



"CO-OPERATION" AND THE "TELEGRAPH."

THE TORY PARTY POLICY.

The "Sheffield Co-operator" is a chivalrous name! The self-appointed dictator of the city, known generally as "Current Topics," and amongst better-informed people as "Current Comics," is very much concerned about a front-page article of ours which showed the difference between mere "mischievous" and "economy," and demonstrated, beyond a peradventure, that to follow out the oft-repeated injunctions of "Current Comics" would reduce the people of Sheffield to a community of ignoramuses.

His, of course, no reply to the article, but switches off in the attempt to make a case against the Sheffield Co-operative Party for printing this journal in Manchester.

Sheffield and Manchester.

Let us examine his case. The "Co-operator" is printed by our own colleagues, on our own printing press, by entirely trade union labour, and by men who are working a 44-hour week under the best possible conditions. The profits of the concern do not go to any individual owner, or even group of directors, but are distributed to the co-operators through their respective societies throughout the country.

The point is, of course, that co-operators believe that if you want a job done well you should do it yourself. We have organised insurance, banking, production, and distribution of commodities, even the building of houses, for ourselves, by ourselves. Why should we give profits to private enterprise when we can do the job as efficiently, if not more efficiently, than anybody else can do so for us?

Does "Current Topics" want the printing for the "Sheffield Telegraph"? If so, we would like to point out we have no guarantee that our copy would appear intact, judging by our experience when we have sent letters to this reputable journal. Even so, we have no desire to swell the profits of the Berry group, any more than we have to increase the hold of capitalism generally upon the people's food supply and the supply of other commodities.

If we print the "Sheffield Co-operator" in Manchester, and thereby engage Manchester labour, we would point out that we in Sheffield make co-operative shirts and overalls for the people in Manchester, our C.W.S. shirt factory in Sheffield, one of the largest factories of its kind in the country, employs hundreds of Sheffield workers; far more workers, in fact, than the Co-operative Publishing Society employs in all its printing works in Manchester. Is Sheffield to carry on its own industry? Use up its own guns and armour plates? Sheffield industries are pre-eminently of the type that cannot possibly be consumed by the people of Sheffield, and it is therefore mere talk for "Current Topics" to use this absurd argument, though it is in strict accordance with his usual alleged "logic."

The Conservative Policy.

Whilst we are dealing with the "Telegraph," it is interesting to note that this journal is again showing its tender solicitude for the welfare of the co-operative movement. Through glaring placards and alarming headlines it has represented the co-operative movement as being captured by the socialists. The

news columns, and, of course, "Current Topics" columns, have failed to justify either the placards or the headlines; but as the mandate has gone forth from the Conservative headquarters, the thing has had to be stated by their faithful servants in the Press.

A recent circular issued by the Conservative Party, and headed "Private and Confidential," will show the position in which the Conservative Press is placed. The circular reads:—

The first great essential is that all Conservative and Unionist organisations should realise that the Co-operative Movement has definitely entered the political arena and requires to be dealt with just as thoroughly as any orthodox organisation of our opponents.

Exactly. The "Telegraph" is out to fight co-operation. The movement is regarded as an organisation of "opponents."

Recently Mr. A. V. Alexander, M.P., attended the headquarters of the Conservative Association in London, and addressed the Young Conservatives' Union on the subject of "Co-operation." At a later debate the Young Conservatives decided by a big majority that "we do not think that the Co-operative Movement is for the welfare of the community." This information was conveyed to Mr. Alexander by the secretary, Mr. L. W. Joysson-Hicks (son of the Tory Home Secretary).

Surely this should be definite enough for anybody, but we do not see it stated in the "Sheffield Telegraph" as the official Conservative attitude towards our movement! In fact, the "Telegraph" professes to be not merely neutral, but anxious for the success of the movement! The truth is that the Conservatives are so anxious to help us that they have a special department at the Tory headquarters, Plalco-

Chambers, Westminster, to deal specifically with the Co-operative Movement. Local Tory organisers are supplied with information; they are urged to write letters to the local Press and in a good number of cases hand-outriders have been known to send down special organisers to run campaigns against us.

Tory Gramophone.

The treatment by the "Sheffield Telegraph" is therefore quite consistent with its principles, and on a par with hundreds of other Conservative journals throughout the country. Our chairman at the recent Gledham Congress produced piles of newspaper cuttings which told the Tory tale almost like an Edison Bell record, all designed to shake the confidence of co-operators in their own movement. We would ask our readers to examine the files of the "Sheffield Telegraph," and find, if possible, any occasion in which the co-operative movement has been really supported. Take the recent case, placards, headlines, letters to the editor, and special interviews were given to try and prove that the movement was in danger of socialist control. The meeting of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Society was represented as being in uproar because certain questions were asked; and again stout placards were exhibited.

Silence is Golden.

When, however, at the Brightside and Carbrook meeting, the president—who has been in all the interviews regarding the agreement, who is himself a member of the National Executive of the Co-operative Party, and who has consistently supported the Party's policy since its inception—when Mr. Dimbleby made a clear statement of the actual position, the news was tucked away in the "Telegraph" with a small obituary

Continued on next page.

CO-OPERATORS' DAY : SATURDAY, JULY 2nd, 1927.

3 p.m. High Hazels Park.

CHAIRMAN:

MR. J. DIMBERLINE, J.P.

(President, D. & C. C. S. Ltd.)

SPEAKER:

MR. A. V. ALEXANDER, M.P.

FULL MUSICAL PROGRAMME:

GRIMSTHORPE PRIZE BRASS BAND, United Choirs, Community Singing, Public Dancing, Children's Massed Dancing, Sports, Punch and Judy, Conjurors, and Ventriquist Shows (Professor De Lyke and Miss Winifred de Lyke), Half-hour concert by the "Blue Bird" Concert Party

LOOK OUT FOR FIRE BALLOONS.
PARCELS OF CO-OPERATIVE PRODUCTIONS FOR EVERY FINDER

A GRAND PROCESSION

comprising 70 decorated vehicles and two Brass Bands.

2-15 p.m.—Sheffield and Ecclesall Section proceed via The Moor, Pinstone Street, Fargate, High Street, Commercial Street, and Sheaf Street. 2-15 p.m.—Brightside and Carbrook Section proceed from Broughton Lane, Attercliffe Road, to Farnall Road. JOINT PROCESSION start 2-15 p.m. from FURNIVAL ROAD, and proceed: Blunk Street, Wicker, Savile Street, Attercliffe Road, Staniforth Road, Main Road, Catcliffe Road, to

HIGH HAZELS PARK.

Get your Programmes now, Price One Penny. Prizes for Lucky Numbers.

NOTE—Winning numbers will be exhibited in all the business premises of the two Co-operative Societies on Saturday, July 2nd.

Teas and Refreshments in the park at moderate charges by the Brightside and Carbrook Catering department.

LOOK TO YOUR VOTE!

The Qualifying period for the new Register is the THREE months ending on the 1st June, 1927, and the last day for claims to be registered is 7th August, 1927. A house-to-house inquiry will be made throughout the area. Make your claim when the inquiry is made, and make sure your name is included when the electors lists are published on 15th July, 1927.

To Get a Parliamentary Vote.

- (1). A MAN must be 21 years of age on 1st June, 1927, and have resided in any one of the Sheffield Divisions for three months previous to that date.
- (2). A WOMAN must be 30 years of age, and have occupied premises, dwelling-house, or unfurnished rooms for three months previous to 1st June, 1927, in any one of the Sheffield Divisions.
- (3). EVERY WOMAN who is 30 years of age, and whose husband is qualified to be on the register as the occupier of premises, dwelling-house, or unfurnished rooms, is entitled to a Parliamentary Vote.

To Get a Local Government Vote.

- (1). A MAN OR WOMAN is eligible to be on the register for Local Government elections if he or she is 21 years of age, and has occupied premises, dwelling-house, or unfurnished rooms, for three months previous to July 1st, 1927, in the City of Sheffield.
- (2). WOMEN who are 30 years of age, and whose husbands are qualified to be on the register as Local Government Electors, are entitled to a Local Government Vote.

Further information can be obtained from Mr. A. BALLARD, 6, Bank Street, Sheffield (Telephone: Central 2938).

REMEMBER that the qualifying period is the THREE MONTHS ending 1st June, 1927.
That all claims must be made before 7th August, 1927.

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| Household Flour | Margarine |
| Federation Self-Raising Flour | Lard |
| Baking Powder | Butter |
| Sutox (Shredded Beef Suet) | Cheese |
| Nutrix (Infants' Food) | Biscuits |
| Condensed Milk | Pickles |
| Custard Powder | Sauces |
| Table Jellies | Jams |
| | Marmalade |
| | Candied Peel |

And many other articles indispensable to domestic economy.



Sold by Co-operative Societies only.

MOCK PARLIAMENT AT HILLSBOROUGH.

CO-OPERATIVE POLITICS VINDICATED.

"Co-operative News" Report.

House of Commons, Sheffield, May 27th.

The Government was defeated at the Hillsborough Co-operative Institute, Sheffield, amid scenes of tumult, after its policy towards the co-operative movement had been exposed by the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. A. V. Alexander, M.P. The Government forthwith resigned.

Never before in Sheffield has such a display of talent been seen in debate. A substantial portion of the members of Sheffield City Council sat on the two opposite front benches. Proceedings were complete, even to a lively "scene."

Sir Herbert Nield's Motion.

The main ground of the debate was the actual motion standing in the name of Sir Herbert Nield, M.P., "deprecating attempts of the Socialist-Labour Party to capture the co-operative societies for the purpose of propaganda in favour of a world revolution." The amendment, which was carried, was the identical amendment descending political section tabled by the five Co-operative M.P.'s.

In civic life, Alderman T. H. Watkins is Chancellor of the Exchequer for the City of Sheffield, but for the occasion he was promoted to the rank of Prime Minister, and it must be confessed that in the part of the Tory leader he seemed to be able to find more points for the co-operative point of view than criticism.

The "Chancellor of the Exchequer" (Mr. A. Ballard), known to co-operators as the secretary of the Sheffield Co-operative Party, found that his unwilling temporary affliction of a carbuncle had become an affair of national importance. Questions were asked in the House about it, and it was suggested that the Chancellor's carbuncle was due to the Tory practice of talking out of the back of its neck.

Hair Ministry.

A question addressed to the President of the Board of Trade regarding the sale of hair restorer was ruled out of order by that Cabinet Minister, who was completely bald, on the ground that it should be properly put to the Hair Ministry.

The Speaker had no light job in keeping the members in order. His decisions on occasion were viewed, as, for instance, when he ruled that the term "fergery" was a Parliamentary expression because it could be found in the dictionary.

After the Leader of the Opposition had trenchantly trowled the Premier, and in turn been heckled by Mr. Ballard, his own agent, the fun waxed fast and furious. Councillor J. W. Holland, Councillor W. G. Robinson, and Mr. Wallis (the House Secretary) had to submit to a veritable barrage of raillery.

When, however, a member interrupted with fiery denunciations which he refused to withdraw, and refused also to take his seat in defiance of the Speaker, the House rocked with merriment as the Prime Minister moved his suspension. He was named, and expelled in a scene of hilarious disorder.

The culmination of the debate was the howling down of the Premier by the Opposition, who under the leadership of Mr. Alexander, smothered his oratory with shouts of "Vote."

When the division showed the defeat of the Government the Premier resigned with alacrity, and the House dissolved with greater complacency than is customary on such historic occasions.

The mock parliament was such a huge success that the Hillsborough Co-operative Party are considering the arrangement of a monthly mock parliament and debating society, to be held in the large institute on Friday evenings. The Party are also considering the possibility of using the large institute for some public function every Friday evening, commencing September or October. Further particulars of these proposals will be given in subsequent issues.

CO-OPERATIVE PARS.

The Hillsborough Co-operative Party held a successful field day on Whit-Tuesday, June 7th, at Mr. Young's Farm, Wadley, Bridge. About 100 members attended, and spent a happy day in games, community singing, and sports of all kinds. The children enjoyed the outing as they days, returning home laden with bluebells and other wild flowers gathered in the interim between the programme items.

Mr. R. E. Jones—"The executive of the Co-operative Party have, subject to the confirmation of the central council, accepted provisionally the nomination of Mr. B. E. Jones as a candidate on the panel of co-operative municipal candidates."

Mr. Jones has been a member of the Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Society for thirty-eight years. He was a member of the Brightside and Carbrook education committee for three years, and on the board of management for ten years, in addition to which he was an employee of the society for thirteen years.

It will be remembered that he contested the Sheffield Municipal Ward in 1907 and 1908, and was a Parliamentary candidate for the Wrekin Division in 1918 and 1922. Mr. Jones is a forward speaker on all matters of a political and municipal nature. He should prove a real asset to the Co-operative Party group in the Sheffield City Council.

Alderman T. H. Watkins, Co-operative representative for the Neepsend Ward, is to address the I.L.E. Summer School to be held in August at the Kipling School, Scorton, Yorkshire. Alderman Watkins' subject is "Municipal Finance." As chairman of the Sheffield City Finance Committee, Alderman Watkins should be able to speak with authority on this important subject.

N.U.R. Flag Day.—After many attempts, the local council of the National Union of Railwaymen have secured permission to hold a flag day in Sheffield on behalf of the Railwaymen's Widows and Orphans' Fund. This organisation has pursued its beneficial work for a good number of years. Until recently Alderman W. Bancroft was the secretary.

As a rule, co-operators do not take an active part in flag days, but the cause in this case is such a very deserving one that members of the guilds, the Co-operative Party, and other voluntary organisations in connection with the Sheffield movement are giving their services wholeheartedly on July 23rd. It is hoped that a considerable amount of money will be raised for this splendid work of the railwaymen, who endeavour to maintain the widows and orphans of their comrades without resource to State aid. The secretary, who will be pleased to receive applications for counters to set flags, is Mr. T. Dury, 65, Neville Street, Sheffield.

The Co-operative Party, in conjunction with the Brightside and Carbrook education committee, is arranging one of two big demonstrations in Sheffield during the next autumn and winter session. It is proposed to hold a large central meeting to be addressed by some prominent speaker, probably an ex-Cabinet Minister, with Mr. A. V. Alexander, M.P., as chairman. Musical Hems will also be provided. Further announcements will appear in subsequent issues of this journal.

The Sheffield and Ecclesall education committee held a successful one-day school at Castleton on Sunday, June 20th. Mr. J. H. Bingham was the lecturer; subjects, "Income Tax and Co-operative Societies" and "Taxation and the Consumer." Mr. W. Buckley, chairman of the Sheffield and Ecclesall education committee, presided. There were seventy-six persons present, and a good discussion took place following upon the lectures. In the afternoon a geological ramble was organised round the district of Castleton, during which Mr. Bingham gave lectures dealing with the local strata.

The Sheffield Co-operator.

(JULY, 1927.)

AGREEMENTS.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL.

The celebration of International Co-operators' Day "comes an opportune moment so far as the British movement is concerned. It comes at a time closely following upon a massed attack by the Press and the Conservative Party against the movement's greatest movement in history. During the recent discussions relative to the agreement with the Labour Party, the members of this country have not hesitated to misrepresent the position of the co-operative movement. Not that we expect sympathy or assistance from a Press or a party diametrically opposed both to our political principles and our economic position.

A movement with £180,000,000 worth of capital, and trade of £300,000,000 per annum, cannot be expected to be ignored by a party which controls the central capital in the interests of profit-makers, and a syndicated Press which is getting into fewer and fewer hands as the years go on, an enemy status on every issue to the owners and controllers of capital rather than the consumer or the producer.

The general impression conveyed to the members of the daily Press is that a revolution has been accomplished, and that the co-operative movement has taken an unprecedented step. The truth is, however, that the Co-operative movement has not taken any more unannounced steps than it has done before the Cheltenham decision. What has happened is that in order to avoid friction between candidates for the offices of the Labour Party, an agreement has been fixed up whereby misunderstandings will be avoided and a clashing of interests prevented. Any society wishing to affiliate to the Labour Party must do so before the Cheltenham Congress, and any society wishing to keep free from the Labour Party can still do so. The fact is even when affiliation may be taken place, the affiliation of the Capital Co-operative Party rather than the society.

In short, co-operators believe that movements with like ideals, and representing the same interests of the community, should not dissipate their respective powers by attacking each other. Consequently an agreement was accepted which will prevent rivalry of this kind, and which will—in spite of the Press attack—redound to the benefit of both movements.

In the sphere of international affairs, the International Co-operative Alliance is seeking similar agreement. It was the Central Committee of the International Co-operative Alliance who first proposed that a special "Co-operators' Day" should be celebrated annually in each country where a co-operative movement has been established. For several years prior to 1922 there had been a growing demand for a great annual day to give to the strength and solidarity of international co-operation, and the committee were convinced that the world-wide co-operative movement would benefit enormously if it could secure the approval, publicity and attention of the Labour movement—secures each year on May 1st; hence the wide-spread desire for a great annual international co-operative "celebration" or "festival."

Although the co-operative movement is now a great international organisation, extending over almost the whole of the civilised world, comparatively few people are aware of its true purpose and far-reaching aims. Not many co-operators, even, understand how their own society and local store unite them to co-operators and co-operative bodies in other countries, where the needs of the general public know very little indeed about the growth of the International Co-operative movement in recent years. It is obvious that greater prominence should be given to co-operation. Something striking, something spectacular, must be done now to spread knowledge of the co-operative move-

ment among the masses of the people. A big co-operative demonstration on a special day set apart for the purpose is clearly the best and most popular method of proclaiming the triumphs of co-operation, propagating co-operative ideas, and calling public attention to the large achievements and larger aims of the International Co-operative movement.

Accordingly, the two local societies have arranged a huge demonstration to be held in High Exels Park (details of which are advertised in this issue), and at which the following resolution will be submitted—

The British co-operators assembled in this mass meeting held on "Co-operators' Day," once again send hearty co-operative greetings to all co-operators beyond the seas, and re-affirm their pledge to work for the promotion of International Co-operation the better relations with all the peoples and nations of the world.

We again proclaim the truth that the co-operations of all lands desire to establish peace and goodwill among the nations, and that the most sound political, social and moral basis of the world is the spirit of individualism and profit-seeking to which the whole co-operative movement is opposed. We believe that the growth of co-operation, both nationally and internationally, provides the strongest hope for the betterment of human life and the strongest guarantee of international peace; and we urge that all who are not already co-operators to join the actual co-operative society without delay, and so help to strengthen the power and possibilities of the world-wide co-operative movement.

We cordially invite all our readers to join with us in this celebration, and to believe with us that peace and goodwill—like charity—begins at home, but can firmly established will soon spread the world over.

NEEPSHEAD POOR CHILDREN'S OUTING FUND.—Our Neepshead friends are inaugurating a scheme for conveying as many of the poor children as possible for a day in the country. Mr. R. Stokes, of 39, Minners-street, acting as secretary of a representative committee, comprising all the public representatives and other interested persons in the Neepshead Ward. Mr. Stokes will be glad to supply subscription lists to those interested in this attempt to bring a little sunshine into the lives of the poor children of Neepshead.

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TRADE UNIONS EMPLOYERS & WORKERS. Sheffield, London, & Glasgow. Ad in our issue "SELF-HELP" Brand.

COUN. W. G. ROBINSON ON THE TRADE UNIONS BILL.

At the Attleeite divisional council meeting, held recently in the Berkeley Street Guild Room, Councilor W. G. Robinson gave an interesting address on the Trade Unions and Trade Unions Bill.

Councilor Robinson said the Bill was designed to smash the trade unions, to split and disarm the workers, and to force down wages and lengthen hours. In the first place, the restriction of the right to strike was intended not so much as a restriction on certain kinds of strikes, but as an absolute prohibition of all strikes of any kind, no matter how ever. The restriction of picketing was undoubtedly an attempt to frighten the workers from using legitimate persuasion and argument with their fellows. The protection of blacklegs was a serious blow to collective bargaining, and would do much to injure regarding a political levy was intended to deprive the workers of a representation by their own class. He professed that when the Bill had introduced the trade unions in this way, the co-operative societies would also come under its ban.

Mr. Robinson stated that the Bill not only would deprive the workers of their right to employment in the case of a strike between the strike his being brought within the category of illegal strikes, but would also deprive the workers his right to raise any other employment claim.

On the question of the sympathetic strike, Councilor Robinson pointed out that it was illegal for the railwaymen to transport workers to assist, say the miners, any way, in refusing to handle or distribute coal. As a matter of fact, all sympathetic strikes in what are termed "essential services" will be illegal. Furthermore, the penalties apply to persons not actually on strike but assisting in any way whatever those taking part in a strike, whether by the railwaymen, or by the workers to assist, say the miners, any way, in refusing to handle or distribute coal.

On the question of protection of blacklegs, Councilor Robinson described an actual scene in a public house where half-a-dozen trade unionists were sitting, when it came a blackleg, without a word to the man, the whole blackleg was used, finally emptied his glass, and went out. Under the Act that would be showing "contempt" and it would be a crime the punishment for which was to be (30 or three months' imprisonment. In fact, the striker is placed in such a position that he is obliged to speak or speak with him he may be charged with contempt. If, on the other hand, in refusal to speak or look at him he might be placed in the same position.

The Bill also gives blackleg assisting his fellows to obtain better conditions in the dock, whilst it inflicts the blackleg who is assisting the master to give a longer sentence. It makes a saint and martyr of the man who betrays his fellows, and a criminal of the man who stands by his fellows. The Bill is reactionary to the extent of putting back the clock at least 100 years.

Councilor Robinson answered a number of questions on further details of the Bill, and on the "disarmament" clause. Subsequently it was resolved, "That the meeting of Attleeite co-operators and trade unionists (political line) to be given every opportunity by both political and industrial action to the Bill now before Parliament, and to take part in any meeting of protest now convened, either to secure that and it also calls upon the members to secure such representation in Parliament as will counter the evil repeal of this Act."

Councilor Robinson was subsequently thanked for his illuminating address.

POLITICS AND TRADE.

In view of the statements appearing in the Sheffield Press regarding co-operators and politics, it is interesting to note that the two Sheffield societies, both members of the Co-operative Party, and contributing to the local Co-operative Party funds—are going from success to success. We have capital of the Brightside and Carbrook and the Sheffield and Ecclesall societies, showing a steady increase in every section. For example, the Christmas sales of the Sheffield Co-operative Society have increased in thirteen weeks to the extent of £65,045 2s. 7d. The membership has increased during the same period by 4,054, the accounts show the members' share capital has been increased by £43,500 13s. 11d., and the penny bank contributions increased £4,043 7s. 7d. This in spite of the trade depression, and at a time when many business institutions are closing their doors.

Both societies also project new developments. The Brightside and Carbrook Society have built a fine suite of premises on the Blanes Estate, and are doing a trade of over £2,000 per week. They are also building on the New Longley Estate, and near the Drykes Hall Estate. The plans for the Wingate site have been accepted, and the building of large central premises are now being laid.

The Sheffield and Ecclesall Society are enlarging their central premises at the Arcade, building a book and drapery department at Crookes, opening a new butchery department, developing the milk trade, building a grocery branch at Millhouses, and transforming the property in Alderson-road, in addition to adding a drapery and book department at the branch at Farwell-street.

In fact, the two societies are making more rapid progress at present than in any time in their history. They are doing a larger trade than ever before, and those people who are attempting to shake the members' confidence by the hoop of politics are doing a distinct disservice to these two institutions.

The truth is that the societies' affiliation to the Co-operative Party has made no difference to the trade, and is not likely to do so. The political organisation does not interfere in any way with the management of the societies, but exists to propagate co-operative principles and secure co-operative representation in order to protect and advance the great cause, which is now becoming the envy of rival business institutions. Mr. Alexander's work, and the work of our co-operative members of Parliament, has assisted materially in the development of the co-operative movement. Societies all over the country are recording similar progress. This may account for the universal Press attack that has been such feature during the past few weeks.

BRIGHTSIDE AND CARBROOK CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED.

BOOT AND SHOE DEPARTMENT.

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THE ROYAL ACADEMY AND ITS PICTURES.

BY COUNCILLOR A. BARTON.

In visiting the Royal Academy at London on behalf of the City of Sheffield, I thought my impressions might be interesting to my fellow-citizens.

Most of us like pictures though we can hardly say why. Our usual custom is to say we like them because their subject appeals to us, but to the artist the subject is of less consequence; and it is easy to see why that is so. One may take a fine subject for a story, for example, and the hearer is entirely bored. Another may illustrate a trivial incident and the way it is done is fascinating. It is the style which counts.

I am not among those who say the subject does not matter, but in a picture it is the way the subject is handled and blended with the colours and design that make a vivid or beautiful impression, that is the real test of art. Some modern painters are so opposed to the idea of illustration or representation that they deliberately take ridiculous subjects, or ways of showing them. One such, in my opinion, is Ernest Procter's "The Judgment of Paris." Paris, as you know, had to choose which of the three goddesses was the most beautiful. His choice in the picture mentioned, was, I fear, he which goddess was least ugly. Still, there is something to be admired even in these cases. The light and colouring are often fine. For example, Mrs. End Procter's "Morning" (which has been bought by the "Daily Mail" and will be shown in Sheffield in due course), is a young girl sleeping, the play of light on the flesh is exquisite. Nor is the figure distorted.

There are adherents of many schools in the exhibition, and individual artists with talents of their own can be recognised by their style. Sir Wm. Orpen's portraits were splendid. Miss Penelope Lawrence is a fine example. Maurice Greiffenhagen, too, has some good portraits. I used to think that some of the

great men might be over-rated, but one has only to see their pictures in comparison with others to realise their power.

I liked very much Spence Watson's pictures such as "Betsy McCann," "The Orange Girl," and the "Nude Woman." I notice the latter picture



COUNCILLOR A. BARTON.

has been bought by Preston Art Gallery, and I don't think even the most prudish could look at it without enjoying its lovely-colourings and contours. Julius Olsson has two exquisite moonlight effects, and Adrian Stokes has "A River in France" and other landscape pictures with lovely effects in colour. Stronach's "Bathed in Dreams" seemed to be taken from an old missal and had the same archaic beauty. Take's "Sun Bathers"—naked ladies in the sun with all the joy of life. Penrose's "Madame La Sian-sian" was a delightful portrait. Good also was Brundritt's

"The Head of the Dole," and La Tsangwe's "Tying Watercress," and others, reminded me somewhat of Stokes, but somehow not so good. Ellwell's but somehow not so good. Ellwell's "Palais de Danse" appealed in the striking effect of its colour design. Salisbury's "The Enchanted Road" was the head of a road through the wood, entering a road through the wood, and it struck me as a most effective and beautiful piece of work. Kelly's portrait of "Guy Dawber" was a fine study both in art and handling.

"The Light" was one of the ship "Van der Weijden" was ever seen. The best scenes I have ever seen. The sea in the dim light and the lightship in the distance were a perfect blending of subject, colouring, and design. Then there was Carr's "The Matron"—a real jolly matron all the way—and Leon Daniels' "The Black Minerva"—a woman with a hen under her arm but seeming to suggest so much for so trivial a circumstance. Other good pictures were Norman Wilkinson's "Quebec," Hughes-Stanton's "Sunlit Road Capes," "Shadows" by our local artist, Stanley Royle, and Cardleg's "The Squirrel Coat."

In water colours there were very good, but not perhaps greatly outstanding, drawings by Helen Lock, Sir Frank Dicksee, Yates, Eva Savory, Roll, Martin Hardie, and others; and a really fine thing by the Hon. Rufus Tollemey, "Old Cottages at Paignton," which may possibly be shown at the Mappin Art Gallery.

Altogether the Royal Exhibition may not be outstanding, but it is a fine representative collection, and shows that Art is still alive and vigorous amongst us.

The best antidote to vice, and crime, and boredom, is the enjoyment of something that appeals to our powers of appreciating the beauty and interest of life, and that is why Art is important.

In order to keep our local art gallery in Weston Park up to a high standard it is necessary to keep in touch with the best in the art world, and we intend this autumn to have a fine collection of works of Lancashire and Cheshire artists. This will be followed by an exhibition of the works of Sheffield artists. Apart from these the permanent collection at Mappin Art Gallery, which has been splendidly displayed and arranged by the curator, Mr. Howarth, is well worth a visit by all who can enjoy good pictures.

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TRADE UNIONS BILL RIDDLED.

MR. A. V. ALEXANDER AT THE HILLSBOROUGH INSTITUTE.

Tun Hillsborough Co-operative Party held a garden party and social at the Hillsborough Institute, on Saturday May 28th. In the afternoon, Mr. A. V. Alexander, M.P., spoke on the subject of the Trade Unions Bill.

Praising the idea of summer functions in the open air, Mr. Alexander said that while people were willing to attend indoor meetings in the winter, there was not to be a slump in interest in the summer, and it was at that period that the bulk of the legislative crop was raised. At the present time it was more imperative than ever that the workers should keep well organised. The legislation of the last two-and-three-quarter years made him very anxious about the future when the Labour Party came into power. Many of the Conservative Government's Acts would need to be repealed or substantially modified, and it seemed almost as if a deliberate arrangement had been made by those who would be necessitated every month of work in merely doing away with the mischief that the Conservative Government had done before a proper start could be made on a constructive Labour and co-operative programme.

Instancing some of the "mischief," Mr. Alexander said that for the first time in the last 100 years definite portions of progressive social legislation had been repealed or set back. The Miners' Hours Bill was one piece of reactionary legislation, and the Anti-Trade Unions Bill was another, about which thousands of workers did not yet appreciate the full effects.

Examining the Trade Unions Bill in detail, he claimed that experience had shown that the existing law was quite adequate to maintain civil order during trade disputes, but he showed that again and again workers' organisations had been plunged into expensive litigation in the courts, and that were, after the *Taff Vale* and the *Osborne* judgments, suspicious of the justice they could obtain from special juries drawn from

a class entirely out of sympathy with the aspirations of the workers.

Code of Honour.

The blacking provision clauses, he said, meant that trade unions were not to be allowed to have their own code of honour like gentlemen's clubs.

Mr. Alexander characterised the attack on the political funds of the Trades Union as the meanest provision of all, and one for which the Prime Minister had not the shadow of a mandate. It was absurd to talk of the fear of victimisation by objectors to the levy when there were thousands of railwaymen who contracted out, and one such in South Wales who was the chairman of his branch and a leading member of the negotiating committee.

He advised the critics of the Labour Party funds to look at the *Bosworth* by-election, where the Liberal Party had flooded the constituency with money. Money was flowing like water. Where did that money come from? It came from Mr. Lloyd George's political fund, and it arose from indiscriminate barametrics and peergages. Dare the other two parties table the subscriptions of their party funds under a public audit?

Councillor A. Barton, spoke of the splendid constructive work that the Labour and Co-operative majority had done since they came into power in the City Council last November.

Mr. A. Wallis (chairman of the Hillsborough Co-operative Party) presided, and the proceedings were lightened by community singing and a capital concert.

In the evening a fancy dress dance formed part of the proceedings. The scene at the parade was a brilliant one, space forbids our giving all the various representations. These were between thirty and forty competitors, and over a dozen prizes were given for the best representations in three sets—men, women, and children. Mr. Alexander distributed the prizes.



THE PATCHWORK QUILT.

Which kind of story do you like best to read—of Red Indians on the warpath or of cheerful elves and of beautiful, talkative fairies? Or do you prefer tales which tell of foreign lands, of China and Japan? Well, whichever kind you decide is your favourite, you will find it in "The Patchwork Quilt."

Such a variety of stories there are that you feel when you read them that at last you have got a real children's book, a book for both boys and girls.

Co-operators.

"The Patchwork Quilt," the first of these interesting stories, written by Margaret Carlton, gives its name to the book. Here you find Patsy and her friends making their busy fingers fly as they sew a patchwork quilt for a poor family. Patsy is a really clever little girl, for besides being able to sew she knows a great deal about Robert Owen, the Father of Co-operation. I wonder if you know all she tells of him. Perhaps you have heard father and mother talk about this pioneer of the co-operative movement, and you thought so more about him? Well, Patsy shows you that this great, brave man helped children besides grown-ups, and by making life better for those children in his factories he made life better for all his boys and girls. All this Patsy tells you in the most interesting manner.

Believe in Fairies.

But there are other stories to keep you awake as you read them before going to bed. You know Peter Pan cries, "Do

you believe in fairies?" and some of you say "I'm not sure whether I do or not," and others say "Yes," and still more say "No, I don't." I am sure that when you read "The Patchwork Quilt" you will say "Yes, I believe in fairies," in your bravest, loudest voice, just so that all the fairies will hear you.

Margaret Carlton tells you about the sweetest fairies and elves; you can picture them stealing into your room at night. She even lets you say, "Hey Presto! off we go," and you glide along the most delightful side you ever dreamed of. Alone? Oh, no! But you could not guess, if I gave you three wise guesses, whom you would meet in it. Why, no other person than Jack Frost. Now, isn't that splendid? For the slide is bound to be ever so slippery when that magical Jack is there.

Recently you will have heard a great deal about English soldiers being sent to China, and we have been afraid that war might break out, but war is a very wicked thing because it kills the fathers of the little boys and girls. Now, one of the stories in this book is a tale which is read not only by you, but by the Chinese boys and girls as well. So you see you have been interested in just the same sort of things as you are.

In Pleasant Stories.

Of all the tales which there are here to enjoy, "The Three Gifts" seemed to me the best of all. It is one of those stories of which you cannot guess the end. All the while it was reading my mind was saying, "So and so is going to happen," but it did not. The end of the story was decidedly fine.

There are in "Jack's Adventure" have you ever had an experience like Jack's? And there is "Ivan, who ——" But, no! I must really leave you to find that out for yourselves.

There are so many good tales that I cannot possibly mention them all, but I must say something to you about the games, which come after the stories.

And Happy Games.

These games, which include one or two old favourites, are splendid, and we that they are refreshingly new. None of your parties can be a failure if you play these games. Either "Jacqueline's Birthday" or "Tommy's Order" is delightfully funny, and will make you roar with laughter.

Some of you may know "Flashes in the Pond" under the name of "Hunt the Squirrel" or "Pop Goes the Weasel." For this game you need plenty of space, then you will enjoy it thoroughly, as it is a real romping game.

For You and All Children.

When you have read this book from cover to cover I am sure you will have a bit of regret because you have come to the end of a really exciting book.

Is your birthday soon? Or has Dad promised you a present? If so, then be sure to ask him to buy you "The Patchwork Quilt," by Margaret Carlton.

NORA E. BARTON.

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