



THE CHOICE FOR CO-OPERATORS AND OTHERS.

By **OUR** Mr. A. V. ALEXANDER.

There has probably been no general election during the history of the co-operative movement of such importance to co-operators in general as that which is about to take place.

At this time co-operators would do well to remember since 1914 a succession of reactionary Governments at whose hands the co-operative movement has suffered. In 1915 it was Mr. McKenna with excess profits duty on the savings of co-operators; in 1920 it was Sir Austen Chamberlain who made co-operators' surpluses subject to the corporation profits tax. The Coalition in 1922 refused to operate Trade Boards for the distributive trades; and in the present Parliament Sir Arthur Steel-Maitland has copied that Tory-Liberal example.

Taxing Dividends.

The present Tory Government has definitely refused to take any action against the combines and price-fixing associations which are wholly or partially boycotting co-operative societies because they return a dividend to their members, and Neville Chamberlain has gone further and issued a regulation which prohibits co-operative societies from giving dividend checks upon prescriptions made up by co-operative stores under the National Health Insurance Act.

Tory members of Parliament, acting in conjunction with the Federation of British Industries and the Chambers of Commerce, are pressing in every Budget for the taxation of the savings effected by working-class co-operators in spending their already taxed incomes.

Churchill's Hope.

And whilst they have not up to the present been successful, Mr. Churchill has gone so far as to suggest that co-operators should make a large voluntary contribution to the Treasury, thus in effect taxing themselves upon a basis not applied to any other body of citizens.

These are just a few items which indicate the general attitude of both Tories and Liberals to the co-operative movement, and justify completely the entry of co-operators into politics in accordance with their decision at Swanscombe in 1917. Tories now indicate that they are desirous of preventing co-operators from exercising the right to organise politically to defend themselves against the kind of attacks indicated above.

In an article in "The Times Trade Supplement" on March 2nd last, in addition to other restrictions, it is suggested that all statutory benefits in favour of co-operative societies or co-operative trading should be liable to suspension by order or declaration of the High Court of Justice upon proof of official participation directly or indirectly in political propaganda.

I think it must be plain to any unbiased mind that the return to power for a further period of a Tory Government or of a Tory-Liberal Coalition is full of menace to the trade development of the co-operative movement and to the presentation of its ideals and objects

that he knew of was the Conservative Party."

We are entitled to say from long experience that the best insurance of Co-operative interests that the Co-operator can obtain is the return of Co-operative and Labour candidates to Parliament.

There will be many cries raised at the general election, but the overriding issue will be the cure of the poverty and unemployment which are the direct results of the operation of the capitalist system.

It is significant that this result was foreseen 130 years ago by Robert Owen, who, I think, will go down in history not only as the father of the co-operative movement, but of the British Socialist movement. His modern co-operative disciples, six million strong in this country, now constitute a well-organised and successful movement which is a definite challenge to capitalism, and which offers a well-laid foundation for a complete alternative to capitalism.

The Only Cure.

As I have stated elsewhere, in my judgment the application of co-operative principles to the whole of our trade and industry, strictly limiting return on capital and using the balance of the present dividend of industry to increase the purchasing power of producers and consumers, is the only method which can ultimately be adopted for the cure of unemployment and poverty.

So long, however, as vested interests, private profit, and privilege are entrenched in Parliament with control of the executive Government, so long will progress towards the substitution of Co-operative principles for exploitation and greed be painfully slow.

If co-operators and trade unionists really grasp the situation, they have an opportunity this year which is without precedent. There are six million members of co-operative societies, and with the extended franchise I think it is safe to estimate that at least ten million votes can now be traced to co-operative households.

A Solid Vote.

If the holders of these votes can be persuaded to cast them solidly for Co-operative and Labour candidates on May 30th they can ensure the return of a people's Government with a large majority. By so doing they will have the opportunity for removing the present obstacles to the rapid development of co-operative and communal ownership of the means of production and distribution, and the economic security that all workers desire.



MR. A. V. ALEXANDER.

There is abundant reason why Co-operators should vote for Labour and Co-operative candidates if only from the point of view of trade defence.

This is not suggesting anything revolutionary, but merely following the lead of capitalist traders and organisations of capitalist competitors of the All the leading competitors of the co-operative movement are directly or indirectly represented in the House of Parliament. Two-hundred-and-twenty-four members of the House of Commons hold company directorships, numbering in all over 200 directorships.

"A Great Deal."

It is not unreasonable therefore that a workers' movement with a capital of over £120,000,000 should also take over £120,000,000 for its defence. Sir Adolphe Steeg, M.P., speaking in Geneva, Beckitt, M.P., speaking in Leeds on August 31st, 1927, said: "I will have no good a man saying 'I will have nothing to do with politics.' I will have had a very great deal to do with heretofore." He then went on to say that "the best insurance office for business" is the best insurance office for business.

TRUTHFUL LIBERALS AND TORIERS.

PAY TRIBUTE TO THE FINE WORK OF THE 1924 LABOUR GOVERNMENT.

Lord Birkenhead says nation "owed Labour Government a debt of gratitude."

"We acknowledge the debt of gratitude we owe to those who, placed in power suddenly, became the trustees of the majestic fabric of the British Empire, and of whom I will say, plainly and frankly, were not unworthy trustees of the British Empire. I have in my mind met the calibre of Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Snowden, and Mr. Thomas."—Lord Birkenhead, March 4th, 1925.

Lord Eustace Percy says Labour leads the way in social reform.

"The strength of the Labour Party is that it has become a centre of initiative in matters of social reform."—Lord Eustace Percy, Tory President of the Board of Education, January, 1925.

"Daily Mail" says that Labour Government did good work.

"The Prime Minister (Mr. Ramsay MacDonald) at York claimed that the Government has done good work in its short period of office. We agree."—Daily Mail, April 21st, 1924.

Anti-Labour scaremongers rebuked by Mr. Asquith.

"The hysterical forecasts, which were then rife in well-informed sections of the Press, of the social and political upheaval which must follow the installation of a Labour Minority have already passed into the category of old wives' tales."—Mr. Asquith, former Liberal Prime Minister, May 23rd, 1924.

Liberal "Daily News" says Labour is "fit to govern."

"Labour is unfit to govern," claimed Mr. Churchill a year ago. In the past six months a Labour Government has demonstrated the falsity of his unrepentant declaration.

His announcement of the Unemployment Insurance Bill, Mr. Tom Shaw has brought blessings to millions of people living parlously near the margin of subsistence. It has been Mr. Snowden's good fortune (in the Budget) to do away with grievances and injustices which cluttered the lives of scores of thousands of old-age pensioners. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald has been fully equal to the heavy responsibilities of Prime Minister. He has filled the great position with entire adequacy at a time of exceptional difficulty. His settlement with France is a brilliant feather in his cap. To have succeeded where Bonar Law, Baldwin, and Lloyd George failed is a considerable achievement. —Daily News, August 6th, 1924.

"BIG BUSINESS" IN PARLIAMENT.

TORY M.P. WITH THIRTY DIRECTORSHIPS.
TORY PEER WITH FIFTY-FOUR DIRECTORSHIPS, AND ANOTHER WITH FORTY-TWO.

The connection between "Big Business" and the Tory Peers and M.P.s who sit in Parliament is a very close one. Hundreds of them are associated with big business concerns of one kind or another, and the directorships held by some of them are multitudinous.

Directorships of Tory M.P.'s.

Some of the Tories sitting in the House of Commons, and their directorships, are as follow:—

Mr. G. Balfour, M.P. (Tory—Hampstead), is a director of thirty companies, being either chairman, deputy chairman, or managing director of eleven of them. The companies include electric supply and tramways, and investment trusts in this country, and an electricity company in Spain.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Alan Burgoyne, M.P. (Tory—Aylesbury), is a director of twenty-two companies, being either chairman or deputy-chairman of seven of them. The companies include banking, motor manufacturing, wine importing, rubber, gramophones, garages, libraries, oil, chemicals, tin, and investment trusts.

Mr. G. R. Hall-Caine, M.P. (Tory—East Dorset), is a director of nineteen companies, being chairman or managing director of three of them. The companies include metal, brewing, beet, sugar, forestry, light railways, motors, and coal.

Colonel Sir G. L. Courthorpe, M.P. (Tory—Rye), is a director of eighteen companies, being chairman or deputy-chairman of seven of them. The companies include metal, brewing, beet, sugar, forestry, light railways, motors, and coal.

Major-General Sir Newton Moore, M.P. (Tory—Richmond), is a director of fifteen companies, being chairman or vice chairman of four of them. The companies include coal, iron and steel, gold mines, electricity, and newspapers. Sir Nicholas Gratton Doyle, M.P. (Tory—Newcastle), is a director of thirteen companies, which include newspapers, hotels, drapers, perfumers, cinema films, &c.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir F. Hall, M.P. (Tory—Dulwich), is a director of eleven companies, which include electricity, land, patent syndicate, and finance corporation.

The Co-operative Movement represents a trade of £300,000,000 per annum, and a membership of nearly 6,000,000 people. At present there are only five members of Parliament directly appointed as Co-operators. Is not the case for increased representation as clear as can be? The Co-operative Party exists to increase the number of Co-operators in Parliament and on all local government bodies.

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NATIONALISATION IS A SUCCESS.

HARD FACTS THAT REFUTE MR. BALDWIN'S FANCY FICTIONS.

PROFITS FOR THE STATE AND BENEFITS FOR THE CONSUMER.

NATIONALISATION is not an untried theory. It is not an untried experiment. It has been working for years in various parts of the world. Accounts of its success come from north, south, east and west. As the result of its operation, large profits which would otherwise have passed into private hands have been preserved by the State; the State has gone to the aid of small groups of large firms and financiers; and millions of pounds have been put into the pockets of the poor and have benefited by lower commodity prices and by the savings of exploitation by the ravenous apostles of private enterprise.

When Mr. Baldwin told his audience the other day that Nationalisation had proved a failure wherever it had been tried, he was saying what is the private enterprise that has been the failure. Seventeen British firms alone have incurred losses of £1,000,000 during the last few years.

Mr. Baldwin's own firm of Baldwin's Ltd. was one of these. It lost £3,500,000, and the shareholders had to accept a scheme under which 16s. 6d. of every £1 that they held in ordinary shares was written off.

Mr. Baldwin ought to be the last man in the world therefore to talk about the success of private enterprise and the failure of nationalisation. His remarks are not only inaccurate; they are impertinent.

Facts About the Success of Nationalisation.

The following are a few of the many successful examples of nationalisation that have been brought before the notice of the House of Commons recently by Labour M.P.s. —

South African Railways.

The State railways in South Africa since 1922 have produced a net profit every year varying from £1,433,000 down to £211,000 last year. Not only so, but goods are carried at half-price in bad seasons and there is a continual reduction in fares and freights, until now the State railways of South Africa carry goods at about 50 per cent. less than the ordinary rates.

Canadian National Railways.

The Government took over these railways a few years ago, when they were in a bankrupt condition. Under State control they have progressed by leaps and bounds. In December, 1928, Sir Henry Thornton (the president of the system) announced: "We will meet all fixed charges on the funded debt in the hands of the public and will have a substantial surplus, while the property is materially better than it was six years ago. We have also been able to pay increased wages." The increases in net have been as follows:—

| | Net operating profit, Dollars. |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1922 | 2,887,000 |
| 1923 | 30,357,000 |
| 1924 | 37,244,000 |
| 1925 | 33,443,000 |
| 1926 | 47,094,000 |
| 1927 | 49,114,000 |
| 1928 (11 months) | 53,550,000 |

"We have knocked sky-high," said Sir Henry Thornton, "the belief that good efficient management with enterprising initiative cannot be applied successfully to a Government-owned railway."

New Zealand State Railways.

A profit has been made every year. In 1927 the net revenue was £1,943,774, giving about £1,196,769 per cent. on the capital cost. The New Zealand Year Book for 1928 says: "For many

years a profit of 3 per cent. was regarded as sufficient, and any excess over this rate was followed by reductions in passenger charges of 15 per cent."

Indian State Railways.

The London "Times" for February 20th, 1929, said: "The surplus on commercial, as distinct from strategic lines for the year ending March 31st, 1929, after setting aside £50,000 more than last year for depreciation, is estimated at £8,032,000, of which £1,350,000 goes to cover the loss on strategic lines, £4,695,000 is handed over to the general revenues of the Government of India as the profits payable to the taxpayer, and £2,387,000 is placed to the railway reserve fund."

Australian Commonwealth Bank.

This was started in 1913 and competes with other banks for ordinary business; and in deposits is now the largest of the Australian banks. The profits of the banking, issue, and savings bank departments for the last few years were £7,755,000 in 1925, £1,668,000 in 1926, and £1,816,000 in 1927.

Queensland State Insurance.

Underwriting. This undertaking has raised the benefits paid to workmen who suffer injury from £1 per week to £3 10s. per week, has reduced the premiums paid by the employers, and has handed over profits to the State. Since its inception, there has been an average annual profit of

£50,000 handed over in relief of taxation, and premiums have been reduced by 25 per cent. to 33 per cent. Its working expenses have been reduced by as much as 13 per cent. compared with those of the companies.

South Africa State Steamships.

These showed a profit last year, according to the controller and assistant general, of £29,078.

Niagara Falls Hydro Electric Undertaking.

The Tory Prime Minister of Ontario, addressing the Empire Parliamentary Association in London, said: "We have in the world." One-half of the international bridge at Niagara is now privately owned electricity lines in operation in the United States. The other half is by public ownership. The publicly-owned current is only one-third of the price of the privately-owned current.

Coming nearer home, we have the Nationalised Postal Service, which made £7,500,000 profit last year, the State Beam Wireless Service, which showed a credit balance of £152,000 on nine months' working last year, and the State Printing Works, which made a profit of £96,484 during the year.

When Mr. Baldwin says, therefore, that Nationalisation has failed wherever it has been tried, he is stating what is not correct, and he is making it.

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"LABOUR and the Nation" provides the answer.

It shows that a Labour Government would help the worker, the unemployed, the housewife, the aged, the orphans, and the widows, would give the workers' children a proper chance in life, and secure provision of houses at reasonable rents.

Some of the main points are given below—

Better Protection for the Worker.

- 1. Establishment of a forty-eight hour week.
2. Improvement and extension of the Workmen's Compensation Acts, Minimum Wage Acts, Factory Acts, and other industrial legislation.
3. Establishment and enforcement of international Labour standards.
4. Repeal of the Trade Unions Act and restoration of trade union rights.
5. Repeal of the Eight Hours Act in coal industry.

Better Pensions Treatment for Old Folks and Widows.

- 1. Improvement of the Widows' and Orphans' Pensions Scheme and more generous provision for the veterans of industry.

A Better Chance for the Housewife to Save Money.

- 1. Protection of the housewife against profiteering and exploitation.
2. Abolition of taxes on food.
3. Abolition of taxes imposed by the Tory Government on crockery, cutlery, clothing, gloves, gas manures, and other necessities.

Work and Fair Treatment for the Unemployed.

- 1. Provision of work for unemployed at proper wages on schemes of national development.
2. Improved scales of benefits until they are re-absorbed into employment.
3. Unemployment benefit for many classes of workers who are now outside the scheme.

A Proper Chance in Life for the Workers' Children.

- 1. Educational opportunities for the workers' children equal to those of the wealthier classes.
2. Increase of the school-leaving age to fifteen, and the necessary provision of maintenance allowances.
3. More scholarships to the universities and secondary schools, with the provision of adequate financial assistance for the students and scholars.
4. More nursery schools for the young children, and better school premises in place of those that are unsuitable.
5. Improvement of the School Medical Service so as to ensure the physical welfare of the children.

Houses for all who need them.

- 1. The provision of an adequate supply of houses, at rents within the means of the workers.
2. The establishment of cottage homes for the aged.
3. Continuance and strengthening of the Rent Restrictions Act.
4. The prevention of profiteering in land and building materials.
5. Abolition of the tied cottage evil.

The way to get these things done is to put a Labour Government in power.

Wadley Bridge Labour Party.

Meetings held Tuesdays at 7-30 p.m., at No. 2, Penistone-road North. Plenty of rooms for New Members. Anyone wishing to further the cause of the Labour Party, please write to the Secretary, and get in touch with the Secretary, MR. A. BIRNSTONE, 216, Penistone-road, North-Western Buildings.

THE MINERS.

HOW THE LABOUR PARTY WOULD SAVE THE MINERS AND PUT INDUSTRY ON A HEALTHY BASIS.

SYMPATHY is not Enough!" says the Minister. Nor is charity, though that has been necessary because of the less conditions into which the Conservative Government and the coalowner have allowed the mining industry to sink. The miners want JUSTICE, and the mining industry wants reorganization.

The coal industry is disgracefully and disastrolously disorganized. With its 4,000 mineral owners, 1,300 or more colliery companies, and 35,000 odd distributors, its antiquated and inefficient system of production and distribution, the mismanagement of the industry has become notorious.

The Labour Party is convinced that nationalization is the only remedy. Pending the passage into law of its proposals, the Labour Party would come to the immediate successor of the miners by—

- 1. The reduction of the working day to seven hours.
2. The reorganization of the veterans of the industry.
3. Raising the school age, with maintenance grants.
4. Regulation of recruitment to the industry.
5. Transference and migration of unemployed miners.
6. Increased unemployment allowances.

TRUSTS OR PUBLIC?

THE Labour Party points out that "private" enterprise is day by day becoming abolished by the formation of combinations. Says "Labour and the Nation"—

"The choice which to-day confronts the nation, therefore, is not between private enterprise and public control; but between the conduct of industry as a public service, democratically owned and responsibly administered, and the private economic sovereignty of the combine, the syndicate, and the trust. It is, in short, between public ownership and control, and one form or another of industrial feudalism."

The Labour programme therefore includes proposals for the Public Ownership of: The Land. Transport. Mining and Electrical Generation. The Bank of England. Industrial Life Insurance. The Importation of Foodstuffs and Raw Materials.

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**TRUTHFUL LIBERALS
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Compliments from Lord Grey, Liberal ex-Foreign Secretary. "In foreign affairs the change of Government from Tory to Labour has done for the better."—*Lord Grey*, May 23rd, 1924.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald "high-minded, idealistic, and religious," says "Daily Mail."

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald at the Albert Hall delivered "an address which shows him to be high-minded, idealistic, poetic, and religious. We had never doubted that he possessed these qualities."—*"Daily Mail"*, January 10th, 1924.

Many more such Liberal and Tory tributes, paid by them in all sincerity to the Labour Government in 1924, might be quoted—so many that they would grow monotonous. If those same Liberals and Tory papers and politicians start throwing mud at the Labour Government during the present General Election, the electors will know just how much sincerity to attribute to their attacks.

A COUNCILLOR'S VIEW OF THE ELECTION.

By A. BARTON.

We are told by our opponents that if we restrict private enterprise everything will slow down, and that there will be no incentive to progress.

Curiously enough, I was talking to a friend at the opening of that magnificent building in Exchange Street, the finest and most up-to-date shop in Sheffield, which is itself a magnificent example of what co-operative effort and collective enterprise can do. I pointed out that this was only one of the great buildings that had or were coming into existence since we had a Labour régime.

There is the *Shefflin*, the finest in the country, both efficient and humane. There is the *new market* now being built, and a building on the old site in contemplation. There is a *City Hall* on the way. There is an efficient *Babies' Clinic* and a splendid *Maternally Health* and another lot in course of construction. There is a *Hospital for Infectious Blind* and a new *Hospital for Mental Diseases*, as well as a *Home for the Deaf* which are being planned. There is a *Nursery School* equal to the best in the world, and another in the most perfect kind a new library at Firth Park, and other branches have been improved out of recognition. And now, with the help of Alderman Graves—who as a private trader appreciates our enterprise—we are going to have a magnificent new *Central Library and Art Gallery*. We are building a £500,000 generating station for electricity, and we have 50 reduced the price of electricity that it is the cheapest in the whole country.

With the help of private donations, we have added the spacious and beautiful *Graves Park* and other grounds to the people's heritage, and our water department has secured no less than 2,500 acres of breezy moorland for the use of the citizens.

In addition to this, we have abolished the abominable *privy middens*, and are refusing to inaugurate a *dozens* collection of refuse in advance of any town in the island of Great Britain.

All this in two short years! And we are told Socialism will kill enterprise.

All this has helped, and is helping, to

find work for the unemployed, and their number has not decreased. It is owing to the fact that by its own Government has driven the *unemployed* Poor-Law relief, thus increasing the Poor-Rate, while at the same time it has cut down the grants to the corporations for work for the unemployed to exactly nothing.

If Sheffield is rather more highly rated than some other large towns, it is entirely due to the cost of unemployment, which the Government has done nothing to relieve, but rather to aggravate.

One of the chief ways in which the Government stops municipal enterprise is the method by which Government Departments can hold up necessary work indefinitely, and even more so by the fact that in order to undertake any new enterprise on behalf of the people special Parliamentary powers have to be obtained at great cost. Even when such powers are granted, they are beset round with all sorts of restrictions, while in many cases they are refused. For instance, the plan to establish a Municipal Bank has been refused in every city but Birmingham. This is not because it has been a failure, but because it has been such a brilliant success.

The Labour Party are pledged to give more facilities to municipal government to inaugurate a scheme for the benefit and financial profit of the municipalities.

It is also pledged to permit municipalities to place rates on land value, and thus make the rich, like landlords pay a larger share of the rates in return for what he has taken from the community.

If the electors desire health, education, and a higher standard of life, they must vote for Public Enterprise controlled by those who believe in it, both in the Municipal Council and the National Parliament.

Let us hope and work for the day when the Labour and Co-operative representatives in Parliament for the city of Sheffield may make, in the words of the poet, the proud boast "It 'as seven."

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Dear Sirs—I have pleasure in enclosing herewith cheque in full of your account, and I would like to pay a tribute to the men you sent to the job. The work is done well and entirely satisfactory, the men being most obliging and able to have about the house—Yours faithfully,

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TORY BUDGET POINTS.

HIDDEN BY THE PRESS.

1. The Co-operative societies are to be taxed £20,000 extra in petrol in order to relieve Sir Alfred Mond's new chemical combine of £200,000 in rates.
 2. The baker who bakes behind his shop is not to get a reduction in his rates. The large-scale baker who employs wage-earners elsewhere to bake for him is to be relieved.
 3. Recently the Corporation of Liverpool had to buy land at the rate of £1,500,000 per acre. That plunder is not to be taxed. But while the landlord is waiting for his "rise" he has only to plough his land to get relieved of his rates altogether.
 4. No relief for the tenant: nor the shopkeeper. Nothing for municipal or public utility concerns.
- But Contaxults, the artificial silk manufacturers, who paid a dividend of 2-3 per cent. tax free last year, and gave share bonuses of 100 per cent. in January, 1920, and 200 per cent. in December, 1920, are to be relieved of three-fourths of their local rates.
- This is the great Budget!

UNEMPLOYMENT.

LABOUR'S DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND HONOURABLE TREATMENT FOR THE UNEMPLOYED.

The Labour Party realises that the present economic system produces unemployment, and that unemployment can be abolished by the establishment of Socialism. But, meanwhile, much can be done to reduce unemployment, and the unemployed victims of Capitalism can be honourably treated.

Labour would reduce the supply of workers competing for jobs in an overcrowded labour market by the withdrawal of the very young and the aged, and maintenance grants provided for continued education and training, and adequate positions would be provided to enable the aged to retire.

The Labour Party would seek to reduce unemployment to the furthest point possible by the establishment of a National Employment and Development Board, which would carry through schemes of Land Reclamation, Drainage, Afforestation, Slum Clearance, and Road Transport.



SPEND and SAVE

C. THE C.W.S. serves as the Great Wholesale Provider for the Co-operative Societies of England and Wales. It was founded in 1864 to eliminate the middleman's profits.

C. WHEN you buy C.W.S. productions at the "stores," you save money in the dividend you earn.

THE BEST WAY TO SAVE IS TO SHOP AT THE STORES, AND SAY "C. W. S."

Hillsborough Parliamentary Division.

General Election, May 30th, 1929.

MR. A. V.

ALEXANDER'S MEETINGS

- THURSDAY, 16th.—
Pye Bank Council School, 7-30 p.m.
St. Bartholomew's Schoolroom, Primrose Hall, 8 p.m.
Hillsborough Baptist Schoolroom, Taplin-road, 8 p.m.
- FRIDAY, 17th.—
Neepsend National School, 8 p.m.
Morley-street Council School, 8 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, 22nd.—
Langsett-road Council School, 8 p.m.
Marcliffe-road Council School, Hillsborough, 8 p.m.
- THURSDAY, 23rd.—
Woodside-lane Council School, 7 p.m.
Walkley Methodist New Connexion, 8 p.m.
Hillsborough Trinity U.M. Schoolroom, Middlewood-road, 8 p.m.
- FRIDAY, 24th.—
Wadley National Schools, 7-30 p.m.
Woodland View P.M., Stannington-road, 8 p.m.
Penistone-road Mission Hall, 8 p.m.
- SATURDAY, 25th.—
Apple-street Mission, Neepsend, 8 p.m.
Walkley Council School, 8 p.m.
- MONDAY, 27th.—
Parkwood Springs U.M. Chapel, Neepsend, 8 p.m.
Omberton Reform Chapel, Borough-road, 8 p.m.
- TUESDAY, 28th.—
Swinton-street Mission Hall, 7-30 p.m.
Hillsborough National School, Middlewood-road, 8 p.m.
Bole Hill Council School, 8 p.m.
- WEDNESDAY, 29th.—
Wydiffe Hall, Channing-street, 8 p.m.
Pye Bank U.M. Schoolroom, 8 p.m.

ALL PARTIES AGREE

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from 13/6

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from 15/6

SUITS FOR BOYS
8 to 14 years
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Book Reviews.

HOW MUCH OUGHT WE TO KNOW?

"The Outline of Man's Knowledge," by Clement Wood, published by the Richards Press Ltd., 8s. 6d. net.

There has been many "Outlines" published during these recent years, and "Punch" has made fun of the matter by giving us a skit in its pages, entitled "An Outline of Everything." Well, "Punch" has often laughed in the wrong place, as it did years and years ago when it gave us a fantastic map of England showing where the railway mainline of last century would lead to, and the actual map of England to-day is just as much crossed and re-crossed by railway lines as that supposedly-comic picture was! Now we have got the "outline of everything" actually become real.

Many books are either very dull—like the road to Rotherham; or very long like the road to Rome. Happily this is not true of the book now under consideration. Within 600 pages, well printed, it gives us good a summary of knowledge as we are likely to get for a long time. It is well arranged, brightly written, and quite modern in its method.

A Story.

The sub-title is "The Story of History Science, Literature, Art, Religion, and Philosophy." Solid-looking words, those, but not by any means to be feared by even a general reader. For most people, any sort of knowledge must be a story. It must have the details suppressed and the important things told consecutively. Let us take a look at one of these sections—that on Art.

It is subdivided into five parts. First, naturally, there is the subject of painting. The very brief but comprehensive survey begins with: "There is a widespread feeling that time spent upon Art renders a man or woman less fitted for commercial success. As Haldane observes brilliantly:—

The capitalist's idea of art in industry at present tends to limit itself to painting green and white stripes on the front of his factories in certain cases. Before long, someone may discover that frescoes inside a factory increase the average efficiency of the worker 1.03 per cent., and Art will become a commercial proposition once more."

There you have a good, challenging start to painting in general: among primitive men; in Italy, Holland, and Germany; French and Spanish schools of painting; British and American work. Sculpture is treated similarly, and then Architecture. The story of building is the story of civilisation itself; mud hut, Roman temple, mediæval cathedral—and such severely practical work as our own new telephone building. Furniture and cabinet-making are rightly dealt with as forms of architecture; erections in wood that are capable of expressing beauty and a high degree of craftsmanship in addition to the quality of mere

usefulness. Perhaps no form of art has been so debased as that expressible in furniture: shoddy and veneer, unseasoned wood, and a rapid machine-made ornamentation.

Dancing and Music.

It seems a long way from cabinet-making to dancing, yet how nearly akin they are in the art sense. A graceful shape in wood must necessarily be a matter of movement; but it is the grace that matters to the eye that cares for beauty. Thus we proceed to music—music! but what an excellent article it is! A little simple descriptive matter, historical notes, a few paragraphs about

the greater musicians, and a short review of recent music. So closes the entire section on Art: representing the very minimum that any citizen should be aware of in the twentieth century. History, Science, Religion, Literature, and Philosophy are all treated similarly; they are knitted together in the mind of the reader as different sides of the one crystal of human knowledge made one, as they should properly be. The nineteenth century and its wonderful inquiry and discovery brought so many new facts to light that the specialist came into being, who began to make art and literature, science and philosophy so entirely separate that even learned men forgot at times that all knowledge is one, as all life is essentially one. The healing art, for example, developed so largely on its side of inquiry and discovery that the doctor could become cruel in the pursuit of his inquiries; at times he lost sight of the meaning of his own knowledge. It is good to be reminded, at this time especially, when political

feeling is rife and the air is full of argument, that politics is not a branch of human knowledge separate and apart. It is helped and shaped by art, for politics—even as art is shaped by politics. It is enlarged and sweetened by philosophy, as it in turn makes of philosophy a really practical instrument of human good. It is—should be!—very nearly related to literature; speeches would be better if speakers paid attention to choice of words and correctness of expression.

Our Universities.

Perhaps the professors in our universities would not care too much for this kind of teaching—and therefore would not be much impressed with this particular book. That attitude, we believe, is wrong in itself injurious to society. The kinship of men everywhere is an essential doctrine if we are to make the world a worthy place for man. Equally so, the kinship of knowledge is a fact to be recognised. We wish to know anything at all. The scientist who despises politics utterly fails to fulfil even his work as a scientist; he is short of a standard of measurement that really good men must have. The politician (and there are many of him to the fore just now) can neither despise nor ignore science, he cannot eschew history and art and philosophy, without restricting his capacity as a politician. His political ideas will be out of shape to a degree undeveloped in certain places, and nothing whatever can bring out the sum of their usefulness but the gaining of at least a simple general knowledge.

There could be no handier and no easier way of obtaining that knowledge than by the reading of this book; and who knows?—it may touch the mind by the revelation of some province of interest unknown before.

JUNIOR CO-OPERATIVE PARTY NOTES.

- The following programme has been carried out during the past month—
- April 10.—Mr. J. H. Bingham gave an excellent lantern lecture on "The Tapestry of Bayeux."
 - " 17.—The section paid a visit to the Brightside and Carbrook dairy at Broughton-lane.
 - " 24.—A tour was made round the premises of the "Sheffield Tailor-appears," which proved of immense interest to our members.

General Election.

Owing to the general election the weekly meetings of the Junior Party will not be held. Our members are asked to report at Mr. Alexander's central committee room—the Hillsborough Co-operative Institute Guild-room—every Wednesday, so that members can be kept in touch. The president and secretary of the Junior Co-operative Party have been appointed on the Hillsborough election committee, and all members are asked to rally round with their support, and thus assist in returning our worthy representative, Mr. A. V. Alexander, with a bumping majority.

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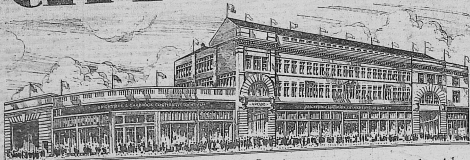
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