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FABIAN SOCIETY'S MEETINGS

MINUTES

From 22nd November, 1901
To 12th July, 1907

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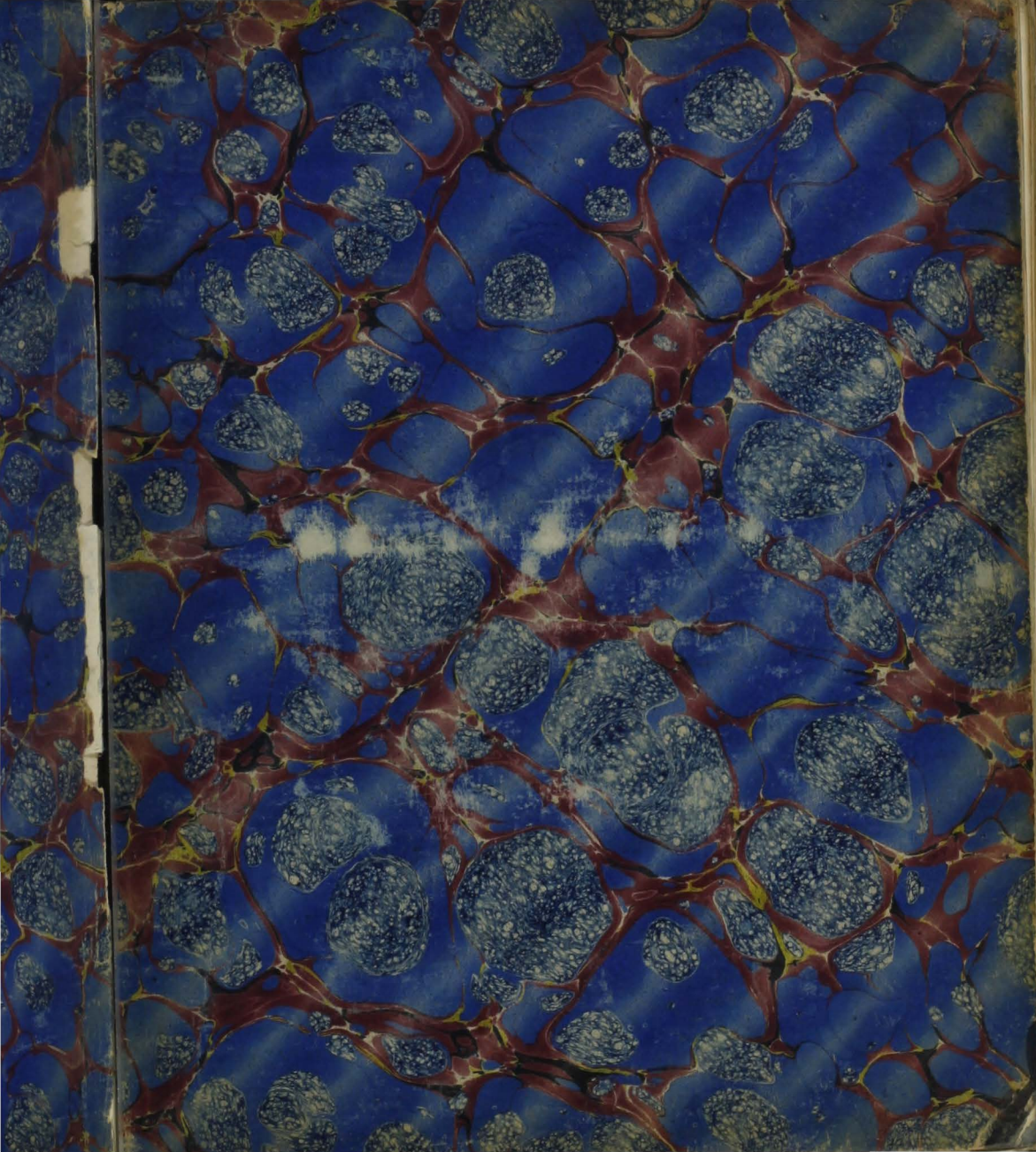
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Minutes of the
Meetings of the Fabian
Society

from

22nd November

1901.

To.

12 July 1907

3 Clements Inn, Strand
London W.C.

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Meeting at Cliffords Inn, Fleet St.
on Friday 22 Nov. 1901.

1. Charles Charrington was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Secy reported that Tract 108 "Nineteenth Century Politics, a Plea for National Efficiency" was already published, & asked additional help from members in connection with the Tract Distribution scheme. -
4. Raymond Unwin then read his paper on:-

Lecture on "Light and Air and the Housing Question."

By RAYMOND UNWIN

(Joint author of "The Art of Building a Home").

SYLLABUS.—Object of Houses: shelter, protection, privacy. Municipal Houses: what they are and what they might be. The need for sunshine. A quadrangle instead of back-yard. How to distribute space. A sunny living-room. No passages. Bay-windows and plenty of them. The waste of shut-in staircases. Bath-rooms. Co-operative ideal: a communal wash-house, and, ultimately, club-room and kitchen.

~~which~~. The lecture was illustrated with Lantern slides. A debate followed in which A. J. Marriott, H. W. Maerock, H. D. Pearsall, S. Udall, C. H. Grimling & Bernard Shaw took part.

S. G. Hobson
29/11/1901

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on Friday Nov. 29th -

1. S. G. Hobson was elected Chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Sec. asked for further help from members in connection with the tract distribution scheme.
4. Gilbert Murray then gave his lecture on

Lecture on "The Athenian Drama and the Athenian Empire."

By GILBERT MURRAY

(late Professor of Greek at Glasgow University).

SYLLABUS.—The Disappointment of the Vth Century B.C. The Ideals represented by Athens in 490—470: they prove inconsistent with the development of Athenian politics. Fall of the Ideals; the tone of 427 B.C. Fall of Athens; tone of 404 B.C. Reflection of this change in tragedy. (1) *Æschylus*; Theseus and his sons in *Euripides*; the *Heraclidae*, *Suppliants*, and *Heracles*. (2) The foreshadowings of the *Hecuba*. (3) Bitterness and despair of the *Troades*, &c. The final surmounting of despair; the doctrines of the *Bacchæ*. This points the road for most subsequent Greek philosophy.

A debate followed in which
Bernard Shaw, Charles Charrington
Dr. Guest & Hubert Bland took part.

G. Bernard Shaw.

90/2

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday Dec. 13th -

1. Bernard Shaw was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Sec. moved on behalf of the Exec.
"that the Lecture of Raymond Unwin
on the Housing Question be issued
as a Tract with his name". The
resolution was agreed to.
4. Mr. A. B. Walkley then gave his lecture on

"The Modern French Drama."

By A. B. WALKLEY.

SYLLABUS.—A bulletin from M. de Blowitz. Perpetual cry and counter-cry. The scope of the drama: observations on Mr. Bernard Shaw. The drama of ideas: further observations on Mr. Bernard Shaw. Morals and the drama: French thesis-plays. Love in the theatre: French amorists: concluding observations on Mr. Bernard Shaw.

A discussion followed in which S. K. Ratcliffe,
J. Scott Stokes, Hubert Bland, Dr. Guest,
Miss Brooke, Chas. Charrington, J. Baptista,
& the Chairman took part.

S. K. Ratcliffe 107. / 1902.

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
10th Jan. 7 1902. —

1. S. K. Ratchiffe was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Mr. S. S. Thorburn Kien read his paper on

"Indian Poverty and Relief Nostrums."
By S. S. THORBURN

(late Financial Commissioner of the Punjab).

SYLLABUS.—Indian reformers' charge against England of selfishness in governing India examined—Our policy of enlightened selfishness stated and defended—Counts in the general indictment, viz., the "tribute," over-assessment, commercial action, exclusion of Indians from well-paid administrative posts, stated and criticised—Root-cause of poverty of Indian agricultural masses is our rigid Western "system"—It and its effects explained—Direction of remedies undertaken by Lord Curzon's government; the difficulties; if carried out, which is unlikely, they will be too late to save about seventy millions of hopelessly indebted or expropriated peasants.

+ a debate followed in which
Messrs. H. M. Hyndman, Wm Digby
G. Bernard Shaw, H. D. Pearsall,
Spencer Wilkinson & J. Baptista
took part. —

John Black

Meeting at Cliffords Inn 24th Jan. 1902

1. Hubert Bland was elected chairman

2. The minutes were performed

3. Bernard Shaw has gave an address on

“THE ENGLISH DRAMA.”
BY BERNARD SHAW.

the debate followed in which
Keston W. P. Reeves, A. M. Davies
S. K. Ratcliffe, Mrs. Morrison, Miss
Murdz, W. B. Matthews the chairman,
and others took part.

FUTURE OF THE DRAMA.

Mr. G. B. Shaw on the Theatrical Arrangement of Life.

The limited capacity of the Fabian Society's small hall at Cliford's Inn was taxed to the uttermost last evening when Mr. George Bernard Shaw lectured on the drama, or, rather, as the chairman, Mr. Hubert Bland, put it, "delivered some observations on the English drama."

Mr. Shaw began in the mood of the young Scotswoman, who reproved a too ardent admirer by declaring that she preferred to talk about "love in the abstract." He dealt at the outset with the drama in the abstract, and declared that Shakespeare saw quite clearly that the whole arrangement of the world was a theatrical arrangement. If things were taken as they occurred they were not interesting or memorable, or intelligible, and not real in any sense, and they must be arranged in some order which would show their moral significance. But this moral order or basis was not noticed until some writer changed it, and then he was immediately pronounced, as Ibsen had been, immoral. The drama, since Shakespeare's time up to the present, could, he thought, be disposed of in about two minutes, and in discussing it Mr. Shaw mentioned Bunyan, who, unfortunately, he said, did not write drama, but illustrated the great religious movement that set in after Elizabeth's day; Sheridan, who was the first playwright who also knew about politics and the world; Ibsen, whom he placed on the topmost pinnacle of modern dramatists; and himself, who was the only dramatist the Fabian Society had produced. His great advantage over his contemporaries was that, as a member of the Fabian Society, he had given some serious study to life as it was, although if the others had had the same training they would be found to have some dramatic talent. (Laughter.) Opera, he believed, would displace the drama, because music had a greater emotional power than spoken words, and although the theatre had been trying for long to put operas on the stage without music, the attempt had been a dismal and ghastly failure. In this way the English drama was going to be forced back more and more to its real business, and that was the presentation of thought. (Hear, hear.)

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MR. THORBURN'S INDICTMENT.

The root cause of the increasing poverty and self-helplessness of the Indian peoples may be most comprehensively expressed by the term, our "system."

More than half of the agriculturists of British India—a few favoured localities excepted—are now in about as miserable a plight as human beings not officially designated slaves or serfs can be.

To the cold calculating eye of the statistician, whether Secretary of State for India, or bureaucratic head of a local government, our great dependency is a unit, progressive or retrograde according to the volume of the output. So viewed, as there is annually an increase in production, trade, revenue, litigation, cultivated area, and railway mileage, there is consequently annual growth of prosperity. To the sympathetic discernment of the disinterested statesman—the man who considers producers as well as production—India contains not one unit but three hundred millions of units, each a struggling atom of humanity, lying prostrate and bleeding under the wheels of the Juggernaut Car called "progress on Western lines."

India, for an agricultural country, has wealth, but, as our "system" has accumulated most of it in the hands of a comparatively small number of persons, the people—the masses—are poor sweated creatures.

It is a strange irony that during the Victorian era, under our well-intentioned, enlightened, and superficially impartial rule, our most extensive economic achievement has been the destruction of India's ancient village communities and the practical enslavement of half of their members.

Behind all is the discouraging fact that for more than seventy millions of the sufferers it is too late for any change of system to be beneficial.—MR. S. S. THORBURN, January 10, 1902.

MR. BERNARD SHAW, who, like Captain Costigan, is always good-natured and sometimes almost trustworthy, summed up in a single vivid sentence the effect of the remarkable lecture delivered by Mr. S. S. Thorburn to the Fabian Society last Friday. In the discussion that followed the lecture, Mr. Shaw observed that, while he had formerly suspected Mr. Hyndman of exaggeration, he should henceforward regard him as "almost a culpable apologist of the Government of India." We print in our present issue a full report of this memorable indictment, which we commend especially to both Houses of Parliament at the opening of a new Session. Our readers do not need to be reminded that Mr. Thorburn speaks with all the authority of the expert. One of the most brilliant administrators whom England has ever given to India, he has just retired from the Indian Civil Service, distinguished no less by the importance of the official tasks he has discharged than by the gratitude and affection of the people he has served. We are revealing no secret when we say that if Mr. Thorburn had been less amply endowed with the qualities which are conspicuously manifested in his lecture—we mean the qualities of insight, of candour, and of perfect fearlessness—he would now be discharging in India the functions of one of the very highest offices. Whether it that capacity he could have done more useful work than that of explaining to English audiences some of the underlying facts of British rule in India is one of those questions which need not be answered.

Not that we concur by any means in every proposition which Mr. Thorburn states, or in every conclusion he draws from premises that are not disputed. But, as every reader of the lecture will see for himself, and as may be gathered from the passages cited above, he has for all intelligent Englishmen rendered impossible and grotesque for the future that cruel optimism which is the most formidable obstacle to progress. In form the lecture is a reply to Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji and Mr. Romesh Dutt. In substance it strengthens their main positions, and at the same time brings to bear upon the matter what Matthew Arnold called a full and fresh stream of ideas. For what is the main contention of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji and those who share his views? It is not that British rule has conferred no benefits upon India—not that the principles upon which British rule is ostensibly founded are unjust or unsound—but that the actual system which is pursued is a violation and not a fulfilment of British pledges, and a violation disastrous in the long run not less to England than to India. Now Mr. Thorburn does not deny the fact of the "economic drain" or "tribute" from India to England. On the contrary he expressly admits that "there is a good deal of exaggerated truth" in the general charge. He proceeds to prove its truth, but where is the evidence of exaggeration? We pass over the remark—hardly in keeping perhaps with the general tone of the lecture—that Mr. Naoroji and

Mr. Dutt to an infinitesimal extent add to the "economic drain" by living in this country. As the main object of their living here is to circulate facts and thereby hasten reform, the net result of their activities will leave a substantial balance on the side of India. Mr. Thorburn, we are very sure, would not commit himself to the contention that the expense of living in this country should deter patriotic Indians from crossing the black water in the hope of securing some alleviation for the lot of their countrymen. But this is a detail. The point of substance is that Mr. Thorburn admits and explains the "tribute." Now, nobody will deny that there is "good and sufficient reason" why Anglo-Indians should wish to enjoy their savings and their pensions in their native land. But that very fact constitutes a reason why there should not be more of them than are really necessary, especially when repeated pledges have been given on behalf of the British nation that Indians shall not be handicapped in the competition for offices in their own Civil Service, and when the deliberate though not avowed evasion of those pledges keeps Indians out and brings more Anglo-Indians in. Mr. Thorburn himself is candid enough upon this fundamental matter, though he does not very clearly admit that it is fundamental. He says our actual policy is one of "enlightened selfishness." We shall have a word to say immediately about the epithet "enlightened." But how if this selfishness leads us into bad faith? How if our practice contradicts our professions? Is that worthy? Is it English? Is it—in the long run—even wise? Mr. Thorburn indeed would be frank. "It would," he thinks, "be more satisfactory if we announced the truth in plain terms instead of, as is the habit of our statesmen and high officials generally, endeavouring to hide it under a cloud of high-sounding declarations which mean little." But there are difficulties in the way of this proposed candour. The pledges have proceeded personally from the Sovereign. Is the Sovereign to say they are hypocritical? We should not like to contemplate the consequences. But there is no need to do so, for the thing is unthinkable. Is it suggested then that statesmen and high officials are to announce that the pledges of the Crown are merely high-sounding declarations which mean little? We demur to the jurisdiction. They could not if they would, and they dare not if they could. Besides, has Mr. Thorburn sufficiently considered that these high-sounding declarations have had their effect not only in India but in this country? A democracy cannot be cynical, though its ruling classes and its permanent officials may be. The question whether England should retain India would instantly assume a very different complexion if the great mass of well-disposed, justice-loving but too little informed Englishmen were made to understand that our solemn promises and high professions are mere fudge and that what has been called "England's great and beautiful civilising mission" in India is but a hypocritical cloak for "enlightened selfishness."

And that brings us to the epithet "enlightened." Where precisely is the evidence of enlightenment to be found? Not surely in the recurrence of famine in India in greater intensity at intervals that grow shorter? Nor in what Mr. Thorburn calls "the increasing poverty and self-helplessness of the Indian peoples"? Nor in the fact that "for more than seventy millions of the sufferers it is too late for any change of system to be beneficial"? We look in vain in India for those ingredients of our self-interest which entitle it to the epithet enlightened. But how if we look at home? A certain comparatively small section of the English people is no doubt "making hay" at the expense of India. That indigent country supplies for them an answer to the increasingly difficult question: "What shall we do with our boys?" It yields salaries and, in due course, pensions. It affords an avenue for trade. All this is true enough. But is it not perfectly clear that, even if we look only to the material interests of the English people, the present policy sacrifices the interests of the many to the interests of a few? John Bright saw this fact clearly enough, and expressed it when he said in effect that the benefits derived by this country from India, if they are to be lasting and widely diffused, must come from the well-being of India. A small section of our people may for a brief space shake the pagoda-tree or squeeze the lemon. But nothing could by any conceivable possibility be less "enlightened." It is the enlightenment of a farmer who

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Meeting at Clifton on 14 Feb 1902

Jan Feb 1902
Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji
Mr. Romesh Dutt
Mr. Thorburn

Mr. Dutt
Mr. Thorburn
Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji
Mr. Romesh Dutt

1895

January 17, 1902.]

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should eat up the roots instead of awaiting, and diligently preparing and enriching, the harvest. We may call this selfishness eager, impatient, short-sighted, and foolish. But do not, if we have any regard for the meaning of words, let us call it "enlightened." The first task of truly enlightened self-interest is to make India prosperous. Here, as elsewhere, the true path of expediency turns out to be the path of right.

We seem to have dwelt overmuch upon some of the points where there is divergence, or imperfect agreement, between Mr. Thorburn's position and our own. But, as we have indicated, we welcome cordially the lecture as a whole because it is so admirably designed to chase away the temper of childish optimism. One word more. Mr. Thorburn has much to say of the misdeeds of the money-lender in India. By all means let the operations of the money-lender be checked wherever they are unjust or inequitable. But after all it is not mere perversity that drive the rayat to the money-lender. The efficient cause is the pressure of the demands which are made upon him in order to provide a costly Government, over which he has no control, with the means of pursuing enterprises or meeting expenditure in which he has too often no interest whatsoever.

the funds at their disposal is one reason for apathy, and greater prosperity may lead to greater activity. The "Tribune" believes the review very worthy of attention, especially considering Sir Mackworth Young's friendliness to local self-government. But it does not think that the poverty of the funds is the only reason which may account for these bodies not having fulfilled their early promise. Our contemporary believes that the hostile attitude of Mr. Caldwell does not say who is to provide or guarantee the funds. He says, indeed, that the British Government should do what it can for India; but the "Times of India" imagines the surprise of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be spent in enabling Anglo-Indians to go home more cheaply. It is still more out of the question that India poses is a truly heroic one—nothing less than the setting up of a competing line of steamships by the State. But Mr. Caldwell does not say who is to provide or guarantee the funds at their disposal is one reason for apathy, and greater prosperity may lead to greater activity.

1896

Meeting at Cliffords Lane on 14th Feb. 7

- (1.) S. K. Ratchiffe was elected chairman
- (2.) The minutes were confirmed
- (3.) The Secy moved that the Lecture with additions delivered to the Society by Mr. S. S. Thorburn on Indian Poverty & British Rule be printed as a Tract with his name. The resolution was agreed to nem. con.
- (4.) S. G. Hobson gave his lecture on

**Feb. 14. "Great Britain, the World and the Devil."
By S. G. HOBSON.**

SYLLABUS.—I. Some elementary principles in regard to foreign relationship. II. International competition for trade and territory. III. Colonial growth considered in relation to national life at home. IV. Expansion of the Great Powers and its bearing upon the existence of small nationalities. V. Government by assent. VI. Militarism. VII. Internal efficiency considered as a factor in foreign affairs.

A debate followed in which A. M. Daines, W. B. Hoopson, J. McNeil, A. J. Murrill, R. S. Dell, G. B. Shaw, Charles Charrington, R. W. Anderson & others took part.

Charles Charrington

28th Feb. 1902.

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Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
28th Feb. 7 1902. -

1. Charles Charrington was elected
Chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. Mr. Alfred Sutro then gave his
lecture on

Lecture on "The Belgian Drama."
By ALFRED SUTRO.
SYLLABUS.
Maeterlinck and Verhaeren—Maeterlinck's theories on the Drama—
Their application to the modern stage—The consciousness of playwright
and public—A glance at some problem-plays.

A debate followed in which
Bernard Shaw, Miss Brooke, S. K.
Ratchiffe, Miss Murly, R. W. Anderson
& Mr. J. Janquill took part.

Sy Hobson
14/11/1902

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on March
14th 1902. —

S. G. Hobson was elected Chairman

The minutes were confirmed

On the motion of the Secy Messrs. Limebeer
Thomson + Tinkling were elected auditors
for the year.

On the motion of the Secy Mr Macpherson
& J. W. Shaw were elected scrutineers
for the Executive election.

Mr Gilbert Chesterton Kien lectured on

"The Empire and Magnanimity."

By GILBERT K. CHESTERTON.

+ a debate followed in which S. K. Ratcliffe
Rev. Conrad Noel, J. McNeil, G. B. Shaw, &
Mr J. E. Matthews took part.

J. W. Clutton

1902

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on Friday
April " 1902. -

1. F. W. Galton was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. The Secy announced that the Executive Comtee had decided to hold a members meeting on Friday May 2nd to consider resolutions on the Education Bill.
4. The Secy also drew attention to the ~~of~~ new tract not yet issued to members, *Widow Cottage Peans & Common Sense.* -
5. H. T. Holmes then read his paper on

Lecture on "REFORM OF REFORMATORIES."

By H. T. HOLMES.

SYLLABUS.—Juvenile Offenders—Early Treatment—Rise of Reformatory Methods—The Present System—Its Defects—Inefficiency, Lack of Industrial Training, Neglect of Deficient Children—Suggestions for Reform—Abolition of the Voluntary System—Classification of Schools—Extension of the Age Limit—Future of the Schools.

A debate followed in which Macrosty, Shaw, Hobson, Matthews, Buttery, Pease, the Chairman & others took part.

Arthur Pease

24/10

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on April 25th 02.

- (1) Hubert Bland was elected chairman
- (2) The minutes were confirmed.
- (3) Dr. Archdall Reid read his paper on

"The Modern Doctrine of Heredity and Some Social Implications."
 By Dr. ARCHDALL REID, M.B.
 (Author of *Alcoholism: a Study in Heredity*).
 SYLLABUS.—Lamarck's theory of Heredity—Inheritance of acquired characteristics discredited by science, but persistent in popular belief—Darwin's Theory: Modern science more Darwinian than Darwin—The present Course of Human Evolution—Pseudo-Evolution—Neglect of science by politicians—The lessons of Darwinism for the Teacher, the Doctor, the Social Reformer and the Statesman.

A debate followed in which Dr. Lawson Dodd, Dr. McCleary & Bernard Shaw took part.

Wm J. Sanders
 3/6/1902

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obson,
took part.

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday 2nd May 1902. -

1. W^m Sanders was elected Chairman.
2. The Minutes were confirmed. -
3. Sidney Webb on behalf of the Exec. introduced the Education Bill Resolutions.
On line 1 Graham Wallas moved to substitute the words "recognises also" for "welcomes".
On this motion a "second reading" debate followed; Rev S. D. Headlam & H. T. Muggenidge supported the amendment & Bernard Shaw the resolution. Sidney Webb having replied the ~~amendment~~ amendment was voted on & lost by 17 for & 32 against. -
4. T. Norris moved a further amendment that while his Society approves of the leading principles contained in the Education Bill it believes that its present form is so imperfect &

its principles are overlaid & so much that is bad that it hereby declines to support it in any way whatsoever. - The amendment was seconded & rejected, only 7 voting for it. -

4. A motion to closure debate on paragraphs No 1 to 4 was put & the chairman, & rejected & 26 votes to 24. -
5. An amendment to add words to the effect that the Society will approve or welcome the Bill "when the amendments a. to n, on the paper are adopted" was rejected & 24 votes to 18. -
- b. The Chairman declined to accept a proposed resolution that Mr Headlam be no longer heard. -
- 7 Paragraphs 1.2. & 3 were then put & declared & the chairman to be carried. Paragraph 4 was

carried, with 2 votes against. - In this paragraph, & throughout the resolutions, it was agreed on the motion of Graham Wallas to delete "subject to the Cooper Temple clause", & substitute where necessary "provided by the Local Authority".

8. The paragraphs a to n. were then taken & agreed to mostly without debate. On (c) It was agreed to add the words & should be required to act upon any instruction of the Council. On (d) it was proposed to add words to the effect that "Or as an alternative that a proportion of women should be on every Education Committee". The ~~was~~ amendment was opposed as offering a weaker proposal, and although accepted by ~~2~~ Wells on behalf of the Com^e was rejected by a majority, 14 voting for it.

9. H. T. Mugggeridge moved a new amendment that par. 3 (c) Clause 13 of the Bill

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he omitted because it ~~do~~ will discourage local
authorities from starting new schools in villages
on account of the expense. Webb opposed
because he considered the amendment impracticable
& it was defeated by 19 votes to 8. -

10. No other amendments being proposed, the
meeting terminated. -

Robt. Alex. Piddie
16.5.02.

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The Fabian Society.

THE EDUCATION BILL, 1902.

RESOLUTION prepared by the Executive Committee, for consideration at the Meeting of the Society at Clifford's Inn on May 2nd, at 8 p.m. *The meeting will be confined to members of the Society.*

THAT the Fabian Society, whilst recognizing the many serious defects in the Education Bill, 1902, welcomes the approach which it makes towards :—

- (1) Comprehensiveness in education, in that it empowers local authorities to provide from the rates, for all persons, without distinction of age, sex or class, not elementary or technical education alone, but all forms and grades of education in secular subjects, from the lowest to the highest : marking, in this respect, an advance in national policy not less epoch-making than that of 1870.
- (2) Unification of all forms and grades of education under a single local authority legally empowered to provide complete and systematically co-ordinated educational machinery adapted to its local requirements, for all sections of the community, from a kindergarten up to and including a university.
- (3) Unity of local government so that responsibility for the maintenance of all local services and the levying of all local rates in each district shall be concentrated in a single directly elected body.
- (4) Equality of educational efficiency, especially in strength and salaries of teaching staff, in all public elementary schools, whether denominational or subject to the Cowper-Temple clause, thereby making possible an immediate raising of the scandalously low standard which, in at least a third of our schools, at present disgraces the nation.

But this approach to comprehensiveness, unity and equality is, as the Bill now stands, marred by great defects, on the remedying of which in committee the Fabian Society urges that all efforts should be concentrated.

- (a) The "option" proposed to be given to particular districts to remain outside the scope of the Bill is illogical and seriously detrimental to educational efficiency ; unfair to the children in such districts who may thereby be deprived of the enlarged educational opportunities allowed by the Bill ; and destructive of the unity and equality at which it aims. This "option" clause should be rejected.
- (b) The power proposed to be given to non-county boroughs (over 10,000) and urban districts (over 20,000) to take themselves, as regards elementary education, entirely out of their respective counties is calculated to impair the educational efficiency of the county as a whole, and to create undesirable inequalities of rating. It would seem preferable to limit this option as much as is politically possible—perhaps only to such boroughs and districts as have now school boards—and to restrict its effect so that, whilst the small town is left free to manage the schools within its area, the scheme of educational provision shall be made with regard to the needs and circumstances of the county as a whole, the towns having to serve as educational centres not for themselves alone, but also for their respective neighborhoods.

- (c) The proposed freedom to the town or county council in the formation of its education committee is unduly wide. It seems preferable to require not merely that the whole committee should be appointed by the council, but also that a substantial majority should be members of the council. It should also be made clear that this committee, like other committees of the council, shall be, in respect of all its members, appointed only from year to year.
- (d) The position of women in the Bill is, if not open to equivocation, at best highly anomalous. The only satisfactory solution of this difficulty would be the insertion of a clause making women (married or single) eligible for membership of town and county councils on the same conditions as men. A clause to this effect would be within the scope of the present Bill (as affecting the constitution of the proposed education authority), and it should be moved.
- (e) It is anomalous and unfair that ministers of religion should continue to be legally ineligible for election to town councils, and thus be unable to take part, as directly elected representatives, in educational or other branches of municipal work. An amendment abrogating this antiquated disability would be in order, and should be moved.
- (f) The proposed delegation of details of school administration to bodies of managers, whilst good in itself, requires to be more definitely provided for. The local authority should be required—
- (i) In all cases itself formally to appoint all the managers, and to make the appointment only from year to year ; provided that where the school buildings are provided and maintained by private trustees, these shall nominate to the local authority, to be so appointed, one half the total number of managers.
 - (ii) In all cases to include an adequate proportion of women among such managers.
 - (iii) Where a parish or urban district or borough council exists, to include among such managers at least two members of that council.
 - (iv) To prepare and submit to the Board of Education for its observations (though not for approval) a precise statement of the powers proposed to be delegated, which shall never include (a) the levying of a rate, the borrowing of money, or the expenditure of any funds provided by the local authority except by its express sanction ; (b) any alteration of curricula or of the conditions of service of any teacher or other employee of the local authority ; (c) the formal appointment or dismissal of teachers or their conditions of employment—provided that the managers shall in all cases select the candidates to fill vacancies, according to the scale of salaries and qualifications laid down by the local authority in each case, and subject to its approval, which shall not be withheld on any grounds but those of educational qualifications or personal character. Provided that it shall be the duty of the managers, as an advisory committee of the local authority, to make such representations as they may think fit, for the consideration of the local authority, on any matters whatsoever relating to the schools under their charge.
- (g) The position of the teachers in the schools maintained by the local authority is not clearly defined. It should be expressly laid down that, in all such schools, whether denominational or subject to the Cowper-Temple clause, the teachers shall be officers of the local authority itself, from whom they will receive their salaries.
- (h) Where a public elementary school is "provided" otherwise than by the local authority, and is therefore maintained as a denominational school, it should be expressly declared illegal for any payment to be made from public funds in respect of the use of such building, whether rent, interest on cost of building or on loans, or expenditure for repairs or the

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reasonable alterations or improvements referred to in the Bill—seeing that it is in return for the private provision and maintenance of the building that the privilege of denominational teaching and private nomination of managers is to be accorded.

- (i) The proposed power of the local authority to provide new schools subject to the Cowper-Temple clause, in districts where the accommodation, though "sufficient" is not "suitable," regard being had to the wishes of the parents, is so hedged round with checks as to be difficult of exercise. It is suggested that the exercise of this necessary power should be left to the free discretion of the local authority itself.
- (j) The continuance of the special grant of five shillings per head under the Voluntary Schools Act, 1897, appears anomalous when the maintenance of all public elementary schools is equally undertaken by the local authority; and its extension to new denominational schools would amount to an unfair penalizing of the provision of new schools by the local authority itself, in respect of which the special grant would not be payable. This special grant should therefore, in order to keep the balance even, either be withdrawn, or made payable (at whatever rate) in respect of all public elementary schools (that is, simply added to the "block grant").
- (k) It is a defect in the Bill that it does not expressly make it the duty (as distinguished from a power) of a local authority to provide any higher education at all; and does not even allocate the "whisky money" to education of any kind. Hence, (i) The "whisky money" should be definitely allocated exclusively to education other than elementary; (ii) It should be declared to be the duty of every local authority to provide for all parts of its district a sufficient and suitable supply of education in secular subjects of all forms and grades, adapted to the requirements and circumstances of all sections of its constituents; (iii) Every local authority should be required to prepare and submit to the Board of Education, within a year, to be laid before Parliament, a complete survey of the provision for such education in its district, with particulars of the gaps and deficiencies, and with its own suggestions for their remedy.
- (l) No direction is given as to increasing the provision for the training of teachers. It should be made the duty of every local authority to make sufficient and suitable provision, without distinction of creed or any religious test, for the education and training of teachers, proportionate to its own requirements.
- (m) The limitation to 2d. in the £ of the expenditure on all education other than elementary—including, as it now must, the cost of all evening continuation schools, pupil-teacher centres and instruction of persons over 15—will tend to limit the work of progressive districts. It would be highly desirable to omit this invidious discouragement of local effort, and an amendment to this effect should be pressed.
- (n) The absence of any provision of a grant in aid of secondary education, proportionate to the efficient expenditure of each local authority, will, it is to be feared, cause the backward districts to fall still more behind those which are progressive. This defect could be cured without legislation, by an executive extension of the present science and art and evening school grants, and the corresponding Parliamentary vote in supply; and such an extension and vote should be pressed for, as an integral part of any effective reform of secondary and university education.

EDWARD R. PEASE,
Secretary.

C26/15

THE EDUCATION BILL, 1902.

RESOLUTION adopted by THE FABIAN SOCIETY on May 2nd, 1902:—

THAT the Fabian Society, whilst recognizing the many serious defects in the Education Bill, 1902, welcomes the approach which it makes towards:—

- (1) Comprehensiveness in education, in that it empowers local authorities to provide from the rates, for all persons, without distinction of age, sex or class, not elementary or technical education alone, but all forms and grades of education in secular subjects, from the lowest to the highest: marking, in this respect, an advance in national policy not less epoch-making than that of 1870.
- (2) Unification of all forms and grades of education under a single local authority legally empowered to provide complete and systematically co-ordinated educational machinery adapted to its local requirements, for all sections of the community, from a kindergarten up to and including a university.
- (3) Unity of local government so that responsibility for the maintenance of all local services and the levying of all local rates in each district shall be concentrated in a single directly elected body.
- (4) Equality of educational efficiency, especially in strength and salaries of teaching staff, in all public elementary schools, whether denominational or provided by the local authority, thereby making possible an immediate raising of the scandalously low standard which, in at least a third of our schools, at present disgraces the nation.

But this approach to comprehensiveness, unity and equality is, as the Bill now stands, marred by great defects, on the remedying of which in committee the Fabian Society urges that all efforts should be concentrated.

- (a) The "option" proposed to be given to particular districts to remain outside the scope of the Bill is illogical and seriously detrimental to educational efficiency; unfair to the children in such districts who may thereby be deprived of the enlarged educational opportunities allowed by the Bill; and destructive of the unity and equality at which it aims. This "option" clause should be rejected.
- (b) The power proposed to be given to non-county boroughs (over 10,000) and urban districts (over 20,000) to take themselves, as regards elementary education, entirely out of their respective counties is calculated to impair the educational efficiency of the county as a whole, and to create undesirable inequalities of rating. It would seem preferable to limit this option as much as is politically possible—perhaps only to such boroughs and districts as have now school boards—and to restrict its effect so that, whilst the small town is left free to manage the schools within its area, the scheme of educational provision shall be made with regard to the needs and circumstances of the county as a whole, the towns having to serve as educational centres not for themselves alone, but also for their respective neighborhoods.

- (c) The proposed freedom to the town or county council in the formation of its education committee is unduly wide. It seems preferable to require not merely that the whole committee should be appointed by the council, but also that a substantial majority should be members of the council. It should also be made clear that this committee, like other committees of the council, shall be, in respect of all its members, appointed only from year to year, and should be required to act upon any instruction of the Council.
- (d) The position of women in the Bill is, if not open to equivocation, at best highly anomalous. The only satisfactory solution of this difficulty would be the insertion of a clause making women (married or single) eligible for membership of town and county councils on the same conditions as men. A clause to this effect would be within the scope of the present Bill (as affecting the constitution of the proposed education authority), and it should be moved.
- (e) It is anomalous and unfair that ministers of religion should continue to be legally ineligible for election to town councils, and thus be unable to take part, as directly elected representatives, in educational or other branches of municipal work. An amendment abrogating this antiquated disability would be in order, and should be moved.
- (f) The proposed delegation of details of school administration to bodies of managers, whilst good in itself, requires to be more definitely provided for. The local authority should be required—
- (i) In all cases itself formally to appoint all the managers, and to make the appointment only from year to year; provided that where the school buildings are provided and maintained by private trustees, these shall nominate to the local authority, to be so appointed, one half the total number of managers.
 - (ii) In all cases to include an adequate proportion of women among such managers.
 - (iii) Where a parish or urban district or borough council exists, to include among such managers at least two members of that council.
 - (iv) To prepare and submit to the Board of Education for its observations (though not for approval) a precise statement of the powers proposed to be delegated, which shall never include (a) the levying of a rate, the borrowing of money, or the expenditure of any funds provided by the local authority except by its express sanction; (b) any alteration of curricula or of the conditions of service of any teacher or other employee of the local authority; (c) the formal appointment or dismissal of teachers or their conditions of employment—provided that the managers shall in all cases select the candidates to fill vacancies, according to the scale of salaries and qualifications laid down by the local authority in each case, and subject to its approval, which shall not be withheld on any grounds but those of educational qualifications or personal character. Provided that it shall be the duty of the managers, as an advisory committee of the local authority, to make such representations as they may think fit, for the consideration of the local authority, on any matters whatsoever relating to the schools under their charge.
- (g) The position of the teachers in the schools maintained by the local authority is not clearly defined. It should be expressly laid down that, in all such schools, whether denominational or provided by the local authority, the teachers shall be officers of the local authority itself, from whom they will receive their salaries.
- (h) Where a public elementary school is "provided" otherwise than by the local authority, and is therefore maintained as a denominational school, it should be expressly declared illegal for any payment to be made from public funds in respect of the use of such building, whether rent, interest on cost of building or on loans, or expenditure for repairs or the

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reasonable alterations or improvements referred to in the Bill—seeing that it is in return for the private provision and maintenance of the building that the privilege of denominational teaching and private nomination of managers is to be accorded.

- (i) The proposed power of the local authority to provide new schools in districts where the accommodation, though "sufficient" is not "suitable," regard being had to the wishes of the parents, is so hedged round with checks as to be difficult of exercise. It is suggested that the exercise of this necessary power should be left to the free discretion of the local authority itself.
- (j) The continuance of the special grant of five shillings per head under the Voluntary Schools Act, 1897, appears anomalous when the maintenance of all public elementary schools is equally undertaken by the local authority; and its extension to new denominational schools would amount to an unfair penalizing of the provision of new schools by the local authority itself, in respect of which the special grant would not be payable. This special grant should therefore, in order to keep the balance even, either be withdrawn, or made payable (at whatever rate) in respect of all public elementary schools (that is, simply added to the "block grant").
- (k) It is a defect in the Bill that it does not expressly make it the duty (as distinguished from a power) of a local authority to provide any higher education at all; and does not even allocate the "whisky money" to education of any kind. Hence, (i) The "whisky money" should be definitely allocated exclusively to education other than elementary; (ii) It should be declared to be the duty of every local authority to provide for all parts of its district a sufficient and suitable supply of education in secular subjects of all forms and grades, adapted to the requirements and circumstances of all sections of its constituents; (iii) Every local authority should be required to prepare and submit to the Board of Education, within a year, to be laid before Parliament, a complete survey of the provision for such education in its district, with particulars of the gaps and deficiencies, and with its own suggestions for their remedy.
- (l) No direction is given as to increasing the provision for the training of teachers. It should be made the duty of every local authority to make sufficient and suitable provision, without distinction of creed or any religious test, for the education and training of teachers, proportionate to its own requirements.
- (m) The limitation to 2d. in the £ of the expenditure on all education other than elementary—including, as it now must, the cost of all evening continuation schools, pupil-teacher centres and instruction of persons over 15—will tend to limit the work of progressive districts. It would be highly desirable to omit this invidious discouragement of local effort, and an amendment to this effect should be pressed.
- (n) The absence of any provision of a grant in aid of secondary education, proportionate to the efficient expenditure of each local authority, will, it is to be feared, cause the backward districts to fall still more behind those which are progressive. This defect could be cured without legislation, by an executive extension of the present science and art and evening school grants, and the corresponding Parliamentary vote in supply; and such an extension and vote should be pressed for, as an integral part of any effective reform of secondary and university education.

FABIAN OFFICE,
3 CLEMENT'S INN, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
3rd May, 1902.

EDWARD R. PEASE,
Secretary.

Annual Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
16 May, 1902. -

1. R. A. Peddie was elected chairman
2. The minutes of May 2nd were confirmed
3. The annual Report & accounts were submitted by the Sec. & discussed. One or two minor amendments were proposed & agreed to & the Report as amended was adopted nem. con. -
4. The Sec. in the absence of H. T. Holmes the author, proposed that the Tract on Reform of Reformatories be printed with the authors name. F. W. Galton criticised the portion dealing with detention of lads to the age of 21: the Sec. on behalf of the author undertook that the criticisms shd. be carefully dealt with, & on that understanding, the Resolution was agreed to nem. con.

5. H. W. Macrosty on behalf of the Executive
 & in the absence of the author Dr. McCleary,
 proposed that the draft tract on Lamidrees
 be approved as a Society Tract. He
 dealt with various proposed amendments,
 & after discussion, the motion was
 adopted nem con.

The meeting terminated at an early hour.

P Stewart Headley

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Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday May 30th 1902. —

1. The Rev^d. S. D. Headlam was elected
Chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. Mr Selwyn Image gave his
lecture on

"SOME ASPECTS OF MODERN ART AND MODERN LIFE."

By SELWYN IMAGE.

SYLLABUS.—Art in this lecture confined to Architecture, and the pictorial and plastic arts — Much apparent popular interest in these, yet much that is deplorable — Consider Architecture and the Decorative arts in London — Take, for example, such typical spots as Bloomsbury and Tottenham Court Road — Can we account for modern degeneracy? — Various reasons why Machinery has harmed these arts — What private individuals can do towards remedying matters.

A debate followed in which
Miss Mason, Bernard Shaw,
Hubert Bland, J. A. Thorogood &
Others took part.

Charles Channington
13th June 1902.
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C40/15

Meeting at Cliffords Linn on Friday
June 13th 1902. —

1. Charles Charrington was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. T. W. Russell Esq. M.P. then gave his lecture on

"THE IRISH LAND QUESTION UP TO DATE."

By T. W. RUSSELL, Esq., M.P.

SYLLABUS.—Historical Retrospect: Land Tenure Legislation. Its Results. The Breakdown of Dual Ownership. Occupying Ownership. Progress of Experiment. The Present Position. Preferential Treatment of a Class. Impossibility of Present Situation. Illustrations. Compulsory Sale and Purchase. Objections and Facts.

After questions, a debate followed in which Bernard Shaw, Bruce Wallace H. T. Muggersidge, S. G. Hobson & Mr. Bart Kennedy took part.

Sidney Webb

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
11th July 1902

1. Sidney Webb was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Prof. W. A. S. Hewins gave his lecture on

"MODERN VIEWS OF PROTECTION."

By Prof. W. A. S. HEWINS

(Director of the London School of Economics).

SYLLABUS.—The position in the "sixties."—Continental contrasted with English views.—The attitude of modern writers, English and foreign; how far (i) consistent, (ii) inconsistent, with older views.—The influence of "Imperialism."—The Corn Tax.—Can we discern in recent movements and opinions the foreshadowing of a new policy?

A debate followed in which
Mr. Harold Cox, Theodore Wright,
Mr. A. J. Marris, S. G. Holson
& the Chairman took part.

H. Marris

1901/02

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
10th October 1902. —

1. H.W. Macrosty was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. Percy Ashley B.A. lectured on

"The Modern Theory of Foreign Trade."

By PERCY ASHLEY, B.A.

(Lecturer at the London School
of Economics).

SYLLABUS.—The Ricardian theory of Foreign Trade, as expounded by Mill and Bastable. Criticism of it: (a) British; (b) Foreign. The equation of indebtedness; the surplus of imports over exports. The influence of the development of means of transit and communication. The "restraint of trade" by legislative action and other artificial means; tariff policies.

& a discussion followed in which
Bernard Shaw, S. G. Hobson
J. McKillop, the Chairman
& others took part

J. Macrosty

24/10/02

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
24th October 1902. —

1. J. E. Matthews was elected Chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed.
3. The Secy appealed for help at the
Trubridge Wells Municipal Election.
4. Frederick Rogers gave his lecture on

"Trade Unionism as a Factor in Politics."

BY FREDERICK ROGERS

(Vellum-binders' Society; Treasurer of
the Labor Representation Committee).

SYLLABUS.—The reactionary element in Trade Unionism. Its Parliamentary ideals. The dangers of "trade" representation. Will Labor politics be as "independent" as Trade Unionists suppose? The Socialism of the study, and of the market-place. The chances of each in the politics of the future.

A debate followed in which
H. W. Macrae, S. G. Holson, J. McNeill
A. J. Marnott, John Terry &
Bernard Shaw took part.
A. J. Thorogood

C40/20

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn
14 Nov-02.

1. A. J. Thoroughgood was voted to the chair
2. The Minutes were confirmed.
3. The Sec. moved on behalf of the Exec. that the issue ^{as a tract} of a MS. of the Late Wm Morris on "Communism" with a preface by Bernard; he approved. The motion was agreed to nem con.
4. The Secy gave notice that the Exec. had decided to invite members specially interested in Education to a conference on Sat. Nov. 22 to discuss the future of London Education, & he invited members desirous of attending to send in their names. —
5. The Secy also announced that copies of Mr. Seebohm Rowntree's Book on York,

called Poverty a Study of Town Life
were on sale at the Bookstall for 2/6.

6. Mr Harold Cox, Secy of the Cobden
Club, then gave his lecture on

"THE POLICY OF FREE IMPORTS."

By **HAROLD COX**

(Secretary of the Cobden Club).

SYLLABUS.— Trade is the outcome of division of labor. Consumer v. producer. No logical ground for confining trade within political boundaries. Fallacy of "Encouraging Home Industries." The risks of a policy of reciprocity. Hostile Tariffs are best fought by free imports. The Zollverein Folly.

A debate followed in which
a. J. Peutz, G. B. Shaw, A. Morgan
Broune, & A. W. Macrosty took
part.

J. W. Galtin

9021

Meeting at Cliffords Inn, 20th Nov: 1902.

1. F. W. Galton was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. John E. Matthews then gave his lecture
on

"THE BRITISH SHIPOWNER: SUBSIDIES AND COMBINES."
 By JOHN E. MATTHEWS
 (Of Matthews and Luff, Shipowners).

SYLLABUS.—Introductory. Early British supremacy in ocean trading. Comparative statistics: United Kingdom and foreign. England leads through era of sailing ships. Advent of steam, iron and steel applied to construction of ships. The ship of the future. Present position of British shipowner. Some statistics of British ship-building. Combinations: (a) Pools, (b) Rings, (c) Conferences. Liners, Tramps, and Rebates. Subsidies. Cunard and White Star lines. Retaining fees for cruisers: are they an advantage to the British shipowner? A Government-owned fleet of combined traders and cruisers.

and a debate followed in which
 Leaac Mitchell, S. B. Hobson, E. R. Pease
 H. W. Macrosty, E. B. Shaw & the
 Chairman took part. —

S. B. Hobson
 11/12/1902

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Dec. 12th 1902 at 7.30 pm.

1. S. G. Hobson was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed.
3. The Sec. moved on behalf of the Exec. -
that the publication of a Tract on
the working of the Education Act¹⁹⁰² be
~~approved~~ authorised. - This was
agreed to nem con.
4. Sidney Welch gave an address on the
London Education Problem, & then
moved the Resolution No 1. - as annexed.
Graham Wallas supported, with reservations
The Rev. S. D. Headlam opposed. After a reply
from^{Mr} Welch, the resolution was adopted
nem con.
5. Nos. 2, 3, & 4 were also adopted without
a division.

6. On No 5, Mr. Headlam moved ~~to second~~ the amendment as printed. The Rev. S. J. B. Kirkham seconded, & in the debate the amendment was supported by P. Varnels, H. T. Muggersidge & L. J. Burke, ~~while~~ whilst Bernard Shaw & Graham Wallas supported the resolution. - The chairman ruled that he could not allow a second debate on a similar amendment handed in by T. Norris, unless the first amendment were carried, but he would take a division if desired. T. Norris therefore spoke against the resolution, & after a reply from Sidney Webb, Mr. Headlam's amendment was defeated by 17 to 47, Mr. Norris's was withdrawn, & the resolution No 5 was agreed to. -

6. Resolutions 6 to 10 were then considered & agreed to without ^{much} debate, or other than verbal alterations, & without divisions.

7. Mr. Headlam then moved & Mr. Burke seconded the following additional resolution:

That the condition under which non-provided
 Schools are financed by the Central authority
 shall be ^{not} the appointment of the Teachers
 & the management of secular education
 shall be entirely in the hands of the
 Central authority. — Sidney Webb
 opposed & the resolution was lost by
 24 votes to 6. —

The Meeting then terminated.

J. W. Gulliver
 9.1.03.

PRIVATE.

The Fabian Society.

A MEETING FOR MEMBERS ONLY will be held at Clifford's Inn (next 187 Fleet Street) on **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12th**, at **7.30 p.m.**

Agenda:—

I. Notice of Motion by the Executive Committee: "That the publication of a Tract explaining the working of the Education Act, 1902, be authorized."

II. The London Education Bill, 1903:—

Introductory Address by SIDNEY WEBB.

Resolutions proposed by the Executive Committee:—

Urgency of Legislation.

1.—That in view of the unsatisfactory and disorganized condition of education in the metropolis, and of the anomalous situation arising from the omission, from the Education Bill, 1902, of any provision for London (which thus alone remains subjected to the limitations of the Cockerton judgments), any delay in passing a satisfactory Education Act for London would amount to a grave calamity.

London is One.

2.—That in order to make accessible to every London citizen the particular kinds and grades of education that the interest of the community requires us to provide, according to his particular capacity, it is indispensable that the organization of London education should be dealt with as a whole, neither dividing one grade or kind of education from another, nor one part of London from another.

Wanted, a Complete Educational System.

3.—That what London needs is an organized, graded and varied educational system, including both physical and mental training, and literary, scientific, commercial and technological instruction, extending from the infant school to the post-graduate college, providing for both day and evening students, with each grade made effectively accessible, by adequate maintenance scholarships and otherwise, to every person, according, not to his pecuniary resources, but to the kind and degree of his ability.

Responsibility to the Electors.

4.—That it is indispensable that the educational authority for London, charged with an annual expenditure of no less than four million pounds, and requiring the levy of a heavy rate, should be directly and completely responsible to the electorate.

The L.C.C.

5.—That the educational authority for the whole of London, and for all grades and kinds of training and instruction, should be the London County Council, whose Education Committee should be appointed annually by the Council itself, and be effectively subject to its instructions and control.

AMENDMENT by the Rev. STEWART D. HEADLAM, to substitute for No. 5 the following:—

"That therefore a London Educational Authority should be elected every three years, for the purpose of managing education and for that purpose only, on as wide a franchise as that which elects the London School Board, and with the same rights of candidature; one member for each Parliamentary constituency, and no cumulative voting."

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The Education Committee of the L.C.C.

6.—That in order to secure (pending a much-needed alteration of the law) the presence of women and also the assistance of members of the existing School Board and the co-operation of persons experienced in other kinds of education, the County Council should be required to place upon its Educational Committee a minority of non-councillors; and for such places all the persons now eligible for membership of School Boards should be qualified.

Rating Powers.

7.—That it is indispensable that, so far as freedom to expend whatever sum may be necessary on education, the London Council should be put in the same position as a county borough.

Delegation of Local Details.

8.—That, with a view to decentralization of administrative details and local supervision, the London County Council should arrange for the delegation, subject to proper limitations and conditions, of such part of the routine administration of the present Board Schools as can ~~safely~~ be entrusted to local committees. *conveniently*

The Metropolitan Borough Councils.

9.—That for such local administration of the present Board Schools, the co-operation should be evoked of the Metropolitan Borough Councils; that the local area adopted should be that of the borough, with a division, in the case of the larger boroughs, according either to wards or to County Council constituencies; that the local education committees for such divisions should be annually appointed, half by the County Council preferably from among the present managers, and half by the Borough Council; and that they should work according to general rules framed by the L.C.C., to whom they should report.

Duties of Local Education Committees.

10.—That the local Education Committees so appointed should take over, not only all the duties of the existing managers (including the nomination, subject to veto, of duly qualified assistant teachers, and, from a panel formed by the central London authority, of head teachers), but also as much else as can ~~safely~~ be entrusted to them; they should, for instance, be empowered to execute (within a fixed sum) all ordinary repairs to the school premises, to arrange (under general rules) for the letting of school halls; to organize such school functions as prize-givings, etc.; and generally to supervise the current routine in accordance with the rules framed for London as a whole. *conveniently*

Note the hour of the Meeting.

3 CLEMENT'S INN, STRAND,
LONDON, W.C.
8th December, 1902.

EDW. R. PEASE,
SECRETARY.

Meeting at Cliffords Inn 9th Jan. 7 1903.

1. F. W. Galton was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. A. W. Macrosty read his paper on

"The Control of Trusts."

By HENRY W. MACROSTY.

SYLLABUS.—Definition. Attempts at abolition. Causes. Advantages. Evils: to the rival producer, the consumer, the worker, the State. Remedies. The benevolent despot. International competition.

A number of questions followed & a speech by S. S. Hobson, to which the lecturer replied. —

A. W. Macrosty.

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn on 23rd Jan'y 1903.

1. J.A. Thoroood was elected Chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. The Chairman called on Gilbert K. Chesterton to give an address on The Future of Parties. It was explained that he had taken the place of Mr. Bello who was occupied elsewhere with an important professional engagement. After Mr. Chesterton's address a debate took place in which Cecil E. Chesterton, Peregrine Vernalis, Bernard Shaw, H.W. Macross & F.V. Fisher took part. —

John B. Matthey
28 Dec 1913

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on 13th Feb '03.

1. J. H. Matthews was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. Charles Charrington gave his lecture on

"ALIEN IMMIGRATION."

By CHARLES CHARRINGTON.

SYLLABUS.—Difficulty of getting satisfactory data—Semitism and anti-Semitism—Internal and external parts of the subject—Do Aliens improve the native stock?—Overcrowding in certain urban districts—Do they lower industrial standard of living?—Other suggested causes and remedies—Revolution in certain industries—Can restriction be enforced?—Effect of legislation in the United States—Conclusions.

A debate followed in which
a. Levine, A. J. Marriott, F. W. Galton
S. Harris, J. Andrews, H. W. Macrae
& the chairman took part.

J. G. Hobson
27/2/1903

Meeting at Cliffords Inn 27th Feb. 7 '03 C 10/27

1. S. G. Tolson was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. The Secy announced that the Exec. Com^{ee} had resolved to raise a fund for the candidature of Will Crooks L.C.C. for Woodwich, & to ask all members to assist in the work of the election
4. Mr. Hilaire Belloc then gave an address

on "WHAT A MAN WANTS." By HILAIRE BELLOC.

SYLLABUS.

- That the moral attitude of a community determines its material condition.
- That the moral attitude with regard to the fundamentals of economics is for practical purposes permanent.
- That the human demand for such and such economic conditions precludes satisfaction in, and therefore the permanence of, what is known as Collectivism.

A debate followed in which G. B. Shaw, A. W. Macdonald, R. W. Whiteing, Rev. Conrad Noel, P. Tarnals, Mr. Kirby, Miss Murry, & Mr. Sackville of Salford took part.

Graham Waller -

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on 13th March 1903,
confined to members + subscribers. -

1. Graham Wallas was elected chairman.
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Secy announced that Tract 113, Morris Communion was published, + No 114, Education Act 1902 was nearly ready.
4. On the motion of the Secy Messrs Limebeer & Co were appointed auditors + Messrs J. W. Shaw + Cecil Chesterton scrutineers. -
5. H. G. Wells then read his paper on The Question of Scientific Administration Areas in relation to Municipal Trading + a discussion followed in which S. G. Holson, Lawson Dodd, J. Matthews, H. W. Macrosty, H. T. Nuggenridge, F. S. Green + G. B. Shaw + the Chairman took part.

W. L. G. Wells

1903/20

903

FABIAN SOCIETY.

The next meeting will be at **Clifford's Inn**, next 187 FLEET-STREET, at **8 p.m.**, on **Friday, March 13th. Lecture on**

**"The Question of Scientific Administrative Areas
in relation to Municipal Undertakings."** By **H. G. WELLS.**

SYLLABUS.

The paper will expand the following arguments:—

That the development of mechanism and wholesale methods during the past century has rendered the existing areas of administration for such purposes as tramways, lighting, water supply, sanitation, education, poor law, and such trading enterprises as municipalities may legitimately undertake, excessively inconvenient, and has produced unforeseen injustice in taxation, and that the inconvenience and injustice increases and will increase.

That municipal trading within existing areas and with existing local governing bodies is less advantageous to the community than the enterprise of private companies working over large areas, with parliamentary powers.

That the proper course for an enlightened Socialist to pursue is to work for the establishment of vastly larger local government areas than at present obtain before pitting municipal trading against private enterprise.

That for roads, local communications, water supply, poor administration, sanitary control and education such an area as the Thames Valley and all Surrey and Sussex and Kent is not unreasonably large.

That a body controlling such an area could deal with any more localized services, by delegating power to bodies partly appointed and perhaps partly elected, with absolute power to enlarge, unite or abolish such local bodies as varying conditions required.

The only reasonable alternative to this is the administration of public services through quasi-public companies, working under the control of the Imperial Government.

This meeting is confined to members of and subscribers to the Society.

On March 27th, Mr. STENCER WILKINSON will give an address on "The Problem of Food-supply in Time of War."

3 Clement's Inn, Strand, W.C.,
9th March, 1903.

EDW. R. PEASE.
Secretary.

William

1903

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ing

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on 27th March 1903

1. Hubert Bland was elected chairman
2. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed
3. The Secretary announced that there would be no contest for the Executive Committee, as only two new candidates Percy Alden & H. T. Mugggeridge had been nominated ~~to~~, together with 13 out of the 15 sitting members.
4. Mr. Spencer Wilkinson gave an address on The Problem of Food Supply in time of War & a debate followed in which H. W. Macrosty, Peregrine Varnals, S. G. Hobson, Bernard Shaw & Wm Sanders took part.

"THE PROBLEM OF FOOD SUPPLY IN TIME OF WAR."

By SPENSER WILKINSON.

SYLLABUS.

The nature and sources of the food supply of the United Kingdom; the general nature of maritime war, with its effects upon the British sea-carrying trade; upon the purchasing power of the people, and upon the price of food.

Percy Alden

~~General~~ Meeting at Cliffords
Sun 24th April 1903. —

1. Percy Alden was elected chairman
2. The minutes of last meeting were confirmed
3. Sir John Cockburn K.C.M.G. then lectured on

"THE RACIAL PROBLEM IN AUSTRALIA."
 By **SIR JOHN COCKBURN, K.C.M.G.**
 (Late Agent-General for South Australia.)

SYLLABUS.—A White Australia. The National Ideal not merely a Labor Question. Object Lessons of America and South Africa. Proximity to Eastern Hordes. Bond Labor and Citizenship. Immigration Restriction Acts. The Due Bounds of Patriotism. Gradual Extension of Basis. Limitations of Natural Affection. Babels and Premature Cosmopolitanism.

& a debate followed in which
 Mr Tobias of South Carolina, S. S. Hobson,
 Mr Behrens of Australia, Hubert Bland
 Rev. J.C. Pringle, & others took part.

A. Thorogood.

Annual Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on 8th May 1903.

1. G. A. Terorogood was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed.
3. The Secy moved the adoption of the Annual Report + accounts. This was considered paragraph by paragraph, a few verbal alterations were made; a passage proposed by the Executive adding to the paragraph relating to the Labour Representation Committee was agreed to, + finally the Report + accounts were approved nem con.
4. F. W. Galton moved that the Exec. be empowered to issue a Tract on the need for + the methods of organising the registration of Electors. After a short discussion, this was agreed to. —
5. Sidney Webb then gave a short address

on the provisions of the London Education Bill,
& moved the annexed resolutions :-

No 1. was after some discussion adopted with
two dissentients

No 2. was agreed to nem con.

No 3 was adopted with three dissentients

No 4 was amended & agreed to unanimously

No 5 was agreed to nem con.

No 6 was amended & agreed to

No 7 was agreed to

No 8 was amended & agreed to

Nos. 9. 10. 11. & 13 were adopted nem con.

No. 12 was debated at considerable length
& many amendments proposed. Finally
it was adopted with but little alteration,
& the meeting, which was a full on, then
terminated. —

over

LD Sheppard
22/5/07

Amendments added in red.

C40/131

THE LONDON EDUCATION BILL, 1903.

RESOLUTION adopted by THE FABIAN SOCIETY on May 8th, 1903:—

1. That the Fabian Society, whilst recognizing the improvement involved in the adoption of the L.C.C. as the Local Education Authority, with unlimited rating powers for all grades and forms of education, regrets that, in proposing to apply to London the principles of the Education Act, 1902, the Government should have made modifications which would render the scheme unworkable in practice and seriously detrimental to educational progress.

(a) THE CENTRAL BODY.

2. That all experience proves the impossibility of any good administration of a complicated public service unless the elected authority trusts its committee, and that such trust is psychologically impossible when the members of the Elected Authority are in a minority upon their own committee.

3. That the people of London will not permanently endure the inevitable rise in the Education Rate unless they, through their directly elected representatives, not only control the expenditure, but also feel that they control it.

4. That it is, therefore, indispensable, in view of the importance of securing effective control to the L.C.C., and of enabling it to trust its Education Committee, that this Committee should (a) be chosen freely by the Council, (b) include women, and (c) consist, to the extent of at least a clear majority, of members of the Council itself.

added.

(b) LOCAL MANAGEMENT.

5. That in order to insure educational unity and financial efficiency, it is essential that the necessary decentralization of Board school administration should proceed by way of delegation from the Central Body to subordinate local committees, and not by way of giving independent statutory rights to the Borough Councils.

6. That the best practicable form of delegation would be the establishment for each Borough area of one to five Local Management Committees, acting for districts coinciding with local electoral areas and reporting to the Education Authority; one half of the members to be appointed by the Borough Council and one half selected by the County Council (preferably from among the existing local managers, but not necessarily confined to local residents), and so chosen that not less than one quarter of the whole should be women.

added

7. That the Central Body should be required within twelve months to submit a scheme, for the approval of the Board of Education, defining the functions of such Local Management Committees, which should include (a) the selection of duly qualified assistant teachers for first appointment, subject to confirmation by the Central Body; (b) the filling of vacancies among head-masters or head-mistresses from a panel to be formed by the Central Body; (c) the execution of current repairs within a total estimate approved by the Central Body; (d) the powers and duties of the existing committees of managers.

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C 90/52

8. That it be left to the Central Body to make separate arrangements for the management of (a) evening classes, "higher grade," and higher elementary schools; (b) schools for blind, deaf, crippled and mentally defective children.

x altered from "dumb"

9. That it is indispensable that all teachers in schools provided by the Local Authority should be members of a united metropolitan service, formally appointed by the Central Body, from whom they will receive their salaries, and dismissible only by that body.

10. That, whilst Local Management Committees would be free to suggest improvements, it is of the highest importance that all questions of school curriculum should be decided by the Central Body.

(c) OTHER AMENDMENTS.

11. That the Central Body should be given the same powers of compulsory purchase of sites for pupil-teacher centres, evening classes, science and art schools, training colleges and institutions for secondary and higher education, as for elementary schools.

12. That the selection of sites should, subject to final decision by the Board of Education, rest with the Central Body, but Borough Councils should be given (a) prior opportunity to criticize, and (b) power to submit, by way of appeal, alternative proposals to the Board of Education.

13. That it is necessary expressly to provide that, where governors or managers are appointed by the Local Education Authority on the governing bodies of institutions aided by grant, the religious or other qualifications required by the scheme or trust shall not apply to such public representatives.

3 CLEMENT'S INN,
STRAND, LONDON, W.C.
May 1903.

EDW. R. PEASE,
Secretary.

x words "or object" deleted.

C90/33

Meeting at Cliffords Inn 22nd Mar 1903.

- (1) S. D. Shallard was elected chairman
- (2) The minutes were confirmed
- (3) The Secy asked members help in addressing wrappers for the new Tract Distribⁿ Scheme
4. Mr T. S. Dymond then lectured on

"CONTINENTAL STATE-AID TO AGRICULTURE."

By Mr. T. S. DYMOND

(Author of *Agricultural Industry and Education*:
Reports on Visits of Essex Farmers to Holland
and Denmark, &c.).

SYLLABUS.—State-aid to Agriculture: (1) Educational, (2) Scientific, (3) Commercial. Hungary and Denmark compared. The character of the two peoples as desirating different treatment. Application to Great Britain and Ireland.

A debate followed in which Herr W de Ruttkay, delegate of the Hungarian Minister of Commerce, Herr Erik Givskov, Danish Barrister, H. W. Macrae, & G. B. Shaw took part.

S. J. Hobson
12/11/1903.

Meeting at Cliffords Inn, 12 June 1903.

1. S. G. Hobson was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Dr. J. N. Reuter, who had consented to come at short notice, then gave a lecture on

"THE RUSSIAN POLICY IN FINLAND."
By **J. N. REUTER**
(Lecturer at the University of Helsingfors).
SYLLABUS.—Historical sketch of Finland: the Country and its People. Political Institutions. How the crisis arose. Measures for Russification since 1899. Their effect. The grounds of Russia's action. Recent developments. Future prospects.

& a debate followed in which Mr Joseph Fisher, G. B. Shaw & H. W. Macrobert took part.

Frederick Welen
26 June 1903

C40/34

1903.

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn 26 June 1903. -

1. Frederick Weelen was elected Chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Sidney Webb then opened a debate on

"THE FISCAL POLICY OF THE EMPIRE."
To be opened by **SIDNEY WEBB.**

& further speeches were made by
H. W. Macrosty, Hubert Beaud, Graham Wallis,
S. G. Hobson, Cecil E. Chesterton, H. D.
Pearseall, & G. B. Shaw. Sidney Webb
replied & the meeting then closed.

Arthur Allen

Meeting at Cliffords Inn 9th Oct 1903

~~For Minutes~~

1. Robert Bland was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. Mr F. W. Headley ~~of~~ then gave his lecture on

"Neo-Darwinism (Weismannism) and Modern Social Questions."

By MR. F. W. HEADLEY

(Author of "Problems of Evolution").

SYLLABUS.—(1) Natural selection among civilized peoples. (2) Physical degeneration. (3) The question of intellectual evolution. (4) Moral evolution. (5) The successes of Socialism in the past. Modern conditions unfavorable to Socialism.

& a debate followed in which Bernard Shaw, & the chairman took part.

Frederick Melen

23. 10. 03

A MEMBERS' MEETING will be held at Clifford's Inn, next 187 Fleet Street, on Friday, October 23rd, 1903, at 8 p.m.

AGENDA.

Proposals by the Executive Committee :—

- (1) That a Tract by Mr. T. S. DYMOND on "State-Aid to Agriculture in Hungary," being parts of a lecture delivered to the Society by him, be published as a Tract with his name.
- (2) That the Executive Committee be authorized to issue a Tract on "The London Education Act and how to make the best of it," being an adaptation to London of Tract 114, "The Education Act and how to make the best of it."
- (3) S. G. HOBSON will read a paper, on behalf of the Executive, on "The Tariff Question," of which the following is a syllabus :—
 - (1) Briefly to examine the Chamberlain and Balfour schemes, and reject them both on their merits.
 - (2) To admit that the commercial test favors the non-taxation of imports.
 - (3) To emphasize that the Socialist test condemns anarchy in trade. In this connection it is necessary to deal faithfully with the Liberals on the general question of State Intervention ; to draw strong distinctions between ourselves and the Liberals on this point ; to draw equally strong distinctions between ourselves and Tories, pointing out that their intervention is clumsy and stupid, ours being scientific.
 - (4) To argue strongly that State intervention is now urgently needed to obtain that efficiency which can alone enable us to maintain our requisite exchange power in the world's market.
 - (5) To detail the constructive Socialist measures proposed to obtain efficiency in relation to :—
 - Technical training ; invention ; research.
 - Agriculture.
 - Organization and regulation of industry :
 - (1) By Factory Acts and so forth.
 - (2) By more explicit control in case of marked incompetency.
 - Transit :
 - (1) As it affects the Colonial problem.
 - (2) As it generally affects international exchange.
 - Regulation of foreign trade.

It is hoped that this lecture will furnish the basis for a Tract on the Tariff Problem.

EDW. R. PEASE,
Secretary.

A members meeting was held at
Cliffords Inn on Oct. 23. —

1. F. Whelen was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. The Secy moved that parts of the lecture delivered to the Society by Mr T. S. Dymond be published as a tract with his name. This was agreed to nem con.
4. Sidney Welch moved that the Exec. be authorised to issue a tract on the "London Education Act & how to make the best of it" being a version of Tract 114 adapted to London. He explained that it could not contain controversial matter, as it dealt with Education Law & not policy. — J. Andrews moved as an amendment that the proposed tract be sent out to members in proof & discussed at a future members meeting.

T. Norris seconded it, but only 5 voted for the amendment, which was lost, & the motion was carried nem con. -

5. The chairman, in calling on S. G. Hobson to read his paper, on The Tariff Question, explained that the syllabus had been approved by the Executive, but they had not seen the paper, & the statement in the agenda that it was read on behalf of the Executive was therefore inaccurate. -

6. S. G. Hobson then read his paper. - after a few questions a debate followed on the main question directed to the question whether or not it formed the basis of a tract acceptable to the Society. The affirmative view was taken, on the whole by Sidney Webb, C. E. Chelerton, & F. W. Hayes: the negative was supported by N. L. Griffith, P. Varnals, H. Morgan Bronne, H. D. Pearsall, R. E. Dell & H. T. Muggoridge: J. Andrews, J. W. Strangham, & Bernard Shaw also spoke, & the lecturer replied.

Rev. Standing - 18 Nov. 1903

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
13 November 1903.

1. Geo. Standring was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. Robt. S. Sell then opened a debate on the Fiscal Problem & was followed by Jos. Andrews Walter Edwards J. C. Matthews Hubert Bland, & Sidney Webb. Sell replied, & the meeting concluded, no vote being taken

Charles Chamington
27 Nov^r 1903.

C40137

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on 27th Nov: '03

1. Charles Charrington was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Edward R. Pease then read his lecture on

"ALCOHOLISM AND RACE-PROGRESS."

By EDW. R. PEASE.

SYLLABUS.—Drunkenness amongst the ancients and its modern consequences. The singular failure of alcoholic selection. The connection between degeneration and sobriety. The alleged drunken periods of English history due either to race-energy or cheap spirits. Cheap spirit debauches in Sweden and France. The fatal error of mixing beer and spirits. The new law of beer-drinking. The sobriety of modern England. Legislative inferences.

+ a debate followed in which Dr Lawson
Dodd, Dr. F. W. McCleary, Hubert Bland,
H. W. Macrosty, + Bernard Shaw took part.

H. L. Mezzariga.

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday Dec^r 11th 1903. —

1. H. T. Muggerridge was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Mr. F. Montague then gave his lecture on

"Socialism, Civilization, and the Survival of the Fittest."

By Mr. F. MONTAGUE.

SYLLABUS.—Neo-Darwinism, logically applied, involves the negation of Morality and Civilization.—Partial elimination of the unfit must increase the fertility of the survivors.—If fertility cannot accompany unfitness, the strong must prevail anyhow, and the race cannot deteriorate.—Huxley's argument, that only 25 per cent. of the unfit can be eliminated before marriage under hardest existing conditions.—To put Neo-Darwinist principles into effect would be an intolerable tyranny.

A debate followed in which a part was taken by H. S. Pearsall, Lawson Dodd, Geo. Standring, Bernard Shaw, Aubert Bland, J. S. Matthews, Mrs. Matthews, Peregrine Vernal, Mrs. Pooley, A. E. Lauder & others.

Printed

~~Winter~~ Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on 8th January 1904. -

1. Percy Alden was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. Will Reason M.A. then gave
an address

"The Population Problem." By WILL REASON, M.A.

SYLLABUS.—The bias resulting from varying theories of Social Polity; Malthus; Socialist; Arsène Dumont. Conflicting ideas of dominating laws of population. Natural Selection. Huxley; Spencer; Emillard; Dumont.

I. THE ORGANIC WORLD IN GENERAL.—Fertility and Individuation. Diverse effects of destructive agencies. Influence of emotion on fertility.

II. MAN IN PARTICULAR.—Partial suspension of Natural Selection. Psychological factors. Dumont's Capillary Theory.

III. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS.—The Physiological factor is real. Criticism of objections. The Psychological factor is also real. Results dependent on complexity of terms. Large gaps in our knowledge. Over-population and under-population merely "ve" terms. The good or evil of the effect determined by the nature of the cause.

Practical Conclusions.—Harmonious Social System, i.e. Social Justice, would probably maintain quality without "pressure of numbers," and a sufficiency of population for maintenance of race and all social needs.

A debate followed in which Dr. Wenthouse, G. Standing, A. B. Matthews, F. W. Hayes, Bernard Shaw, Hubert Bland & Miss Murby took part.

A. J. Throgood

0	0	...	...	...	...	Geo. Alexander
0	2	0	...	...	...	J. J. Meyrick
0	10	0	...	...	...	Dr. C. A. Greaves
0	5	0	...	...	...	H. B. Howard
0	0	...	...	...	...	C. Harpur

THE FABIAN SOCIETY AND THE POPULATION PROBLEM.

THE FABIAN SOCIETY, which avowedly consists of Socialists, has during its twenty years of life often discussed various aspects of the population question, but has never arrived at any clear view of its character and urgent importance. In the main, its attitude has been one of aloofness, apparently holding that while the question *may*, in the dim and distant future, become instant and pressing, it is for the present one of merely academic interest.

The latest deliverance on this subject, made under the auspices of the Society, was a lecture on "The Population Problem," by Mr. Will Reason, M.A., given at Clifford's Inn on January 8th. The interest of members in the question was indicated by a large attendance, and Mr. Reason's able address was listened to with keen attention.

The lecture was practically a review of the whole subject of population, principally from the biological standpoint, with brief references to the views of various writers who had dealt with it. In his introductory remarks, Mr. Reason spoke of the bias resulting from various theories of social polity, calling attention to the views of Malthus, Arsène Dumont, Huxley, Spencer and Guilliard. He then proceeded to discuss the problem in relation to the organic world in general, pointing out that the lowest forms of organic life propagate in enormous numbers, the rate of increase diminishing as we ascend in the scale of complexity or "individuation." Thus a codfish will produce in one season eight or nine millions of eggs, of which an infinitesimal fraction will come to maturity; but the highest types of animal life—*e.g.*, the elephant and man—reproduce themselves in comparatively small numbers and at longer intervals.

Dealing with man in particular, Mr. Reason showed that in this case there was a partial suspension of the process of Natural Selection. The operation of natural forces, of an instinctive struggle for existence tending to extinguish inferior types or individuals, was modified by social institutions and relationships; thus a psychological factor was introduced which had to be considered in due relation to the physiological factor. He instanced Dumont's "capillary theory," that a section of mankind ever aspired towards a higher ideal of life and duty than the accepted standard of their day. The physiological effect of this would be to diminish the rate of reproduction amongst the higher and more progressive types of mankind. The lecturer referred incidentally to France, "with its stationary or decreasing population" (a statement which was subsequently challenged), pointing out that amongst the more thoughtful classes in that country the birth-rate was low, whilst it was high amongst the proletariat and the working classes in the large cities.

Mr. Reason did not ignore the fact that prudential methods of regulating the size of families had to be taken into account. But he had no word of approval for such deliberate regulation; and his own conclusion was that a "harmonious social system—that is, social justice," or in a word, Socialism, would probably maintain quality without excessive quantity of population, providing a sufficient number of citizens for the maintenance of the race and all social needs.

The foregoing summary is nothing but the merest outline of a very able and, from a scientific point of view, valuable course. But what is the practical outcome of it all?

(90/39)

Members Meeting at Cliffords
Linn on Friday Jan 22nd 1904
at 7.30 pm. —

1. G. A. J. Throgood was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. The Sec. notified that Tract 115
State aid to agriculture was
published. —
4. Bernard Shaw on behalf of the Exec.
introduced the Tariff Tract, &
gave a history of its inception.
His proposal that the tract
should be considered page by page
in the first place, & that the
discussion on the motion to print
be deferred to the end was agreed to.
5. The tract was then discussed in
detail, & a number of divisions

... can fail to apply the teaching of his poems to daily life. That the very essence of his poetry is Life, Life in the abstract, Life in the concrete, is proved by this fact. I do not think Lampan ever meant to "preach." The poet soul and nature just kept in accord, that was all. The struggles of his individual soul speak from every poem he wrote, and, having a great, catholic soul, it is the voice of humanity, as well as the voice of the individual, we harken to. Listen to this, from "An Old Lesson-From the Fields":

"O light!
I cried, and heaven, with all your blue,
O earth, with all your sunny fruitfulness,
And ye, tall lilies of the wind-veined field,
What power and beauty indeed life might
yield
Could we but cast away its conscious
stress,
Simple of heart becoming, even as you."

If we have not all that the human soul longs for in that "Canada of ours," we have at least what Lampan found sufficed—the heritage of earth lore. Those who are considering what the element is that is so lacking in our scheme of national education might do well to study Lampan, and listen to the call which bids us "not be conquered by these headlong days." Surely it is a false ideal of life, a sort of vertigo of eagerness, which debases our standard of political morals, and means the superficial and unsatisfactory condition of our public education in certain parts of the country. I often wonder as the days go on if the sale of Lampan's poems increases in the Dominion, or if the inhabitants of the average Canadian homestead has no longing for the concrete expression of the beauty of woodland, woven in with the harmony of an exquisite human soul. For that is what I always feel Lampan's poems so strongly embody, and as months and years pass by this feeling grows in intensity. Here in this vast London I again and again find myself with some lines of Lampan's filling my thoughts, to the exclusion of all else. His was one of those poetical minds which in its great sincerity fathomed, with simple unselfish rhythm, the very depths of existence. I think that Mr. Duncan Campbell Scott's lines in the biographical sketch which accompanies the large volume of Lampan's poems is the most beautiful epitaph a man could wish for: "What he was in his life and in his work came from sheer sincerity, from a temperament in harmony with clear ideals, directed by a mind free from guile!"

Some time ago I wrote in "Driftwood" my first experience of an evening with the Fabian Club, the Socialistic centre of thought in London. The other evening I had the pleasure of listening to the "amending" of Mr. Bernard Shaw's attempt to embody in a pamphlet the opinions of the Fabian Club on the fiscal policy. No comedy Mr. Shaw has ever written could have been more delightful than he played enacted, as page by page the lifted writer submitted his work to the meeting, the members of which had but private draft of the pamphlet put into their hands some ten days before. There is one thing to be said for Socialism. It does teach men and women to be tolerant of opinions which differ from their own, and while the brilliant Irishman is a perfect master of repartee, and could hold his own among the most dazzling uttering, he yet remained, hour after hour, allowing his work to be criticized on every point of view, with the utmost good-nature and patience. Each page was submitted for consideration, and in many instances the author himself suggested some change which occurred to him as wise before the pamphlet was launched upon public notice. I

popular poet before the age of seventy, by which time the idol is succumbing to the facile enthusiasms of old age, and losing all touch with contemporary realities. In our civil, naval and military service this danger is provided against by superannuation at sixty-five. The Treasury bench, however, being the seat of the Government, it is not supposed to matter—it remains available even for centenarians. Mr. Morley's famous biography has just set us reflecting very seriously on the last twenty years of the life of Gladstone. He had then at last attained the honors of popular idolatry as the Grand Old Man, and he could use them only to destroy his party. Home rule as the conviction of Mr. Redmond's prime one can treat seriously. As the infatuation of Gladstone's old age, it helped neither England or Ireland.

"Now, in a national emergency like the present, when so much depends upon the personality of Mr. Chamberlain, it is impossible to ignore the fact that he is approaching the dangerous age, and that the symptoms are sufficiently Gladstonian to suggest caution in accepting his leadership in a matter in which his feelings are evidently sincerely engaged. Evidently, that is, to all except his seniors on the Liberal front bench and the unthinking heirs of their weather-beaten opinions. To them, as we all know, Mr. Chamberlain still seems a young, agile and unscrupulous political intriguer, caressed by Duchesses, and patently deficient in sincerity. We need not apologize for dismissing this elderly Labble without discussion. It is of a piece with the reproach made twenty years ago to the Fabian Society by an aged Scotch clergyman, who denounced Socialism as a mistaken idea, derived from a recent atheist named Hegel." No doubt Mr. Chamberlain was young when our official Liberals became fossilized. If they live to see him celebrate his hundredth birthday they will regard it as simply another piece of impudence on the part of "pushful Joe." But to those out of patience with the staleness and puerility of the old party game, and who take politics seriously, it is plain enough that Mr. Chamberlain's enthusiasm for the empire is as sincere as Gladstone's enthusiasm for home rule was. This is precisely what makes Mr. Chamberlain dangerous. Enthusiasm is infectious. Political intrigue is not. The stock Liberal gibe at Mr. Chamberlain is to compare him to the harlequin with his coat of many colors. But the harlequin is the man who sets everything right. The performer who sets everything wrong in transports of elderly emotion is the pantaloons. Ever since the Fabian Society was founded it has had to struggle with a plague of pantaloons in politics, and it will perhaps be excused for saying that Mr. Chamberlain, with all his energy, is hardly young enough to be a Fabian pioneer. It therefore approaches the subject without any bias in favor of Mr. Chamberlain's leadership, though without any assumption of political capacity or economic knowledge on the part of his Parliamentary opponents. But it knows that even if Mr. Chamberlain's protectionism is an infatuation there are young and vigorous men behind him with whom it is a reasoned conviction, and powerful convictions which will organize the tariff movement as energetically and finance it as lavishly as the anti-cart law movement in 1846.

In speaking of Imperialism Mr. Bernard Shaw makes a suggestion, or possibly one should say that the Fabian Society makes the suggestion, which, I consider, is of perhaps paramount importance in a scheme of fiscal solidarity, for I have found many people who asserted that were the fiscal union to be an accomplished fact within the next few years Canada had in reality no means of carrying across the ocean the amount of breadstuffs and food supplies which Great

Of course the next paragraph speaks of the nationalization of railways, which would follow as a natural sequence, and it reads:—"The thrice three hundred times told tale of our absurd system of competing railways—of goods sent from one English town to another via the United States, because they are carried more cheaply in that way—need not be retold here. Our system is the laughing-stock of Europe." This whole tract abounds with paragraphs of the character I have quoted, and in a column of this kind one cannot quote at greater length. The question of ocean transit, I consider, is better handled than perhaps any other, and it will certainly appeal to Canadians, who would be intensely interested in its general contents as well. I consider that in taking the tract as a whole it is flippant, and too much in the style of "smart" writing to have much weight, but nevertheless it will appeal to those who could not digest a weightier handling of the subjects discussed.

Lally Bernard

... for a long time, in steamers, nearly from Britain, and it is that most of a lost opportunity will have other countenances. The system, however, will be an Imperial Admiralty presented on her, and here from the centre of Socialism comes a suggestion well worth considering in connection with the scheme, and one which, in my humble judgment, is a strong argument in favor of conditions being ripe for Imperial fiscal solidarity. The tract says:—"The huge distances will be mighty forces on the side of disintegration unless we abolish them. Well, why not abolish them? Distances are now counted in days, not in miles. The Atlantic Ocean is as wide as it was in 1870, but the United States are four days nearer than they were then. Commercially, however, distance is mainly a matter of freightage. Now, it is as possible to abolish ocean freightage as it was to make Waterloo Bridge toll free or establish the Woolwich free ferry. It is already worth our while to give Canada the use of the British navy for nothing. Why not give her the use of the mercantile marine for nothing, instead of taxing bread to give her a preference? Or, if that is too much, why not offer her special rates? It is really only a question of ocean road-making. A national mercantile fleet plying between the provinces of the empire, and carrying empire goods and passengers free, or at charges far enough below cost to bring Australasia and Canada commercially nearer to England than to the continent, would form a link with the mother country which, once brought fully into use, could never be snapped without causing a commercial crisis in every province."

After calling attention of his readers to the real condition of ocean traffic, its control by shipping rings, who, he asserts, have helped Belgium into our Indian market, and Germany and America into South Africa and New Zealand, he says:—"These rings and rates constitute the most dangerous disintegrating force we have to face," and he further adds:—"There is only one way out: We must own our own trading fleet, and Australasian fleet, and Indian fleet, and a China fleet, as simple extensions of the parcel

THE AUTHORS' CLIPPING BUREAU,
P. O. Box 2616, Boston, Mass.

Clipping from

Globe, Toronto, Ont.

Date FEB 13 1904

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DRIFTWOOD

feel that I am betraying no secrets, for by the time this reaches Canada the "finished product" will be for sale in every part of the empire.

I have read the tract several times, and enjoy it better each time of reading. It is full of the most delightful "Bernard Shaw" phrases, but, try as I may, I cannot regard it as a serious utterance of a serious body of men and women. The attitude assumed by the club on this question of fiscal reform is "supposed" to be neutral, but as I read the pamphlet it is a Chamberlaine document, and the discussion which took place during the passing of the amendments was certainly calculated to strengthen that idea. Two things in the pamphlet interested me greatly, first the warning of the Fabians as to the reign of the "elderly politician." I must quote the two paragraphs which were to my mind really worth quotation:—

"The only effect on our rulers of the decay of the Manchester school seems to be a conviction that nothing is left to us except to relapse helplessly into the status quo ante by a simple return to the ancient tariff system. It is, perhaps, natural that old men should think so, and old men are powerful in England, where reputations are made so slowly that it seems impossible for anyone to become a

post. At present when we undertake only the transport of sacks of letters we provide for it by Cunard subsidies and the like, including in the bargain a call on the Cunard fleet in certain national emergencies, but as it is clear that when we get seriously to work with our whole Inter-imperial industrial ocean traffic the subsidy phase will be outgrown and we shall build our own liners, and conduct the traffic and fix the rates in the sole interest of the empire as a whole, and not, as at present, simply with a view to making the highest profits for private shipowners. The Belgian Government has for a long time past maintained its own steamers between Ostend and Dover, greatly promoting its trade with us thereby, and it has not yet occurred to us that the Ostend-Dover line should be to us that most telling of all good examples, a lost opportunity. No doubt it will be asked whether the proposed trading fleets will have to be paid for wholly by the mother country for the benefit of her children. The reply is that, even so it would pay her much better than the present system. Still, there is no reason in the world why the trading fleet should not be an Imperial fleet, administered by an Imperial shipping board or Industrial Admiralty, with the colonies fully represented on it."

"A touch of far-off joy and power,
A something it is life to learn,
Comes back to earth, and one short hour
The glimmers of the gods return.

"This life's old mood and cult of care
Falls smitten by an older truth,
And the grey world wins back to her
The rapture of her vanished youth."

London, Jan. 31.—The above lines are from Archibald Lampman's "Return of the Year." This "Driftwood" appears in print just about the anniversary of Lampman's death, for he died on the 10th of February, 1899, as the past century closed. It is true that Lampman was above all a poet, a painter of nature in all her varying moods, but no one who lives in a

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were taken; amendments which were not accepted by Mr. Shaw were in no case successful, & in most cases were only supported by a few votes. — Two passages dealing with Public Libraries, & with the Old Universities were strongly opposed, but the amendments were not carried. an amendment of C. E. Chesterton was withdrawn.

- b. On the completion of the Committee stage Shaw moved that the Tract, as amended be approved. — Graham Wallas opposed, & was supported by Aylmer Maude & Isaac Mitchell, whilst H. D. Pearsall supported publication. On a division Graham Wallas was only supported by five votes, & the resolution to print was carried by a large majority. —

S. J. Hobson

A members meeting was held at
Cliffords Inn on Friday 12 Feb '03
at 7.30 pm.

1. S. G. Hobson was elected chairman
2. The minutes were read & confirmed
3. The Secy announced that copies of Webb's London Education, & Shaws Common Sense of Municipal Trading could be bought at the book stall.
4. Sidney Webb then gave an address on the Issues of the London County Council Election, & a short discussion followed in which the Rev. S. D. Headlam, the Rev. J. Pringle & H. T. Muggerridge took part.
5. Sidney Webb then introduced on behalf of the Executive the proposed new pact on the London Education Act 1903. He explained that it

was in the main an adaption of Tract 114
The Education act 1902 to London, and
the Society had already empowered the
Executive to issue it, but as some
new points had arisen, the Executive
had decided to submit it to the Society
for criticism. -

5. The tract was then discussed page
by page. A number of amendments
were moved by the Rev. S. D. Headlam.
Several were accepted: others withdrawn:
others were defeated, the minority only
~~reaching~~ reaching three + six votes.
Other amendments were made by
Webb on behalf of the Exec. as the
result of written criticisms, +
finally the motion to print the tract
was agreed to. -

Emery Walker Chairman Feb. 25. 1904

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on 26th Feby 1904

1. Emery Walker was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Lieut. Col. D. C. Pedder gave his lecture on Rural Depopulation:-

"RURAL DEPOPULATION."

By **LIEUT.-COLONEL D. C. PEDDER**

(of Ogbourne St. George, Wilts).

SYLLABUS.—Sketch of position before Rural Exodus began. Condition of laborers. Impotence of laboring discontent. Joseph Arch and the Agricultural Laborers' Union. Comparatively recent change in the attitude of the laborer towards field-work. Decay of skill. Character of large farmers. Position of country clergyman between employer and employed. Dreariness of villages. Hope in small holdings. Office of reformed village of small holders with regard to great towns.

& a debate followed in which Richard Whiteing, E. R. Pease, Walter Edwards & J. G. Hobson took part.

A. Throgood.

~~Minutes~~ Meeting of Cliffords Linn
Friday 11th March 1904

1. A. J. Throgood was elected chairman, & expressed the thanks of the Society to Mr Chesterton for filling a gap at short notice.
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. Cecil E. Chesterton opened a discussion on

the Chinese Labor Question in South Africa,
To be opened by CECIL E. CHESTERTON.

speaking strongly in opposition to the proposal.
J. Mc Killop followed on the other side.
In the subsequent debate A. J. Marriott, Edgar Jepson, H. T. Muggerridge Bernard Shaw, & the Chairman supported the lecturer, whilst W. J. Read took up a non-committal attitude. No division was taken. —

J. W. C. L.
25.3.04

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday March 25th 1904 - -

1. F. W. Galton was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Messrs Linsbeer & Trilling were appointed auditors & Messrs J. W. Buttery & R. W. Anderson Scrutineers.
4. Percy Alden then gave an address on

"Notes on the Problem of the Unemployed."

By PERCY ALDEN.

SYLLABUS:

Can we define the term?—Number of the unemployed.—Causes of unemployment.—Remedies, indirect and direct.—Labor Colonies, German and English.—The latest proposals and experiments.—Conclusions.

A discussion followed in which
Wm. Catmur, S. G. Hobson
G. B. Shaw, & Walter Edwards took part

S. G. Hobson
22/10/1904

(40/44)

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on Friday 22nd April 1903.

1. S. G. Hobson was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. Mr J. B. Atkins then gave an address on

"RACIAL DEGENERATION."

By J. B. ATKINS.

Editor of "National Physical Training" (in the press).

SYLLABUS :

Are we degenerating?—Two typical answers in a contrary sense—The present lack of scientific evidence—Recruiting figures misleading—The need of an apparatus for scientific observation—Conditions which incline us to degeneration—Suggestions for improving a state of things which is bad enough whether it is worse than before or not—Better nourishment of infants—Food in schools—Medical inspection in schools—Physical training—Possible co-operation under a Health Minister.

A debate followed in which
Dr. Lawson Dodd, A. W. Macroarty,
Mr. Matthews + a J. Marriott took part.

C. J. Throgood

13 May 1904

Annual Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on Friday 13th May 1904.

1. A. J. Terrogood was elected Chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Annual Report was considered page by page; no amendments were proposed, & after some discussion the Report and accounts were adopted Nem.con.
4. The Secy proposed on behalf of the Executive that the Lecture on Rural Depopulation by Lieut. Col. D. C. Pedder be issued as a Tract with his name. This was agreed to without debate.
5. S. G. Holson gave a report of the work done & contemplated by the Executive by means of the new

Committees on constructive policy. The
policy was discussed by H. W. Macrost,
Sidney Webb, C. E. Chesterton, J. McKillop,
W. Sanders, J. W. Read, E. F. Errington
& others. —

6. E. R. Pease explained the Govt Licensing
Bill, & expressed general approval
of the measure. Sidney Webb continued
the discussion, in a contrary sense, &
H. T. Muggerridge also spoke. —

The meeting then terminated. —

H. W. Macrosty
→

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
Friday May 27th 1904.

1. H. W. Macrosty was elected Chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Mr. Benjamin Kidd gave a lecture on

"Social Evolution and the Fiscal Problem."

By Mr. BENJAMIN KIDD.

A debate followed in
which S. G. Holson, H. G. Muggidge,
C. G. Chesterton & J. C. Van der Veer
took part.

Proffers

(90/100)

Meeting at Cliffords Lun
Friday June 10th 1904. -

- 1) Percy Alden took the chair
- 2) The minutes were confirmed.
- 3) Dr. Lawson Dodd gave his lecture on:-

"Municipal Milk Supply." - - By Dr. LAWSON DODD.

SYLLABUS. —National degeneracy controversy. The food factor in physical unfitness. Its importance in infancy and early life. Infantile and general mortalities; their significance. Present bad condition of rural and urban milk supplies. Inefficient milk transit. Dangers of dirty milk. Results in milk epidemics — diarrhoea, scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid, tuberculosis. Recent Woking and Finchley epidemics. "Pus as a beverage." Milk adulteration: (a) by preservatives — extent, nature and reasons for; (b) by water; skim and separated milk, diluted condensed milk, cream abstraction. Recent increase. The L.G.B. standard — watering down to it; its dangers. Opinions of analysts. Experts in adulteration. What the community has done. Present powers examined. Their ludicrous insufficiency. "Doctors' fads." What municipalities have done. Analogy with water supplies. Public taught not by epigrams but epidemics. Organization of milk supply to secure good quality and freedom from disease, with low price essential. English experiments; Copenhagen; Dr. Rothschild's work in Paris; its results. Present wasteful methods of distribution. Immediate necessity for municipal dairy farms and depôts for infants and young children of poor and municipal institutions. Two methods of extension: (a) by increasing municipal farms for local supply in competition with trade; or (b) wholesale purchase of milk by municipality from farmers, with powers under contract to enforce good condition. Municipal preparation and distribution of milk: its economies in public health and price.

followed

+ a discussion, in which
Percy Alden, W. Sanders, Mr.
A. Robinson & Bernard
Shaw took part -

Arthur Hill

~~Minutes~~ Meeting on June 24th 1904
for members & subscribers only.

1. Hubert Bland was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. The Rev. C. L. Marson lectured on

"FOLKSONG COLLECTING IN SOMERSET,"

By the Rev. C. L. MARSON.

SYLLABUS.

Folksong. Plato on Folksong. Witness to National Character: to former vitality of Village Life. Economic Lesson.

The Great Survival: its enemies and outcast lot. Need of Collectors.

Great Ceremony of Folksong: incredible pains. Instance one of the three most famous songs amongst maidservants. [*The Seeds of Love.*]

Collecting. How to do it. The Discouragements. The Delights. A real find. [*The Sweet Primroses.*]

The Imaginative world and the Supernatural. [*The Unquiet Grave. The Shooting of his Dear.*]

Crime. [*My father bound me.*]

Work. [*We're all jolly fellows that follow the plough.*]

War. [*Cruel Wars of High Germanie.*]

Sport and Amusement. [*Creeping Jane. Poor old Horse.*]

Love. [*The Sign of the Bonny Blue Bell. The False Bride. Blow the winds I-ho.*]

Several unpublished songs, collected and harmonized by CECIL SHARP, will be sung by Miss MATTIE KAY and WALTER FORD.

The address was interspersed with songs, & was followed by a few questions. The ~~Lecturer~~ Chairman expressed to the performers the thanks of the Society for their part in a singularly enjoyable performance.

1904

(4) Before the lecture the Secy moved a
 vote of urgency which was carried
 nem con, + then a further resolution
 to authorise the issue of a Tract on
 Municipal Milk Supply & Dr.
 Lawson Dodd being parts of his lecture
 of June 15th - This also was
 agreed to nem con.

H. W. Macroberts

minutes

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Meeting held at Cliffords Inn
on Friday October 14th 1904. —

1. H. W. Macroft was elected Chairman
2. The Minutes of last meeting were confirmed
3. The Sec. announced that The opportunity of
Liberalism, written by a ex-member of
the Society, was on sale at the Book Stall.
4. The Rev. S. D. Headlam gave two lectures on

"The Danger of Municipal Puritanism."

By the Rev. S. D. HEADLAM.

SYLLABUS.—"The stern gaze and iron grip of the State." For whom? The splendid socialistic work of the L.C.C. endangered by Progressive Puritanism. Now— with two-and-half years before the next election—is the best time to attack it. The need for honest frankness. "The settled temperance policy" must be reversed: (i) in the matter of the surrender of licences, (ii) the music halls, and (iii) the open spaces: it militates against temperance, diminishes the joy of living, and is largely in the interest of the publicans. Teetotalism the worst foe of temperance. The Sunday question. Games in the large open spaces on Sundays. Absurdity of pretending that this would lead to the opening of factories and shops on Sunday. The obtaining for all one day's rest in seven is hindered by insisting that Sunday only shall be that day. Dancing: why not arranged for in the L.C.C. open spaces? Why not a municipal school of dancing, on the ground that the L.C.C. is the education authority? Why not, on the same ground, a municipal theatre? Successful experiment under the late School Board. Action of L.C.C. re Alexandra Palace. A healthy public opinion would be revealed by a frank discussion of these matters.

& in the debate which followed, Sidney Webb,
John Burns L.C.C. M.P., & Rev. Conrad Noel
took part. —
H. W. Macroft

Reynolds 16 Feb. 04

C40/98

MUNICIPAL PURITANISM.

MR. HEADLAM AND MR. BURNS.

A BATTLE ROYAL.

(SPECIAL TO "REYNOLDS'S.")

Not for some time has the Hall of Clifford's-inn seen so large a crowd as gathered on Friday night for a Fabian lecture by the Rev. Stewart Headlam on "The Danger of Municipal Puritanism." It was well known beforehand that Mr. Headlam intended to attack the London County Council for what is called its "settled Temperance policy," and for its attitude on the Sunday question. That the debate would be lively was evident when it was discovered that Mr. John Burns, M.P., and Mr. Sidney Webb were present to defend the Council from all aspersions.

MR. HEADLAM'S INDICTMENT.

The lecturer urged that the present time—two and a half years before the next L.C.C. elections—was a time when members of the Progressive caucus could speak their minds with frankness without much regard to the possible loss of votes. He hoped that the Fabians, forgetting their favourite function of pulling the wires, would be straightforward on this question. The policy of the L.C.C. in surrendering public-house licences and in excluding refreshments from some of the places of entertainment militated against temperance and benefited the publicans. Why did not the Council apply for powers to hold the licences and carry on the public-houses as reformed, model public taverns or restaurants? "No fewer than 133 licences, purchased in street widenings and other improvements, had been thrown away, and they had cost £390,000 of the ratepayers' money. As to the Sunday question, he condemned the L.C.C. for refusing to allow games to be played on that day in the Council's larger open spaces. The fact was that Puritans objected to all pleasures except the pleasure of making money. He had nothing but praise for the splendid Socialistic work of the L.C.C. in many departments of its activity, but this was endangered by Progressive Puritanism. Whilst preserving the magnificent view from Richmond Hill by buying the Marble Hill Estate, the Council had not succeeded in attracting the people to that estate. They would flock there on Sunday afternoons if refreshments could be obtained after the long journey from London. He contended that the L.C.C. ought to build a Municipal theatre, open evening classes for dancing, and permit dancing in the open spaces. The way to reduce drunkenness was to provide more recreation, especially on Sundays, as was the case in German cities and generally abroad, even in Protestant countries like Denmark.

MR. WEBB'S REPLY.

Mr. Sidney Webb declared that the Council was not so very Sabbatarian, after all. The late School Board had refused to allow the Board schools to be used on Sundays for any purposes but Sunday-schools, a policy the L.C.C. had reversed, and the schools were now available on that day on almost, if not quite, the same conditions as on week-days. The Council had no power to manage public-houses. What was the good of asking the House of Commons for such powers, when only last year it rejected a clause that would

have enabled the Council to sell herrings and bread and butter in its own lodging-houses? As a friend of freedom, he wished to have some places of entertainment with drink licences and some without, so that those who did not want to be pestered to drink could go where there were no bars. Mr. Headlam could not show an unbiased mind, or he would have referred to the facilities that existed on Sundays for swimming, boating, and listening to music.

VERY SPEECH BY MR. BURNS.

Mr. John Burns, M.P., said that it was a sorry spectacle to see a Christian parson attacking the workers' day of rest, whilst Freethinkers like himself and Mr. Webb defended it. He knew the Continental Sunday, and had no wish to have English men and women working seven days a week in shops and other employments. As for games in the parks, it would be abominable to prevent the working man and his wife and family from walking there on Sunday afternoons, which would be the case if cricket balls were flying in every direction. If the cricketers and footballers who lived round Epsom Park or Victoria Park were halted, they would declare with an overwhelming majority that they did not want the parks on Sundays. They had them six-sevenths of the week, and recognised the rights of others on the Sunday. As for boating, the opponents were the Vicars of the churches near, who hated to have young people attracted away from their dull sermons. Mr. Headlam had shown that he had little conception of what the Council had done for those who worked with hammer and hand. The Council had enormous duties and responsibilities, and yet it could keep an eye on some of the doings of Socialist clergymen. They intended to devote their energies to boasting the thousands of London's poor before they started dancing classes for the few. It was a time to speak out plainly, when politicians were amusing themselves at "week ends," preaching slopping politics in the intervals between bridge and golf and dog parties. "We wanted sober and earnest men. We were not going back to the days of Charles II., to the period when every Saturday night was a scene of mauling, and every Sunday a dabau-h, and when the clergy lived in luxury, whilst the poor were sunk in degradation.

The Rev. Conrad Noel ridiculed the contention that Sunday games were barred because they interfered with the public convenience. Would a game at home endanger old ladies walking near the bowling-green? The real explanation was the fear of losing Nonconformist votes.

The Rev. Stewart Headlam, replying to the debate, protested warmly that he was quite as sober and earnest as Mr. Burns. It was lamentable that Mr. Burns should trot out such arguments about Sunday games. Who could pretend that there was any lack of space at Hackney Marshes, which were 300 acres in extent? As for the objection of Vicars to boating, it was exactly the Council's surrender to such Vicars that he objected to. Mr. Webb had pleaded that the Council could not get powers to "run" public-houses. Then let them put the licences in good hands. Lyons' firm would jump at the opportunity. Short's in the Strand had been retained. (A voice: "Carr's, too.") The Puritanet were mistaken in imagining that theirs was the "Christian" view either of Temperance or of Sunday. He had heard, by the way, that one reason why he had not been co-opted on the L.C.C. Education Committee was because he belonged to a Guild that had published criticisms of the Council's policy.

Mr. Headlam chided his remarks by saying: "After Mr. Burns' speech to-night, well there—!" With a gesture of sorrowful remonstrance, the reverend gentleman sat down amidst loud cheers. It was, like the "curtain" on one of Mr. Bernard Shaw's plays.

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
Friday Oct. 28th = 1904. -

1. The Rev. S. D. Headlam was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. Sydney Olivier taking the place of J. H. Morgan at short notice then gave ~~his~~ a lecture ~~on~~ entitled

"SOME COMMENTS ON THE AMERICAN NEGRO QUESTION."

By SYDNEY OLIVIER, C.M.G.

These comments will be addressed to a criticism of present tendencies of public feeling and policy in the United States, and the results which appear probable in the light of experience of some European and African communities in the British West Indies.

& a debate followed in which
John A. Hobson, Edward Scrubb
(Howard Asst), Bernard Shaw
S. S. Hobson & Mr Norman took
part.

Handwritten signature

15.11.04

C90/49

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
Friday Nov: 11th 1904.

1. F. W. Galton was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Cecil E. Chesterton lectured on

"Gladstonian Ghosts." By CECIL E. CHESTERTON.

SYLLABUS.—Is a Socialist an extreme Liberal? Liberalism in history. Socialism in history. "The New Toryism." The Factory Acts and Free Trade. Cobden and Bright defended. The Tories as Social Reformers. What a Liberal victory will mean. The present position of English Liberalism. A comparison with English Nonconformity. The dream of "permeation." The awakening. The remarkable history of Mr. Massingham. Also of Dr. Clifford. Lord Rosebery's re-entry into Houndsditch. The Labor Party. Its perils and opportunities. Independence and pseudo-Independence. The Liberal trap and the "Reaction" bait. How it has worked. The South African War. The Education Act. Tariff Reform. The British Working Man. His importance. His character defended. His politics analyzed. Why he is not a Socialist. Socialist tactics. The Liberal leaven in Socialism. The bias of anti-patriotism. War and foreign policy. The Labor Party and the Superman.

A discussion followed in which
Rev. S. D. Headlam, R. E. Dell, S. B. Hobson
E. B. Shaw, H. F. Muggidge &
Miss Murby took part.

Cecil Chesterton

25/11/04

Members Meeting at Cliffords Linn, 25th Nov: 1904

1. Cecil Chesterton was elected
Chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. S. G. Hobson, Chairman of
the Electricity & Transit
Comtee read the Report prepared
by him & approved of the same:—

REPORT OF THE ELECTRICITY & TRANSIT COMMITTEE.

By S. G. HOBSON.

SYLLABUS.

- I.—The distinctions, if any, between "control" and "possession."
- II.—The new era arising out of power by transmission.
- III.—The growth of electrical undertakings: (a) private companies; (b) public enterprise.
- IV.—Economic factors in the production of electricity: (a) finance; (b) "diversity" and "load" factors; (c) comparative costs under private and public control.
- V.—The application of electricity to traction: (a) tramways; (b) light railways; (c) suburban railways; (d) canals.
- VI.—The co-ordination of light and heavy railways.
- VII.—Nationalization of railways.
- VIII.—Local Government and the economic unit of administration: (a) the problem of boundaries; (b) joint committees or boards.
- IX.—Central and Local Administration: (a) present powers; (b) desirable changes in governmental machinery.

The Report was discussed by W.
Macrosty, J. W. Pincome, R. D. Pearson
& F. S. S. S. & it was informally agreed
that it sh^d. be published as a tract. —
S. G. Hobson 12/9/1904

(90/50)

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
9 Dec. 1904.

1. S. G. Hobson was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. On the motion of the Secy it was unanimously agreed that the Exec. be empowered to issue as a Tract the Report on Electricity & Transit considered at the last meeting.
4. Haden Guest then gave his lecture on

'THE MISTAKES OF MILNER.'

By Dr. HADEN GUEST.

SYLLABUS.—Prologue. Imperialism and facts, spoken by a repentant Imperialist. The two problems—Johannesburg and South Africa. The only solution of Johannesburg—Socialism. The difficulty of the South African problem is its simplicity. The Boer life—some illusions and disillusion. Boer politics and Icelandic snakes. What the Boers mean to have. Some of Milner's failures—finance, education, the Chinese importation. The failure of the Boer ideal. Milner as Viceroy of China. Constructive legislation and possibilities.

A debate followed in which Sydney Olivier, Cecil Chesterton, Rd. Winking, H. W. Macrosty, G. B. Shaw, W. J. Read, Mr. Wood, the Chairman, & others took part.

H. W. Macrosty

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday Jan 7 13. 1905

1. H. W. Macrosty was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Rd Higgs gave his lecture on

"Agriculture the Unknown Problem."

By RICHARD HIGGS, of Shepherdswell, Dover.

SYLLABUS.—The ignorance of economists concerning one-half of the social problem. The great writers on political economy all urban in their views. Socialistic idealism also urban. Civilization founded on the plough. Sociology and technics. The agricultural problem, its complexity and its difficulties. Some terms of the problem. Those which are over-studied and those which are unknown. Present confusion of agriculture. Supply and demand. The inability of colonies and settlements to solve the problem. The country not a rubbish heap for the townsmen's human and material waste. The small holdings mania. Buildings, sanitation, and sidelights on the milk problem. Foolishness of the "three-spit" fetish. The rural exodus a necessary and highly beneficial natural movement noticeable in every progressive land. Its evolutionary root. Why agriculture must be State managed. Agricultural ideals. Workmen and managers. Machinery and hours of labor. Specialism and reorganization. Practical steps and present signs of the coming of the ideal.

A debate followed in which
R. S. Dell, F. G. Green, P. Varnals,
S. G. Holson, & G. Bernard Shaw
took part.

J. D. Shallard
27 Jan. 05

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Meeting at Cliffords Linn for Members,
Friday Jan 27th 1905. —

1. S. D. Shallard was elected chairman.
2. H. W. Macrobert read the minutes (in the absence of the Secy at Liverpool) & they were confirmed.

3. After a vote of urgency had been carried unanimously the following resolution was proposed by S. C. Hobson & seconded by F. W. Galton, & carried unanimously.

That this meeting of the Fabian Society expresses its detestation of the murderous methods of the Russian autocracy & its sympathy with the Russian revolutionists in their righteous endeavours to overthrow the tyranny. — It was agreed that the resolution be sent to the press. —

4. Hubert Bland then read the Report of the Council on Underfed Children: —

(4) cont^o

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON UNDERFED CHILDREN.

To be presented by **HUBERT BLAND.**

SYLLABUS.—The first need of a people—"After bread, education"—Are the children fed?—Improper feeding and its results—The physique of the people: a few figures—The results of feeding—Voluntarism, its faults and failure—Foreign experiments—Paris—Sir John Gorst's idea, the policeman—The case for free feeding—Objections thereto: "Parental Responsibility"; "Breaking up the Home"; the eloquence of Graham Wallas—The cost and how to meet it—The National Minimum—Half measures—Proper feeding—Accommodation—Medical inspection—What the central authority could do.

(5) After some discussion it was agreed nem. con. that the report be approved, & the Executive Com^{ee} be advised to publish it as a tract subject to formal consent ~~with~~ after due notice, of the Society.

L. G. Hobson.
1907/1905

(4)

(20/52)

Meeting at Clifford Lun on
Friday 10th February 1905. —

- 1) S. G. Hobson was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Secy moved on behalf of the Exec.
that leave be given to print as Tracts
 - (1) The Report on Underfed Children
already approved by the Social
 - (2) Article on the Control of Trusts by
H. W. Macrosty, who issued
with his name. —

The motion was agreed to nem con.

(4) Edw. Grubb then gave his lecture on

"Prisons and the Principles of Penology."

By EDWARD GRUBB,

Secretary of the Howard Association.

SYLLABUS.—The Protection of Society: how far secured by punishment? Prisons and their dangers. Elementary conditions of good management: classification of prisoners; labor; selection and training of officers. Question of cellular separation. Substitutes for imprisonment.

Recidivism the mark of failure: its chief causes. Problems awaiting solution. reformation of character; preparation for freedom; the finding and keeping of employment.

Recent American contributions: State Reformatories; conditional liberation; the probation system. Some general principles.

A discussion followed
in which Richard Weirking
Wm. Sanders, Bernard Shaw
& Mrs J. F. Matthews took
part. — Stewart Headlam

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
Feb 24th - 1905. -

1. Rev. S. D. Headlam was elected Chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed.
3. J. Hartman Morgan gave a short lecture
on ~~the Legal Status of~~
A Minimum Wage Law

SYLLABUS OF LECTURE.

LEGAL MINIMUM WAGE.—The problem: to substitute legalization of Collective Bargaining for Individual Bargaining in low-skilled industries. Minimum of wages at present only fixed by Poor Law Relief: such industries bounty fed. Historical precedents: the mediæval idea of a joint price: Act of 1563: Wage Regulation as substitute for Collective Bargaining. MACHINERY: The example of Victorian Wages Board: German Handwerksung Guilds: Board of Midland Nailmakers. Method Trade inquiry under Provisional Orders: basis a time wage as determined by local cost of living.

A discussion followed in which H. W. Macroft, H. D. ~~the~~ Pedersall, R. H. Hooper, H. T. Myggeridge, S. G. Hobson, + C. B. Shaw took part. —
H. T. Myggeridge.

Meeting at Chiffords Lane
10th March 1905.

1. H. T. Muggerridge was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. The Secy moved the following resolution which was adopted nem con

NOTICE OF MOTION by the Executive: That power be given to print as a Tract, with the author's name, an address on Corporate Expenditure, by Sir Oliver Lodge, given recently to the Ancient Order of Foresters at their Annual Gathering in Birmingham Town Hall.

4. The Secy drew attention of members to the fact that nominations for the Exec. Comm^{ee} must be received before the 23rd inst.
5. Mrs O'Brien Harris gave her lecture on

"The National Minimum in Education."

By Mrs. O'BRIEN HARRIS, D.Sc.

SYLLABUS.—Limitation of subject to "common schools"—Nursery Schools (3-7, the infant artist)—Training through the imagination and senses: form, sound, color—Primary Schools (8-11, the "noble savage")—Individual tastes and the common need—Cleanliness, physique, brain-power—Secondary Schools, (a) (11-15) for the rank and file of London citizens; (b) (11-16) for London's "Scholars"—Co-education—The Teacher: who is sufficient for these things?

& a discussion followed in which

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday 24th March 1904. —

1. F. W. Galton was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. On the motion of the Secretary Messrs
Limebeer & Thirkling were re elected
auditors.
4. The Secy reported that the Exec. Election
would be contested, for his
nomination, J. W. Shaw & F.
Wheeler were unanimously
elected scrutineers. —
5. Dr. David Soshice then gave
his lecture on

"The Russian Revolution : its Causes and Prospects."
 By **DAVID SOSKICE**
 (Editor of *Free Russia*).
 SYLLABUS.
 The three main causes which have brought about the present political crisis : economic, financial, and spiritual.— Characteristics of the Russian Revolution : its destructive and constructive features.—The methods by which Autocracy fights against Progress.—Revolutionary Parties.—The Agrarian Movement.—Hopes and fears

& a debate followed in which
 A. J. Marriott, Cecil Chesterton
 R. W. Weir, J. K. Hardie M.P.
 & H. W. Macrosty took part.

H. J. Meyer
 7/4/05.

Meeting at Cliffords Lun on
Friday 7th April 1905. —

1. H. T. Muggerridge was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. H. W. Macrosty then gave a

April 7th. Lecture on "A National Policy of Agricultural Reconstruction." Report of the Committee on Agriculture, etc.

By H. W. MACROSTY.

SYLLABUS.

1. *The Decline of Agriculture*: the sins of the landlords; the faults of the farmers.
2. *Aims of the State*: i. Utilization of national resources. ii. Increase of agricultural population.
3. *A Twenty-five Years' Policy*: (a) *Ameliorative Measures*: i. Regulation of agricultural wages; wage courts; cottage rents; the unmarried laborer. ii. Fair rents. Mr. Gilbert Murray's plan. Agricultural courts. Defects not remedied.
(b) *Constructive Measures*: The success of the foreigner. Railways and agriculture. Large farms and combination. Small farms and landlordism. Peasant proprietorship. Socialists and bonanza farms. Graduated farms. Land nationalization.
Statutory Agricultural Committees: Constitution; powers and terms of compulsory purchase; terms of leasing; stocking the farms; marketing the produce; educating the agriculturist.
4. *Summary*.

A debate followed in which the policy of the report was criticised by Wm Sanders, F. W. Galton, S. D. Shallard & S. B. Shaw, whilst J. W. Buttery & S. S. Holson also spoke.

G. S. Taylor

Apr 25. 05.

C40186

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday 28th April 1905. —

1. G. R. S. Taylor was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Secy announced that Mr Chesterton's new book, Gladstonian Ghosts was on sale.
4. J. W. Shaw, Scrutiner, announced the result of the Executive Election.
5. Percy Alden gave his lecture on

"THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN JAPAN."

By PERCY ALDEN.

SYLLABUS.

The Industrial Revolution in Japan.—The change in the character and temperament of the people.—Old attitude with regard to trade.—Present attitude.—Wages and prices. Present factory system.—The great need for factory legislation.—Treatment of women and children.—The ancient Guilds compared with the Trade Unions.—A few of the most powerful Unions.—The growth of Socialism.—A Labor Manifesto and a Socialist Manifesto.—Why the Japanese Government opposes the Labor movement.—Count Okuma on Trade Unions.—The future of Japan.

+ a debate followed in which Messrs. Leaker, Shaw,
Olivier, Macmillan, & Guest took part. Hansard was
May 12.05

The Annual Meeting was held at
Cliffords Inn on Friday 12th Mar 1905.

(1) Dr. Lawson Dodd was elected chairman

(2) The Minutes were confirmed

(3) The Secy on behalf of the Exec. presented
the Annual Report which was con-
sidered paragraph by paragraph,
& was finally adopted, together with
the accounts, without amendment, &
subject to a few alterations & additions
in details. A discussion on the
affairs of the Society followed, relating
chiefly to the delay in the publication
of Tracts & to suggestions for other
tracts.

4. F. W. Galton on behalf of the Exec. introduced
the resolution ^{and} amendments to the
Unemployed ^{Workmen} Bill. These were amended
as indicated, & adopted unanimously.

19.05. An amendment to substitute the words "express the hope" for "express the belief" was put & lost. -
An additional amendment, not on the paper dealing with the London area, was adopted.

5. Aliens Bill. H. W. Macrosty announced that the Executive Com^{ee} had decided to withdraw the ~~am~~ Resolution & amendments printed on the agenda paper, & moved the resolution recited below. - Dr. Haden Guest moved an amendment to make the resolution read "The Fabian Society is opposed to the Aliens Bill for the following reasons:- After discussion this amendment was put to the meeting & lost. - A debate on the Resolution was continued, & the resolutions moved by Macrosty were adopted, viz:-

That the Fabian Society declares:-

- (1) That the exclusion of aliens is in itself no solution of the problem, & will not even mitigate the evils of, unemployment, of ~~the~~ overcrowding & of underpayment
- (2) That the evils produced by the herding

of alien labourers into a few localities form
only a part of the general problem presented
by low-priced labour whether British or
alien which can only be met by
legislation establishing a minimum
wage, abolishing out-work, preventing
overcrowding, & providing a proper
supply of sanitary houses.

- (3) That in the interests of public health
diseased immigrants should be ex-
cluded: in the interests of public order
courts of law should be empowered
to repatriate aliens convicted of
criminal offences, or of offences
against the Factory & Workshop
acts, or the Public Health acts. —

H. J. Meyerowitz

26/5/00

C40/58

AGENDA:—Motions by the Executive Committee:—

1) That the Annual Report and Accounts be adopted.

2) The Unemployed Workmen Bill:— *of the State*

That the Fabian Society ~~cordially~~ ^{the} welcomes the Unemployed Workmen Bill as an ^{recognition} ~~embodiment~~ of the principle of ~~State~~ responsibility for the welfare of its citizens, and expresses the belief that it will do something to mitigate the evils caused by the private ownership of the means of production.

It considers that the bill should be so amended as to provide that the Exchequer should contribute a share of the cost of administering the Act; and also in the following particulars:—

Clause I. (1), page 1, line 7, and elsewhere:—Substitute "Unemployment Board" for "body."

Clause I. (2), page 1, line 23. Alter "may" to "shall."

Clause I. (5), page 2, line 15. After "provided," insert "that the rate of wages shall not be less than the Trade Union rate of the district but." Delete "weekly," and insert after the word given, "in any one week." *Withdrawn & Respec. —*

Clause II. (1), page 3, lines 23-6. Delete all words after "may" (which render optional the constitution of "Bodies" in county boroughs) and insert "by order include such county borough in the area of the county board as constituted Section II. (2)."

Clause II. (2), page 3, line 27. Insert after word county, "or borough," and after the words guardians, "or otherwise."

Clause II. (3), page 4, line 11. After the words "of a" insert the word "county."

3) The Aliens Bill:—

That the Fabian Society, while recognizing that the exclusion of aliens is, in itself, no solution of the problems created by low-priced labor, and will not even substantially mitigate the evils of unemployment, still recognizes the importance of maintaining the standard of life in the ranks of unskilled labor, and therefore sees no objection to the exclusion of alien labor where such labor maintains a lower standard than that which obtains among British workers. It therefore does not oppose the Aliens Bill, but suggests the following amendments:—

Clause I. (3), page 2, line 5. To insert a new sub-section:—"If he has been brought over to this country by an employer in order to take the place of British workmen during an industrial dispute."

Clause II. (1), page 2, line 26. (Qualifications of members of Immigration Boards). Insert after "business" "Trade Union."

Clause III. (1, b, 1), page 3, line 23. (Expulsion of undesirable aliens). Insert after "over-crowding" "or has been employing labor or working under conditions which violate any provision of the Factory and Workshops Acts." *Withdrawn & Respec. —*

Your attendance is requested.

EDW. R. PEASE, Secretary.

FABIAN OFFICE,
3 CLEMENT'S INN,
STRAND, W.C.

May 8th, 1905.

* Clause I (1) at end of line 14 add:—
The administrative County of London shall for the purposes of this act extend to & include the area of such local authorities within the Metropolitan Police District as the L.C.C. may by order direct.

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
26th May 1905. —

1. H. F. Mugggeridge was elected Chairman.
2. The Minutes were corrected & confirmed
3. Ald. W^m Sanders read the report prepared
by him for the Local Government Com^{ee}

"Local Government Areas and the Public Control of Industry."

(REPORT OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.)

By **WM. SANDERS**

SYLLABUS.

The development of local government machinery outstripped by the growth of private enterprise.—The importance of area in relation to the extension of the public ownership of industry.—Two forms of expansion needed: (1) wider boundaries for ordinary municipal administration; (2) the "linking up" of existing local government areas into a "New Heptarchy" of Transit, Electricity, and Water Boards.—How this might be done.—The further "linking up" of the provincial Boards into National Departments controlling existing and starting new industries.

A debate followed in which
J. W. Buttery, A. W. Macrobert,
E. F. Cornington, J. McKillop & S. G.
Holson took part.

W. H. G. Good.

Meeting at Cliffords Inn 9th June 1905.

1. F. A. J. Thorogood was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. R. C. K. Ensor moved

"That it is desirable to revive agriculture not only on economic grounds, but because an agricultural population is an essential factor of national life."

4. As an amendment, S. D. Shallard moved:-

"That in the opinion of the Fabian Society, as there is no reason to believe that agriculture has any material importance apart from its means of supplying food, and, as the only proper guarantee for the existence of a healthy urban population consists in the removal of unhealthy urban conditions, the desirability of reviving agriculture in this country depends on the same considerations as the desirability of a revival in any other industry."

5. A debate followed in which the resolution was generally supported by H. W. Macrosty, Percy Alden, Hubert Bland, & S. G. Holson, whilst Haden Guest, Ald. Sanders, J. W. Buttery, Rev. S. D. Headlam, & G. B. Shaw supported the amendment.

6. The speakers having replied, the chairman took a show of hands to determine whether a vote should be taken on the resolutions & declared the negative carried.
John Martin.

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on 14th July 1905. —

1. J. W. Martin now of New York,
was elected chairman. —
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. The Chairman gave a short address on
the conditions of Socialism in New
York, & the changes in England since
he was a member of the Exec. in
1894 - 1899. —
4. The Report of the Local Govt. Comm^{ee} on
Areas was introduced by W. Sanders
on behalf of the Exec. and was
discussed page by page. — No
important amendments were proposed,
& the report was adopted without
opposition. —
5. A. W. Macrosty introduced

The Report of the Agricultural Com^{ee} on
a national Policy for agricultural
Reconstruction. This was debated at
considerable length, but only in respect
of details.

R. T. K. Guesor moved + G. R. Pease seconded
an instruction to the Exec. to insert
a passage, on the lines of a ms read
by Guesor allowing Peasant Proprietorship
as a possible alternative to state ~~holdings~~
ownership of small holdings. Only
three voted for the amendment
which was consequently defeated.

7) after sundry detailed amendments had
been accepted, the resolution that
the tract be printed was carried
nem. con., + the meeting terminated.

Hanson sold
Oct 9th 01

Special Meeting on Monday Oct. 9th 1920
at Cliffords Inn

1. Dr. Lawson Dodd was elected
Chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. The Chairman introduced The Hon
Gopal K. Gokhale C.I. E. who
gave an address on

(Monday, October 9th.) ... "An Indian View of Indian Affairs,"

By The Hon. GOPAL KRISHNA GOKHALE, C.I.E.

Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council
and Delegate of the National Indian Congress.

SYLLABUS.

India's place in the British Empire.—The present system of government in that country.—The absence of effective control and of any real responsibility anywhere.—Past declarations of policy and recent retrogression.—Partition of Bengal and the boycott of English goods.—The economic situation in India and its relation to the existing system of administration.—The necessity of conceding a larger measure of self-government to the people.—The Indian National Congress and its aims.—Some practical measures proposed.—Real interests of India and England not conflicting.—Responsibility of the British public in the matter.

after questions, a debate followed in which
Sir W^m Wedderburn, H. W. Macroft
H. Sylvester Williams & the chairman
took part, & the meeting was concluded
with a reply from the lecturer.

H. W. Macroft

C40/61

Meeting at Cliffords Inn on
Friday 13th October 1905.

- (1.) H. W. Macroft was elected Chairman
- (2.) The Minutes were confirmed.
- (3.) The Rev. Stewart D. Headlam gave
his lecture on

... "Maurice and Kingsley."

By the Rev. STEWART D. HEADLAM.

SYLLABUS.

The function of the prophet.—Maurice and Kingsley above everything theologians—Christian Socialism in "the hungry forties": its apparent failure; its permanent value.—Maurice's moral and metaphysical philosophy.—Kingsley as a preacher, naturalist, sanitary reformer and poet.

A debate followed in which
Alderman Sanders, W. Calmer,
Cecil E. Chesterton, Hubert Bland,
Geo. Standring, Bernard Shaw
& Mrs Polkinghorne took part. —

J. W. Calmer

27. 10. 15.

C40/67

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on Friday 27 Oct. 1905. —

1. F. W. Galton was elected chairman.
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. L. Haden Guest gave his paper on

"The Necessity for a Re-statement of Socialism."

By L. HADEN GUEST.

SYLLABUS.

The dissatisfaction in the Socialist movement.—The decay of the old Socialist faith.—Its causes.—"Scientific" criticism.—The problem of Nietzsche.—The sham of Democracy.—The delusion of the State.—The basis of the old Socialist faith.—Economic Socialism *plus* a belief in Progress.—The rightness of the economic basis; the illusion of Progress.—The forces underlying the rise and fall of civilizations.—Civilization as a periodical phenomenon.—Socialism as the method of attaining a permanently stable civilization.—How to treat "facts."—The lines of a re-statement of Socialism.—Mankind not an organism but a protoplasmic smear.—Management of mechanism; management of personal relationships.—Social Utopia and practical politics.

and a debate followed in which J. Andrews, S. G. Hobson, Hubert Bland, Sydney Oliver Cecil Chesterton, H. G. Wells, Wm. Sanders Stewart D. Headlam, H. W. Macrow, R. W. Anderson, & Bernara Shaw took part.

S. G. Hobson
27 Oct 1905

21
C20163

THE Freethinker

Edited by G. W. FOOTE.

VOL. XXV.—No. 58

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1905

PRICE TWOPENCE

The miraculous has become the absurd, the impossible. Gods and phantoms have been driven from the earth and sky. We are living in a natural world.—INGERSOLL.

Poor Shelley!

SHELLEY is done for. One of the great Chesterton brothers has spoken. Sentence is passed upon the poet. All that remains between now and the morning of execution is mere detail.

The Chesterton brothers are popular entertainers. "G. K. C." is a very illustrious personage. He supplies paradoxical fireworks to the dull and deadly *Daily News*. Of course he writes for other journals too, but this is the one in which he most bravely disports himself. He takes fresh views of everything, even if he has to stand on his head to get them. Nothing ever tempts him to disappoint the fine expectations of the Dissenting preachers, Bible-class leaders, and Sunday-school teachers—to say nothing of the noble army of Passive Resisters—who buy the halfpenny organ of the Nonconformist Conscience as the best intellectual answer they are able to find to the prayer of "give us this day our daily bread." "G. K. C.," following this metaphor, may be likened to the pinch of salt that gives the bread a flavor, or the leaven that saves it from being useful to the artillery.

Cecil Chesterton has a minor share of his brother's complaint. We fancy he has a minor share of his brother's everything. He goes after paradox as a duckling goes after water. He is a Christian. He is also a Socialist. He is likewise a Churchman. We believe he is even a High Churchman. And over all these ingredients there is a certain dash of natural or cultivated seriousness, such as you may see in the modern variety of curate, who can talk of God, Christ, and the Bible amidst drinks and smokes and jokes, but suddenly becomes solemn at the mention of that high and holy thing "the Church."

In pursuit of his mission as a Christian and a Socialist this gentleman lately addressed the Fabian Society on "Shelley"—his lecture being the second of a series on "The Prophets of the Past Century." An excellent summary report of it appears in the *Fabian News*, and is evidently accurate within its limits.

Mr. Chesterton began in the Chestertonian manner. He said that when the prophet was being stoned he was alive; when his sepulchre was built he was dead—spiritually as well as physically. This comes of having to be smart. There is a certain small truth in it, but in the main it is thoroughly false. It is true enough in the sphere of religion, where brutal persecution generally comes first and gross idolatry afterwards—and both from the same principle, the worship of old use and wont. It is untrue in other spheres. Spinoza is not dead because his reputation is vindicated; Bruno is not dead because a public monument has been erected to him at Rome; neither is Shelley dead because it is now admitted that he was both a great poet and a great and good man.

Mr. H. S. Salt's three views of Shelley—first, as a fiend; second, as a "beautiful but ineffectual angel"; third, as the prophet of a new and nobler humanity—are all dismissed by Mr. Chesterton in favor of a fourth; namely, that Shelley was "a man who devoted great genius and fine moral enthusiasm to the propagation of views essentially unsound." This

must be comforting to people with less enthusiasm and no genius. Mr. Chesterton assures them that other criticisms may fail, but one criticism cannot fail; the only thing to be said against Shelley is that he was wrong.

Mr. Chesterton says that Shelley was wrong. We cannot see that he produces any other evidence. We therefore incline to think that Shelley with his "great genius" may have been right, and that Mr. Chesterton without the "great genius" may be wrong.

Shelley's first offence was a shocking one. He was "a child of the English landed aristocracy." He had the aristocratic virtues, and the aristocratic limitations. He was indifferent to money, but he had "the aristocrat's incapacity to entertain even the idea of working for his living." In one withering sentence, "He lived on Unearned Increment." It is simply awful. We grasp at Mr. Chesterton's assurance that "under Socialism we shall produce no Shelleys"—for on this point we feel very much like agreeing with him. On second thoughts we venture to suggest that Mr. Chesterton is too hard on Shelley. The poor offender really could not choose his parents: He had to get born as he could. Moreover he came into the world before the days of Karl Marx and other profound "thinkers" of the Socialist persuasion. We plead for an allowance on this account. It was a grave defect on the part of the philosophers of antiquity (as Swift remarked) that they knew nothing of the Thirty-Nine Articles and were absolutely ignorant of the principles of the British Constitution. In the same way, Shelley knew nothing of *Das Kapital* and was absolutely ignorant of the principles of the Fabian Society. But do not let us be uncharitable. It was less his fault than his misfortune. He was a victim of chronology.

Shelley lived on "Unearned Increment." We do not know what Mr. Chesterton lives on. Few of the Fabians we have known ever wheeled a barrow. After all, Shelley did not live on much of that Unearned Increment. He lived chiefly on bread and water—too much so for his health. He produced on that cheap diet (cheap enough to satisfy any Socialist) a great collection of magnificent poetry, which has incalculably enriched the higher life of the world.

Mr. Chesterton might be better employed than in kicking poor Shelley in this way. He might try to solve the problem of how Socialism will deal with men of genius. Is there a case on record of a great poet who earned his living in the ordinary way? Shakespeare ran a theatre and lived to a considerable extent on other people's Unearned Increment. The truth is, we believe, that a poet is more likely to be found fighting in the streets than following a humdrum occupation. Villon seems to have turned thief, and Marlowe was by no means a "respectable" character; but where is the fine poet who made boots or kitchen tables? Mr. Chesterton himself displays no passionate attachment to these plainly useful avocations. He prefers to wield a pen. And when the millennium he dreams of arrives, and the Committee of Public Works, or whatever its name is, tells him to get hold of an awl or a chisel, we can imagine what melancholy will pervade his soul, and how he will then regret having been so fierce with poor Shelley.

We are next informed that Shelley's philosophy "led him to make an appalling mess of every human crisis with which he was faced." This is a very large statement without any particulars. Shelley made one "mess"—if the word must be used—in regard to Harriet Westbrook; but it was not due to his philosophy; it was due to his chivalry. He went and married her. Any other young "aristocrat" living on "Unearned Increment" would have enjoyed the favors (such was the language of the age) of a pretty lower-class girl who almost threw herself into his arms, but he would not have made her his wife. Had it not been for that marriage the world would never have seen any "appalling mess," or any "mess" at all, in Shelley's life. We admit that he was bound to come into conflict with the world's conventions. In the first place, he was not built to take advantage of others; in the second place, he disdained the essentially illicit and loveless intercourse between the sexes which is so common in Christian countries. He could not consort with prostitutes; he would not keep a mistress; the partner of his bed had to be the partner of his home. When the hour struck for separating from Harriet—and this can easily be proved to have been inevitable—it was not a case of ceasing to visit brothels, or of providing for a mistress; the deed had to be done in the sight of the world, for the woman was his wife; and the great gross hypocritical world, which loves to do its morality vicariously, threw heaps of stones at the wicked young poet (who was, alas, an Atheist), and then went on as before with its bawdy houses and kept women—and its multitude of homes haunted by the shadows of treachery and vice.

Mr. Chesterton asserts that Shelley "never made allowance for the complexity of the problem" of sex, and never "faced the problem of the child." But who did in those days? Darwinism, Evolution—call it what you will—has taken possession of the field since then: It has made many moral and social revelations, and these have steadied the thoughtful. We now see that the child is really the centre of civilisation, and when we get to the bottom of things we see that marriage itself is a device for securing the child's welfare. Shelley's ignorance in this direction was the necessary ignorance of his time. And then he was only twenty-nine when he died.

Shelley is next blamed, curiously enough, for being an Evolutionist. It was the "evolutionist doctrine," Mr. Chesterton says, that "made Shelley an enemy to violence." In this he was utterly wrong. All revolutions are brought about by force; in no other way can they be brought about. Such is Mr. Chesterton's argument. It is nothing but assertion; and, assertion for assertion, we prefer Shelley. And there is Tolstoy to be answered. More important still for Mr. Chesterton, there is Jesus Christ—or at least one of the Jesus Christ's of the four Gospels. "Resist not evil"—"Whoso taketh the sword shall perish by the sword"—these are the teachings of "a greater than Shelley," of one whom Mr. Chesterton believes to be God.

The statement that Shelley "associated the advanced movement with fads and with a false humanitarianism" can only be discussed on the production of instances. Mr. Chesterton may be alluding to Shelley's vegetarianism and abstinence from alcohol. But to call these things "fads" is an ill-conditioned evasion of the responsibilities of debate.

Shelley's most terrible crime seems to have been that he "had no knowledge of the world and no humor." How often this absurdity has figured in Shelley criticism! Shelley was too unselfish to look after his own interests effectually, but when he had to serve a friend he was clear, swift, and resolute. He did not know the world exactly as Byron did, but he knew it better in some respects; and the proof is that, whereas Byron's dramas are abortions as dramas, Shelley wrote the one great drama in our literature since the age of Shakespeare. Byron was indeed a great humorist, but to say that Shelley had "no humor" is sheer silliness. Byron himself could not have bettered, in some respects he could not have

equalled, the satire on Wordsworth in the fourth part of *Peter Bell the Third*. Three of the stanzas are exquisitely fine. And the translation of the "Hymn to Mercury" is perhaps the most perfectly sustained piece of delicate humor in the English language.

With regard to Shelley's religious views, Mr. Chesterton honorably repudiates the idea that he was "a sort of unconscious Christian." On the other hand he denies that Shelley was "an Atheist in the ordinary sense." But as he does not state what this "ordinary sense" of Atheism is, we have no alternative but to accept Shelley's own declaration that he was an Atheist.

Finally, Mr. Chesterton allows that Shelley "gave to the essential Revolutionary Passion the noblest expression it has ever received." This is true as far as it goes—and we congratulate Mr. Chesterton on coming to his senses at last. But it is far from being all the truth. Byron was the born revolutionist; Shelley was much more than that; he was the greatest modern prophet of Humanity. One has only to read the last chorus in *Hellas*—with its beautiful music, its noble imagery, and its infinite longing—to see that Shelley looked beyond the tumult of revolt to the peace of a renovated society.

G. W. FOOTE.

God's Ways.

It may be safely assumed that the Bishop of London is as cognisant of what God is doing and why he is doing it, as is any clergyman in Great Britain. There are one or two other gentlemen in the same business who receive larger salaries than the Bishop; but in spite of his smaller, and as he explained, insufficient income, I maintain that his knowledge on this point is co-extensive with theirs. It would sound like prejudiced partizanship to say that he knew more on this subject than others, but common justice calls for the vindication of his equal knowledge. It is therefore, with full recognition of the nature and extent of Mr. F. W. Ingram's information in this direction—in virtue of which he is presumably dowered with a seat in the House of Lords—that I call attention to a recent utterance of his concerning the query "What is God doing?"

Carlyle once referred somewhat contemptuously to a God who created the world and then sat up aloft seeing it go. Carlyle's was, of course, an unofficial utterance, and might, therefore, have failed to carry conviction. The bishop's answer is an official one, and while it smacks somewhat of Carlyle's answer, it is framed, as some would say, "more reverently." He says that when people ask why does not God put things right, he answers: "He is waiting." And when he asks himself "What is He waiting for?" "I know..... that he is waiting for someone to come and help him."

Now I am far from denying that waiting may not be a virtue. Very often more good would be done—if one only had enough patience and courage—by waiting than by rushing into action. But the waiting is a virtue only as the result of our weakness. We wait to act because we lack knowledge, or because we cannot force circumstances, or because we expect assistance in a task that is too great for our unaided powers. But a God who is cramped by none of these limitations, who should be independent of all advice and help, and who is yet waiting, does not strike one as either dignified or wise. But it is to be observed that the bishop tells us why he is waiting. He tells us of the evils of prostitution, gambling, want of employment, and unbelief; and says God does not destroy these things because he is waiting for someone to help him. Now I do not say this statement is incorrect. My knowledge of what God is doing is positively nil. But it certainly seems—if the statement be correct—that if God is waiting for someone to come along and destroy these evils, that he is really waiting to take the credit for other

C90/65

Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on Friday Nov. 10th 1905. —

S. G. Hobson was elected chairman

The minutes were confirmed

Cecil E. Chesterton gave his lecture on

"Shelley." By CECIL E. CHESTERTON.

SYLLABUS.

Prelude on the necessity of stoning prophets.—Different views of Shelley.—The Era of Counter Revolution.—Two voices of British revolt.—Shelley and Byron compared.—The causes of Byron's immediate recognition.—The causes of Shelley's survival.—Shelley's social and economic status.—A child of the landed aristocracy.—The philosophy of an independent income.—His life and character.—Shelley's Religion.—Neither Atheist nor "Pagan."—His attitude towards Christianity.—Christianity in the Shelleyan stage.—Its great discovery: Original Sin.—Shelley's philosophy founded on the denial of Original Sin.—Socialism founded on its recognition.—Shelley's Vision of the Universe.—The *Prometheus Unbound*.—The non-existence of Demogorgon.—The futility of Nature-Worship.—How "Demogorgonolatry" made Shelley a Conservative.—The fallacy of Universal Love.—The social value of hate.—Shelley's dislike of force.—*The Masque of Anarchy* and *The Revolt of Islam*.—Force the only remedy.—Shelley's opinions on sex.—Their essential unreality.—Shelley's legacy to the Socialist movement.—Its mischievous side.—Vegetarianism and the Proletariat.—The permanent and real value of Shelley.—The Revolutionary passion.

A debate followed in which
Bernard Shaw, A. G. Pentz, Haden Guest,
H. Bland, J. E. Matthews, W. E. Stephens,
E. Jephson, W. Calmer, H. W. Macroft,
others took part.

Percy Poallis.

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We are next informed that Shelley's philosophy equaled, the satire on Wordsworth in the fourth
THE FRIENTHINKER
DECEMBER 31, 1905

C90/65

~~Dec.~~ Meeting at Cliffords Inn
Nov 24th 1905

1. Percy Wallis of Kettering was elected
Chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. Ald W.^m Sanders gave his
lecture on

"The Case for a National Legal Minimum Wage."

By WM. SANDERS.

SYLLABUS.

The right of the State already conceded to regulate certain conditions of industry, and to enforce a minimum of education, sanitation and housing.—The view that the wage-relation is one in which State regulation would be harmful is a mere *laissez faire* superstition.—The only way to redeem a large section of the population from degenerating conditions is by a "dead lift" in wages.—Partial enforcement of the Standard of Life gives inadequate results.—The 12,000,000 in primary and secondary poverty.—The verdict of Economic Theory against a legal Minimum Wage.—The weight to be attached to this verdict.—Economic Theory usually wrong.—The difficulties of a Minimum Wage Law practical, not economic.—But not altogether insurmountable.—The experiments in Australasia indicate line to be followed.—Basis of legal Minimum Wage should be physiological, not what each trade will bear.—The form a Minimum Wage Law should take.

A discussion followed
in which Cecil Chesterton
S. G. Hobson, H. W. Macrosty
Sidney Webb & Bernard Shaw
took part

H. W. Macrosty.

C40/66

Meeting at Clifford's Inn
Dec. 8th 1905

- 1) H. W. Marriot was elected chairman
- 2) The Minutes were confirmed
- 3) Edward R. Pease then read the report of the Poor Law Com^o

on

**"The Abolition of the Poor Law" (Report of the
Committee on Poor Law). By EDW. R. PEASE.**

SYLLABUS.

The origin of Poor Law Unions.—Their present anomalous Areas.—The duties of Guardians outside the Poor Law.—Four Stages of Poor Law Theory: (1) Profitable Workhouses; (2) State-aided Minimum Wage; (3) Self-sufficiency of Individualism; (4) Communal Provision for Special Needs.—The Beneficent Effect of Revolution in Local Government.—The Guardians want abolishing, because they are the last *ad hoc* body; their elections are a farce; they prevent Old Age Pensions and Proper Treatment of Unemployment.—Women as Guardians.—The Difficulty and its Solution.—Proposals: (1) The County and County Borough to take over Indoor Poor; (2) The Local Sanitary Authority to give Out-relief.—Immediate Effects: Further Equalization and Saving of Rates; Systematization of Areas; Simplification of Functions.—Ultimate Result: The Abolition of Poor Law as a Special Department and hence the Extinction of Pauperism.

A debate followed in which
Ald. Sanders, Mrs Townshend, R. C. K. Emsw
Councillor Pincombe, F. W. Galton
S. H. Wood + Sister Kerrison took part.

Before the lecture the Secy announced a members
meeting on Dec. 15 at the Lower Essex
Hall.

Edney Davis

16 Dec 1905.

Members Meeting held at the
Small Essex Hall, Essex St.
on Friday Dec. 15th 1905.

1. Sydney Olivier was elected
Chairman.
2. The Minutes of the previous meeting
were confirmed.
3. Sidney Webb on behalf of the
Executive Council read a
paper entitled The Liberal
Cabinet - an intercepted letter,
& proposed that the Exec. be
authorised to publish it in the
National Review in the name of
The Society.
4. A discussion on the paper followed & a
number of suggestions were made.
Some of them Mr. Webb undertook
to embody if possible: others he

stated, for various reasons could not be accepted. —

5. The motion that publication be approved was then put, & carried unanimously.

6. R. C. K. Suser asked a question about Questions for Parliamentary Candidates; and on the reply of the Secy that the Exec. had considered the matter & decided ~~to take~~ not to revise the questions already in use, he expressed himself satisfied.

Dr. L. Haden Guest raised the question of an Election Manifesto & after some discussion moved a vote of urgency with a view to dealing with the matter. Tellers were appointed, & a vote taken. The Chairman announced the vote 45 for urgency, & 28 against & as a 2/3^{ds} majority was required by rule, the motion was not carried. —

H. W. Macrosty.

Members Meeting at Cliffords Inn
on Friday Jan 12. 1906. —

1. H. W. Macrosty was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. On the motion of the Secy it was agreed that the Reports on the Minimum Wage & on Abolition of the Poor Law be published as tract
4. H. G. Wells then read a paper on the publication of Tracts, followed by the greater part of his Independent Review article on The Misery of Bosts, & a discussion followed in which Harry Snell, W. Shaw, A. K. Constantine, N. L. Griffith, Mrs M. Cunningham, E. R. Pease, F. W. Hays, W. A. Colegate, T. Bond, Miss Armstrong, Mrs Farlow & others took part.

190/68

"This Misery of Boots."

By H. G. WELLS.

RESOLUTIONS:

- "That the publication of the lecture as a Tract with the author's name be authorized."
- "That the papers on 'Minimum Wage' and 'The Abolition of the Poor Law,' already submitted to the Society, be published as Tracts."

SYLLABUS OF THE LECTURE.

Opening remarks on the objects and methods of publication of Tracts.—The object of a Tract should be propaganda.—Many recent Fabian "Tracts" have been pamphlets of information and advice rather than tracts proper.—The present Tract is an attempt at propaganda pure and simple.—Suggestions as to the style and method of Tract writing.—Tracts should be alluring in form, and cheap. How can these ends be attained? [Then follows a reading of "This Misery of Boots," partly with some abridgement. It is an elementary statement of the Socialistic position already familiar to most Fabians; and the attention of the meeting is invited with the criticism of this as a tract, then as an argument, and then to the discussion of its publication.]

(5) Before the debate the Sec'y moved that the paper be printed as a tract with his name. The motion was not put formally put, but it was understood that no opposition to it was made.

Cecil Chesterton
Chair.

Making at Cliffords Inn on
Friday - Jan 26th 1906.

1. Cecil Chesterton was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Edgar Jepson gave his lecture on

"WALT WHITMAN."

By EDGAR JEPSON.

SYLLABUS.

Early influences and later. His relations to women. The question of his being a poet. His prophecies concerning the Destiny of America—the new race of one hundred million superb persons—the heir-ship of the world—deific faiths—sacerdotal bards—kosmic savans—resplendent literats—original festivals—native scorn of gain—athletic Democracy. The fulfilment of his prophecies—the eighty million superb persons—American freedom, justice, religion, morals, art, poetry, and athletics.

A debate followed in which Sydney Olivier, W.A. Colegate, E. R. Pease, H. W. Macrost, Miss Foster, Bernard Cole, G. Turley & the chairman took part.

Frederick Helen

9.2.06

Members meeting at Essex Hall on Friday
9th Feb. 7 1906. —

1. Frederick Whelen was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. H. G. Wells read his paper on

Paper on "Faults of the Fabian," to be read by H. G. WELLS.

SYLLABUS.—The present time is one particularly demanding a revival of socialistic propaganda. Propaganda among the middle, professional and student classes especially neglected now. This is one of the chief functions the Fabian Society might and should perform. At present it neglects this duty. In order to perform it properly certain faults of the Society have first to be remedied. These are its smallness, due to its unenterprising direction, its consequent poverty and chronic insolvency, its insufficient staff, its clumsy methods of procedure, its levity, and its aimless dissipation of such energy as it has. To remedy these defects and organize its proper work in the world, a new start is required. Possible features of such a new beginning, possibility of a vigorous personal propaganda, of a more systematic use of tracts, of raising funds for a special effort, of permanently and progressively enlarging the staff. Necessity of new offices and new methods. Suggestion of a committee to consider and prepare a plan of reconstruction on these lines. The alternative to reconstruction is a daughter society.

The lecturer will then move:—

- (1) "That the Executive be instructed to appoint a committee (consisting of members and non-members of the Executive) to consider what measures should be taken to increase the scope, influence, income and activity of the Society."
- (2) "That in view of the committee above named, there shall be added to the end of Rule 3: 'But notwithstanding anything preceding, the Annual General Meeting in the year 1906 shall not be held until at least a fortnight after the committee of enquiry to be appointed by the Executive in February, 1906, has presented and circulated its report, and the election of the Executive shall not take place until after the Annual General Meeting, the old Executive Committee retaining office until the new one is elected.'"

on which a debate followed,
wherein took part Sidney Webb, & T. B.
Simmons, Rev. C. L. Marson, L. Hudson
Esnest, Aymer Maude, Victor Fisher,
Sydney Olivier, Herbert A. Day,
H. T. Muggerridge, Richard Wentering,

4 Clifford Sharp. -

3. after the lecturers reply the following resolutions were put to the meeting: -

- (1) "That the Executive be instructed to appoint a committee (consisting of members and non-members of the Executive) to consider what measures should be taken to increase the scope, influence, income and activity of the Society."
- (2) "That in view of the committee above named, there shall be added to the end of Rule 3: 'But notwithstanding anything preceding, the Annual General Meeting in the year 1906 shall not be held until at least a fortnight after the committee of enquiry to be appointed by the Executive in February, 1906, has presented and circulated its report, and the election of the Executive shall not take place until after the Annual General Meeting, the old Executive Committee retaining office until the new one is elected.'"

Both were adopted unanimously. -

J. H. Gibson
23/II/1906

~~Members~~ Meeting at Essex Hall
on Friday Feb 23rd - 1906. -

- 1) S. G. Hobson was elected chairman
- 2) The minutes were confirmed
- 3) Mrs Esther Wood gave her
lecture on

RUSKIN By Mrs. ESTHER WOOD.

SYLLABUS.

Ruskin belongs to the eighteenth century—His home life and evangelical training—Continental travels—Turner and *Modern Painters*—The Prophet as Seer—The Theologian as Artist—The Pre-Raphaelite Movement—Ruskin's real message and its value—Ruskin as a Pre-Darwinian Thinker—His Individualist Democracy—The *Seven Lamps of Architecture*—Was Ruskin ever a Socialist?—His social experiments—The Guild of Saint George—The Working Men's College—Ruskin at Oxford—His influence on the Women's Movement wholly reactionary—Causes of Failure and Success.

A discussion followed in which
W. A. Colegate, A. J. Pentz, F. W.
Hayes, Clifford Sharp, Agnes Mauds
& Bernard Shaw took part.
Charlotte F. Shaw.

Meeting at Cliffords Lun on
Friday March 9th 1906

1. Mrs Bernard Shaw was
elected to the chair
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. Mrs Pember Reeves lectured on
Women's Franchise: How to
win it & how to work it,
& a discussion followed in
which W. G. Read, W^m Sanders
Dr. Alice Vickary, A. W. Macrost
W. A. Colegate, & Hon W. P. Reeves,
& Bernard Shaw & others took part.
Stewart & Headlam

C40/71

Meeting at Essex Hall
Friday 23rd March 1906

- 1) The Rev. S. D. Headlam was elected
 chairman
- 2) The Minutes were confirmed
- 3) Bernard Shaw read a paper on

Lecture on DARWIN. By G. BERNARD SHAW.

SYLLABUS.

The Evolutionists before Darwin. Empedocles, Linnæus, Goethe, Erasmus Darwin (Charles Darwin's grandfather), Treviranus, Oken, Schopenhauer, Lamarck, St Hilaire. Functional Adaptation, or the modification of species by Wanting and Trying. How habits are acquired. Heredity, variation, artificial selection.

The Natural-Selectionists before Darwin. Calvin, the Physiocrats, Malthus, Ricardo, Cobden, Buckle and Karl Marx. Marx the last of the Manchester School. Pressure of population on means of subsistence. Struggle for life. Belief in the millennium as a product of unrestrained competition resulting in the Survival of the Fittest. In short, Natural Selection as an economic theory of industry.

Charles Darwin not a philosopher, but a pigeon-fancier and naturalist who applied the Manchester theories to biology. Revelation of the enormous part played in evolution by mere chance. Possibility of the universe having been produced without mind, purpose, or even consciousness. Paley's divine designer shewn to be superfluous. Fatalism. The Abomination of Desolation.

Why Darwin was accepted instead of crucified. The worship of Chance more bearable than the worship of Jehovah. Natural Selection welcomed by Socialists for its proof of the enormous importance of environment. Welcomed by Humanitarians for its establishment of the cousinship of men and animals. Welcomed by stupid people as non-metaphysical and easy to understand.

The Reaction against Darwin. Samuel Butler. Idiotic cruelty and blindness of Darwin's followers. Paralysing influence of Neo-Darwinism and Marxism. Scepticism and Fatalism must be replaced by Courage and Purpose. Socialism can prevail only as a religion.

A debate followed in which H. G. Wells, H. M. Bernard, H. Bland, L. Haden Guest, A. K. Constantine, Dr. Stanton Coit & Sydney Waudé took part.
H. W. Macrosty

C90/72

Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday April 6th 1906.—

1. H. W. Macrosty was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed.
3. Josiah C. Wedgwood M.P. lectured
on

"Collectivism and Sound Finance."

By JOSIAH C. WEDGWOOD, M.P.

SYLLABUS.

Sentimentalism obscures the issue. Collectivism as a Business Proposition.

I.—AS A METHOD OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF BURDENS.—State Education and Maintenance as a Cheap Investment.—Insurance as an Economic Convenience.—The "Eight Hours Day" and the "Right to Work." Popular arguments anti-Collectivist.

II.—CONSTRUCTIVE COLLECTIVISM.—Communal Ownership, not Communal Management, the essential feature.—Taxation the means of transferring Capital to the Community.—Municipal Trading as at present practised in our large towns.—To increase the Power of the Community and decrease that of the Individual, Communal Capital should be amassed by Increasing Assets and Reducing Liabilities.—Financial position of Towns the measure of their Collectivism.—This applies to National equally with Municipal Finance.—Collective Savings induce Cheap Money, lessen the burden on Industry and destroy fictitious personal values.

& a discussion followed in which
Alderman Sanders, Dr. Haden Guest,
Dr. Gilbert Slater, Mayor of Woolwich, Dr.
Lawson Dodd, G. Bernard Shaw,
Cecil Chesterton & Edward R Pease
took part.

Sa. Hobson
27/11/1906

Memorandum Circulated of the
Lectures

C90/75

Town	Assets			Liabilities	Communal Capital.	Owns.	Date 31st March 1903.
	Remunerative	Non-Remunerative	Total				
Liverpool...	8,800,000	13,866,000	22,666,000	11,831,000	10,835,000	W.E.T.B.Land...	Assets at cost & Valuation.
Manchester..	13,723,000	11,868,000	25,591,000	19,323,000	6,269,000	W.G.E.T.Canal(?)	Assets at Valuation.
Birmingham..	11,281,000	4,814,000	16,095,000	13,840,000	2,255,000	W.G.E.B.....	Assets at Cost.
Leeds.....	6,566,000	5,522,000	12,088,000	9,427,000	2,661,000	W.G.E.T.....	Cost.
Bristol.....	4,398,000	3,037,000	7,435,000	4,766,000	2,667,000	E.Harbour.....	Cost and Valuation.
Sheffield...	5,192,000	2,957,000	8,149,000	7,461,000	688,000	W.E.T.B.....	Cost less depreciation.
Bradford....	5,827,000	3,617,000	9,444,000	6,723,000	2,721,000	W.G.E.T.....	Cost and value of gifts.
Newcastle...	1,333,000	2,324,000	3,657,000	2,156,000	1,501,000	T.Land.....	Cost and Valuation.
Hull.....	1,369,000	2,652,000	4,021,000	2,343,000	1,678,000	W.G.E.T.B.Land.	Cost and Valuation.
Nottingham..	5,132,000	2,314,000	7,446,000	5,596,000	1,850,000	W.G.E.T.Land...	Valuation.
Leicester...	2,729,000	1,829,000	4,558,000	3,822,000	736,000	W.G.E.T.B.....	Cost.

Manchester, the only Town which values its property regularly, has paid off £1,476,000 of its Liabilities for its Gas Installation, and £1,430,000 of its Liabilities for its water service by 31/III/1905.

Assets			Liabilities	Communal Capital.	Owns.	Date 31st March 1903.
Remunerative	Non- Remunerative	Total				
8,800,000	13,866,000	22,666,000	11,831,000	10,835,000	W.E.T.B.Land...	Assets at cost & Valuation.
13,723,000	11,868,000	25,591,000	19,323,000	6,269,000	W.G.E.T.Canal(?)	Assets at Valuation.
11,281,000	4,814,000	16,095,000	13,840,000	2,255,000	W.G.E.P.....	Assets at Cost.
6,566,000	5,522,000	12,088,000	9,427,000	2,661,000	W.G.E.T.....	Cost.
4,398,000	3,037,000	7,435,000	4,765,000	2,667,000	E.Harbour.....	Cost and Valuation.
5,192,000	2,957,000	8,149,000	7,461,000	688,000	W.E.T.B.....	Cost less depreciation.
5,827,000	3,617,000	9,444,000	6,723,000	2,721,000	W.G.E.T.....	Cost and value of gifts.
1,333,000	2,324,000	3,657,000	2,156,000	1,501,000	T.Land.....	Cost and Valuation.
1,369,000	2,652,000	4,021,000	2,343,000	1,678,000	W.G.E.T.B.Land.	Cost and Valuation.
5,132,000	2,314,000	7,446,000	5,596,000	1,850,000	W.G.E.T.Land...	Valuation.
2,729,000	1,829,000	4,558,000	3,822,000	736,000	W.G.E.T.B.....	Cost.

Chester, the only Town which values its property regularly, has paid off £1,476,000 of its Liabilities for its Gas Installation, and £1,430,000 of its Liabilities for its water service by 31/III/1905.

Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday April 27th 1906. -

1. S. G. Hobson was elected chairman
2. The minutes were read & confirmed
3. Hubert Bland moved urgency ~~with~~
for a resolution on the French
elections which was adopted nem con
4. Robert Dell Kereupon moved :-
That this meeting desires to express
its sympathy with the French
Socialists in their electoral contest
& to wish them all success at the
Polls on May 6. - Further that
a copy of this resolution be sent
to mm. Jaurès & Briand. -
These resolutions were then
agreed to nem con. -

Oct 29

5. The Rev. Conrad Noel than lecturer

"TENNYSON." By the Rev. CONRAD NOEL.

SYLLABUS.

Public School and University education.—A representative poet in the making.—His early work.—The balloonist point of view.—Did he lack genius?—Friendship and similarity with G. F. Watts.—No element of surprise in their work.—Pioneers of the Won Cause.—Tennyson and the gallant gay domestic.—The sorrows of a gentleman.—Malory for schoolgirls.—The emancipation of women.—Narrative and pictorial poetry.—Quality of the poet's patriotism.—Reverent agnosticism.—His lack of faith.—Love lyrics and poems of action.—His egoism.—Was Tennyson a great poet?

A debate followed in which
Albert Blaud, Rev. S. D. Headlam,
Rendall Smith, Mr. Selker Wood,
Mr. Gilbert Chesterton, Robert
Dell & Edgar Jepson took part.

H. J. Muggers

11/6/06.

Members Meeting at Essex Hall
on Friday May 11th -

1. H. T. Mugggeridge was elected Chairman
2. The Secretary announced the L. L. P. meeting at Queens Hall & that tickets could be obtained at the book-stall.
3. On the motion of the Secretary Messrs Linsbeer & Tinkling were appointed auditors for the year concluded.
4. On the motion of Hubert Bland the following new rule was considered:-

Rule 15. Any person may become an Associate by signing a statement that he is in general sympathy with and desirous of promoting the work of the Society.

Associates must pay an annual subscription of at least 10s., and are entitled to attend all the meetings of the Society and to receive all its ordinary publications. But they are not entitled to vote at meetings of the Society or to take any other part in the management of its affairs.

- (5) J. Theodore Harris moved an amendment & after some discussion it was decided to put it in the form of the addition to par. 2 line 2 of the words "not

expressly confined to members"

1907/75

In this form the amendment was carried,
& the ~~sub~~ new rule, thus amended
was agreed to nem. con. -

On the motion of the Secy the proposal
to issue as a penny tract a list of
Books published since the issue of
the last edition of "What to Read" was
agreed to nem. con. -

Hubert Bland moved the adoption
of the proposed tract Socialism &
The Labour Party. -

L. Haden Guest moved that the tract
be referred back, because in his
opinion it was too weak. Sydney Olivier
seconded. F. W. Hayes & Herbert a Day
supported because they considered
it too extreme. Bernard Shaw supported
the original motion. Mr. Townshend,

Kirkman Gray & others spoke, & the
~~an~~ amendment was put.

10. Some uncertainty as to the exact vote
arose, but the chairman announced
that the amendment was lost by a
minimum of 6 votes, 41 - 35. —

11. A long discussion then followed on
the tract, numerous amendments
being moved by Dr. Guest & others. The
proposal to alter the title to
Socialism & Labour Policy was
agreed to; an amendment of Robert
Dell embodying approval of Secular
Education was opposed by the promoters,
but was carried by ~~20~~ 24 votes to 22. —
Other amendments were either accepted
or on a division, rejected, or withdrawn,
& ultimately the tract was passed
for publication. —

Wm Sanders
May 25th 1906

Ced 76

Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday 25th Mar 1906.

1. W^m Sanders was elected chairman
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Dr. M. D. Eder read a paper on

"THE COST OF DEATH." By Dr. M. D. EDER.

SYLLABUS.

Premature deaths a dead loss.—How disease is spread (Whitehaven).—Some diseases exterminated.—Unpreventible diseases: cancer, insanity.—Heredity and Metaphysis.—Diseases unpreventible by present legislation: gout, appendicitis.—List and number of deaths from preventible diseases, 1st to 55th year.—Money-value of human beings dependent on age.—Childhood: 1st to 14th year.—Apprenticeship: 15th to 25th year.—Man's working period: 25th to 55th year.—State loss when married women become "hands."—Lives valueless after 55.—Sickness registration.—Loss by premature death: (a) children, maintenance cost, (b) adults, their surplus wealth.—Maintenance cost at different ages.—Surplus wealth per worker.—Why not more?—Total money loss from premature deaths.—Sir John Simon, 1858.—Remedy suggested by Royal College of Physicians (1903).

A discussion followed in which Dr. Lawson Dodd, Dr. Hadenquest & H. W. Macrost & the Chairman took part.

H. D. Pearson

29/6/06

~~Meeting~~ Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday 29th June 1906. —

1. H. D. Pearsall was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were read & confirmed
3. A vote of Urgency having been unanimously adopted Cecil Chesterton moved

"That this meeting of the Fabian Society in view of
"the persistent violation of justice and humanity by
"the Government of Russia protests against the British
"Fleet paying a complimentary visit to that Government
"in face of the objections of the non-official Russian
"press."

Mr. Bland seconded & the resolution
was carried unanimously & ordered
to be sent to the Press & the Prime
Minister. —

- 4 S. K. Ratcliffe then lectured
on

"Progress and Reaction in India." By S. K. RATCLIFFE
(Editor of *The Statesman*, Calcutta).

SYLLABUS.

Characteristics of the "New India"—The British attitude: its implications and results—Signs of Change—Education and the Public Service—The Social Movement and *Swadeshi*—The Return to the Past—Nationalism—The Immediate Problem.

+ a debate followed in which
the Hon G. K. Gokhale C.I.E., S. G. Hobson
Mr. C. W. Memmin, Mr. Cotton, Capt.
St. John, & the chairman took part.

S. K. Ratcliffe

Chair, 12 Oct 1906

Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday Oct 12th 1906. —

1. The chair was taken by Sydney Olivier C. M. G.
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. H. G. Wells lectured on

"Socialism and the Middle Classes." (Introductory lecture.)

By H. G. WELLS.

SYLLABUS.—Distinction between Socialism and the Socialist movement. Organized Socialist movements have so far presented only partial aspects of Socialism. Limited nature of the working-class conception of Socialism as a change merely in the relation of employer and employed. Contrast of this with the administrative conception of Socialism as expounded by the typical Fabian. The creative aspect of Socialism neglected. Appeal of this aspect to the constructive classes—to doctors, engineers, and the like. Socialism and domestic discontents. Socialism and the Middle Class Family.

A & a debate followed in which Wm Sanders, Edgar Jepson, Bernard Shaw, Cecil Chesterton, Hubert Bland, Haden Guest Mr Sidney Webb & Mr Hubert Bland took part.

H. W. Mackenzie

Daily News Oct. 13. THE

FAMILY AND THE STATE.

MR. H. G. WELLS ON SOCIALISM.

An unusually large attendance at a meeting of the Fabian Society crowded Essex Hall last night, attracted by the delivery of a lecture on the subject of "Socialism and the Middle Classes," by Mr. H. G. Wells. The chair was taken by Mr. Sydney Olivier.

Mr. Wells, who was warmly welcomed, defined Socialism as a large and slowly-elaborated conception of an organized State and a moral culture, intended to replace our present chaotic way of living. He was himself a Socialist, and Socialism was the form and substance of his ideal life. Socialists had the light, and knew what they were for, and the light that glimmered so dimly through them must in the end prevail. Socialism was still incomplete, still merely sketchily indicative of a new life for the world; but the Socialist movement, as one found it, was too often no more than a hasty attempt to secure certain economic changes.

Some Socialists quarrelled with the Liberal Party because it did not go far enough, did not embody a Socialism that was uncompromising and complete, had not definitely cut itself off from old traditions and discredited formulae. But such persons were blind to the fact that there was at present no Socialism that was uncompromising and complete. To many Socialists the relation of the capitalist to the employed overshadowed all else. All the wide world of changes that would follow upon Socialism they did not seem to comprehend. It did not occur to them that Socialism had anything to say about the economic basis of the family, about marriage, about the rights of the parent; it did not occur to them that there would need to be anything else concerning conduct than Socialism and the natural goodness of man.

The common presentation of Socialism would, said Mr. Wells, excite terror in the mind of a middle-class man, only that he regarded it as an impossibility. Many ardent Socialists did not understand what Socialism was; they were shocked at what they saw, but they were the "district visitors" of Socialism, and did not realise that it demanded any change in themselves or in their way of living. They chiefly

...the had conditions of the lower classes,

(90/70)

Daily Chronicle 13 Oct

FABIANS AND THE PRESS.

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Mr. Wells could not be heard very well, except for a few purple patches of presumably brilliant epigram. The secretary of the Fabian Society handed this note to the representative of "The Daily Chronicle":—

"The article is sold to a magazine. That is why Mr. Wells objects to a report."

As a comment on Socialism or Fabianism this seems interesting. We are able to oblige Mr. Wells, and to say that the society, with the aid of Mr. George Bernard Shaw, Mr. Edgar Jepron, and others, spent an amusing hour afterwards in discussing irrelevant issues in the best of good-humour.

would be no gov.

THE ARTIST A NATURAL SOCIALIST.

While materialistic ideas retarded the advance of Socialism among the middle classes, Mr. Wells maintained that there must be a natural sympathy with it on the part of those who followed creative professions, and hence he claimed the artist as by nature a Socialist. The better sort of literary work, and every occupation that involved the free use of thought, must bring the mind more to recognise our present incoherence and waste. So with the engineer, the architect, the mechanical inventor, the industrial organizer, and every sort of maker. The time was ripe for a more vigorous insistence on the creative aspect of Socialism. At the same time Socialists must disentangle themselves from Anarchist elements in the movement that were hostile to order and science and education—from the ideas of Rousseau and Tolstoy.

FAMILY RELATIONS.

Coming to the question of the family, Mr. Wells traced the present relations of the head of a house to his wife and children to a time when he was the owner of both. Much of this conception of the family still prevailed. Every intelligent woman knew that under all the civility that surrounded her she was potential property. She might succeed in establishing a reciprocal property in man; but, generally, she was either isolated or owned. Socialism repudiated this ownership, and involved the economic independence of woman; it also intervened between the children and the parents. The family would be the State family, and the old kind of family of the private individual must vanish before it, like private waterworks and other private enterprises. He believed that greater outspokenness would have helped the cause of Socialism more, and would have saved it from such a charge as that it meant free love. It meant nothing of the sort, and was quite compatible with a marriage contract of a greater stringency than that required to-day. Socialism was much concerned with the children, who were the State of the future, and would pay the mother for each member of a healthy, legitimate family, well brought up. It would put an end to the present monstrous state of things, in which women bore and reared children in, so to speak, their spare time, earning their living in some mechanical occupation.

Mr. Wells was questioned by his audience, chiefly upon the subject of a Socialistic control of the family and upon the amount of freedom that would be left to the individual. He did not enter into details, remarking, in answer to one questioner, that he must leave something for posterity to settle; but he contended that a Socialistic State would in no sense be a grinding tyranny, and that the individual would have a large freedom. He admitted, however, that the majority would exercise its rights.

Mr. George Bernard Shaw, taking part in the discussion that followed, opposed the disentangling of Socialism from this or that body—a policy that must end in the individual being left by himself. He also contended that the artist, or any person who had the control of his own work, was not a ready-made Socialist, but was a confirmed Individualist and Anarchist.

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Meeting at Essex Hall

26 Oct. 1906. —

1. The Chair was taken by H. W. Macrosty.
2. The Minutes were confirmed.
3. Lieut. Col. Sir Donald Robertson K.C.S.I. read his paper on

"Native States and some phases of our Indian Policy."

By Sir DONALD ROBERTSON, K.C.S.I.

(Late Resident at Gwalior and Mysore, etc.)

SYLLABUS.—An official view of Indian affairs.—The Political Department and its manner of working.—Various types of Chiefs and their governments.—Our attitude towards Native States.—The ball of progress rolling.—Colleges for the education of Native Chiefs.—A Representative Assembly in the South.—Popular representation impossible.—Local self-government.—Relative popularity of the British Indian and Native States systems.—The growth of opinion in Native States.—Troops provided by Chiefs for Imperial defence.—The Swadeshi movement and the problem of more employment for Natives.—The light which the administration of Native States throws upon this question.—Criticisms levelled against the Famine Policy of the Government of India.—Why the methods of our Government should appeal to Fabians.—Mr. Morley's sentiments.

A debate followed in which Sydney Oliver, G. B. Shaw, A. K. Constantine & Mr. Morison took part.

J. R. Taylor.

Meeting at Essex Hall on Friday 9th
November 1906 at 8pm.

1. The chair was taken by G. R. S. Taylor
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Sydney Olivier moved a vote of urgency, which was carried with only a few dissentients, & hereupon moved that this meeting congratulate the Womens Social & Political Union & in particular those of its members now imprisoned in Holloway Gaol on the brilliant success of the methods they have adopted for engaging attention & support for the claims of women to citizenship. The resolution was seconded without further discussion & carried by a very large majority. -
4. S. G. Holson then gave his lecture on

4 (cont^d)

"SOCIALISM AND THE SMALL TRADER."

By S. G. HOBSON.

SYLLABUS.—Delicate social distinctions in commerce.—An inadequate *excursus* into the psychology of the lower middle-classes.—The economic position of (a) the small manufacturer; (b) the small wholesale merchant; (c) the retailer.—The future of the middleman: the factor of credit.—The development of public employment as it affects the small trader.—Collectivism in distribution.—The need for proof of benefit and security under Socialism.

A discussion followed
in which Wm. Sanders,
Montague Fortham, A. W.
Macrosty, J. A. Marriott,
Rev. S. D. Headlam, R. C. K.
Ensor, & others took part.

St. Andrew's.

Cao/oo

Meeting at Essex Hall on Friday
23rd November 1906.

- (1) Tea Chair was taken by Hubert Bland.
- (2) The Minutes were read, and an amendment was made in the wording of the resolution moved by Sydney Olivier on his statement that the resolution he read to the meeting was different from that of which he had given written notice to the Secretary. The minutes so amended were adopted.
- (3) G. Bernard Shaw then lectured on

"SOCIALISM AND THE ARTISTIC PROFESSIONS."
By G. BERNARD SHAW.

SYLLABUS.—The Fine Arts as the Middle Class alternative to Commerce and the formal Professions. Why all classes have Middle Class ideas. The human mind largely an artistic product. Public Opinion essentially melodramatic. Art and Religion. The Bible, Shakespear, and Handel. Architecture, Painting, and Religion.

The economics of Fine Art. Production. Performance or Multiplication. Consumption. The institution of property applied to Art. Its comparatively Socialistic character. Copyright. The turnstile. Effect of the distribution of purchasing power on demand in Art. Morbid rents of ability. Probable effect of Socialism.

and a debate followed in which Ald. Sanders, H. T. Muggersidge, Haden Guest, S. D. Shallard & W. H. Dixon took part.

H. B. Bland

Meeting strictly confined to members
at Essex Hall on Friday Dec. 7. 1906
at 7.30 pm. —

1. H. B. Holding was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Secretary expressed regret at the omission from Fabian News of the resolution on the policy of the Women's Social & Political Union passed on Nov. 9th. —
4. The Secy moved on behalf of the Exec. that leave be given to print as a "Guide to Socialist Literature" prepared by the Fabian Nursery. — The resolution was agreed to.
5. Bernard Shaw on behalf of the Exec. moved the first resolution printed in the Report issued to members viz^t—

That the report of the Executive Committee be received and added to the publications of the Society for the use of members without prejudice to the decisions of this meeting on the special points raised by subsequent resolutions. - W. Cabmur moved that the Report be considered page by page, but his resolution was not seconded. -

The resolution was then adopted nem con.

- (b) Bernard Shaw then formally moved without speech Resolution II a, viz: That this meeting instruct the Executive Committee to submit to the next annual meeting of the Society, such alterations of the rules as will give effect to the following reforms
- (a) The increase of the number of the Executive from fifteen to 21. -

H. G. Wells then moved ~~on~~ the amendment of which he had given notice in Fabian News, with three verbal alterations, making it read:

To omit all the words of ~~the~~ Resolution II
after That his meeting & substitute
approves the spirit & purpose of the
Report of the Committee of Enquiry
and desires the outgoing Executive
Committee to make the earliest possible
arrangements for the election of a new
Executive to give effect to that report.
W. a. Colegate seconded - -

7. a debate followed in which Cecil
Chesterton spoke against the amendment,
L. Haden Guest for it, Sidney Webb
against it, Sydney Olivier for it, Wm
Sanders against it, Aylmer Maude
for it, & Walter Baker against.

8. In the course of the debate it was decided
that a division could not be taken
that night, & the adjournment of
the discussion was moved & J. T. Harris.

W. H. D. H. H. H.

C40182

Members Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday Dec. 14th 1906 at 7.30 pm.

1. H. B. Holding was voted to the chair.
2. The Minutes were confirmed, ~~with an~~ after explanation of the Secretary.
3. The Secretary read a letter of apology from the Daily News for their printing extracts from a document marked private.
4. Montague Fordham moved urgency to consider a resolution on the general situation in relation to the Report. A vote was taken, ~~at~~ the chairman declared that urgency was not carried.
5. J. Theodore Harris resumed the debate adjourned at the last meeting & spoke against the amendment. The Rev. S. D. Headlam followed on the

same side. Mrs. Fember Reeves & Mrs. R. C. Phillimore advocated a compromise, or the withdrawal of the ~~resolution~~ Hubert amendment - Hubert Bland opposed it, H. T. Muggersidge supported it: Clifford Sharp opposed & S. G. Hobson opposed.
~~The motion~~

6. The Chairman then took the sense of the meeting, & it was agreed that Bernard Shaw be called on to reply for the Executive Committee at 9 o'clock. The Chairman asked for supporters of the amendment to continue the debate, & Alderman Mitchell L.C.C., Montague Fordham & Mrs. Townshend spoke.

7. G. Bernard Shaw then replied on ~~his~~ the debate. He assured the members that the older members of the Executive Com^o would not ^{withdrawing} ~~withdraw~~ ~~at~~ withdraw, & in response to his appeal H. G. Wells gave the same pledge.

8. At the conclusion of Mr Shaw's speech,
Mr Wells by consent withdrew his
amendment, & on the motion of Mrs
Pember Reeves the discussion was
adjourned to the next meeting
Jan 7 11th 1907. -

H B Holding

(70/89)

Meeting at Essex Hall on Friday
11th Jan. 7 1907.

1. H. Bond Holding was elected chairman
2. The Minutes were read & confirmed
3. The Secy moved on behalf of the Exec. that a tract entitled Home work & Sweating, prepared by Miss B. L. Hutchins to replace Tract 50, now out of print & out of date, be approved for publication with her name. - The motion was carried nem con. -
4. Mrs Pember Reeves then said that she assumed ^{that} precedence for her motion was conceded, & in the absence of objection, she moved
That this meeting instructs the Executive Com^{ee} to submit to the next annual meeting of the Society an addition to the Basis declaring that one of the objects

THE FABIAN SOCIETY.

AGENDA for Business Meeting, January 11th, 1907.

THE following will be taken at the business meetings on Jan. 11th and 18th, and (if necessary) Feb. 1st:—

(1) By the Executive Committee: That the publication of a Tract entitled "Home-work and Sweating," by Miss B. L. Hutchins, and bearing her name, be authorized.

(2) Adjourned debate on Resolution II. (A) moved on behalf of the Executive Committee:—

RESOLUTION II.

That this meeting instructs the Executive Committee to submit to the next Annual Meeting of the Society such alterations of the Rules as will give effect to the following reforms:—

A. The increase of the number of the Executive from fifteen to twenty-one.

Adjournment moved by Mrs. PEMBER REEVES, for the purpose of proposing precedence for the following resolution.

By Mrs. PEMBER REEVES.—That the Executive Committee be instructed to prepare for the Annual Meeting an addition to the Basis declaring that one of the objects of the Society is to establish the equal citizenship of men and women.

Amendment by Mrs. O'BRIEN HARRIS.—The Fabian Society recognizes so fully the claims of women to the full rights of citizenship that it still considers unnecessary the specific mention of women in its Basis, believing that this would not only be detrimental to the work of the Fabian Society but to the best interests of the cause of women.

Other Amendments to Resolution II.

By W. CATMUR.—That this meeting desires that the Society shall have proper opportunity of considering and discussing the Reports of both Committees.

By Miss BELL and Miss HUTCHINS.—To add: ten of whom shall retire one year, eleven the next year; no member to serve more than two years consecutively or to be eligible for re-election until the expiry of at least one year subsequent to his retirement.

By W. TEIGNMOUTH SHORE.—That no more than two-thirds (*i.e.* fourteen) of the Executive can be elected at the end of a year's service.

Executive Committee Resolutions (II). (continued).

B. The appointment by the Executive Committee of three standing sub-committees, to deal respectively with:—Propaganda and Membership, Publishing, and General Purposes: each sub-committee to consist of seven members of the Executive Committee.

Amendment after Resolution II. B.

By WALTER BAKER.—

(1). To insert the following clause: C. The appointment of a committee of seven members to be responsible for the receipt and acknowledgement of all subscriptions sent to the Society.

(2). To add: D. A monthly business meeting of London members. The order of business to be: i. Minutes; ii. Report of Executive, correspondence and questions; iii. Reports of Finance Committee, and of all committees other than the sub-committees of the Executive; iv. General business.

(3). E. All committees, other than the three sub-committees of the Executive, and all delegates from the Society shall be appointed by a duly convened meeting of members.

(4). F. It shall not be competent for any person, other than a member of the Executive, to serve concurrently on more than one committee.

(5) That clause C. be renamed G.

Executive Resolutions (continued).

C. That all applicants for membership, unless the Executive Committee, by a simple majority vote, shall decide otherwise, shall be admitted upon signing the Basis and paying a subscription without further formalities.

RESOLUTION III.

That as soon as possible after the next Executive election, the new Executive shall appoint a special committee to inquire into and report upon the best means of promoting local Socialist societies of the Fabian type, with the object of increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament as a party co-operating as far as possible with the Labor Party, whilst remaining independent of that and all other parties.

Amendment to Resolution III.

By Dr. STANTON COIT.—To omit all the words after "of" (line 3) and substitute: bringing the Fabian Society up to date and increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament.

Other Resolutions.

By F. W. HAYES and H. G. BENTLEY.—That the meeting instructs the Executive to propose to the forthcoming Annual Meeting that the Basis be altered by omitting the words commencing "without compensation" and ending "reward of labor," also by substituting for the word "necessarily" the word "gradually."

By MONTAGUE FORDHAM.—That the Executive Committee be desired in the paragraphs which it is the custom to insert in the FABIAN NEWS at the time of an Executive election, to allow every candidate (including members standing for re-election) to state his or her qualifications and to express his or her views on Socialism and the present situation in a paragraph not exceeding 120 words in all, and that members be asked to refrain from issuing any other form of election addresses.

By W. TEIGNMOUTH SHORE.—That an editor be appointed for FABIAN NEWS, which shall be brightened and made more live.

Ca0/05

40/28

of the Society is to establish the equal citizenship
of men & women. - Mrs Sidney Webb seconded.

Mrs O'Brien Harris moved the following amendment:-
To substitute That the Fabian Society recognises as
fully the claims of women to the full rights
of citizenship. That it still considers unnecessary
the specific mention of women in the Basis,
believing that this would be not only detrimental
to the work of the Fabian Society, but to the
best interests of the cause of women.
Miss Muir seconded. -

A debate on the amendment followed:
Miss Brooke (oppt) ^{oppt} Sidney Herbert (for) T. B.
Simmons (oppt) G. E. Stratton (oppt), Mrs
Townshend (against both resolution & amendment)
Aylmer Maude (oppt) Miss Muir (oppt) Rev.
C. F. Vite (for) C. R. Chesterton (oppt) Sydney
Oliver (oppt) P. Varnals (for) G. R. S. Taylor
(oppt) S. D. Shallard (oppt) E. Jepson (oppt)
Mrs. Bruton, J. T. Harris (for) Dr. Clark (oppt)
G. R. Odell (oppt) G. B. Shaw oppt. -

7. The amendment was then put, & on a show of hands the chairman declared it lost by a large majority.
8. J. W. Wilkinson then moved a second amendment, which would make Mrs Reeves resolution read
to establish the full citizenship of all adults.
C. E. Chesterton seconded.
9. A debate followed in which speeches were made by Sidney Webb, & Mrs Reeves against the amendment & J. W. Macrosty & Russell Scott also against it.
10. The amendment was then put & the chairman declared it lost.
11. The resolution as proposed by Mrs Reeves was next put, & declared to be carried by a large majority.

12.

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2. a resolution on the paper in the name of Mr W. Cabner proposing to consider the reports in detail was with his consent struck out of the chairman. -

3. The chairman called on Miss Bell to move ~~a resolution~~ an amendment ~~in~~ put-down in her name. Miss Bell stated on behalf of herself & Miss Hutchins that they desired to withdraw it. On objection being made the chairman submitted the question of withdrawal to the meeting, & declared that leave to withdraw was given.

4. The chairman then called on W. Teignmouth Shore who moved a ~~words~~ resolution relative to the ~~the~~ re-election of retiring members of the Executive. At the conclusion of his speech Sydney Orrer submitted as a point of order that this was an addition to the resolution of the Executive Com^{ee}, that the number

of the Executive Com^{ee} be increased to
from 15 to 21, & that this addition could
not be discussed until the resolution
~~was~~ had been dealt with.

15. The chairman after a brief discussion
admitted the point of order. It was
agreed that Mr Shore's addition should
be re-considered, & that the debate
on the Executive resolution moved
by Bernard Shaw, should be resumed
by Sydney Olivier at the adjourned
meeting on Jan^y 18th -
16. The meeting then adjourned.

H.B. Widdings

(90/88)

Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday Jan 18th at 8pm.

1. H. B. Holding was elected chairman
2. The minutes with a minor amendment, were confirmed. —
3. Bernard Shaw briefly introduced the resolution moved by him on Dec 8th :-

That this meeting instructs the Executive Committee to submit to the next Annual Meeting of the Society such alterations of the Rules as will give effect to the following reforms:—

A. The increase of the number of the Executive from fifteen to twenty-one.

4. Sydney Olivier opposed & Sidner Webb supported the resolution, & on a division it was adopted with about half a dozen dissentients.
5. W. Teignmouth Shore moved & Sydney Olivier seconded the following addition:—

By W. TEIGNMOUTH SHORE.—To add the words: and that no more than two-thirds of a retiring Executive Committee can be re-elected at the end of a year's service.

6. After a debate in which H.W. Macrost
& W. Sanders oppose, & R.C.V. Enser
& Stanley Udale supported the addition
a vote was taken ~~for~~ & the addition
was declared defeated. -

7. Bernard Shaw then moved

Executive Committee Resolutions (II.) (continued).

B. The appointment by the Executive Committee of three standing sub-committees, to deal respectively with:—Propaganda and Membership, Publishing, and General Purposes; each sub-committee to consist of seven members of the Executive Committee.

8. L. Haden Guest moved the following amendment:—Bernard Shaw said the Executive had no objection to accepting his amendment, & the resolution so amended was agreed to.

9. Walter Baker then the following new clause: which was seconded ~~and~~

~~was~~ (1). To insert the following clause: C. The appointment of a committee of seven members to be responsible for the receipt and acknowledgement of all subscriptions sent to the Society.

On being put, only one voted for it.

By L. HADEN GUEST.—To omit all words after "Purposes" and substitute: "The number of these committees to be decided by the new Executive."

12

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10 Walter Baker then moved his second clause, which was seconded:-

(2). To add: D. A monthly business meeting of London members. The order of business to be: i. Minutes; ii. Report of Executive, correspondence and questions; iii. Reports of Finance Committee, and of all committees other than the sub-committees of the Executive; iv. General business.

11. Bernard Shaw said that the Exec. approved the proposal to the extent of 4 meetings a year at which the business of the Society should be discussed. Sidney Webb & S. G. Hobson also spoke, & Mr Baker's consent withdrew his resolution.

12 Subsequently Mr Baker moved resolutions 3 & 4 as follows:

(3). E. All committees, other than the three sub-committees of the Executive, and all delegates from the Society shall be appointed by a duly convened meeting of members.

(4). F. It shall not be competent for any person, other than a member of the Executive, to serve concurrently on more than one committee.

The former was lost on a vote & the latter was withdrawn. —

13. Bernard Shaw then moved Resolution II C. —

~~1400 Theodore Galton~~

Executive Resolutions (continued).

C. That all applicants for membership, unless the Executive Committee, by a simple majority vote, shall decide otherwise, shall be admitted upon signing the Basis and paying a subscription without further formalities.

~~14~~

14 F. W. Galton moved an amendment inserting proposers + seconders & altering "simple majority" to the requirement of a $2/3$ ds majority for election. Theodore Harris seconded, & after a discussion the amendment was put & declared lost by a small majority.

15. Mr. O'Brien Harris + Mr. Bland moved & seconded a further amendment to require ~~the members to find~~ ~~prop~~ candidates to find proposers & seconders. On a division the amendment obtained only 8 supporters & was lost.

16. The Executive Resolution was then put & agreed to.

17. J. McVullopp then ~~to propose~~ obtained permission of the chairman to move that the consideration of Resolution III on Political Policy, & all amendments relating thereto be deferred until after the London County Council Election.

18. After a somewhat discursive debate in which Sidney Webb, Sydney Olivier, R. C. K. Ineson, S. D. Shallard, A. W. Macroft, Hubert Blend, Spencer, & Bernard Shaw took part, a division was taken, & the chairman declared the resolution lost, the figures being approximately 66 for the resolution & 70 against.

the debate

19. The meeting then adjourned to Friday February 12th -

H. H. Holding

17/2/07

Please bring this as an Admission Ticket.

THE FABIAN SOCIETY.

AGENDA for Business Meeting, January 18th, 1907, at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, at 8 p.m. (Doors open at 7.40).

THE following will be taken at the business meetings on Jan. 18th, and (if necessary) Feb. 1st:—

(2) Adjourned debate on Resolution II. (A) moved on behalf of the Executive Committee:—

RESOLUTION II.

That this meeting instructs the Executive Committee to submit to the next Annual Meeting of the Society such alterations of the Rules as will give effect to the following reforms:—

A. The increase of the number of the Executive from fifteen to twenty-one.

By W. TEIGNMOUTH SHORE.—To add the words: and that no more than two-thirds of a retiring Executive Committee can be re-elected at the end of a year's service.

Executive Committee Resolutions (II.) (continued).

B. The appointment by the Executive Committee of three standing sub-committees, to deal respectively with:—Propaganda and Membership, Publishing, and General Purposes: each sub-committee to consist of seven members of the Executive Committee.

By L. HADEN GUEST.—To omit all words after "Purposes" and substitute: The number of these committees to be decided by the new Executive.

Amendment after Resolution II. B.

By WALTER BAKER.—

(1). To insert the following clause: C. The appointment of a committee of seven members to be responsible for the receipt and acknowledgement of all subscriptions sent to the Society.

(2). To add: D. A monthly business meeting of London members. The order of business to be: i. Minutes; ii. Report of Executive, correspondence and questions; iii. Reports of Finance Committee, and of all committees other than the sub-committees of the Executive; iv. General business.

(3). E. All committees, other than the three sub-committees of the Executive, and all delegates from the Society shall be appointed by a duly convened meeting of members.

(4). F. It shall not be competent for any person, other than a member of the Executive, to serve concurrently on more than one committee.

(5) That clause C. be renamed G.

Executive Resolutions (continued).

C. That all applicants for membership, unless the Executive Committee, by a simple majority vote, shall decide otherwise, shall be admitted upon signing the Basis and paying a subscription with-out further formalities.

RESOLUTION III.

That as soon as possible after the next Executive election, the new Executive shall appoint a special committee to inquire into and report upon the best means of promoting local Socialist societies of the Fabian type, with the object of increasing the Socialist representation in

Parliament as a party co-operating as far as possible with the Labor Party, whilst remaining independent of that and all other parties.

Amendments to Resolution III.

By DR. STANTON COIT.—To omit all the words after "of" (line 3) and substitute: increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament.

By R. C. K. ENSOR.—To omit all words after "That" and substitute: the Fabian Society is not a political party, but a society for the promotion of British Socialism, and should neither run political candidates independently of the existing Socialist parties, nor foster any new political organizations to run such candidates.

By R. C. K. ENSOR.—

(a) That for the purposes of all local and Parliamentary elections the Fabian Society give its collective support, and urge its members to give their individual support, to the Independent Labor Party (I. L. P.).

(b) That to render such collective support of practical value, the General Purposes Committee of the Fabian Society communicate with the National Administrative Council of the I. L. P. in advance of every general election or by-election for Parliament and of every annual or triennial election for local governing bodies, with a view to increasing and improving the supply of (1) literature, (2) speakers, (3) canvassers and workers.

By S. D. SHALLARD and G. R. S. TAYLOR.—To omit all words after "That" and substitute: this meeting accepts the political proposals of the Special Committee's Report as embodied in paragraphs 35 and 36.

Other Resolutions.

By F. W. HAYES and H. G. BENTLEY.—That the meeting instructs the Executive to propose to the forthcoming Annual Meeting that the Basis be altered by omitting the words commencing "without compensation" and ending "reward of labor," also by substituting for the word "necessarily" the word "gradually."

By MONTAGUE FORDHAM.—That the Executive Committee be desired in the paragraphs which it is the custom to insert in the FABIAN NEWS at the time of an Executive election, to allow every candidate (including members standing for re-election) to state his or her qualifications and to express his or her views on Socialism and the present situation in a paragraph not exceeding 120 words in all, and that members be asked to refrain from issuing any other form of election addresses.

By L. HADEN GUEST.—That this meeting accepts the proposals of the Special Committee's Report with respect to propaganda and membership as outlined in paragraphs 8 to 15 of that Report, and instructs the new Executive to carry them into effect as soon as possible after the next Executive election.

By L. HADEN GUEST.—That this meeting accepts the proposals of the Special Committee's Report with respect to publications as outlined in paragraphs 23 to 30 of that Report, and instructs the new Executive to carry them into effect as soon as possible after the next Executive election.

90/92

Meeting at Essex Hall on Friday
Jan. 7 25th 1907. -

1. Aylmer Maude was elected chairman
2. No minutes were read
3. Cecil Chesterton moved urgency ~~of~~
which was voted, & then moved
That this meeting of the Fabian Society
records its sympathy with the Variety
artists & other music hall employes
now on strike, wishes them all success
in their struggle against capitalist tyranny,
& urges all other sections of the
brainworking proletariat to follow
their example in organising themselves
for their own defence. -
The resolution was adopted unanimously.
4. A. Aladin, Labour Leader in the late
Duma then gave an address on

(4) contd.

"THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN RUSSIA."

By A. ALADIN (Labor Leader in the late Duma).

SYLLABUS.

Two forces contending for supremacy: the Government and its supporters, and the progressive elements of the people. New interpretations of the electoral laws. Attitude of the middle classes, women, and peasantry. New important factors: concentration to the Left, and political activity of the Trade Unions. Probabilities as to the composition of the new Duma.

A debate followed in which
Dr. Clark the Chairman & others
took part.

Lawson Todd

Members Meeting at Essex Hall on Friday 1st Feby 1907. -

- ① H. B. Holding was elected chairman
- ② The Minutes were confirmed.
- (3) Dr. Eder asked permission to move urgency in respect of a resolution relating to the L.C.C. election at Bellinall Green. Bernard Shaw opposed urgency, & on a vote the Chairman declared that Dr. Eder's resolution had not received the necessary three quarters majority.
- (4) The Secretary made some announcements, & said that the Executive proposed to take at the annual meeting on Feb 22nd. any part of the agenda not dealt with. -
- 5. Bernard Shaw then on behalf of the Executive Com^{ee} moved

8. 7
The first resolution standing on the paper viz:—

That as soon as possible after the next Executive election, the new Executive shall appoint a special committee to inquire into and report upon the best means of promoting local Socialist societies of the Fabian type, with the object of increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament as a party co-operating as far as possible with the Labor Party, whilst remaining independent of that and all other parties.

6. The chairman read a letter from Dr. Coit stating that he desired to withdraw his amendment, & would not be present. After a brief discussion,

7. E. E. O'Dell by permission of the chairman ~~introduced~~ introduced the resolution standing in the name of Dr. Coit:—

By Dr. STANTON COIT.—To omit all the words after "of" (line 3) and substitute: increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament.

F. W. Galton seconded it. T. McCormick opposed, H. S. Wells supported, Cecil Chesterton opposed, E. R. Pease supported, R. C. R. Gussor criticised the Executive Com^{tee} Report, B. S. Hobson ~~opposed~~ opposed the amendment.

9. a

8. The chairman invited the meeting to accept the amendment as a compromise, but after some discussion, this course was not agreed to, Bernard Shaw replied on the debate, & the amendment was rejected by a considerable majority.
9. After some further discussion it was agreed that the further consideration of the political question be adjourned until after the London County Council Election.

~~Shawson~~

Charles Charnock Martin
22nd Feb. 1907.

96(93)

Please bring this as an Admission Ticket.

THE FABIAN SOCIETY.

*AGENDA for Business Meeting, on Friday, February 1st, 1907,
at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, at 7.30 p.m.*

Your attendance at this Meeting is requested because the future political policy of the Society will be discussed and voted on.

By the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.—
RESOLUTION III.

That as soon as possible after the next Executive election, the new Executive shall appoint a special committee to inquire into and report upon the best means of promoting local Socialist societies of the Fabian type, with the object of increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament as a party co-operating as far as possible with the Labor Party, whilst remaining independent of that and all other parties.

Amendments to Resolution III.

By Dr. STANTON COIT.—To omit all the words after "of" (line 3) and substitute: increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament.

By R. C. K. ENSOR.—To omit all words after "That" and substitute: the Fabian Society is not a political party, but a society for the promotion of British Socialism, and should neither run political candidates independently of the existing Socialist parties, nor foster any new political organizations to run such candidates.

By R. C. K. ENSOR.—
(a) That for the purposes of all local and Parliamentary elections the Fabian Society give its collective support, and urge its members to give their individual support, to the Independent Labor Party (I. L. P.).

(b) That to render such collective support of practical value, the General Purposes Committee of the Fabian Society communicate with the National Administrative Council of the I. L. P. in advance of every general election or by-election for Parliament and of every annual or triennial election for local governing bodies, with a view to increasing and improving the supply of (1) literature, (2) speakers, (3) canvassers and workers.

By S. D. SHALLARD and G. R. S. TAYLOR.—To omit all words after "That" and substitute: this meeting accepts the political proposals of the Special Committee's Report as embodied in paragraphs 35 and 36.

By CLIFFORD SHARP.—To omit all words after "promoting" in line 3 and substitute: Socialist activity in the provinces and running Fabian candidates for Parliament in close co-operation with the Labor Party.

By Miss SERUYA.—To add after "and all other parties": And that for this purpose the Executive be instructed to construct a practical programme for its candidates (and canvassers) for Parliamentary and municipal elections; such programme to clearly indicate the

Fabian Socialist position with regard to all the principal questions of the day; and also to open a fund to meet the expenses attached to Parliamentary contests.

Other Resolutions.

By F. W. HAYES and H. G. BENTLEY.—That the meeting instructs the Executive to propose to the forthcoming Annual Meeting that the Basis be altered by omitting the words commencing "without compensation" and ending "reward of labor," also by substituting for the word "necessarily" the word "gradually."

By MONTAGUE FORDHAM.—That the Executive Committee be desired in the paragraphs which it is the custom to insert in the FABIAN NEWS at the time of an Executive election, to allow every candidate (including members standing for re-election) to state his or her qualifications and to express his or her views on Socialism and the present situation in a paragraph not exceeding 120 words in all, and that members be asked to refrain from issuing any other form of election addresses.

By SYDNEY OLIVIER.—That a committee of five persons (hereafter to be nominated) be appointed by this meeting to prepare and submit a revised statement of the Basis and aims of the Society for consideration by a future business meeting after due notice.

By L. HADEN GUEST.—That this meeting instructs the new Executive, as soon as possible after the next election, to (1) prepare a plan of propaganda aiming at an increase in the membership of the Society and the establishment of a large number of affiliated groups of Fabians; (2) raise a special propaganda fund; (3) engage a paid organizer or organizers; and (4) enquire into and report upon the plan of group organization best calculated to give adequate democratic representation to such groups in the general councils of the Society.

By L. HADEN GUEST.—That this meeting instructs the new Executive, as soon as possible after the next Executive election, to (1) prepare two or three tracts for the use of new members on the lines suggested in the Special Committee's Report; (2) prepare alternative schemes for enlarging the FABIAN NEWS and making it saleable to the general public or for adding a periodical publication addressed to the general public; the FABIAN NEWS being retained as a bulletin for members; (3) get into touch with a suitable publisher with a view to establishing a special Fabian publication department; and (4) undertake a revision of the Society's publications with a view to strengthening those to be used for general propaganda purposes.

(40/06)

Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday 8th February at 8 pm

1. Dr. F. Lawson Dodd was elected
Chairman
2. The Minutes of Meeting on 25th Jan'y
were confirmed
3. Cecil Chesterton then opened
a

Debate on THE LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTION.

To be opened by CECIL E. CHESTERTON.

SYLLABUS.

The creation of the Progressive party. The Fabian-Nonconformist alliance. The gradual squeezing-out of Fabianism. Progressivism becomes identical with Liberalism. The Education question. The Drink question. Puritan v. Socialist. The "Settled Temperance Policy." Other examples of L.C.C. Puritanism. Progressive excuses. The staleness of Progressivism. The Progressives saved only by their enemies. Wanted, an Exodus from Houndsditch. An opportunity for the Socialists.

~~a debate~~ The following took part
in the subsequent discussion:

Ald: W. Sanders, Clifford Sharp, Peregrine
Varnals, 2 Maden Guest, Sidney Webb, Mark
Headlam, W.S. Baker, the Chairman and
C.E. Chesterton replied

S. J. Adams
27/iii/1907

Annual Meeting for 1905-6 at Essex
Hall on Feb 22nd 1907 at 7.30pm.

1. Charles Charrington Martin was elected
Chairman
2. The Minutes of the members meeting of Feb 12th
were confirmed.
3. The Secy moved & it was agreed

(1) That the publication of a Tract on the Decline of
the Birth-Rate, edited by Sidney Webb and issued with
his name, be approved.

4. The Secy moved & it was agreed

(2) That the publication of a Tract on Christian Social-
ism, by the Rev. Percy Dearmer, issued with his name, be
approved.

5. The Secy moved & it was agreed that
Mr Hugh Lumsden be appointed auditor
& Mr J. W. Shaw & W. A. Colegate
Scrutinisers for the Executive Election.

6. The Secy moved the Annual Report,

20/07

annexed, which was adopted *nem con* without debate.

7. The Secy then moved one of one the following amendments to the rules, all of which were adopted *nem con*, without debate.

ALTERATIONS OF RULES.

PROPOSALS BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (mostly in accordance with instructions already adopted):—

RULE 3. *Executive Committee.* Line 3, substitute twenty-one for fifteen.

Line 13, delete the temporary addition relating to the 1906 election, and substitute the following, also temporary: But notwithstanding anything preceding, an election shall be held in March, 1907; the above-named dates in April shall be applicable to the month of March in 1907; and the Committee thus elected shall retain office until April, 1908.

RULE 4. *Executive Committee.* Add at end: It shall constitute three standing sub-committees to deal with (1) Propaganda and Membership; (2) Publishing; and (3) General Purposes.

RULE 10. *Membership.* Substitute the following for the existing rule: Every candidate must sign a declaration that he accepts the Basis of the Society, and must make a contribution to the funds before election, the amount to be returned if he is not elected.

The names of all candidates shall be printed in FABIAN NEWS, and candidates shall afterwards be submitted for election by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

RULE 16. Add the following clause: Groups for particular subjects may be formed in accordance with such regulations as the Executive Committee may from time to time determine.

8. The Secy then moved the following amendment to the Basis:—

BASIS.—Last line but one, after the words "consequent thereon," insert: including the establishment of equal citizenship for men and women. Consequential amendment if the above is adopted:—To insert in same line in place of the words "promote these" the words "achieve these ends."

8 cont^d) There was no debate & on a division the minority was very small, & the chairman declared the amendment carried & the necessary three quarters majority.

9. Montague Fordham moved, & John Kirkby seconded the following resolution:—

By MONTAGUE FORDHAM.—(1) That the Executive Committee be desired in the paragraphs which it is the custom to insert in the FABIAN NEWS at the time of an Executive election, to allow every candidate (including members standing for re-election) to state his or her qualifications and to express his or her views on Socialism and the present situation in a paragraph not exceeding 120 words in all.

(2) That members be asked to refrain from issuing any other form of election addresses.

Bernard Shaw opposed, & in view of the arrangement already made, the resolution was & consent withdrawn. An amendment of Teignmouth Shore

Amendment by W. TEIGNMOUTH SHORE.—To substitute for (2): That no comment or electioneering matter of any sort, direct or indirect, be inserted in the FABIAN NEWS, as part of the paper, by the Executive Committee or by any other person or persons, excepting the aforesaid 120 words.

was also & consent withdrawn.

10 F. W. Hayes then moved & H Guy Bentley seconded the following

10 (cont^d) resolution:-

(90/90)

By F. W. HAYES and H. G. BENTLEY.—That the meeting instructs the Executive to propose to the forthcoming Annual Meeting that the Basis be altered by omitting the words commencing "without compensation" and ending "reward of labor," also by substituting for the word "necessarily" the word "gradually."

1. a debate followed in which the following spoke:- Sydney Herbert, C. E. Chesterton & Dr. Clarke against the amendment: Sydney Olivier against the Basis as a whole: Bernard Shaw against the amendment: H. G. Wells for amendment of the Basis: H. T. Muggidge against the amendment: Dr. Guest & Mrs. Townshend against the Basis: Gerald Bishop against amendment: after a reply from the mover, the resolution was put & lost, 27 voting for it, & a much larger number against.
2. Sydney Olivier moved & Gerald Bishop seconded

By SYDNEY OLIVIER.—That a committee of five persons (hereafter to be nominated) be appointed by this meeting to prepare and submit a revised statement of the Basis and aims of the Society for consideration by a future business meeting after due notice.

13. In the debate that followed S. G. Hobson opposed, Teignmouth Shore supported Cecil Chesterton opposed H. G. Wells supported, & Dr Guest supported the amendment.
12. Suggested motions were then made by F. G. Spencer, R. C. K. Euson, Aylmer Maude, & other speakers, & ultimately Bernard Shaw moved as an amendment
That the new Executive Committee be instructed to prepare & submit a revised statement of the Basis & aims of the Society for consideration of a future business meeting after due notice.
13. This resolution was seconded, & adopted by a large majority first as an amendment & then as a substantive resolution.
14. Dr. Guest withdrew the resolutions of

ELECTION ADDRESSES.—The Executive Committee, wishing to save expense and trouble, and to facilitate the communication of candidates with the whole membership, have decided (without wishing to interfere with candidates' own discretion) to allow candidates' addresses to be enclosed, if desired, with FABIAN NEWS for March (on payment by the candidates of the actual cost of printing), provided that the manuscripts are received at the Office on or before Tuesday 26th February; and (in order to avoid extra postage) that they do not exceed 500 words per candidate, or 2,000 in all for any Group.

Brief biographical notices of all candidates will be inserted in FABIAN NEWS.

AGENDA.

MOTIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE :—

(1) That the publication of a Tract on the Decline of the Birth-Rate, edited by Sidney Webb and issued with his name, be approved.

(2) That the publication of a Tract on Christian Socialism, by the Rev. Percy Dearmer, issued with his name, be approved.

(3) Appointment of auditor and scrutineers.

(4) Annual Report :

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31st, 1906.

In accordance with a temporary amendment of the rules adopted in February, 1906, the Annual Meeting was deferred till after the Special Committee had presented its Report. In the summer it became evident that the Annual Report could not be submitted to the Annual Meeting until the autumn at earliest, and that, unless something were done, the only document available to explain the work of the Society to candidates and enquirers would be the Report for the year ended March, 1905. As it was obviously undesirable that the Society should appear to be so greatly in arrear with its record and financial statement, and as in any case the old Report would have to be reprinted unless a new one were prepared to take its place, the Executive decided to print a Report for the year ended March, 1906, with a balance sheet in the usual form, and differing from the previous Reports only in that all statements or phrases of a controversial character were carefully excluded and that it had not been formally adopted by the Society. To this Report, which was issued to the members in August, and which contains a full account of the work of the Society for the year, the Executive Committee has nothing now to add. The present Report is submitted in compliance with the rule which requires that an Annual Report be presented to the members at the Annual Meeting, and the Executive Committee recommends that its action in issuing a provisional Annual Report be approved and that the provisional Report be adopted as the Report of the Society for the year 1905-6.

ALTERATIONS OF RULES.

PROPOSALS BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (mostly in accordance with instructions already adopted) :—

RULE 3. *Executive Committee.* Line 3, substitute twenty-one for fifteen.

Line 13, delete the temporary addition relating to the 1906 election, and substitute the following, also temporary : But notwithstanding anything preceding, an election shall be held in March, 1907; the above-named dates in April shall be applicable to the month of March in 1907; and the Committee thus elected shall retain office until April, 1908.

RULE 4. *Executive Committee.* Add at end : It shall constitute three standing sub-committees to deal with (1) Propaganda and Membership; (2) Publishing; and (3) General Purposes.

RULE 10. *Membership.* Substitute the following for the existing rule : Every candidate must sign a declaration that he accepts the Basis of the Society, and must make a contribution to the funds before election, the amount to be returned if he is not elected.

The names of all candidates shall be printed in FABIAN

NEWS, and candidates shall afterwards be submitted for election by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

RULE 16. Add the following clause : Groups for particular subjects may be formed in accordance with such regulations as the Executive Committee may from time to time determine.

BASIS.—Last line but one, after the words "consequent thereon," insert : including the establishment of equal citizenship for men and women. Consequential amendment if the above is adopted :—To insert in same line in place of the words "promote these" the words "achieve these ends."

Other Resolutions.

By MONTAGUE FORDHAM.—(1) That the Executive Committee be desired in the paragraphs which it is the custom to insert in the FABIAN NEWS at the time of an Executive election, to allow every candidate (including members standing for re-election) to state his or her qualifications and to express his or her views on Socialism and the present situation in a paragraph not exceeding 120 words in all.

(2) That members be asked to refrain from issuing any other form of election addresses.

Amendment by W. TEIGNMOUTH SHORE.—To substitute for (2) : That no comment or electioneering matter of any sort, direct or indirect, be inserted in the FABIAN NEWS, as part of the paper, by the Executive Committee or by any other person or persons, excepting the aforesaid 120 words.

By F. W. HAYES and H. G. BENTLEY.—That the meeting instructs the Executive to propose to the forthcoming Annual Meeting that the Basis be altered by omitting the words commencing "without compensation" and ending "reward of labor," also by substituting for the word "necessarily" the word "gradually."

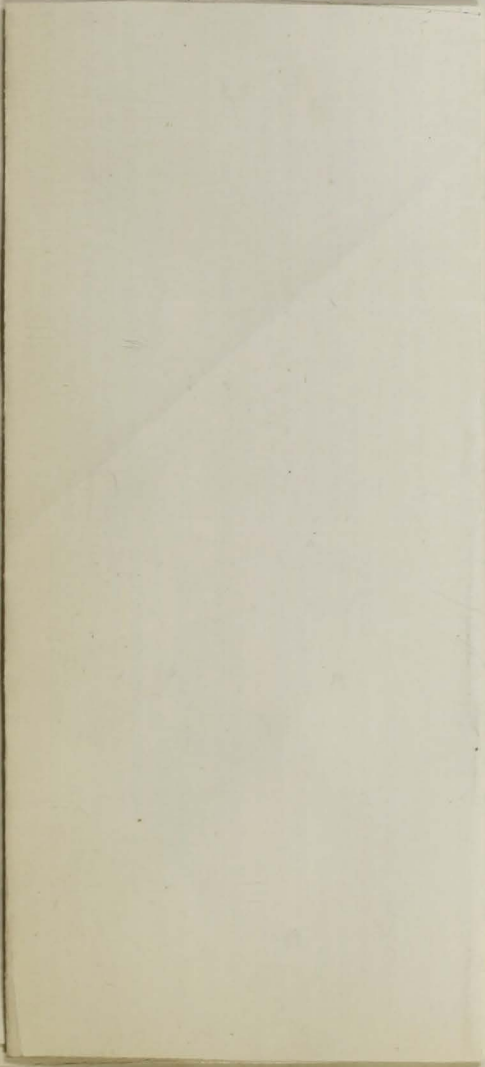
By SYDNEY OLIVIER.—That a committee of five persons (hereafter to be nominated) be appointed by this meeting to prepare and submit a revised statement of the Basis and aims of the Society for consideration by a future business meeting after due notice.

By L. HADEN GUEST.—That this meeting instructs the new Executive, as soon as possible after the next election, to (1) prepare a plan of propaganda aiming at an increase in the membership of the Society and the establishment of a large number of affiliated groups of Fabians; (2) raise a special propaganda fund; (3) engage a paid organizer or organizers; and (4) enquire into and report upon the plan of group organization best calculated to give adequate democratic representation to such groups in the general councils of the Society.

By L. HADEN GUEST.—That this meeting instructs the new Executive, as soon as possible after the next Executive election, to (1) prepare two or three tracts for the use of new members on the lines suggested in the Special Committee's Report; (2) prepare alternative schemes for enlarging the FABIAN NEWS and making it saleable to the general public or for adding a periodical publication addressed to the general public; the FABIAN NEWS being retained as a bulletin for members; (3) get into touch with a suitable publisher with a view to establishing a special Fabian publication department; and (4) undertake a revision of the Society's publications with a view to strengthening those to be used for general propaganda purposes.

which he had given notice, & consent, & the meeting terminated. —

Henry W. Macrosty



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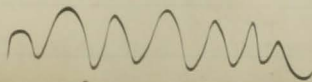
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C90/101

Members Meeting at Essex Hall
on Friday 8th March 1907 at 7.30 pm.

1. The Secy announced that H. B. Holding could not be present owing to ^{an} Election in which he was concerned, & he proposed H. W. Macrosty for Chairman who was unanmously elected.
2. R. P. K. Euser moved & S. D. Shallard seconded that the thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Holding for his courtesy & impartial conduct in the chair through a long series of difficult meetings. This was unanmously agreed to.
3. The Minutes of the Annual Meeting were read & confirmed.
4. The Debate on the Resolution III of the Exec. Committee was then resumed:—



The Fabian Society.

AGENDA for Business Meeting, Friday, March 8th, 1907,
at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, at 7.30 p.m.

Your attendance at this Meeting is requested, because the future political policy of the Society will be discussed and voted on.

By the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—

RESOLUTION III.

That as soon as possible after the next Executive election, the new Executive shall appoint a special committee to inquire into and report upon the best means of promoting local Socialist societies of the Fabian type, with the object of increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament as a party co-operating as far as possible with the Labor Party, while remaining independent of that and all other parties.

Amendments to Resolution III.

By R. C. K. ENSOR.—To substitute: I. That the Fabian Society is not a political party, but a society for the promotion of British Socialism, and should neither run political candidates independently of the existing Socialist parties, nor foster any new political organizations to run such candidate.

II. (a) That for the purposes of all local and Parliamentary elections the Fabian Society give its collective support, and urge its members to give their individual support, to the Independent Labor Party (I. L. P.).

(b) That to render such collective support of practical value, the General Purposes Committee of the Fabian Society communicate with the National Administrative Council of the I. L. P. in advance of every general election or by-election for Parliament and of every annual or triennial election for local governing bodies, with a view to increasing and improving the supply of (1) literature, (2) speakers, (3) canvassers and workers.

By S. D. SHALLARD and G. R. S. TAYLOR.—To omit all words after "That" and substitute: this meeting accepts the political proposals of the Special Committee's Report as embodied in paragraphs 35 and 36.

By CLIFFORD SHARP.—To omit all words after "promoting" in line 3 and substitute: Socialist activity in the provinces and running Fabian candidates for Parliament in close co-operation with the Labor Party.

By Miss SERUYA.—To add at end: and that the Executive be instructed to open a fund to meet the expenses attached to Parliamentary contests.

RESOLUTION III.

C40/103

That as soon as possible after the next Executive election, the new Executive shall appoint a special committee to inquire into and report upon the best means of promoting local Socialist societies of the Fabian type, with the object of increasing the Socialist representation in Parliament as a party co-operating as far as possible with the Labor Party, while remaining independent of that and all other parties.

- (5) R. C. K. Ensor moved & W. Teignmouth Shore seconded the following amendment

Amendments to Resolution III.

By R. C. K. ENSOR.—To substitute: I. That the Fabian Society is not a political party, but a society for the promotion of British Socialism, and should neither run political candidates independently of the existing Socialist parties, nor foster any new political organizations to run such candidate.

II. (a) That for the purposes of all local and Parliamentary elections the Fabian Society give its collective support, and urge its members to give their individual support, to the Independent Labor Party (I. L. P.).

(b) That to render such collective support of practical value, the General Purposes Committee of the Fabian Society communicate with the National Administrative Council of the I. L. P. in advance of every general election or by-election for Parliament and of every annual or triennial election for local governing bodies, with a view to increasing and improving the supply of (1) literature, (2) speakers, (3) canvassers and workers.

- (6) A ~~long~~ debate followed in which Dr G. B. Clark, S. G. Hobson, & S. D. Shallard opposed the amendment, & G. B. Shaw replied
7. On the chairman proposing to take the division it was moved, seconded, & on a vote, carried that H. T. Mugggeridge be given an opportunity to speak; ~~who~~ he then spoke against the Executive Resolution

the Exec.
d :-

8. The amendments moved by Mr. Euseb were then put separately, & all were declared to be lost by large majorities. -

9. S. D. Shallard then moved the following amendment without a speech

By S. D. SHALLARD and G. R. S. TAYLOR.—To omit all words after "That" and substitute: this meeting accepts the political proposals of the Special Committee's Report as embodied in paragraphs 35 and 36.

10. G. R. S. Taylor who was pointed as seconder asked if the Executive Committee would accept an amendment which he gave verbally: and on the refusal of Bernard Shaw, for the Executive, he moved the adjournment of the debate.

11. Hubert Bland then moved that the question he now put, which was seconded & carried with very few dissentients.

12. The amendment moved by Mr. Shallard was then put, & rejected. -

- Clifford Sharp withdrew the amendment standing to his name & consent. -
- + Miss Sernya did not rise to move the ~~addition~~ rider standing in her name
- The Executive Resolution III was then put, & carried by a very large majority, the dissentients numbering only 17. -

This concluded the discussion of the Special Report, & the resolutions arising therefrom. -

J. Whittier
10/5/07.

Meeting at Essex Hall on Friday
March 22nd ~~at~~ 1907 at 8pm.

1. S. G. Hobson took the chair.
2. The minutes of 8th Feb. 7 were read & confirmed.
3. The Secretary read the results of the Executive Committee Election.
4. Sydney Olivier lectured on

"SOCIALISM AND MIDDLE CLASS ECONOMICS,"
By SYDNEY OLIVIER.

SYLLABUS.

Original instruction for subject of this lecture "Socialism and the Salaried Man": the Middle Class Wage-earner.—Analysis of conception of salary as compared with wage, and contrasted with unearned income, leads necessarily to a critique of nineteenth century economic categories.—The hostility of Socialists towards "bourgeois economists"; its errors and justifications, practical and logical.—The classic Fabian attitude: its impotence against the dialectic of the salaried objector, arguing on its own premises.—Consequent need for frankest acceptance of the Socialist position, and, incidentally, revision of Fabian Basis.

& a debate followed in which Clifford Sharp, H. Smellie, Montague Fordham, Charrington Martin, Victor Fisher, Pharall Smith, Rev. Stewart Headlam & Bernard Shaw took part.

Sydney Olivier

Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday 12th April 1907. (90/105)

1. Sydney Ball took the chair.
2. The Minutes were confirmed
3. The Secy announced that a dinner w^d be given to Sydney Olivier ~~before~~ on his appointment as Governor of Jamaica & it w^d take place on April 30th.
4. The Rt Hon Sir John Gorst lectured on

"THE DUTY OF GOVERNMENT IN RELATION TO THE
HEALTH AND WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE."

By the Right Hon. SIR JOHN GORST.

SYLLABUS.

Overwhelming electoral power of the Democracy.—Its impotence in securing social reforms.—Examples of overworked children and underfed children.—The party system.—Choice of electors restricted heretofore between two groups of the governing class.—The Tory party: its principles and practice; its present degeneracy.—The Radical party: its present opportunity.—The new Labor party: its aims and its powers.—Its Bill for feeding children, and the resulting Act.—New Zealand an example. Arbitration Act.—Land Acts.—Condition of Labor there.

A debate followed in which
Ald. Sanders, S. G. Hobson, Cecil Chesterton
Adolphe Smith H. T. Duggeridge & Dr Hudson
Guest took part.

26. Apr. 1907.

Alfred Maudslayi

Meeting at Essex Hall on
Friday April 20th 1907. —

1. Aylmer Maude took the chair.
2. In an interval due to the absence of the lecturer several questions on matters of private business were put to the Secretary.
3. Dr. Lawson Dodd lectured on

"Socialism and the Medical Profession."

By F. LAWSON DODD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Prevalence of narrow views of scope of Socialism.—Organization and reform of Medical Service (like education) probably the next step.—Appeals to middle as well as working classes.—Three stages in medical progress: ecclesiastical, guild system, State service.—Eighteenth century competition for qualifications.—The apothecary—"Pilgrim and Pratt."—First movement towards Establishment of Medicine.—State interference and State organization.—The Act of 1858.—The General Medical Council: its functions.—Importance of efficiency and probity of medical profession; quackery anti-social.—Medicine and Socialism: their common influence.—Present constitution of profession.—Extent of public service.—The "part time" medical official.—Effect of competition on medical men.—Doctors' grievances: Charity; Hospital "abuse"; "The Battle of the Clubs."—Public grievances: Treatment of middle class inferior to that of rich or poor.—Reasons.—The remedy.—Transition.—Public Health Departments.—Increase in importance and scope of Preventive Medicine.—Poor Law Service.—Ultimate remedy: State Service, from Minister of Health to medical student.—District medical organization.—State hospitals.—Effect on profession and public.—Registration of sickness.—War against disease needs army organization.—Co-ordinating aim of Socialism.—Medicine and statecraft.

+ a debate followed in which Dr. Guest,
Adolphe Smith Granville Barber
& G.B. Shaw took part

Granville Barber
& May 31. 1907.

CONF

done to throw light on the dark mysteries of this terrible malady. On all grounds, then, we support the special appeal that is being made on the occasion of this festival dinner; those who wish to express their sympathy with its objects in a practical form are asked to send their subscriptions and donations to Messrs. Coutts and Co., 440, Strand; Messrs. Parr's Bank, 1, Cavendish-square, W.; or to the secretary at the Middlesex Hospital, Mortimer-street, W.

EPIDEMIC CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

GLASGOW and Belfast still continue to be the chief centres of the epidemic of cerebro-spinal fever. In the former city the weekly report issued on April 26th showed that there were at that time 114 patients under treatment. In Scotland during the week ended April 27th there were 26 deaths from the disease registered in Glasgow, 8 in Edinburgh, 2 in Leith, and 1 in Dundee. In Belfast during the week ended April 25th there were 36 fresh cases notified and 27 deaths, making since the commencement of the epidemic in Belfast a total of 337 cases with 227 deaths.

GERMAN CONGRESS FOR THE PREVENTION OF VENEREAL DISEASES.

THE Third Congress of the German Society for the Prevention of Venereal Diseases will be held in Mannheim on May 24th and 25th. At 8 P.M. on May 23rd there will be a reception (*Begrüßungsabend*) either in the exhibition or in the Rosengarten. On the 24th, at 8 P.M., the members will dine in the Park Hotel. Applications for dinner tickets (costing 5 marks) should be made as soon as possible either to Dr. Heinrich Loeb, Mannheim P. 7.23, or to the offices of the society, 105A, Potsdamerstrasse, Berlin W. 35. The meetings of the Congress on May 24th and 25th will be held in the Rosengarten from 9.30 A.M. to 12.30 P.M. and from 3 to 5 P.M. The official discussions will deal chiefly with the explanation of sexual questions to children and young persons, and on this subject there will be eight speakers, of whom the first three will be Dr. A. Blaschko, Professor Fr. W. Foerster, and Frau Krukenberg; Herr Köster will discuss literature for the young and Professor Eulenburg and Frau Adams-Lehmann will introduce the subject of "Sexuelle Diätetik." The meetings of the Congress will be public. Anyone may attend and take part in the discussions. Members of the Congress pay a subscription of 10 marks and are entitled to take part in the voting and to receive the Transactions.

THE PREPARATION OF INFANT'S AND INVALID MILK FROM COW'S MILK.

A SOMEWHAT novel method of preparing from cow's milk a modified milk which approximates to the composition of human milk has recently been proposed by Dr. Szekely, chemist to the Hungarian Government. The process is based on the discovery that carbonic acid gas under pressure separates not only the casein but also part, if not all, of the calcium phosphate of cow's milk. The fresh milk under treatment is first heated to 53-60°C. and then poured into a closed cylinder connected in its turn with a cylinder containing carbonic acid gas. The gas is forced into the cylinder containing the milk until the pressure is from 25 to 30 atmospheres. After a time the separation of the casein is said to be complete, and it separates as a spongy mass, a clear pure whey remaining. With the casein is also a large proportion of the salts and more particularly phosphate of calcium. The whey shows the following average composition: Protein, 0.50 per cent.; milk sugar, 4.50 per cent.; and salts, 0.55 per cent. This accords with the composition of cow's milk the casein of which has been removed by Pukkal's clay filter. An important statement in regard to this whey is that it retains

the active enzymes of raw untreated milk. It is further claimed that carbonic acid under pressure destroys tubercle bacilli. Pasteurised cream (65°-70° C.) to which the requisite amount of sugar has been added is then put in with the whey and the infant's milk so obtained is bottled ready for use. To 50 parts of whey 49 parts of pasteurised cream are added containing about 9 per cent. of fat and 1 part of milk sugar. The composition of the milk is stated to be as follows: Fat, 4.50 per cent.; casein, 1.50 per cent.; albumin, 0.50 per cent.; milk sugar, 5.45 per cent. soluble salts, 0.55 per cent.; and insoluble salts, 0.08 per cent.

THE Department of Public Health of Queensland in a bulletin dated March 23rd states that a case of bubonic plague, No. 27 in the series, the patient being a male, aged 48 years, was reported from the General Hospital, Brisbane, on March 17th. A fatal case of plague reported after death occurred at Townsville on March 17th. The patient was a man, aged 33 years. There are no further developments at Port Douglas. As regards the Mauritius a telegram from the Governor, received at the Colonial Office on April 26th, states that for the week ending April 25th there was 1 case of plague and 1 death from the disease. A telegram from the Acting Governor of Hong-Kong, received at the Colonial Office on April 29th, states that for the week ending April 27th there was 1 case of plague and 1 death from the disease.

THE death is announced of Professor Albert Ritter von Moesetig-Moorhof, extraordinary professor of surgery in the University of Vienna, the eminent Austrian surgeon. The telegrams which have been published, however, show a marked discrepancy as to the details surrounding the sad event. Professor von Moesetig-Moorhof was well known for his introduction of the use of iodoform for packing cavities in bone.

WE are asked to remind candidates for the Radcliffe prize in the University of Oxford that they should send in their memoirs to the Registrar's office on or before June 1st next. No memoir for which any University prize has already been awarded will be admitted to competition for the Radcliffe prize.

Mr. William Wright, M.B., D.Sc., F.R.C.S., will deliver three lectures on the Prehistoric and Early Historic Inhabitants of England in the theatre of the Royal College of Surgeons of England on May 6th, May 8th, and May 10th, at 5 o'clock P.M.

THE death is announced of Dr. Edward Markham Skerritt, senior physician to the Bristol General Hospital. We hope to give particulars of his career in a future issue.

"SOCIALISM AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION."

AT a meeting of the Fabian Society held at Essex Hall, Strand, London, on April 26th, Mr. F. Lawson Dodd read a paper on Socialism and the Medical Profession. He commenced by saying that before the democracy would be fit to undertake its widest possibilities education would have to be organised in its service, and with the organisation of education should come the organisation of the medical profession. Both inside and outside that profession there was at present dissatisfaction with the conditions of medical service. The want of system was, however, but a temporary phase in the history of the profession which showed three stages of progress. Having its origin in the mysterious it evolved by various steps to the ecclesiastical period, when medicine was in the hands of the Church in the Middle Ages. This was followed by the

commercial or guild system, when the healing art was practised by smiths and barbers. From this point development had taken place, until there were signs that a third stage, the stage of a State medical service, was approaching. The immense advance of science and the work of Wakley in founding THE LANCET and of Sir John Simon were the prominent factors in the movement towards State interference and control of medical service. The first step was the Act of 1858 which by a system of registration enabled the public to distinguish between qualified and unqualified practitioners, and which created the General Medical Council, the functions of which were to maintain that register and to control medical education. This Act laid down the principle that the medical service of the country exists for the public interest and had called into existence the germ of a State medical service which he hoped in the future would be fully developed. From the medical profession itself, he said, there was a widespread demand for State interference, as was shown by the Bills now before Parliament, one of which aimed at the creation of a State medical examination. Few people realised to what an extent the medical profession was passing into the hands of the State. The Navy and Army Medical Services, the Colonial Service, the Public Health and Poor-law Services, the Prison and Asylum Services were all of comparatively recent origin. Sometimes some of these officers were also in private practice, but this was viewed with a growing distrust which would end in favour of "the whole-time man." These services in many ways compared favourably with other branches of the medical profession and their popularity was shown by the keen competition for certain of the posts. The medical man on entering private practice found himself, after spending many years in study, in a new world where he had to compete for patients; his prestige often depended upon his manners and social position and he was thrown upon the mercy of the public whose diseases he was called upon to treat. Whatever competition might do for trade it had nothing but a bad influence on professional work. In the matter of overwork the medical profession suffered more than any other profession as shown by the high mortality rate among medical men. There was just as good a case for legal interference in regard to overwork in the medical profession as in any other calling. Overwork and excessive night-work might lead to disaster just as it did in the case of the engine-driver or the signalman. Then there was a constant tendency on the part of the public to impose on the medical man and to seek from him gratuitous work. The organised workmen's societies led to the sweating of medical men. All hospital appointments, unless under State control, were practically unpaid, and certificates of various kinds were demanded by the public and by public bodies from the officers without payment. With regard to the question of hospital abuse some hospitals were trying to carry out a system of selection, but if a barrier of appearance was put up the poor clerk was excluded and the workman who was better off was admitted. In his view the suggestion to cut down hospital attendance displayed ignorance of human nature and a total incapacity to realise the grievances of the general public. During the 30 years in which the agitation against hospital abuse had been in progress the evil had been growing. Any solution of the problem to be satisfactory must take into consideration the case of the public as well as of the medical profession. The evils of the individualistic system of medical treatment resulted in most serious hardships to the middle classes, and an organised service of State medicine was, he considered, the only solution of the medical problem. But this ideal could only be brought about by public education. The important thing was to realise the fact that medical service was already in a state of transition, so that changes might now be effected along the line of least resistance. One of the first things that should be done was to secure the fixity of tenure of medical officers of health, who should have adequate assistance. Preventive medicine was taking a more and more important place. The public medical service, which would eventually have to be organised, should have connecting links between the ambulance bearer at one end and the consultant physician or surgeon at the other. It was also necessary that every man should be in some way connected with a hospital throughout his career so that the opportunities for scientific study might be constant. Hospitals would have to be placed on the rates and some form of insurance against sickness instituted. Members of the staff of a general hospital would then be

paid just as the medical officers of the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board are paid at the present time. Another step would be the creation of a Ministry of Public Health. The cost of such a system should fall in part on the exchequer and in part on local taxation. A small tax in time of health would be more welcome, he was certain, to the public than the payment of a heavy doctor's bill at a time when it could be ill afforded.

A discussion followed in which Mr. L. HADEN GUEST, Mr. ADOLPHE SMITH, Mr. GRANVILLE BARKER, and others joined. It was suggested that the cost of such a system would be enormous, and that the condition of the housing of the population was the chief obstacle to the improvement of the public health of the country.

THE ADULTERATION OF WINES, SPIRITS, AND BEER.

AN interesting conference was held at the Institute of Hygiene, 34, Devonshire-street, London, W., on April 29th, which was largely attended by leading members of the medical profession, analytical chemists, lawyers, importers, distillers, brewers, merchants, and others. The subject chosen for discussion was, "The Adulteration of Wines, Spirits, and Beer, and its Effect on Health."

In opening the proceedings the Chairman, Sir WILLIAM BENNETT, K.C.V.O., said that opinions might differ as to the desirability of the use of alcoholic beverages, nevertheless, if these were used it was essential not only that they should be free from adulteration but that they should also be what they were represented to be. The conversion of the nation at large to total abstinence could, even now, only be regarded, he thought, as a remote contingency, and in the meantime the question of the purity of the various alcoholic beverages in common use amongst a large section of the people must be a matter of grave concern. There was a strong impression abroad that adulteration, substitution, and misrepresentation in connexion with the sale of wines, spirits, beer, and medicated beverages containing alcohol were rife, and if this impression was correct it could not be denied that such a condition of affairs was antagonistic to the welfare of the community and should no longer be tolerated. It also appeared that the means at present available for the prevention of the practices mentioned were virtually useless and in these circumstances the Institute of Hygiene—the primary object of which was the furthering of methods to insure the purity of all articles of consumption—thought it right to convene the present conference in order to obtain the views of those qualified to form a responsible judgment upon the matter, with the object, if after consideration it was thought desirable, of impressing upon the proper authorities the urgent necessity for providing adequate means for the prevention of those abuses which were commonly believed to exist.

Dr. F. J. SMITH proposed:—

That the adulteration, substitution, and misrepresentation of wines, spirits, and beer affects the health and strength of the people, especially in connexion with its tendency to induce a craving for drink, and that the Local Government Board, licensing and other authorities be called upon to take such steps as are necessary to prohibit the sale of liquors which are not what they profess to be and the medical profession be appealed to exert their influence to prevent their consumption.

He said that the medical profession saw so much of the evil effects of drink that they had the best claim to protest against any misrepresentation in connexion with the drink of the people. He referred to the manifesto that appeared in THE LANCET and said that though he had not signed it he could conscientiously have done so. He also condemned basis wines and so-called medicated wines, as they did much harm by the misplaced confidence which they received.

Dr. W. EWART, in seconding the motion, said that though inclined to limit the use of alcohol as far as possible, yet he gave his whole-hearted support to the motion and hoped it would lead to State action.

Mr. BRAMALL said that as a solicitor he had had much experience of cases dealing with misrepresentation and he fully approved of the motion and referred to the serious burden which now rested on those who had to prosecute.

The motion was carried.

Mr. CHARLES HAIG said that he had had 40 years' experience of whisky and he did not feel disposed to put much value on the opinion of either medical men or

of which he had given notice:-

(5)

That this meeting strongly disapproves of Mr. G. R. S. Taylor's
action in communicating an article entitled "Fabian Folly,"
containing an account of a private meeting, to the editor of
the Labor Leader, and hereby confirms the understanding
which has hitherto existed, prohibiting the publication of the
proceedings of private meetings in any paper other than
FABIAN NEWS.

Sidney Webb stated that the Executive
had received a letter which they con-
sidered satisfactory from Mr Taylor
who did not intend to be present,

if both candidates were elected on the same
date, the Secy said that the candidate standing
first in alphabetical order wd. be held to

have been the longer a member of the society. - With his explanation the amendment was agreed to. -

(6) Rule 3. cont^d. The Sec. 7 moved

Present Rule: Vacancies which occur during the year shall be filled by election after due notice.

Amendment: Add "but only in the event of the number of the Committee falling below fifteen."

nineteen

An amendment having been moved & seconded to delete fifteen & substitute nineteen, the Sec. 7 accepted it on behalf of the Exec. & the amendment thus amended was ~~agreed to~~ carried with one dissentient.

(7) Rule 4. The Sec. moved, & the following was agreed to

RULE 4. Alter names of Executive sub-committees as follows:

(i) Propaganda; (ii) Publishing; (iii) Finance and General Purposes.

(8) The Sec. 7 moved: -

RULE 6. (In order to allow and regulate existing practice.) Add "Business may be taken at a public meeting, but only with the consent of the chairman previously obtained."

J. W. Buttery moved a rider to the effect that this should not apply to questions handed in in writing.

(8) (cont.) after considerable discussion, the amendment was adopted, & the rider was defeated, only 15 voting for it. —

9. The Secy moved amendments to rules 9, 10, & 15 and all were adopted viz:

RULE 9. (In order to allow Tracts with the author's name to be issued by the Executive Committee.) Line 3, delete "by" and substitute "in the name of," and after "every" insert "such"; and at end "Tracts bearing the name of the author may be issued by the Executive Committee on behalf of the Society."
RULE 10. (Re-wording only.) After "election" insert the words "which shall be."
RULE 15. Groups. (Members shall be divided into groups according to the parliamentary constituencies in which they reside.) Amendment: Alter "parliamentary constituencies" into "localities."

10. The Annual Report was put & the chairman page & page, & was briefly discussed. No amendments were moved & it was unannounced adopted.

11. The Annual Statement of accounts was also adopted, & arising herefrom Edgar Jepson moved a resolution in regard to the

salary of the Secretary. After some discussion he withdrew it in favour of the following, moved by Bernard Shaw:-

That this meeting instructs the Executive Committee to take into consideration forthwith, the inadequacy of the present salary of the Secretary. -

This was put to the meeting & adopted nem con. - -

11. Mr. Hodgkinson replying to a question to the Secretary at his request described the plan for the proposed Fabian Rendezvous. -

Sidney Webb

18/10/7

Meeting at Essex Hall
31st. Mar 1907.

CCO/100

- (1) H. Granville Barker took the chair.
- (2) The Minutes of the last public meeting were confirmed.
- (3.) A. E. R. Gill lectured on

"Socialism and the Arts and Crafts." By A. E. R. GILL.

SYLLABUS.—Fabian misconceptions of Art. Art not the special preserve of one class. Nor necessarily anything to do with Beauty. Common mistake that beauty is a matter of design. The professional artist and the ordinary man. Related and unrelated art. Art not an occupation for spare time. Craftsmen not primarily artists nor tables and chairs primarily works of art. Craftsmen and artist-craftsmen. The capitalist system not only degrades man but degrades man's work. The mediæval craftsman and his modern successor. Modern industrial conditions. The Fabian or quantitative point of view *versus* the qualitative point of view. Machinery: its abuse. Trade unionism raises wages but not workmanship. The factory system. Cheapness *versus* quality. Machinery: its use. The Arts and Crafts movement. Its supposed object. Its real object. A political organization without a political programme. Suggested politics for the Arts and Crafts. State aid to apprenticeship or technical schools. The relation of Socialism to the Arts and Crafts. The abolition of the artist-craftsman.

A debate followed in which
E. Jepson, W. A. Colegate, E. Radford,
A. V. Constantine, Mrs. Hinchley, Ald.
Sanders, Algner Maude & J. Perry
& others took part.

S. J. Hobson
14/vi/1907

Meeting at Essex Hall 14 June 1904.

1. S. G. Hobson took the chair
2. Ten minutes were confirmed
3. R. C. K. Ensor gave his lecture
on

June 14. "Socialism and the Legal Profession."

By R. C. K. ENSOR
(Barrister-at-Law).

(No cards will be sent out for this meeting.)

SYLLABUS.—Maximum need for lawyers under Socialist systems. Prejudices of, e.g., Morris, against them Anarchical, not Socialist. Abroad eminent lawyers often Socialists, in England not so. General characteristics of the profession. Its two branches: distinction valuable and probably permanent. Elements of conservatism in the profession; contrasts with the artist, the doctor and the engineer. Special effect on solicitors of pre-occupation with property interests; on barristers of ties with the two great parties who dispense judicial preferment. Professional remuneration and practice. Government of the profession by its successful members; the unsuccessful ones a silent and unorganized majority. Needs of the public. Litigation at present a luxury; consequently a different law for the rich and the poor. The poor litigant a much bigger problem than the poor prisoner. Attempts to help by (i) the State, (ii) business systems of legal insurance, (iii) philanthropic effort. Inadequacy of (i) and failure of (ii) are giving tardy impulse to (iii). The Poor Man's Lawyer and the Central Legal Aid Society. Analogy of the hospitals, and tendency to copy their root defects. State legal aid. Germs of it and possible development.

A debate followed in which C. M. Lloyd,
Ald Sanders, G. B. Shaw, A. Mande,
& G. H. James took part.

Allen Blair

Meeting at Essex Hall
29 June 1907. —

C90/111

- (1) Hubert Bland took the Chair
- (2) The Minutes were confirmed
- (3) The Secy asked for volunteers to attend a conference on the S.C.C. & Socialist Sunday Schools.
- (4) ~~Cecil~~ Cecil Chesterton lectured on

"Socialism and the Press." By CECIL CHESTERTON.

SYLLABUS.

The importance of the Press. The Power of the Keys. What an unanimous Press can do. The Case of Dreyfus. The Liner and the Police Strike. How Wars can be made inevitable. The Press under Capitalism. The Control of the Rich. Advertiser *versus* Reader. Newspaper combinations and their effect. The Cowardice of the Press. Labor Conditions. General Characteristics of the Fleet Street Proletariat. Its Importance to the Socialist Movement. Its Neglect by Labor Advocates. Types. The Editorial Staff. The Skilled Contributor. The Free Lance. The Liner. The Submerged. Some Fleet Street Tragedies. Sweating and Drink. Blacklegging and its Consequences. The Responsibility of Socialist and Progressive Papers. The Effect of Labor Conditions upon the Product. The immediate Need of a strong Union and a Minimum Wage. Difficulties. The Survival of the "Wages Fund" Delusion. Differentiation and Solidarity. The Press under Socialism. The mechanical side can be Nationalized, but not the intellectual side. Is a State newspaper practicable? The Need of Competition. How are newspapers to be carried on? Co-operation among Readers. Co-operation among Producers. A Minimum Rate of Pay more than ever necessary. The Absence of Advertisements. The Effect of a Re distribution of Wealth on Circulation. What will newspapers be like under Socialism?

+ a debate followed in which S. G. Hobson, S. D. Headlam, Lawson Dodd, Allan Ostler, W. S. Sanders, W. Meredith, & Bernard Shaw took part. Stewart Heales

20/112

Meeting for members Associates
& subscribers only at Essex Hall
on Friday July 12th 1907. —

1. Rev. S. D. Headlam took the chair.
2. The minutes were confirmed
3. Mrs Annie Besant lectured on

"The Future of Socialism."

By Mrs. BESANT.

SYLLABUS.—Very ancient Socialism. The nursery stage of Humanity. The principles of ownership, rule and labor. The ordered State. Autocracy and tyranny. Various phases of Individualism. Reversal of the ancient Socialism in modern States. The rule of Democracy. Re-organization of Society. Old principles and modern applications.

A debate followed in which
Cecil Chesterton, Ald. Sanders,
Bernard Shaw, Dr. Clark,
H. Snell, & Dr. L. Haden Guest
took part. —

M. S. Rivers.

Oct. 11th 1907.

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