of the African may be decided over his head in Europe on the plea that he is either incompetent or otherwise not qualified to decide for himself. It is very necessary to-day, therefore, that men and women in Britain should know the condition

of life in West Africa and the state of development of the people. This article will be principally on British West Africa.

The West Africa of the pre-war days is gone forever. The passing years have dragged us along with them. Contrary to popular ideas, the West African is progressive in thought and deed. With the help he has been able to get from interested bodies, he has made an advance in material development which is comparable to over a century of progress in Europe. Tremendous advances have been made in the fields of education, sanitation and medical services, administration, communications, trade, and in many other directions. These have been accompanied by a high standard of advanced thought and high ideals. And the astonishing thing is that the West African is nowhere near saturation point yet. Much remains to be done, and he is eager to carry on with doing it. He is yearning for more, and he is determined to have more, no matter what obstacles are placed in his way. Various outside factors have helped in this rapid progress. The Missionary Societies have been extremely useful; the European Governments have done something, and for the rest, they have been the natural result of inroads made by trade and commerce into our national life.

But it must be borne in mind that for all these blessings West Africa has paid to the full. If anything, the debt is on the white man's side. We have given of our substance and our natural wealth. It is common knowledge that the natural and mineral resources are being exploited not altogether to the advantage of the African, and that West Africa is a very valuable market for the manufactured goods of Europe. If we had any ideas in the past that our European masters loved us for ourselves only and were there to help us, we are fast

losing them. Germany does not hide her intentions of wanting colonies as a source of raw materials and a field of exploitation. Other countries speak in more reassuring terms and it has for long been our hope that they would set about carrying out their policy instead of talking so much about it.

So far we can look back on the past with some satisfaction. Our losses have been heavy, but our gains are substantial. Things might have been worse. But what of the future? Is West Africa forever to be a pawn in a European game? Are we never to have the chance to break through on our own? There are some Africans—they are many—who would advocate measures, however unpleasant to our masters, which would free us of the unwelcome yoke. These men preach a gospel of bitterness and hatred and unfortunately they have had good cause to be bitter. There are others, however, who would advocate co-operation between West Africans and the Europeans, who offer us a good chance of freedom. We in British West Africa look to Britain to help us foster that spirit of co-operation which some of us believe is a better way of achieving independence.

Co-operation is something positive and progressive if both sides satisfy certain conditions. There must be a spirit of give and take on both sides. The subject peoples must have equality of opportunity in achieving to all fields of administration of the country, and this will mean a more vigorous policy of training Africans to take their part in the government of their homeland. Then again, the European partner must take the African fully into his confidence. Nothing has done so much harm to progress in West Africa as lack of confidence in the rulers of the country, and the spirit of suspicion on both sides. There is no reason to suppose that the

African will ever betray the confidence placed in him, especially as his own land is affected.

But by far the most important thing at the present is a genuine policy on which both Africans and Europeans can work. The African can work with all his energy if he knows the work he is doing and its plan. With a sound policy and a healthy relationship between the partners, things are bound to look up. The African will give all there is in him if he can trust the European. A still wider improvement in education and in the economic life of the people will be brought about. The national life of the people will become richer with new and modern ideas brought to influence it.

In all this the European partner stands to gain too. For, with the improvement in the condition of life of the African, he will be able to absorb more from Europe. Europe is about as necessary to Africa as Africa is to Europe. Clearly it will be better for both sides if relations between them are free and if both sides can give freely in trust and confidence. Healthy co-operation now will bring prosperity and perhaps happiness to both sides.

If we cannot have co-operation the future is dark. Conflicts will arise which will have unforeseen results. We in West Africa are fully aware of this, and we are seriously considering the future. A movement has started in West Africa which is gathering momentum every day. It is a new awakening to the needs both spiritual and material of the homeland. With this new awakening there is the determination to keep advancing and not let anything stay us. How this new spirit will work will depend on how far we receive support or interference from Europe, but that it will go on growing we have no doubt. Through a spirit of co-operation West Africa can become a self-governing country in

a generation and able to hold her own in world affairs. The intelligent West African has never accepted the policy of trusteeship and patronage as lasting. He has got to the stage when he demands full partnership as the basis of his relationship with Britain. If this were accepted, the West African would find it easier to be proud of his place in the British Empire. This policy would also mean the death of the colonial problem as far as it touches British West Africa, for the onus of deciding would rest on the Africans themselves.

Undoubtedly many problems will arise to make the working out of the policy of co-operation and full partnership difficult. For instance, the financial and commercial interests will have to be taken into account, and they may prove a serious obstacle. Yet big faith on both sides will make it possible for the two peoples to work in amity and complete confidence. It is fitting to end this article by quoting Dr. Aggrey, the eminent African: "You can play some sort of tune on the white keys of a piano; you can play some sort of a tune on the black keys; but to produce real harmony you must play both the black and the white keys." In this noble conception of co-operation lie peace, prosperity and happiness for Africa.

A. L. ADU.

## THE NEW WORLD

**T**HE Modern World that has resulted in the main from the advance of science is so profoundly different from any world that has preceded it that its problems require intelligent and new minds, capable of discerning all that was good in the old, but unprejudiced by blind

acquiescence in the customs and methods of an irrevocable past.

The outstanding characteristics of the new age are: (1) The intimate proximity of the individuals that inhabit the earth and of the national communities into which they have congregated; (2) the incalculable growth of power which the machine and increasing insights into the secrets of nature have placed like an Alladin's lamp at the disposal of mankind.

The problem of nationality is perhaps the most urgent and important of our day. Individuality by its very nature finds full and proper development only in concourse between man and his fellow men. So we have the family, and from the family by slow historic process has evolved the race, the village, the city-state, the nation, the empire and now suddenly the world community.

Hitherto patriotism was the adequate and moral solution. My country! My debt to it is incalculable. On the lowest material plane it has supplied me with all that has made life and health possible. On higher planes—moral and spiritual—its value can only be expressed by the poet. It is well that I should live and, if need be, die for my country.

To-day we know that patriotism is no longer enough. England has become—with disconcerting suddenness—a mere village in a vast, indeed limitless, country—the whole world. Are our hearts and minds big enough to embrace and be embraced by the new unity? The diversities of race, language, religion, social custom, political machinery, culture and tradition seem to place immovable barriers in the way of the advance demanded.

I venture to suggest that the Covenant of the League of Nations gives expression to a realistic and principled solution that is at least of *ad interim* value and may keep the road open towards the higher and more perfect goal.

The fact and worth of national sentiment is recognised. Within the borders of its own territory the State is given complete liberty to develop and express itself according to the light of its own genius. But the time has passed when it can assert its "sovereignty" in the international sphere—especially where its "rights" against other States are in question, and it seeks to establish them by force or threat of force. War is therefore declared to be a matter of universal concern, and International Society constitutes itself the Court to which in the first place all claims against other States—legal or equitable—must be brought. War in disregard of this provision and aggression are written down as crimes against which all members of the League are pledged to co-operate in resistance.

Of late the League system appears to have broken down. Perhaps part of the evidence of its essential value is to be found in the dangerous anarchy that has followed the non-use of its machinery. But two vital questions arise. Why have peace-loving Governments abandoned its methods and principles? Is there any hope of recovery?

Only the briefest hints at reply can be given. Governments, obsessed by the methods and purposes of the old diplomacy, have refused to act in defence of World Peace and Order where difficulties have threatened such a course and their own national material interests have not been obviously and immediately involved. Recovery is possible when the peoples of the world, seemingly wider awake to the vision of the new world than the statesmen who misrepresent them, insist on a policy more in accordance with the requirements of that new world.

ARTHUR DAVIES.

## THE PATENT OFFICE

AT last there were so many people who wanted to save mankind and so many proposals were produced for the purpose that a special office had to be set up to deal with this branch of activity. Henceforth, then, it was here one submitted one's diverse projects and had them professionally examined, finally procuring patents for them, which implies the right to issue them in the world market. Most of them were of course quite preposterous. One person submitted a proposal for solving the problem by a lever, the two ends of which were to be placed, the one under the earth and the other under Jupiter which was much heavier, with Mars as the fulcrum, so that the earth could be lifted up in the heavens and mankind find eternal bliss. A daring idea, worthy of all encouragement, if only it did not prove to be too expensive in practice. Of course one procured one's patent for ideas of this kind, regardless of the practicability of the invention. The same was the case with other proposals which were clearly and rationally conceived. One person who described himself as a sergeant sent in a project which reduced itself to the proposal that he should become the leader of the entire world, after which he guaranteed that all would be well. His minute account of this plan suffered from a certain vagueness in detail, but he enclosed a photograph. This, in spite of the lack of clarity, was a proposal worth consideration, for such a solution would undoubtedly have its advantages, there would be more unity and order in all things, and he procured the necessary patent for his idea. Another person had invented a remarkable kind of belt, containing a mixture of electricity, radium and finely ground horse manure which was a cure for

everything if worn tightly round the waist. Someone else wanted humans to return to their primitive state, to become single-celled organisms and at the same time be turned inside out, since, with the aid of a profusely documented treatise, he was able to prove that the root of all their ailments, excluding the fact that they were too complicated, lay in the fact that they went about with their outsides outside and their insides inside, whereas the situation would be reversed if they were turned inside out. This also had to be patented, since there was undoubtedly something to be said for it. One person came along with the idea that one ought to rub the human body with sheep tallow and every morning and evening give it a dose of two table-spoonfuls of superphosphate of calcium nitrate dissolved in sausage dripping. And so it went on. But the majority of the proposals were quite impossible, either confused and incomprehensible or else altogether too fantastic ever to be put into practice. Many such proposals were submitted. The stairs were always crowded with people scuttling up and down with fanatical, desperate expressions on their faces, ecstatic enthusiasts with gleaming childlike eyes, many of these most importunate. Besides this a vast flood of proposals daily arrived by post. Religions streamed in in profusion, they had to be sorted, divided into new and old religions, modern ones, practical religions and unpractical ones, religions with stone-age gods and with ones that were still alive and were in the act of reviewing their hordes and selecting their orthodox disciples with rigorous exactitude, thereby assuring the permanence of their recent works of salvation. Numerous proposals were also submitted for the rebirth of mankind—a favourite idea of the age—and the methods for setting about it, how that which was at present alive

should be done away with and the nature of the new humanity, points on which the various originators of the suggestion were not unanimous. The office was positively flooded with projects and ideas of all possible kinds. The tables swam with them and by degrees the walls in one room after another were filled with shelves from floor to ceiling, the ideas were catalogued according to the most modern classification systems so that they could be found when necessary. The whole undertaking was managed most efficiently and the organisation was exemplary. The staff worked untiringly, full of enthusiasm for their task, often overtime. They were unable to sleep at night because they lay awake and turned over in their minds proposals which had been submitted during the day. Only persons who were genuinely interested were engaged and they were passionately absorbed in all they had to read and comprehend, they were happy to be at the hub of the highest endeavours of humanity, to be able to follow all that was going on in their age in the human mind. Careful thinning out was necessary and one had to see that not just anything was put forward without criticism, or else the world might fall into the hands of pure quacks and bunglers, perhaps even of madmen and adventurers. On the other hand one had to be careful not to dismiss anything which might be of value, for reasons of narrow-mindedness or conventional prejudice, thereby bringing misfortune or destruction to mankind. It was work of an extraordinarily exacting and wearing nature, but also it was incredibly interesting.

In the first year more than ten thousand patents were issued. At the end of the year the state of affairs in the world had also improved. Mankind had changed in many respects, although it was still possible to recognise some people. True, one or two more wars had started,

but these had automatically been absorbed in the number that were already in progress and as a result the territory between the different war zones had been incorporated, so that now only one war was being fought. The two great statesmen on either side who had achieved this also applied for patents for their idea. This was of course granted and in addition to this both of them were presented jointly with the great international peace prize.

So it continued to go on with the same good results and the office premises were enlarged more and more. The staff worked at full pressure, loyally and with the same enthusiastic interest. None of them ever became over-worked or neurotic or ill in any way and they never took a holiday. And thanks to this devoted work the world became better and better, so that one could often notice a difference between morning and evening and the whole patent office really became more and more superfluous. But it was continued even so, for mankind was unable to live without idealism, even if everything really was ideal already. Those proposals and ideas that still remained an object of attention had, however, now no longer anything but a purely spiritual value, and were entirely lacking in any practical significance. They constituted solely a diversion for man's life of imagination, a vague ethereal world which still remained after everything in actual fact was already perfect.

PÄR LAGERKVIST.

Pär Lagerkvist (1891- ), son of a station-master at Växjö in Sweden, studied for a short period at Uppsala University, later journalist and dramatic critic. First collection of poems 1914. Since then has become known as one of foremost dramatists and prose writers of modern Scandinavia.

“PLUS CA CHANGE, PLUS C’EST LA  
 MÊME CHOSE”

“No peace treaty shall be regarded as such, which has been made with the secret reservation of matter which would lead to a future war.

For in this case it would merely be an armistice, and not a peace.”

\* \* \* \*

“No independant state (small or great, size makes no difference in this respect) shall be acquirable by another by inheritance, exchange, purchase or deed of gift.

For a state.....is a society of people over which no one but itself has the right of command or of disposal.”

\* \* \* \*

“Standing armies .... are a perpetual menace of war to other states through their readiness to appear armed for it. They incite these others to outbid each other in unlimited numbers of armed forces, and as peace finally becomes more costly than a short war, on account of the expenditure on armies, these themselves become the cause of wars of aggression undertaken to reduce this burden.”

\* \* \* \*

“The voluntary exercise of citizens skilled in arms to ensure the safety of themselves and of the state against attacks from without is quite another matter.”

\* \* \* \*

“Of the three forces, the might of armies, the strength of alliances, and the power of wealth, the last might well be regarded as the most reliable weapon of war.”

\* \* \* \*

“No state shall forcibly interfere with the constitution and government of another.

If a state, through its dimensions were divided into two parts each of which..... laid claim to the whole,..... so long as this internal conflict is not decided, the influence of a foreign state would be an infraction of the rights of a people struggling with internal disease, and would therefore be in itself a bad example to others, and so jeopardise the autonomy of all states.”

\* \* \* \*

“No state when at war with another shall employ such methods as shall render mutual trust in a future peace impossible.”

EMMANUEL KANT, *Essay on Perpetual Peace*, 1795.

(Selected and translated by G. F. RODGERS.)

## A LIVING LANGUAGE

THE origin and evolution of language has always been a subject for speculation. Those who have approached the problem in a scientific spirit have found that speech, though the most familiar of man's accomplishments, is yet one of the most difficult to investigate or explain.

Even the nature of language is commonly misunderstood, particularly in regard to the so-called "living" tongues. Do languages in fact "live" at all? In the biological sense they do not. They are not like plants, which evolve from the root out of some inner, organic necessity. On the contrary, their form is moulded and diversified by purely *external* forces, namely, the uses to which they are applied.

Writers like Chaucer, Luther and Dante were—it is generally recognised—largely instrumental in shaping what had been till then fluid and undeveloped languages into relatively uniform literary idioms. In this sense all languages are "artificial" products.

There is thus no philological objection to the creation of a constructed language for international purposes like Esperanto. Once the skeleton structure and vocabulary is accepted, development proceeds, as in the case of a natural language, along the lines of absorption and rejection. That certain clearly defined desiderata, or basic norms, underlie the structure of any artificial language that is to be universally acceptable has long been recognised by the many philologists—including Meillet, Jespersen and Collinson—who have studied the question. Esperanto possesses both of the fundamental requirements: the utmost simplicity and absolute regularity of grammar combined with the maximum degree of internationality in its vocabulary. The sounds

of Esperanto approximate to those of Italian; its grammar is simple as in English, but has the added advantage that no exceptions exist. Moreover, a system of word-building (composition and affixes) greatly reduces the vocabulary required and lends to the language a flexibility akin to German or Greek. Even a non-linguist may be able to note some of these qualities in the following sentence: "Svislando estas kvar-lingva, kaj lojalo al la patrolando ne dependas de la lingvo parolata (Switzerland is 'quadrilingual,' and loyalty to the fatherland does not depend on the language spoken)."

The chief claim that Esperantists advance for their language is that, alone of all the many similar projects published, it has long since left the stage of theoretical discussion and is in practical everyday use by people throughout the world. This accumulated experience over many years has served not only to develop Esperanto but to unify it. Those who feared that it might disintegrate into dialects find that in actual practice contact between different nationalities leads, according to the well-known linguistic principle, to a smoothing-out of national peculiarities of pronunciation and style and the creation of new and workable international standards. Once a working knowledge is acquired, immediate use may be made of the language through the existing worldwide organisation of Esperantists with its appointed representatives in the chief towns of practically every country.

To the extent that Esperanto has now come to be used for international conferences, broadcasts, plays, travel, correspondence, general and specialist literature, it may fairly claim—equally with the natural languages which it seeks only to supplement—to be a truly "living" language.

MARK DU MERTON.

## INTERNATIONAL LAW MY FOOT?

**Y**OUR trouble, Peter, is that you have the national mind. You are quite content to sit in that chair drinking your beer and to let every other country but England go to the devil. Whenever I mention International Law you compare it immediately with State Law. You cannot realise that it is a unique law and cannot be compared with State Law.

Let me put it to you in this form. You went to a Public School and there tradition stood for as much as rules and regulations—probably for more? You soon learnt that if you broke school regulations punishment followed—often in a most painful form. You therefore obeyed these rules to avoid punishment. That is the State Law you talk about.

But you also obeyed an unwritten school code, imposed upon you by years of custom and tradition. This code was not “Thou must not” but rather “It is not done”. But if you broke it you were looked upon as an outsider. You were ostracised and went about with the feeling of being an outcast from your friends. It made you most unhappy. You longed to get into the old understanding with people again.

That is how International Law works. Years of custom and tradition have created a Public School spirit amongst nations. Certain things are “not done” and it is better to follow these conventions of conduct than to suffer ostracism, which affects both the economic and moral well-being of a nation.

International Law is roughly the bond of the International Old School Tie created out of a common civilisation among nations, and moulded by similar conceptions of right and wrong, *i.e.* “What is done”

and "What is not done". That is why uncivilised savages cannot wear the International Old School Tie—their ideas of "What is done" and "What is not done" differ from those of civilised peoples.

But I agree with you on this point. If Europe goes on as it is doing the International Public School system will come down with a crash—and with it civilisation. And as to that, Peter, the responsibility will lie at your door.

R. A. PITT.

## UPWARD

CALM logic desiccates,  
Takes to the hill side,  
But does not climb.  
Climb you must in a dream.

Builded are iron racks,  
Straight up the hill side,  
But lost the climb.  
Climb you must in a dream.

Copper is new gossamer,  
Grey striding over a hill side,  
But power in straight lines negates.  
Climb you must in a dream.

Dunlopillo and shadows  
Have brought down the hill side,  
But shadows are shadows, 'Bowre of Blis'.  
Climb you must in a dream.

Tall pines in the woodpath,  
Crickets scrape on the hill side,  
Sun dries up the last tears.  
Climb you must in a dream.

STEPHEN COATES.

## Q. C. R. U. F. C.

THIS season's XV has broken all records, but only just ! On very few occasions have Queens' reached the semi-final of the knock-out competition and then only to be beaten, usually all too convincingly. Not only has this year's team reached this exalted stage of the competition but have managed to force a second appearance on the University ground.

The term opened with a match against a strong Guy's Hospital "A" XV, and was lost 3—4; this was the only reverse of the whole season apart from that in the "cuppers." The next match was against a Wasps Extra 1st XV, who although outplayed, managed to force a 3—3 draw. In the first round of the cuppers Peterhouse were the victims by 16 points to 6. Then came Corpus, who, in spite of dazzling play by R. B. Bruce Lockhart, were defeated 8—3. In the semi-final Queens' managed to survive a gruelling 80 minutes and hold St John's to a pointless draw. St John's with their International Trial hooker succeeded in getting the ball with monotonous regularity, but great credit goes to the Queens' team for their magnificent tackling and for the very able defensive covering of their forwards. In the replay St John's won 8—3. Queens' opened the scoring with a penalty goal, a lead which was kept until half time. St John's, the eventual Cup-winners, then succeeded in scoring two dropped goals. Queens' would undoubtedly have won had they had a fair share of the ball, but they were out-hooked. It is interesting to note how magnificent was the Queens' defence for their line was not crossed throughout the "cuppers."

J. H. Gibson at full back has been a tower of strength, his touch kicking and fielding being of the very best.

Congratulations to him on being awarded his "LX. club" colours. Congratulations also to A. G. S. Wilkes on having achieved such excellent press reports while playing for the Wasps. C. M. A. Bathurst has again represented the University. Another player who deserves a Seniors' Trial next season is G. P. S. Mellor, the scrum half. But it is superfluous to discriminate in a team whose secret of success lay in the fact that there was not one single weak link.

The following represented the College :—full-back, J. H. Gibson; three-quarters, R. A. Pitt, A. G. S. Wilkes, S. L. C. Medrington, D. R. Carter, B. A. Maynard, E. R. Paterson; half-backs, R. S. Allen, G. P. S. Mellor; forwards, D. H. Hobson, D. W. Millington, P. H. L. Ling, I. Macdonald, M. A. P. Wood, E. Hughes-Narborough, C. M. A. Bathurst and J. A. H. Nicholson.

C. M. A. BATHURST, *Hon. Sec.*

### Q. C. A. F. C.

THE CLUB has had a fairly successful season so far as friendly matches are concerned, in fact not a friendly match has been lost, but in vital league and cupper matches we slipped rather badly. The first XI have been relegated from the first division and suffered the (now usual) fate of passing out of the Cup in the First Round after beating Jesus 4—1 in the preliminary round.

The second XI have done very well this season, chiefly due to the enthusiasm of the first year men who compose almost the entire team, and have lost very few matches. We are expecting big things from them in the "Getting-on" competition.

Colours this term have been awarded as follows :—Full Colours to D. D. Kidson, J. C. Tyrell, K. Hind, J. Upsdell and H. N. Horsfall. Half Colours to H. Asquith, E. W. Herd and G. H. Good.

J. DAINTY, *Hon. Sec.*

## Q. C. B. C.

THIS has been a satisfactory term if nothing more. The first boat soon sorted itself out but progress was slow until A. Hordern of Jesus took over the coaching. Under him the crew developed a firm beginning and really began to put some work down. Lester continued the good work and was bringing them nicely up to racing pitch when a week before the races illness upset the boat.

The crew settled down again but they had lost much of their sparkle. On the first three nights they chased Corpus I and on the Friday were only two feet off them at the Plough when Magdalene I, who eventually got their oars, caught them. On the Saturday the boat went really nicely and kept well away from Emmanuel, who had already made three bumps.

The second boat failed to come up to early expectations. They went down two places. The third boat, however, went up two places into the the fourth division. With two exceptions all members of the second and third crews were 'freshers'; their experience in the Lents should come in very useful next term.

M. G. MACK SMITH, *Hon. Sec.*

## Q. C. A. C.

OUR activities this term were confined to the Inter-College Knock-out Competition. We were drawn against Clare in the First Round. The College gave us excellent support and we managed to turn out quite a strong team. Unfortunately we lost the match in the last race, the score being 63 points to 61 points. However, as Clare did so well against Emmanuel, one of the finalists (they

lost 63—61), there is every reason to believe that given the same support next year, we may do very well.

The following were awarded Colours after the match :—P. F. Thompson, J. G. Buckingham, E. R. Paterson, F. S. Aldercotte, D. D. Kidson. Half Colours were awarded to A. B. Ware and A. J. Wolstenholme.

P. F. THOMPSON, *Hon. Sec.*

### Q. C. G. C.

THE first season of the Club has been very successful. I. S. Keelan, M. L. Lawrence, B. A. Maynard and A. D. Peploe represented the College in the Welch Cup. In the First Round against Peterhouse both pairs played good golf to defeat their opponents by two holes. In the Second Round they were drawn against Magdalene, but unfortunately had to scratch owing to the injury of B. A. Maynard and M. L. Lawrence. Next year the team will have three of this years members and should have every prospect of establishing a reputation for the College at the game. A. D. Peploe has been elected President and I. S. Keelan Hon. Sec.

A. D. PEPLAE, *Hon. Sec.*

### Q. C. S. R. C.

THE club has had a disappointing Season and at present seems likely to return to the third division of the League. The team's failure is partly due to the absence of members, owing to other athletic activities, and injuries. Of the freshmen, F. J. G. Marley was outstandingly the best player. He alone varies his length and pace, and if he improves as he has done this year, he should be a very useful player. A. D. Peploe has not shown himself up to the form of the second division club's first strings.

A. D. PEPLAE, *Hon. Sec.*

## Q. C. RIFLE C.

THE club has been shooting every week in the Inter-College League Small-Bore Competition. We should be placed third out of the five teams competing.

We have also representatives in the various University teams and several other members.

Colours have been awarded to A. C. M. Ameer and P. N. S. Clark.

M. BAREFOOT, *Hon. Sec.*

## QUEENS' HOUSE, ROTHERHITHE

QUEENS' HOUSE has had to face a crisis. Mr Bache, whose work in the club has been of inestimable value, was forced to give up. The gap he left was very hard to fill and the idea of abandoning the mission altogether had to be faced.

A letter was sent to every member of the College putting the facts before them and urging them to attend a meeting to be held on March 1st. This meeting was well attended. A proposal to carry on the House for the present with Mr Fricker, an old member of the club, in charge, was carried unopposed. After the sorry financial position and our obligations to old Queens' men and senior members of the club had been pointed out, the meeting was thrown open for discussion. Many constructive criticisms were made regarding visits to the club, subscriptions and the election of a committee. *That the House should be continued was carried unanimously.*

All we now need is the whole-hearted support, not of a minority, as in the past, but of a majority; Queens' House is not just another — charity, but part of Queens' from which as much enjoyment can be gained as from any other college club.

P. J. BELL

## THE RYLE SOCIETY

The four papers read this term have been both varied and interesting.

A. L. Adu gave us a fresh insight into the African's attitude to God and Christianity. This was followed by a thoroughly common-sense paper by A. G. Bailey entitled 'The Parish Priest.' The last two papers of the term were read by Fellows of the College. Mr Wood speaking on 'Life after Death' was as excellent as we expected—for he has written a book on the subject. Dr. McCullagh's 'Biology and Christianity' was well attended and brought the term to a fitting conclusion.

The meetings this term have been much better attended. Let it not be forgotten, however, that all are welcome.

P. J. BELL, *Hon. Sec.*

## Q. C. CON. C.

THE Queens' College Conservative Club was formed at the end of last year and flourished immediately. Its membership went up from some ten to some 60 this term. Its dance was a success, all the more creditable because organised by one college on a 'Varsity scale.

It has sought more co-operation with C.U.S.C. and has met with sympathetic help. In the C.U.C.A. it has gained much influence.

By it Queens' has attained a reputation (our opponents call it notoriety) which is the envy of many.

J. HAMAUI, *President.*

## Q. C. LAW SOCIETY

WITH no law don and thirty-two men reading law it was decided on November 21st to inaugurate a Law Society. With three years reading totally different subjects this new Society confines itself mainly to general subjects with moots at intervals. The Town Clerk of Cambridge and the Governor of Wormwood Scrubs have already addressed the Society. Professor Yule Bogue (of the Ruxton case) and the Governor of Borstal are our next visitors. A moot was held on February 20th and the Annual Dinner takes place on March 10th, with A. F. Topham, Esq., K.C. (Queens') as the guest of honour.

R. A. PITT, *Hon. Sec.*

## CORRESPONDENCE

QUEENS' COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE

*To the Editor of 'The Dial'*

SIR—I should very much like to enquire of those qualified to judge, the reason for the dirge-like nature of the hymn-tunes usually inflicted on us in college chapel.

There are so many splendid, even beautiful, hymn-tunes that I cannot but be amazed that precisely those hymns are sung which have been subjected to the hopping, jerking and at that arbitrary unmelodiousness of third-rate hymn-writers.

My dictionary defines a hymn as a "song in honour of the Divinity." I myself should be grossly insulted if the majority of our hymn-tunes were sung in my honour.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

PUZZLED FRESHMAN.

[I myself suggest a chapel committee—SUB-ED.]

## EDITOR'S NOTE

SOME explanation is perhaps owing for the exclusion of replies to the article on the Church appearing in last term's *Dial*.

Of the two points of view, the rationalistic is by far the less difficult to put and the least out of keeping with a college magazine; the opposite view is, I think, not only unsuitable but is quite beyond the range of most undergraduates to express it, as is clearly shown by the emotional religiosity to which most descend when attempting to expound it.

The two viewpoints are fundamentally irreconcilable, and it seems to me to serve no useful purpose to pursue a discussion where the contestants never come to grips. No man was ever talked into religion, still less talked out of it.

The question is in my opinion one for the privacy of one's own mind or at most of one's own rooms and the fact that only one reply has been received seems to show that I am not alone in this view.

How future editors view the question is no concern of mine; for myself I prefer to let the discussion lapse.

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