



# WORLD UNDERSTANDING

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THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY IN AMERICA  
WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60187

THE INTERNATIONAL THEOSOPHICAL  
YEAR BOOK  
1940

T.P.H. ADYAR

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**THE**  
**INTERNATIONAL THEOSOPHICAL**  
**YEAR BOOK**  
**SUPPLEMENT 1940**

*A World Survey for 1939,  
The Activities of The Theosophical Society,  
A World Calendar for 1940, etc.*

First Published 1937

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**LONDON**

**WHEATON**

# CALENDAR FOR 1940

## JANUARY

Sun. . .		7	14	21	28
M. . .	1	8	15	22	29
Tu. . .	2	9	16	23	30
W. . .	3	10	17	24	31
Th. . .	4	11	18	25	
F. . .	5	12	19	26	
S. . .	6	13	20	27	

## FEBRUARY

Sun. . .		4	11	18	25
M. . .		5	12	19	26
Tu. . .		6	13	20	27
W. . .		7	14	21	28
Th. . .	1	8	15	22	29
F. . .	2	9	16	23	
S. . .	3	10	17	24	

## MARCH

Sun. . .		3	10	17	24	31
M. . .		4	11	18	25	
Tu. . .		5	12	19	26	
W. . .		6	13	20	27	
Th. . .		7	14	21	28	
F. . .	1	8	15	22	29	
S. . .	2	9	16	23	30	

## APRIL

Sun. . .		7	14	21	28
M. . .	1	8	15	22	29
Tu. . .	2	9	16	23	30
W. . .	3	10	17	24	
Th. . .	4	11	18	25	
F. . .	5	12	19	26	
S. . .	6	13	20	27	

## MAY

Sun. . .		5	12	19	26
M. . .		6	13	20	27
Tu. . .		7	14	21	28
W. . .	1	8	15	22	29
Th. . .	2	9	16	23	30
F. . .	3	10	17	24	31
S. . .	4	11	18	25	

## JUNE

Sun. . .		2	9	16	23	30
M. . .		3	10	17	24	
Tu. . .		4	11	18	25	
W. . .		5	12	19	26	
Th. . .		6	13	20	27	
F. . .		7	14	21	28	
S. . .	1	8	15	22	29	

## JULY

Sun. . .		7	14	21	28
M. . .	1	8	15	22	29
Tu. . .	2	9	16	23	30
W. . .	3	10	17	24	31
Th. . .	4	11	18	25	
F. . .	5	12	19	26	
S. . .	6	13	20	27	

## AUGUST

Sun. . .		4	11	18	25
M. . .		5	12	19	26
Tu. . .		6	13	20	27
W. . .		7	14	21	28
Th. . .	1	8	15	22	29
F. . .	2	9	16	23	30
S. . .	3	10	17	24	31

## SEPTEMBER

Sun. . .	1	8	15	22	29
M. . .	2	9	16	23	30
Tu. . .	3	10	17	24	
W. . .	4	11	18	25	
Th. . .	5	12	19	26	
F. . .	6	13	20	27	
S. . .	7	14	21	28	

## OCTOBER

Sun. . .		6	13	20	27
M. . .		7	14	21	28
Tu. . .	1	8	15	22	29
W. . .	2	9	16	23	30
Th. . .	3	10	17	24	31
F. . .	4	11	18	25	
S. . .	5	12	19	26	

## NOVEMBER

Sun. . .		3	10	17	24
M. . .		4	11	18	25
Tu. . .		5	12	19	26
W. . .		6	13	20	27
Th. . .		7	14	21	28
F. . .	1	8	15	22	29
S. . .	2	9	16	23	30

## DECEMBER

Sun. . .	1	8	15	22	29
M. . .	2	9	16	23	30
Tu. . .	3	10	17	24	31
W. . .	4	11	18	25	
Th. . .	5	12	19	26	
F. . .	6	13	20	27	
S. . .	7	14	21	28	



## A THEOSOPHIST'S RESOLVE FOR 1940

*Bring me my bow of burning gold !*

*Bring me my arrows of desire !*

*Bring me my spear : O clouds unfold !*

*Bring me my chariot of fire !*

*I will not cease from mental fight,*

*Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,*

*Till we have built Jerusalem*

*In England's green and pleasant land.*

THUS wrote William Blake in 1804. It may be that in 1939 Jerusalem remains but partially builded, if at all, in England's green and pleasant land. But in 1939 we have at least learned to realize that the mystic Jerusalem must be built throughout the world, and there are many of us who would similarly call for our bows of burning gold, for our arrows of desire, for our spears, and that out of the clouds shall come our chariots of fire. We too would not cease from mental fight, nor from any other fight that may be appropriate to us. We too would that our swords shall not sleep in our hands. We too would be

ceaseless in our striving until the spirit of peace and freedom and justice dwells throughout the world.

In this year of grace—of grace for the victory of Right over wrong—we would be armed to fight for Happiness to be the lot of all, of God's human children in the human world, and of His children in all other worlds no less.

So is it that I, among many others, say with all ardour and determination :

*Bring me my bow of burning gold !*

*Bring me my arrows of desire !*

*Bring me my spear : O clouds unfold !*

*Bring me my chariot of fire !*

I will not cease from eager  
fight,

Nor shall my sword sleep in  
my hand.

Till the whole world is en-  
folded in the peace of Uni-  
versal Brotherhood ;

Till the soul of China is  
free once more ;

Till the soul of India  
shines forth again in pure  
and radiant splendour ;

Till our brother animals  
and birds cease to be in  
cruel enslavement to their  
elder brother-man ;

Till the poor and miser-  
able no longer know despair,  
but are lifted up into happy  
contentment ;

Till the nations and faiths  
of the world live together  
in brotherly understanding  
and mutual respect ;

Till ugliness throughout  
the world melts away in the  
splendid light of Culture  
and the Arts ;

Till human being no  
longer preys upon human be-  
ing in any wise ;

Till Poland arises in  
splendid resurrection out of  
her terrible crucifixion ;

Till every other country  
in Europe ravaged and en-  
slaved by the evil-doer is  
restored to freedom ;

Till the Jews are deliv-  
ered out of their bondage,  
and fair justice is meted  
out to the Arab people ;

Till the evil-doer himself  
becomes the doer of good ;

Till every neutral land  
casts off its blindness and  
sees with compelling vision  
that it too, in honour of the  
great who have made it  
great, must enter the fight,  
nor cease from it, till it has  
helped to build a world in  
which in every land Peace  
and Freedom reign un-  
challenged, and Happiness  
dwells in every home ;

Till East and West at  
last commingle in equal  
freedom and mutual ap-  
preciation in a great Com-  
monwealth of Nations which  
shall be the heart of the  
United Nations of the  
World.

—GEORGE S. ARUNDALE

# THE UNIVERSALITY OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BY GEORGE S. ARUNDALE

## FOR ALL AND AGAINST NONE

IN these dangerous and difficult times, it is appropriate to repeat in this Supplement to our Theosophical Year Book, the principles which seem to me to govern the whole question of The Society's so-called neutrality. Indeed, we often speak of the neutrality of The Theosophical Society when we should rather speak of its Universality. Its neutrality is to the end that every member, be his principles what they may, shall feel absolutely free to tread and expound his own individual way of life, and no less absolutely uncoloured by any commitments whatever other than to the three Objects of The Society to which he gives assent on joining. Neither the President nor the General Council nor any Section nor any member can commit The Theosophical Society beyond its three great Objects. The President for the time being is often urged to break this neutrality for some great purpose. I have been asked to break it for the sake of the Jews, and I probably shall be asked to break it to range The Society on the side of Britain and France in the present War.

Apart from my powerlessness so to do, I should regard such action as in the highest degree subversive of the purposes to incarnate which The Society was given birth. The very First Object itself demands that we shall establish a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood, which does not mean that The Society shall be continually deciding what is and what is not brotherly and act for and against accordingly, as will vary the necessarily changing opinions of its members, and ignoring the minority for the sake of the majority. Rather does it mean that The Society shall *be* a Brotherhood, including all and excluding none, be a Universality which includes all distinctions and difference of whatever nature. I do not like particularly the words "knowing no distinction. . . ." We want to know them. We do know them. And, knowing them, we include them all. I think we should be positive rather than negative.

All the more in these days of clash of differences must The Theosophical Society be universal

in the widest possible sense of the word. It must be **FOR ALL** and **AGAINST NONE**. It must be a true home for all, especially in times when home is ranged against home, conviction against conviction. Thus is it that The Society cannot proclaim its allegiance to Britain and to France and to Poland, any more than it could proclaim its allegiance to Germany. Every country, every people, every individual, *is* within the Universal Brotherhood, and the supreme purpose of The Society is to be an outward and visible sign of this too often imperceptible fact.

### THE SOCIETY OPENS ITS DOORS TO ALL

Many countries have thought fit to reject The Theosophical Society. Russia has rejected it. Germany has rejected it, and has forced Austria to reject it. Italy has rejected it. But The Theosophical Society itself rejects none of them. It includes them all within its own nucleus of Brotherhood and gives each an equal place with every other land. The Theosophical Society is the refuge of the destitute and the home of the oppressed. It opens its doors freely to victors and to vanquished, and to oppressors and to tyrants too if they will acknowledge its First Object and seek to live in accordance with it.

The Society is a Universal Brotherhood, and for that very reason has no occasion to define itself,

for to define would be to introduce limitation. The words "Universal Brotherhood" speak for themselves, declaring a Universality of which the word "neutrality" is a negative distortion.

### OUR FREEDOM AND OUR DUTY

And within this Universality, by reason of it, every single member of The Society is free—free to live as he chooses, free to hold such convictions as he chooses, free to express such opinions as he chooses, free to act as he chooses—provided always that in his heart and in all sincerity he reconciles all these with his adherence to The Society's First Object. He must while a member be true to his acceptance of the First Object, and to his acceptance of the other two Objects also, or he will be false to himself, because untrue to his membership. Were he to find himself at any time out of harmony with The Society's Objects, and constrained to act in opposition to them, he is in honour bound to resign his membership.

But just as The Society must *be* a Universal Brotherhood, so should every member *work* for Universal Brotherhood in his own way, so that The Society may more and more become a beautiful sign of the Universal Brotherhood, scintillating with a myriad colours of happily living differences of understanding of its great White Light, and so too that the world itself may the more show itself to

be the Universal Brotherhood it actually is. The Society is all-inclusive. But every member should take sides according to his best understanding of the true nature of Universal Brotherhood. The Society is the great White and Universal Light of Brotherhood.

## A WORLD SURVEY

IN this year 1939, when the world is again ravished by war, there is an imperative need, as never before, to have "an oasis of appreciation and understanding of the ideals and greatnesses of all nations in the present suffocating desert of suspicion, distrust and hatred."

*"India is the heart of the world . . . and her heart is needed for the life and vitality of the whole world."*

—GEORGE S. ARUNDALE

*"India—a fountain-spring of spirituality," . . . India where one can learn "that balanced yet intense inner activity, that blend of unruffled composure with tremendous energy, that capacity for appreciating and enjoying the very highest forms of happiness."*

—SIR FRANCIS YOUNGHUSBAND

The last year has been one of watchful waiting. Little progress has been made towards achieving India's freedom, though the Federation plan, rejected by both the majority party and the Princes, has been postponed for the present.

At the outbreak of the War of 1939, Congress intimated that support of Great Britain would be given if immediate self-government were assured.

Each member is a contributory colour, and glorifies the Whole by making beautiful and true his individual and different part.

But The Theosophical Society shines with all colours as the great White Light of the Universal Brotherhood of Life.

This International Theosophical Year-Book for 1940 offers to a world at war, fighting ardently to preserve the ideals of brotherhood and humanity, the following National Surveys of the idealism of each nation:

## INDIA

There were many expressions of sympathy for Poland and the other ravished nations of Europe and strong expressions of desire for the triumph of the Right over the totalitarianism of Germany and other aggressors.

After consultation with many leaders, a formal reiteration was made by His Excellency the Viceroy, on 18th October, that Dominion Status was the eventual aim of Britain for India, and that a consultative body of representative Indians would be chosen to advise as regards India's participation in the war. Indians felt that a much more positive declaration, setting a time for the fulfilment of India's freedom, should have been made, and, in consequence, the Congress Ministries submitted their resignations.

The immediate problem before India is twofold:

First, the drawing together of the various communities and faiths into one ardent body of patriots. The Congress should be made an Indian House of

Commons in which minorities are well represented. This can only be done if the majority shows a willingness to subordinate itself to the minorities, so that all may be joined in a solidarity of freedom and of aim.

Second, the framing of India's Constitution, her Charter of Liberties, without delay. Such a Magna Carta, framed by men and women who love India passionately, would regenerate India from the fountain-spring of her own life, her own activity.

Let India with all happiness and enthusiasm participate in this war, the purpose of which she so heartily approves.

Let the Congress, the majority party in India, rise to great heights, open its doors to all who love India, and then set about framing such a Charter of India's Liberties as shall be greater than any declaration heretofore given to a world by those nations which have achieved their freedom.

Let a great pledge be taken by ardent Indian patriots:

We pledge ourselves to India.

We pledge ourselves to the Commonwealth of which she shall become the heart.

We pledge ourselves to work against all delay, and to hasten by all constitutional means in our power the achievement by India of her freedom and by the Commonwealth of its own freedom as a company of equal nations pooling their Cultures, their Truths, their Brotherhoods, to promote the Cause of the Universal Brotherhood of the world.

### **Social Welfare:**

In the social sphere much work is being done for the masses. The Bombay Government have vigorously organized literacy classes and voted over Rs. 20,000 for the purpose. The Adult Education Committee are conducting over 500 classes, bringing at least 20,000 adults under instruction and providing some 50 libraries for "continuation" work. The Government, the Bombay Corporation and many social and educational organizations as well as large employers of labour are combining to

defray the costs. A policy of concentration closed a number of schools, but the total of school attendances rose, as did that of Universities. Physical training received a new impetus; sports, physical recreation and football clubs are encouraged.

Rural development, independent of all political colour, is a national concern. A regulated marketing structure covering the whole of India, to ensure fair play to the producer, is foreshadowed. The Agricultural Marketing Department is emphasizing the grading of all produce by establishing many fruit and vegetable grading stations, and is encouraging canning schemes. New crops are being introduced to villagers and the hand-made paper industry revived, for which the fibre of the Sunn hemp is the main raw material.

Village competitions are being held, the prize an "Ideal Village" shield for those villagers who show greatest progress in rural uplift, sanitation, health, communications, water supply, etc. The reorganization of Public Health Services in Bengal aims at catering for the villagers' needs at their door. A post of Superintendent of Maternity and Child Welfare has been created to serve the new network of these centres everywhere; comprehensive anti-malarial schemes, plans for rural water supply and the control of leprosy and tuberculosis are ready to be put into effect. The All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health near Calcutta has undertaken a pioneer tuberculosis inquiry.

The Government of Bombay have organized grain-banks, which will advance and recover loans in kind at 25% interest as against the 50% to 100% charged by the local dealers.

Owing to the failure of the monsoon much hardship resulted through failure of crops and acute water shortage. Anxiety was expressed that the area under cultivation for foodstuffs was constantly decreasing in spite of an increase of nearly 50,000,000 in the population during the last ten years. Science is coming to the aid of agriculture by the introduction of electrification, which, as Dr. Nehru said at

Mainpuri, is having many startling results,—increasing the yield by 20% to 25%, obtaining two or three crops of fruit instead of one, increased vigour of plants, cows, hens, etc.

Work has been done to help the unemployed and to bring any opportunities of industrial employment to the notice of the public. Heavy industries are being expanded wherever possible. Record encouragement has been given by the Indian Stores Department to all supplies of indigenous manufacture. The services of the Department were utilized by Singapore, Ceylon, Aden, Burma and Great Britain also.

Total prohibition was introduced in many areas as from 1 September 1939.

The Archaeological Survey of India carried out interesting excavations at Sopara, once a famous, prosperous city, and brought to light many Buddhist and Muslim relics, amongst them a complete Buddhist Stupa of the second century A.D. at Padampur, in the Central Provinces. Ancient remains were identified as the birthplace of a celebrated Samskrit dramatist and poet of the 8th century A.D.

In February 1939 an enlightened ruler passed away in H.H. the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda.

India further sustained a great loss by the death at Calcutta, in December 1938, of Sir Brajendranath Seal, well-known Bengali savant and educationist who had rendered the highest services to Indian culture.

**Theosophy in India:** The General Secretary reports a year of earnest effort and a "thirst for the inner realities" in all the places he has visited.

Every section of the country having its own vernacular, the language ques-

tion is probably greater in India than anywhere in the world. Salem Lodge, for example, is helping to tackle this question vigorously by the publication and free distribution each month of pamphlets on Theosophy in the vernacular. One member publishes and distributes these free to hundreds of young people in the villages.

Many Federations publish journals in the mother-tongue.

Mr. Rohit Mehta, Joint Secretary of the World Federation of Young Theosophists, made a successful tour of the Indian Lodges from May to December 1939.

Miss Glen Walker also undertook an extended tour of the Lodges from the end of August to December 1939.

A great stimulus to the artistic and cultural flame of India were the dance recitals given by Rukmini Devi throughout South India in August, September and October 1939. The President gave stirring talks on the future of Indian polity and the need for a Commonwealth of East and West.

The culminating event of the Benares Convention was the decision to resume Dr. Besant's educational work under the name of The Besant Theosophical School, Benares. The School was inaugurated in July 1939.

*"In India the very atmosphere is fragrant with intimations of the future which clothes itself in a spirit of majesty."*

*"In India indeed is real civilization, the civilization of simplicity, of purest culture, of close communion with Mother Earth, of living the daily life in terms of its Eternity."*

—GEORGE S. ARUNDALE

## AFRICA

### EGYPT

Defence questions have loomed large in Egypt and found her ready to fulfil her obligations and to support Britain when war broke out in September 1939. As far back as July 1938 the Egyptian

Minister of War visited England to study the organization of the War office and the Air Force and to select the British expert who should direct the creation of proposed factories for ammunition, small arms and air-craft frames, for which £E700,000 was voted in December



1938. This scheme was part of a larger 5-year Defence Plan, which further involved the creation of an Egyptian nucleus fleet of 36 ships, the expansion of the Army and the Air Force and the building of several new aerodromes and strategic roads. All these plans were finally approved by the Supreme Defence Council in December 1938.

During December 1938 an Advisory Cotton Council was set up to represent agricultural and cotton trade interests. An agreement with the Lancashire Cotton Delegation arranged for mutually increased imports and exports. In May 1939 a permanent Anglo-Egyptian Trade Committee was set up.

In November 1938 the Cabinet recognised the Italian Empire, and Marshal Balbo's visit to Egypt in May 1939 emphasized Egypt's friendly relations with Italy.

In June 1939 Abdel Fattah Yehia Pasha, Foreign Minister, paid an official visit to Turkey which strengthened co-operation in the economic field and was "a striking demonstration of Turko-Egyptian friendship," while an extension of his visit to Bucharest, Sofia and Belgrade intensified friendly relations with the Balkan countries.

The birth of a daughter to Queen Farida in November 1938 was a happy event. The marriage of Princess Fawzia, sister of King Farouk, to the Crown Prince of Iran was also an occasion of great festivity and rejoicing.

A new Cabinet under Aly Pasha Maher came into power in August 1939.

**Theosophy in Egypt:** The Presidential Agent is working for the re-establishment of an Egyptian Section. The War Period 1914-1918 was the heyday of the Section. Well may it be that in these days of renewed war, people will once again turn eagerly for enlightenment to the Divine Wisdom.

## SOUTH AFRICA

The Voortrekker Centenary Celebration was the most prominent event of the year. The stone-laying of the National Monument to the Voortrekkers took place in Pretoria on 16 December 1938, 100 years to the day after the pioneer settlers

defeated the Zulus under Dingaan at Blood River. A "Symbolic Trek" from Cape Town to Pretoria was greeted with enthusiasm everywhere as the processions progressed through the Union to Pretoria.

A controversy of long standing was settled in August 1938, when the Government decided on the principle of two National Anthems on official occasions, both the English and the Afrikaans Anthem having equal honour.

In common with the rest of the Empire, a large South African defence programme was announced and measures were taken to expand the armed forces. In March the South African Defence Federation was formed at Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia, with the object of retaining Tanganyika and S. W. Africa within the Empire and maintaining homogeneity of interests from Cape to Kenya.

Reinforcements of police were sent to S. W. Africa for the preservation of law and order in April 1939, against increasing Nazi propaganda.

In April 1939, the Defence Minister, Mr. Pirow, declared that "if it is humanly possible to keep South Africa out of a war, it would be criminal to do otherwise," but when England declared war on Germany on 3 September 1939, the Union of South Africa did the same under the leadership of General Smuts, General Hertzog having resigned.

The visit of President Carmona of Portugal to South Africa led to a very warm outburst of cordial feeling between the two countries.

The Department of Social Welfare, started in 1937, has drawn up a comprehensive programme of development which now assists directly over 100,000 people.

Afrikaans is a language rapidly coming into its own and acquiring an extensive literature. The country as a whole is bi-lingual, all children being taught both English and Afrikaans.

A specially fine piece of work in combating the evils of unemployment among young men has been done by the Special Service Battalion, which was

first established at Roberts Heights in 1933.

Popular demand soon founded similar detachments in Cape Town, Durban and Bloemfontein. Here a Pioneer Battalion was formed on the same lines for young men not educationally qualified for the Special Service Battalion. The expense of £22,000 is shared by the Labour and Defence Departments equally, and Government absorbs a minimum of 500 men a year from the Pioneer Battalion. The Special Service Battalion training varies from 6 to 15 months, and provides special training, candidates being required for Government Miners' Training Schools and private industrial concerns. The effects of this work have proved extremely beneficial. No less than 8,000 members have found employment and the races are evenly balanced between British and Afrikaner Sections. Recently an extension of the scheme provides also for the training of girls from poorer class homes for domestic and other service.

There is also a growing consciousness among the European population as to the rights of the original inhabitants of the Union, and the best and happiest way of helping and educating them. It is felt that development along the line of arts and crafts is most needed and the Government is seeking to stay the trek of the aborigines to the towns. The Bantu races have a wealth of native music and art, which deserves to be more widely known.

One of the most important anthropological discoveries ever made was that of anthropoid remains in 1938 by the South African scientist, Dr. Robert Broom. It is "the nearest approach to man that we have yet had in a fossil anthropoid," estimated to be 200,000-300,000 years old, of the Middle Pleistocene age.

**Theosophy in South Africa:** Miss Clara Codd has this year been touring lecturer as well as General Secretary. She visited all the Lodges again and was everywhere warmly received. The Section is constantly drawing closer together, and giving evidence of stimulating life. Three

competent Provincial Secretaries give great help. Pretoria Lodge goes from strength to strength, Durban has a vivid social life, Cape Town specializes in distribution of Theosophical literature, and Johannesburg, with the generous aid of Sir Robert Kotze, has purchased a half-acre plot at Auckland Park, and will erect upon it a beautiful Theosophical Hall.

Sir Robert Kotze has also generously made possible the printing of the bi-monthly Section magazine, *The Link*, which is sent free to every member.

Under the fine leadership of Mr. van Ginkel and Mrs. Andrewes work for animal welfare is being pursued throughout the Section.

## NORTH AFRICA

A most valuable stimulus has been given to the North African Lodges (Tunis, Algeria, Morocco) which are within the French Section by Mlle. Cecile Bayer, who spend a whole month with them, giving public lectures and holding members' and sympathisers' meetings.

## EAST AFRICA

*Nairobi Lodge* has a membership of 20 and holds weekly classes regularly on Wednesdays, three in vernacular and one in English a month. The average attendance of members is 10 and of visitors 3.

*Mombasa Lodge:* This Lodge has 10 members. It has enjoyed the visit of Miss Kathleen Veale of Adyar, carrying the President's greetings, en route, for S. Africa. Dr. and Mrs. St. Leger also stopped at Mombasa on their homeward journey from Adyar and the members had a delightful time hearing them speak about Adyar and its work.

Two other Lodges are Krishna at Zanzibar, and Narayana at Dar-es-Salaam.

## WEST AFRICA

*Accra Blavatsky Lodge* (Gold Coast) is a flourishing Lodge attached to the English Section.

## UNION OF SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLICS (RUSSIA)

The Soviets are forging ahead in many fields of endeavour. Education takes a foremost place and is free to all. Almost one quarter of the population is receiving instruction, some 38,000,000 persons, and there are now 705 institutions of university rank. In Central Asia, which formerly had not a single Higher School, there are 63. Young persons entering a University or special technical school receive a subsidy for 8-10 years according to the period of training. The teaching of Marxist and Leninist doctrine is being completely reorganized, for the better inculcation of communist philosophy among the intellectual workers.

During the last five years the national income has risen from 48,500 million roubles to 105,000 million roubles, the number of workers from 22 to 28 millions. The volume of large scale production has increased nearly five-fold during the last 9 years. By the construction of giant new metallurgical plants and the reconstruction of old plants the U.S.S.R. has achieved first place in Europe for pig iron and second place in Europe for steel production.

In January 1939 the Third Five-year Plan was inaugurated, aiming primarily at making the country self-sufficient in basic heavy industries, especially munitions, in event of war. Construction of industrial plants in European Russia is to be limited, and new industries are going to be concentrated beyond the Volga and the Urals, to be out of range of enemy aircraft.

Soviet airmen have purged some 8,000,000 acres of malarial mosquitos; small-pox and cholera have been eradicated, incidence of typhus, diphtheria and dysentery has been reduced by 90%, 85%, and 70% respectively, and tuberculosis mortality by more than 75% since the Revolution. Special attention is given to maternal mortality and the health of schoolchildren. State-maintained sanatoria cater for over 50,000 children, 950,000 adults, and there are holiday homes for over 2,000,000 people.

The first Navy Day was celebrated in July 1939 with a full-dress review of the Baltic Fleet and ceremonies at many ports and principal towns. Russia now possesses four fleets, the Baltic, Pacific, Black Sea and Northern, and several flotillas. An extensive canal construction programme is connecting all the seas of European Russia by deep waterways, and will eventually make Moscow a port in direct touch with five seas.

In opening the 18th Congress of the Communist Party in Moscow, in March 1939, M. Stalin outlined the Foreign Policy as being directed by four aims, the chief of which were peace and the standing up to aggression. In May 1939 Foreign Commissar M. Litvinov resigned and was succeeded by M. Molotov. Prolonged negotiations were carried out with France and Great Britain for the forming of a Peace Front but came to nought. On 23 August Herr von Ribbentrop, German Foreign Minister, arrived in Moscow by air, and after two meetings the Russo-German Non-Aggression Pact was signed, to the great surprise of the outside world. On 17 September the U.S.S.R. joined in the invasion of Poland and, according to a demarcation line previously agreed upon with Germany, occupied the eastern half of the Republic. Immediate Sovietization of the Polish Ukraine took place, allotting to each peasant some land and a cow.

Trade and Friendship Agreements with the Baltic States secured for Russia important concessions from Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia.

One of the most significant figures in the modern history of the stage, M. Constantin Stanislavsky, died in Moscow in September 1938. His work with the Moscow Art Theatre profoundly influenced stage production abroad.

In October 1938 the head of the House of Romanoff, claimant to the Imperial Throne of Russia, Grand Duke Cyril, died in exile in France.

**Theosophy Outside Russia** was given its Charter on 1 January 1926, and

the many scattered groups and Lodges undertook work in two main directions, (1) to spread Theosophical teachings amongst the many refugees in all parts of the world, and (2) to help the country where the Lodge resides. At this crucial time the value of the work done by the Section is more important than ever before.

Dr. Anna Kamensky attended the European Congress at Zagreb in August 1938 and that held in Paris in July 1939. A gain of 9 members was reported, and

the birth of a new Lodge, Svetlana, of Boston, U.S.A. Dr. Kamensky and Dr. Solovsky have given in Geneva a series of lectures on the Russian Occult Tradition. Subsidiary activities, the Golden Chain, Round Table, Young Theosophists, Healing and Art Groups, Theosophical Order of Service, are all flourishing. "The Section is a very living body, full of initiative and devotion. A fiery enthusiasm is the most prominent feature of its activity."

## EASTERN EUROPE

### TURKEY

The first President of the Turkish Republic, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, who practically single-handed resurrected his country in a most critical period, died on 10 November 1938. His services in the Great War and the defeat of the Greek advance on Ankara in 1919 brought him almost undisputed mastery over Turkey. Proclaimed first President of the Turkish Republic in 1923, he ruled as a dictator, concentrating on building a modern, progressive State. He did not hesitate to take measures affecting the most intimate details of Turkish life, and placed women on an equality with men in all spheres, giving them the franchise in 1934. Improvements introduced by the Government in agriculture, communications, public health and education raised Turkey to be a powerful force in the Near East. Age-long hostility with Greece was ended by a Treaty of Friendship, and Turkey became a member of the League of Nations in 1932 and later of the Balkan Entente. Ruthless as were his methods Mustafa Kemal Ataturk will go down in history as the greatest benefactor his country has ever known.

He was succeeded as President by General Ismet Inönü, who had been his chief associate and adjutant in carrying out the programmes of reforms, and Prime Minister almost continuously since 1923. President Inönü was elected lifelong leader of the People's Party,

which constitutes the definite and final basis of national and political life of new Turkey, the only political organization permitted.

General elections were held in February 1939 instead of in the autumn owing to "the alarming turn taken by the international situation."

In October 1938 the Prime Minister, M. Yelal Bayer, announced the immediate launching of a vast construction programme for all spheres of economic activity, comprising new harbours on the Black Sea, factories for important agricultural industries, electrification of large tracts of country, the acceleration of mining industries and the expansion of the merchant marine.

In May 1939 a long term Anglo-Turkish Pact was signed "of reciprocal character in the interests of their national security," and in July this was followed by a Franco-Turkish agreement by which the Hatay (Sanjak of Alexandretta) was ceded back to Turkey. Both Pacts were enthusiastically welcomed.

The official visits of the Romanian Foreign Minister and the Egyptian Foreign Minister in June led to close friendships with these countries and a strengthening of economic co-operation. It was decided to create an Institute of Balkan affairs in Istanbul.

When war broke out in Europe in September 1939 Turkey sided with Great Britain and France.

**Theosophy in Turkey** has not yet been established.

## GREECE

Real improvement of the social services has taken place during the past year, and the campaign for public hygiene has been notably successful, especially in the fight against tuberculosis. National defence measures have been expertly organized by General Metaxas, dictator of the present régime—the people were glad that an experienced military commander stood at the head of affairs.

After the annexation of Albania by Italy, Britain and France guaranteed the independence of Greece against external attack.

There is much official sympathy with German cultural methods. Every facility is afforded students to visit German universities and the "Neolaia" official Youth Organization which has replaced all others, from the age of 7 years upwards, is conducted on Fascist principles. Germany is Greece's most important customer, followed by the United States of America and Great Britain.

Interesting archaeological discoveries have been as follows: the excavation on the Bay of Navarino by Professor Blegen of the University of Cincinnati (U.S.A.) of a 3000 year old palace believed to have belonged to King Nestor, father of Perseus, mentioned in Homer's *Iliad*, with 670 clay tablets in the Minoan script of the Aegean civilization, as yet undecipherable; the identification by Professor Marinatos of the site of the Battle of Thermopylae, described by Herodotus; and the location of the tomb of King Leonidas of Sparta, who in B.C. 480 with 300 men resisted, and was annihilated by, the overwhelming Persian hosts of Xerxes—an undying epic of heroism.

**Theosophy in Greece:** Lodges are working regularly, public lectures being given twice a month. Mademoiselle Serge Brisy included the Section in her tour of Central Europe in the spring of 1939 and stimulated the work wherever she went.

## BULGARIA

Political, economic and cultural relations with Germany were intensified during the last year, resulting in a growing volume of trade. Though Bulgaria is slowly developing new industries she is predominantly agricultural. 59% of her total exports go to Germany and she is dependent on that country for reciprocal industrial products. The future completion by Germany of the Rhine-Main-Danube canal is intended to consolidate still further their mutual dependence. The official visit of Mr. Kiosseivanoff, Premier, to Germany in July 1939 "confirmed the traditional friendship between the two countries."

The National Socialist Party was dissolved by Government in April 1939 for intent to overthrow the régime.

Under the wise leadership of King Boris III the country is rapidly trying to adjust itself to the material and cultural attainments of the West. Educational facilities are increasingly available to all. Public libraries are found in even the smallest hamlets. Art galleries, museums, a National Theatre and Opera provide a focus for the keen love of beauty, the mystic response to the grandeur of nature which give the Bulgarians so great an affinity with the Russian people.

St. Ivan of Rila, whose monastery has been an important spiritual and cultural centre throughout the centuries, still watches over his people as the Protector of Bulgaria.

**Theosophy in Bulgaria:** The Section has been re-registered according to the requirements of a new law, though the temporary difficulty made an annual convention impossible. A strong and enthusiastic delegation attended the European Congress, held in Zagreb, Yugoslavia, in August 1938.

As the Section felt rather isolated, partly owing to the lack of Theosophical literature in Bulgarian, it asked for closer contact with the other Sections of the European Federation. As a result the chief event of 1939 has been a

much appreciated visit from Mademoiselle Serge Brisy, General Secretary for Belgium.

## YUGOSLAVIA

The most outstanding event since the nation was created at the Treaty of Versailles, has taken place this year, when the Prime Minister, M. Tzvetkovitch, and the Croat leader, Dr. Matchek, signed an agreement which ended one of the bitterest feuds of post-war Europe. Many previous Governments had attempted the same thing unsuccessfully, and it was disagreement over the Croatian question and the Croatian demand for autonomy which caused the resignation of M. Stoyadinovitch's Cabinet in February. M. Tzvetkovitch in forming a new Cabinet included two Croats, two Bosnian Moslems and two Slovenes, while the rest were Serbs.

Aiming at "understanding the Croats in a spirit of tolerance and on a basis of full equality between Serb and Croat," the Premier and Dr. Matchek began conversations in Zagreb in April 1939, which have given the Croats a large measure of autonomy, while reserving defence, foreign affairs and national finance under central control. The continued tension in Europe emphasized the need for unity if Yugoslavia as a nation were to survive.

The Regent, Prince Paul, visited Rome and Berlin in May and June 1939, having conversations with the leading statesmen of both countries. Dr. Funk, German Minister of Economics, visited Yugoslavia in October 1938 and arranged a German-Yugoslav Trade Agreement; in April 1939 a Trade Agreement with France was signed, while the Italian Foreign Minister, Count Ciano, and Premier Stoyadinovitch in January 1939 decided on closer economic relations between these two countries.

An Exhibition of Croat Art in Zagreb met with deserved success. Unique specimens of ceramics and traces of a vast prehistoric neolithic settlement hitherto unknown in Bosnia have been discovered in a cave near Samski Most.

The Pan-Slav feeling still exists strongly in many parts of the country

with a natural sympathy for Russia, though not for the Communists. Many Russian refugee aristocrats found asylum in Yugoslavia, and the last chargé d'affaires of the Tsarist regime is still numbered among the personnel of the Diplomatic Corps.

Song is one of the spontaneous expressions of the people, both Croats and Serbs; their folksongs are varied and numerous and often sad. A keen artistic sense has influenced their daily living, their clothes and utensils. They live close to nature and have a deeply mystic strain; they are frugal, hardy, hard-working, simple, friendly and hospitable. With the unity of the nation once more restored, the Government with the full support of the people, will be able to forge ahead to knit all sections in closer ties of national brotherhood.

**Theosophy in Yugoslavia:** The Section has received from the President of The Theosophical Society a Certificate of Honour for its services to Theosophy and The Society as hosts at Zagreb of the European Congress in 1938.

In the Spring of 1939 Mademoiselle Serge Brisy visited the Section and reported that "Theosophy in Zagreb is lively, active, with fine co-operation among many devoted workers."

## ROMANIA

The Romanian motto, "Nihil sine Deo," one of the finest in the world, dedicates the nation to the service of God and gives it a wonderful sense of optimism and security.

The centenary of King Carol I, founder of the Kingdom and of the present dynasty, was celebrated with all the reverence and gratitude due from the nation. In the winter of 1938 King Carol and Crown Prince Michael paid a State visit to Great Britain, during which the cordial relations existing between the two nations were stressed by both Monarchs. As a result, a British Institute was established in Bucharest, which will encourage closer cultural relations between Romania and Britain.

In August 1938 a Little Entente Agreement was concluded with Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, at Bled, in the latter country, with a reciprocal renunciation of all recourse to force. The visit of M. Gafencu, Foreign Minister, to Turkey in June 1939 emphasized the close friendship between the two countries and led to the decision to create an Institute of Balkan affairs in Istanbul.

An Economic Treaty with Germany in March 1939 gave the Reich a large measure of control over Romania's economic resources. It provided for a large increase in Romanian agricultural production and the establishment of mixed German-Romanian companies for the working of mines and petroleum deposits in return for German industrial products. A Trade and Cultural Treaty with France was also welcomed in April 1939.

Strong Government action resulted in the suppression of the Iron Guard Party.

In October 1938 an Institute of Social Service was created to spread knowledge of culture, hygiene and efficiency. It will work through a House of Culture in each town and village, in which University students will have to take part in order to qualify for their degrees.

A Royal Decree founded the new Party of National Regeneration. No other party or activity will be permitted, and all members must subscribe to the motto "King and Nation, Work and Faith" and swear an oath of loyalty to the King.

In March 1939 the Prime Minister and Patriarch, Dr. Miron Cristea, died and was succeeded by the General Secretary of the Party of Regeneration, M. Calinescu, as Prime Minister, while Archbishop Nicodemus, Metropolitan of Moldavia, a distinguished scholar and theologian, was elected as head of the Romanian Orthodox Church.

The first elections under the new Constitution took place in June 1939, marking a complete transformation to a corporative system. All the members of the Government and most of the

former Labour and Socialist Party leaders were returned.

An extensive Five-Year Plan for industrial and economic development was submitted to the Cabinet in June 1939, including schemes for road, railway and canal construction, exploitation of mineral wealth, and state encouragement of industries essential to national defence.

The King has a deep devotion to the peasants and the working people. His Royal dictatorship aims at increased stability, greater economic and cultural progress. At the outbreak of war in Europe Romania proclaimed her neutrality.

In a country full of varied natural beauty live the Romanian people, who, as King Carol said, stand a "Sentinel of Occidental civilization at the gates of the Orient." In direct touch with nature the Romanians have acquired a fine sensibility, an inner life full of mystery, showing an inborn taste for beauty, harmony of line and colour. Art is an essential of life, expressed in every detail of living; it is the people's noblest heritage, which through many harsh vicissitudes has preserved her active, conscious sense of unity, protected her strength from rudeness, preserved her gentleness and natural distinction. The Romanian peasant expresses himself with dignity, never noisily; his folklore, music and poetry contain many jewels.

**Theosophy in Romania** shows an increase of six in membership. Police permission was obtained for the holding of public lectures which were fairly well attended. More people are taking an active interest in the work, and it has been possible to circulate a small modern bulletin to keep in touch with scattered Lodges and members. The *Revista Teosofica* will soon be started again, it is hoped.

The visit of Miss Jean Glen Walker in September 1938, though cut short owing to the political situation, was much appreciated. The Zagreb Congress resulted in a "fresh awakening of the members to the consciousness of their membership."



## CENTRAL EUROPE

## HUNGARY

Two chief trends have been noticeable in Hungary, a much closer friendship with Germany and following on this a progressive restriction in Jewish policy. Dr. Bela Imrédy, Prime Minister since May 1938, made strong efforts to check extremism and steer a moderate course, trying to satisfy claims which are leading to a rapid growth of National-Socialism.

In December 1938 Count Csaky, Foreign Minister, declared the Government's decision to join the Anti-Comintern Pact which was formally ratified in February 1939. This resulted in a rupture of relations with Soviet Russia, but since the outbreak of war in Europe in September 1939 and the acquiring by Russia of the half of Poland, new negotiations between the two countries are proceeding. A further result of Hungary's joining the Axis Powers was her withdrawal from the League of Nations in April 1939.

Hungary's post-war territorial revision policy was partially satisfied, when as a result of her demands during the crisis of September 1938, she was ceded certain frontier territories by Czecho-Slovakia, the occupation of which was completed in November. The Slovaks thus coming under Hungarian rule were assured of fullest equality in all spheres of life with other Hungarian citizens.

As with the acquisition of these new territories many more Jews passed into the Hungarian State, the Government revised their Jewish policy and since then restrictions upon Jews have become increasingly stringent. Dr. Imrédy himself, discovering a Jewish great-grandfather in his ancestry, resigned and was succeeded by Count Paul Teleki. The Jewish Restrictions Bill passed in May 1939 raised great controversy. Strong opposition to it was offered in the Upper House which caused various amendments to be accepted, though the Lower House was in favour of a more radical course.

In the General Elections at the end of May the Government obtained 189 out of the 260 seats, and at the opening of the new Parliament in June the Regent, Admiral Horthy, declared the nation's firm adherence to their old friends Italy and Germany. Count Teleki and Count Csaky paid an official visit to Berlin in the spring of 1939, when "complete agreement was established between both parties."

In the first three months of 1939 Germany took 95% of Hungary's meat export and 88% of her grain.

In August 1938 new oil wells were found, and with the help of these Hungary will now have more than sufficient for her own needs.

In the same month great celebrations took place in Budapest on the 900th anniversary of the death of St. Stephen, the King who founded Hungary, converted it to Christianity, and still lives today in the hearts of his subjects. His crown, now that Hungary has no King, is the heart of the nation, with the Kingship vested in it, and it remains the focus of Hungary's unity and centuries-old veneration.

**Theosophy in Hungary:** The Section has kept its library living and up-to-date, with practically no funds, through its publication in bound typescript of translations and original Theosophical works. No fewer than 14 such works were issued in 1938, including the entire *Inner Life*, by C. W. Leadbeater.

The Youth Group shows great activity and enthusiasm, and several members visited Huizen, Holland, during the Hungarian Week held there in May 1939, taking with them lectures, films, photographs and characteristic embroideries of their country so that its beauty and art might become known further afield.

Mademoiselle Serge Brisy paid the Section a much appreciated visit in 1939.

## AUSTRIA

Austria has been in form completely absorbed as a political unit, and as an integral part of Greater Germany was

split up on 1 May 1939 into seven provinces called "Reichsgau." Their history now runs parallel with that of the Reich, and is under the same régime of National-Socialistic policy. Yet certain measures affect her former territory more closely than others, such as the accelerated completion of the Rhine-Main-Danube canal which is to be ready in 1945. It will be a vital artery for the Reich, linking up the North Sea with the Black Sea, by which Danubian oil, minerals and foodstuffs can travel cheaply to the heart of the Reich. No amount of political absorption, however, can destroy the integral unity of this people whose essential contribution to the world is "a Spirit of Culture with which is blended a Spirit of the Quest."

**Theosophy in Austria:** The activities of The Society have been suspended because the policy of the Reich is to concentrate on national rather than international movements.

## CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

Undaunted by the occupation of Bohemia and Moravia and the subjugation of Slovakia to Hungarian occupation and German suzerainty, the spirit of Czecho-Slovakia established its independence under its former President Benesh with headquarters in London.

On March 15, 1939, under threat of the annihilation of Prague, the capital, Dr. Hacha, President of Czecho-Slovakia, "placed the fate of the Czech people and their country confidently in the hands of the Fuehrer of the German Reich," ten minutes after German troops had already entered the country. By 9 a.m. Prague was occupied and in a few hours every important centre was in German hands.

On 16 March the text of the Proclamation by Herr Hitler on the new Constitution of Bohemia and Moravia was broadcast in Prague by Herr von Ribbentrop.

Within a few days the Gestapo had arrested some 18,000 "undesirable persons" and German Anti-Jewish laws were rapidly being put into force.

Increasing German economic penetration after the Munich agreement had paved the way for this final step.

Practically no incidents occurred during this tragic time for the Czech people. They maintained the most exemplary discipline, though dejected and despairing. In spite of German regulations thousands visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Czech National Monument of Independence, deposited floral tributes there and sang their National Anthem for the last time, in tears.

Since then the German National-Socialist régime has been applied also to the former Czecho-Slovak State. That the people have remained silently hostile and are hoping for deliverance from foreign domination is shown by the widespread revolutionary movement which broke out after the beginning of the war, on 16 September and the following days, and was ruthlessly suppressed by the German military and Gestapo.

Before the final incorporation of the State into Germany the growth of Slovak separatism caused the dismissed Slovak Premier, Dr. Tiso, to appeal for assistance to Germany. On 14 March Dr. Tiso convened a meeting of the Slovak Diet and an independent Slovak State was created with Dr. Tiso as first Premier and Representative.

Independent for one day, the Slovak State asked Herr Hitler to take over its protection on 16 March.

Since the outbreak of War, sympathies are again in favour of union with the Czechs, and several Slovak battalions have refused to fight in Poland and have been "confined to barracks," while Slovak airmen have been prohibited from flying. Disaffection with the German régime appears to be widespread.

The restoration of an independent Czecho-Slovakia is one of the war aims of the British and French allies. Formerly often in conflict, German domination is now again uniting, as never before, the Czechs and the Slovaks under the stress of tragedy and under the flaming hope of renewed national existence.

and achievement. When the third Czecho-Slovak Republic arises after the war it will have firmer foundations of National Unity than had any preceding it and, purified from the dross of disunity, will, it is visioned, rise to as yet undreamed of heights.

**Theosophy in Czecho-Slovakia:** As in other parts under Reich dominion, Theosophy in Czecho-Slovakia is at present in abeyance and like the Czech people is awaiting its resurrection.

## POLAND

"There is only one thing in the life of men and nations that is without price, and that is honour," declared Colonel Beck, Foreign Minister, in May 1939 when he asserted that "We in Poland do not know the conception of peace at any price."

This quality of Honour, even at the cost of a terrible Martyrdom, is the laurel-wreath that Poland the Magnificent wears today in her tragedy of nationless and exiled leaders. Poland has led the way for all nations through the valley of the shadow of death to a future resurrection and triumph of Freedom, Victory, and Honour for the world.

Ever since Poland was recreated an independent State, the ruling principle of her foreign and domestic policy has been the building up of an army which might keep her frontiers inviolate. In spite of most heroic attempts to stem the German invasion—the defence of Warsaw, of the Hela Peninsula, of the garrison at Gdynia are epics of heroism—the army was hopelessly outnumbered, and when Russia joined from the East, could not prolong the struggle. The Government fled, but was re-constituted in Paris, and Poles in France, in Canada and elsewhere flocked to be recruited as separate regiments under Polish command on the Western Front.

Though Germany and Russia had both violated their Non-Aggression Pacts with Poland, France and Great Britain kept their word and the guarantee given in the gathering political storms of the spring and summer of 1939. On 3

September 1939 both came to the aid of Poland, declaring war on Germany.

Most of Poland's energies in every field during the year were directed towards the defence of the State in case of aggression, but in 1938 President Moscicki dissolved Parliament with the intention of introducing a new electoral system to allay public dissatisfaction and satisfy the Peasant Party's demands. Late in 1938 the Ukrainian minority, involving some 9,000,000 people, put forward a claim, strengthened by the Polonization campaign in the Ukrainian provinces, for autonomous status within the Republic, but the Sejm rejected this Bill in December 1938, since it called for a modification of the Constitution.

Many times before has Poland suffered partition, but all the efforts of her most formidable foes have been unable to take from this fascinating, wonderful people, their sense of a continued, imperishable life and nationality. However divided, she has continued to show a remarkable unity and unanimity, and calm determination to work out, patiently and persistently, her historical future. A country of plains and plateaus, whose main industry has always been agriculture, the small peasant proprietor, sober, thrifty and industrious, is the back-bone of the nation.

Rich in great traditions and artistic sense, with a beautiful folklore, a sense of youth and urgency, and a deep romanticism, which the great Marshal Josef Pilsudski interpreted so well in his watchword: "Romantic ideals: realism in their pursuit," there is a tenacity, a resoluteness, a vitality in this wonderful people which has never shrunk from a forlorn hope to be attempted, but which has always set her, with chivalrous impetuosity, in the forefront of political evolution and in advance of her time.

Essentially chivalrous, incorrigibly lenient, unwilling to crush her enemies entirely, with a genius for initiative and organization, an enormous zeal for education—before 1830 school attendance was compulsory—Poland is always trying experiments and with an instinct for

variation hates the monotonous, the ordinary, the conventional. Her scientists and artists have achieved world fame in many fields, and the oldest arts, music and the dance, play notable parts in the artistic life of the people. Such a nation cannot die. No matter what temporary eclipse Poland may suffer, the tolerant, progressive, freedom-loving spirit of the people and their sense of irrepressible nationality will again make its constructive contribution towards the Peace and Justice of a re-built Europe of free peoples, for Poland possesses the hero-soul—a soul that gave itself in magnificent sacrifice for the freedom of the world.

**Theosophy in Poland:** Before the war it was reported that three new lines of work were started in 1938: The "Action" Lodge consecrated its meditation to building thought-links with every other European Section; a large inquirers' class was started by a new and promising member; Occultism was the subject chosen by the Convention 1937 for the year's work. Two new books were edited, and a pamphlet on understanding printed in the Section office. Every member in Warsaw was taking an active part in Lodge and Section activities. Visits by Miss Pascaline Mallet, Miss Selever and Professor van der Stok were greatly appreciated, as was also the Zagreb Congress in Yugoslavia, while gratitude is expressed for the liaison link with Adyar.

Theosophists in Poland are now playing their martyr part with nobility and understanding, as only the Theosophist can, who so well knows the high purpose of war, even though it culminate in that temporary defeat which is but the prelude to a greater victory.

## GERMANY

During the past year Germany steadily continued on the way mapped out for her by her Fuehrer. As a result of the Munich Agreement in September 1938, the annexation of the Sudeten districts of Czecho-Slovakia brought an increase of 3,600,000 inhabitants to the Reich, rich coal deposits, important industrial concerns, a flourishing timber industry,

noted health resorts, radium deposits and valuable agricultural land, while politically it gained more favourable strategic frontiers and control over important railways and junctions. On 15 March 1939 the rest of Czecho-Slovakia was added to Germany, becoming a Protectorate.

Within a week, Germany's frontiers were further extended by the annexation of the Memel territory in Lithuania. It was then determined that Danzig and the Polish Corridor must also return to the Reich, but strong opposition was offered to this plan both by Poland and the Western Powers. In order to attain this goal Germany invaded Poland on 1 September 1939. Great Britain and France came to Poland's assistance on the Western Front on 3 September 1939, Russia came to Germany's aid on 17 September, and after severe fighting Germany seized the western half of Poland, while Russia entered the eastern half by 28 September 1939.

Internal policy was largely concerned with the erection of new fortifications on the Western Frontier (the Siegfried Line) for which thousands of workers of all trades were conscripted, and tremendous military preparations were made.

Much work was also done on the Rhine-Main-Danube canal, which is to be completed by 1945 to become a vital artery and a direct link from the Balkan countries into the heart of Germany. In October 1938 the Mittelland canal was completed, connecting the North Sea, Rhine and Ems with the Oder, Vistula and Baltic Sea, and plans were made for widening the Kiel canal to double its width.

During the year comprehensive trade agreements were signed with many Balkan countries and others.

Everything possible is being done to stress the importance of physical fitness. Great emphasis is laid on the national health crusade, and the need for universal mothercraft training centres. Germany's health standard is said to be high.

### The German Soul:

At present the Hitler and Nazi régime is leaving the German soul but small if any freedom. In spite of the racial theories of the last few years the German people, like all other European nations, are not a homogeneous nation, but certain definitely German types have become welded into one dominant nationality. This has given Europe and the world some of the greatest geniuses the human race has produced in almost every field of human endeavour. The Teutonic soul, out of its long history and its absorption of many creeds, is still trying to achieve a synthesis of the apparently incompatible Gods of Christianity, Grecian myths and Nordic Sagas. The complexities of their emotions make it difficult to see life as a whole, and tend to foster an attitude of aloofness from the realities of the world which pretends the reality is not there or is other than it is. They are a passionate and simple people in love with the magic and mystery of nature—mystics and idealists.

With an innate love of the abstract, of abstract philosophising, and of many ideals, they like to brood, to "know" with the emotions. Hero worship in its noblest aspect makes a strong appeal and leads to magnificent sacrifice whether in the building up of new nationhood or the subordination of the self for the common good. In its lower aspects it shows a soul which has not yet grown into its own strength, is longing for a strong hand to lean upon, fatally willing to give obedience without discrimination, to follow blindly the lead of emotion.

These qualities have all found their sublimated expression in the poetry and the music of Germany. Is there need to mention Beethoven, Bach, Wagner? It is invidious to mention names, when so much genius calls for recognition.

So it is with the poetry and the literature of this great people, whose "lieder" and lyrics in their simplicity are perhaps the subtlest expression of the German soul in art. The philosophers with their eastern trend have enriched the world with deep probings

into the fundamental realities of the universe, and in the scientists the intellectual and organizing genius of the nation, together with its concentrated co-operative instinct, finds culmination.

When the German nation realizes that its leaders have led it astray, away from its highest spiritual ideals in pursuit of lower material aims, then the diligent, patient, active soul of Germany discriminating at last will call a halt and resume once again that quest for the beckoning light of high national idealism and achievement which, in spite of its greatness hitherto, it has never yet completely reached and which will in the future lead it to heights of great magnificence.

**Theosophy in Germany:** Because of the exclusively nationalistic emphasis now being stressed in Germany, The Theosophical Society still remains suspended.

### ITALY

Three events of greatest world importance took place in Italy during the last year:

The death of H. H. the Pope, Pius XI, on 10 February 1939, aged 81; the elevation to the Papacy of H. E. Cardinal Eugenio Pacelli by the Sacred College, 2 March 1939, when he took the name Pope Pius XII and chose the words "Opus, Justitia, Pax" for the device of his standard; and the occupation by Italy of Albania during Easter, April 1939.

Pope Pius XII was solemnly crowned at St. Peter's, Rome, on 12 March 1939, and has since issued many stirring appeals for Peace and initiated various diplomatic peace moves.

The occupation of Albania was completed in a few days, and a National Constituent Assembly decided "as a solemn token of the realization of the desire of the Albanian people to offer H. M. Victor Emmanuel III, King of Italy, the Albanian Crown for him and his descendants." The Albanian military forces were incorporated with those of Italy, and Italy assumed control of Albanian foreign relations.

In August 1938 Italy adopted a Fascist racial policy aimed at limiting the share of Jews in the national life.

An incident in the Chamber of Deputies when there were cries of "Tunis-Corsica-Nice" led to a period of acute tension with France in December 1938. The Anglo-Italian Agreement came into force in November 1938, formally acknowledging the recognition of the Italian Empire. An agreement for closer cultural co-operation with Germany was signed in Rome in November 1938 and a German-Italian military alliance in May 1939. In July 1939 the German-speaking population of the South Tyrol was transferred to Germany. New trade and barter agreements were concluded with Germany, U.S.S.R., Mexico and Argentina.

As a move to increase the birth-rate in September 1938 marriage was made obligatory for promotion for all State employees, the New Fascist Civil Code aiming at giving greater importance to the family in the social structure. Civil servants will in future wear uniforms of military cut with indications of rank on the sleeves. Various reforms in education were approved by the Fascist Grand Council, providing for compulsory education from 4 years up to 21 years of age. All educational institutions will include periods of labour in workshops and factories, on land and at sea. A number of schemes for utilizing the outflow of the Northern Italian lakes for the irrigation of agricultural land are to be completed by 1941.

Far-reaching land reforms were announced by Signor Mussolini in Sicily, where the Government expect to spend 1,000,000,000 Lire during the next 10 years.

The colonial status of Libya was abolished, its four provinces being included in the national territory. Large scale colonization, initiated by Marshal Balbo, was made possible after the discovery of extensive water deposits at a depth of 1000 feet. Many roads, aqueducts and artesian wells have been made, whole streets of houses built, and it is hoped that by the end of 1939 the

number of Italians in Libya will have risen to 160,000.

The city of Carbonia, in Sardinia, was officially inaugurated in December 1938 in view of its becoming the leading centre of Sardinian industrial activity.

Defence estimates loom large. Signor Mussolini said in March 1939: "The order of the day is: more guns, more ships, more aeroplanes, at whatever cost, even if we have to dispense radically with what is called civil life."

The Government have made open-air opera one of the greatest cultural attractions for the masses. The response has been remarkable. It was expected that quite 1,000,000 people would enjoy this very national entertainment in the 1939 season. All the major cities have their open-air opera, usually staged spectacularly in some splendid ruins of antiquity. For the smaller cities the Ministry of Popular Culture has organized travelling road shows which bring opera, for a week at a time, to many places which could not otherwise afford it.

A fine programme of public works and welfare is being carried out, new roads, reclamation of waste lands and swamps, the installation of infant-welfare centres, mass physical training, clearance of slums, the making of new cities and the initiation of many other far-sighted reforms.

The Nobel Prize for Physics was awarded to Professor Enrico Fermi of Rome. In the field of Criminology Italy is noted for her convincing and brilliant scientific contributions.

When war broke out in Europe 1939 Italy affirmed a strict neutrality.

**Theosophy in Italy:** Considering The Theosophical Society's aims as being insufficiently national, a portion of the Section broke off from the Parent Society, Adyar, to found a separate Italian Society.

On 6 October 1938 Dottore Gasco was appointed as Presidential Agent, and on 22 December 1938 a letter dated 26 November 1938 was received by Dr. Arundale containing a declaration signed by representative members

affirming their loyalty to The Theosophical Society, Adyar, and considering themselves "as the legitimate promoters

of The Theosophical Society in Italy." Government intervened to suspend all activities.

## WESTERN EUROPE

### SWITZERLAND

In December 1938, Federal Councillor Dr. Philip Etter, a Roman Catholic Conservative, was elected Federal President for the next year.

The international situation found Switzerland wide awake to its implications; the Federal Council took action against Swiss Nazi propaganda and anti-democratic activities, and while all possible ordinary defence precautions were accelerated, Switzerland realized more than perhaps any other nation the value of spiritual rearmament. The Swiss Federation in the spring of 1939 voted an annual credit of 500,000 Fr., and in May passed a Federal law for the mobilizing of her intellectual, artistic and moral forces, in order to make known her spiritual patrimony. Passionate discussion on the spiritual defence of the country has everywhere a base of common will and spirit to unify all national ideas and ideals.

In April 1939 Auxiliary Defence Service was made compulsory, extending National Service to all men between 20 and 60, not fit for military service. The Swiss people are ready for any sacrifice at any cost to defend their country's liberty, neutrality and independence. Large new Defence Credits were voted in the spring of 1939, and the fortification of the Austrian frontier was greatly speeded up.

When war broke out in September 1939 Switzerland declared her traditional neutrality.

In spite of these and other measures of military preparedness, Switzerland had time to organize three Exhibitions which attracted many thousands of visitors to Geneva, Zurich and Berne.

The Swiss National Exhibition, opened at Zurich in May 1939, displayed such extraordinarily fine organization of exhibits as to have set up a new high-water mark in this art.

There were over 2,000,000 visitors in the first month.

In Geneva an Exhibition of Spanish pictures showed the heights which Art has reached in war-torn Spain, while at Berne a French Exhibition gave the opportunity of seeing the best pictures from the Museum of Montpellier, France.

Although this is little realized, Switzerland is a very highly industrialized country, and in proportion to her 4,000,000 population, one of the richest countries in the world.

The Swiss are among the steadiest and most tenacious people in Europe and they have solved the problem of how various nationalities can become truly Swiss and live together in harmony and unity.

**Theosophy in Switzerland:** Switzerland is now the only country where German-speaking nationals have the liberty of belonging to The Theosophical Society. The Swiss Section decided therefore to intensify its efforts especially in the German-speaking parts of the country. To that end the *Bulletin* is to be printed in French and German and will devote the greater part of its space to articles in German.

The International Order of the Round Table has an active Table at Basel. Other members without Tables are doing social service.

At Chevreys-sur-Anières (Canton de Genève) Madame Marguerite Steiger has opened up her wooded property so as to welcome some 20 children who need regeneration from the intoxication of the cities, finding an atmosphere of brotherhood, rational diet and the wholesome life which the city denies them.

### SPAIN

"The War is over." These words in the Nationalist Military Communique of 2 April 1939, ended at last the tragic struggle in Spain. "The Nationalist



troops have achieved their final military objectives," declared General Franco, who is now stressing Spain's desire for peace, and has approved a comprehensive programme for the reconstruction of devastated areas.

In November 1938 the International Brigade, in which some 30 different nationalities had fought for the Government side since the early days of the war, was repatriated.

In January 1939 the complete collapse of Republican resistance in Catalonia led to rapid Nationalist advances, the capture of Barcelona, and the full occupation of Catalonia.

After the fall of Catalonia, President Azana resigned on 28 February 1939, no longer wishing to be identified with a policy of continued resistance and bloodshed, which he now considered useless. Senor Barrio became head of the Republican Government in succession.

On 5 March 1939 Dr. Negrin's Republican Government was overthrown and superseded by a Council of National Defence, with a policy based on peace and conciliation opposed to continuing a fratricidal war.

Madrid finally surrendered on 28 March, the collapse of the last vestiges of Republican resistance following rapidly. By 31 March the civil war was at an end, with General Franco recognized as head of the Nationalist Government. Most foreign Governments had already given him "de jure" recognition by February 1939.

The food shortage in Republican Spain had become very acute by the end of 1938, partly through the influx of refugees from Nationalist Spain, which had increased the population by 25%. Many Governments assisted in relief to both sides.

After the fall of Barcelona nearly 450,000 refugees entered France.

A "Victory Parade" celebrated the Nationalist Triumph in Madrid in May 1939, 150,000 troops participating, including Italians and Germans. "Civil mobilization" was introduced in May 1939 for the reconstruction of the State.

It is estimated that 450,000 soldiers were killed at the front and 750,000 civilians lost their lives.

In April 1939 Spain officially joined the Anti-Comintern Pact and resigned from the League of Nations in May 1939.

A Cultural Treaty with Germany was concluded in January and a Treaty of Friendship with Portugal in March 1939.

At the outbreak of war in Europe in September 1939 Spain declared her neutrality. By a decree promulgated in July 1939 the Falange Española Tradicionalista was reorganized, incorporating the Army. The Army is made the "inspiration and base of the Spanish State" with the purpose of establishing "an economic régime superior to the interests of individual, group or class, for the multiplication of wealth in the service of the State, of social justice, and of the Christian liberty of the individual."

A Supreme Council of Defence was decreed on the same day with General Franco as President, and a new Government was formed on 10 August. The first meeting of the Cabinet declared that "within the briefest period Spain should set about the recuperation and development of her resources," but the nation was so ruined "that a period of austere sacrifices must be imposed." General Franco declared: "The new régime is Spanish and . . . will aim at the suppression of the class-struggle, while protecting the less fortunate and regulating capital."

In December 1938 a Council of Nationalist Ministers restored full rights of citizenship to Ex-King Alphonso, and a further decree in May 1939 restored his property in Spain, of which he had been deprived by Republican decrees in 1931-2.

**Theosophy in Spain:** The Society is at present unable to function and is awaiting re-organization under the new régime.

## PORTUGAL

Three outstanding figures in public life are the much loved President Carmona, cultured, courtly and venerable army chief; Dr. Oliveira Salazar, Prime

Minister, honest, painstaking and a great force for good, whose aim is to make the people politically conscious on a basis of rights and obligations, with a personal and collective sense of responsibility; and Cardinal Manuel Cerejeira, who has done much in building up the spiritual welfare of the country.

At a special session of the National Assembly, in May 1939, the ancient and traditional friendly relations with Great Britain and loyalty to the Anglo-Portuguese Alliance were reaffirmed by the Prime Minister. The visit of President Carmona to the Union of South Africa was authorized, including the Portuguese colonies in Africa.

The Budget for 1939 showed a surplus for the eleventh year in succession. In March 1939 a Treaty of Friendship and a Non-Aggression Pact with Spain were signed.

In November 1938 the British Institute in Lisbon was opened with the Government's approval to promote the diffusion of British culture generally.

**Theosophy in Portugal** is gradually surmounting many difficulties. The Section records a gain of 15 members, the discharge of the Section debt, and an increase of readers to its library. Active work is done in The Theosophical Order of Service, public lectures are well circularized and great days suitably celebrated.

## FRANCE

On 3 September 1939, France and Britain fulfilled their solemn pledge to Poland and took up arms, not only in her defence against Germany's invasion on 1 September 1939, but as a rampart of free collaboration against ruthless domination.

The Declaration of War was the logical outcome of the sentiments expressed by M. Daladier in an important statement on Foreign Policy on 4 June 1939: "I must assure the world that France is in the front rank of the Powers who will prevent Europe being drawn into catastrophe by attempts at domination. If there is any intention to threaten the peace of Europe we have a right resolutely to oppose such adventures."

France declared war on Germany only a few hours after Great Britain had done so, on 3 September 1939. Very soon after the declaration of war French and British troops were fraternizing together on the Western Front, while their combined navies were intercepting the German U-boats on the high seas—another evidence of the increasingly close co-operation between these two mighty defenders of the peace, a "co-operation which excludes no one."

In a most remarkable way the French nation rallied, as she had so often done in the past, to meet each successive crisis of the last few months, each time emerging stronger, more united and with improved morale.

In the September crisis of 1938 complete accord existed between France and Britain. The conclusion of the Munich agreement, characterized by M. Daladier as "an act of reason," led to a period of respite, of which full advantage was taken.

One of the most ambitious naval programmes ever attempted in France was carried out, and in January 1939 a new battleship, the biggest ship in her fleet, was launched, three sister ships being on the stocks. Unfortunately the total loss of the submarine "Phénix" in Indo-Chinese waters in June 1939, with 71 men on board, and the gutting by fire in April of the "Paris," one of her leading trans-Atlantic liners, were serious disasters.

M. Paul Renaud, Minister of Finance, and the most outstanding figure in France after M. Daladier, in November 1938 explained that the economic and financial condition was due to a gradual impoverishment of the country. The imperious need was increase of national revenue, increased efforts by employers and employed, and he outlined a series of social and economic reforms to restore confidence. These failed to meet with approval in the Socialist and Trade Union movement and a 24-hour general strike was threatened as a protest. The mobilization of all national resources by Government caused the scheduled strike to end in complete failure.

Broadcasting at the end of the day, 30 November 1938, M. Daladier was able to say: "France has triumphed over internal uncertainties and is stronger today than yesterday." M. Renaud's measures went into force, and in April and May 1939 he reported that the franc had been completely stabilized, industrial production had risen 12%, and the great majority of the population approved of the Government's policy.

France has again become the third financial Power in the world.

On the annexation of Czecho-Slovakia by Germany, in March 1939, France recalled her Ambassador from Berlin, protesting against this deed and refusing to recognize it.

Special and undefined powers to decree measures necessary for national defence were promptly granted to the Government, who at once took measures of far-reaching military, economic and financial significance.

President Lebrun, who was elected to a second term of office in April, paid, with Madame Lebrun in March 1939 a State visit to London, where they were enthusiastically received and the most cordial relations with Great Britain were once more confirmed. The official visit of Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Halifax in November 1938 had been no less successful.

In July 1939 British troops participated in a giant military parade in Paris, commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Fall of the Bastille.

### **The French Renaissance :**

"A fresh step along the road of the French Renaissance" is indicated in the measures taken in June to counteract the decline of the population by providing grants and premiums for the "protection of the family." Since the outbreak of war a new decree law makes it possible for the soldier to get married without any costs and by proxy.

In April new trade agreements were signed with Yugoslavia and Romania, and with Romania a cultural agreement. As the annexation of Albania by Italy gave rise to special anxieties, the French Government gave both Romania and Greece the "specific assurance that in

the case of any action . . . which would clearly threaten their independence" the French Government would offer immediately all the assistance in their power.

A Franco-Japanese Trade Agreement was signed in Tokyo in June 1939, and a Franco-Turkish Convention and Agreement, in July 1939, ceded the Hatay (Territory of Alexandretta) back to Turkey.

An incident in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, when prolonged cries of "Tunis—Corsica—Nice" were followed by a strong anti-French press campaign, caused acute tension in December 1938. As a reply to the Italian agitation M. Daladier undertook an official visit to Corsica and North Africa, which became a triumphal progress, stressing the loyalty and fidelity of the French possessions.

Some 450,000 Spanish refugees, costing France over £40,000 per day, are able to testify to the fact that France is still a country of traditional and generous asylum.

A new spirit is sweeping over France. All sections of the population recognize the need, stressed by M. Daladier, for new sacrifices to meet new facts and conditions. Workers everywhere, ready in November 1938 to strike for a cherished 40-hour week, are cheerfully working overtime. The rearmament programme is ahead of schedule; production is rising. The passionate sense of individuality is co-operating in a noble sense of team work, and the vitality, elasticity and thoroughness of the French genius are raising the nation to new heights of achievement through the terrible trials of the war for liberty and freedom.

**Theosophy in France:** Professor Emile Marcault was elected General Secretary for another term of three years. The Annual Convention was conducted by Mr. C. Jinarajadasa.

A significant event was the 16th Congress of the National Societies in Europe, held in Paris, 28-31 July 1939, Mr. Kruisheer, General Secretary for Holland, presiding. Nineteen Sections were officially represented,

eleven by their General Secretaries; altogether some 300 delegates were present at what was a most fruitful and interesting gathering of F.T.S. After the closing of the Congress in Paris, a Summer School attended by 180 people was opened at Fontainebleau which did much good work in study classes, and most of all perhaps in personal contacts in these disturbed times.

The special work of the Section during the year was the helping of Spanish refugees in France and aiding them to leave for America.

Theosophical work in greater France, in Luxemburg, Indo-China, Madagascar, Senegal, Central Africa and Guadeloupe is also hopefully progressing.

**Luxemburg:** Leadbeater Lodge at Bonnevoie and Krishnaji Lodge at Esch sur Alzette belong to the French Section.

## BELGIUM

One of the most important problems for Belgium today is in the cultural and political differences arising from the two distinct linguistic groups within her borders: the Flemings and the Walloons. The official opening in January 1939 by King Leopold of the Royal Flemish Academy of Art, Literature and Science, and of the Royal Flemish Academy of Medicine, in Brussels recognized the importance of the Flemish cultural contribution. A project for a bi-lingual educational scheme now under consideration is a further step towards mutual understanding.

Special powers given to the Pierlot Government resulted in an economic revival—the expansion of metallurgical and ship-building industries, the return of gold from abroad, and the Budget deficit definitely reduced.

Belgium's national life in 1939 has been dominated by preparation for the defence of her neutrality: a huge public works loan was floated for fortifications, aerial defence and the completion of the Albert Canal from Liège to Antwerp, of great economic and strategic importance; though its opening in July had to be postponed because of an embankment collapse near Hasselt, the Belgians are determinedly rebuilding.

Belgium has lived up to her tradition of affording asylum to the oppressed, and since the Anschluss of Austria to Germany more than 22,000 refugees have found a haven there. The Cabinet have closed the gates to immigration. In August 1939 M. Paul Van Zeeland, former Premier, became Chairman of the Co-ordinating Foundation of the Inter-Governmental Committee for Refugees.

Both Belgium and the world suffered great loss by the death in December 1938 of M. Emile Vandervelde, champion of International Co-operation, President of the Labour and Socialist International and for more than 40 years the unquestioned Founder-Leader of the Belgian Socialist Party.

**Theosophy in Belgium:** Under the vital leadership of Mlle. Serge Brisy the Section has had a most active and fruitful year, still further enhanced by the visit of Mr. Jinarajadasa, who attended the National Convention in June. The culminating point was a reception given jointly by the three Lodges in Antwerp to members of the Dutch Section. The 84 visiting members from Holland found the occasion so inspiring and enjoyable that a similar function in one of the Dutch frontier cities is contemplated.

Dr. Arundale's Open Letters have been translated *in extenso* into Flemish and French and sent to all members.

Other of the many activities and accomplishments of the Section during 1939 have been the opening of a new Lodge for Flemish members, a new T. S. building in Liège, a reorganized Library, an enlarged Section journal, splendid lectures regularly delivered, an active Youth Group, Order of Service, artistic entertainments, a systematic weekly course in Theosophy, and weekly teas in honour of the lecturers. These activities have brought in 23 new members.

## NETHERLANDS

The succession of the House of Orange, indissolubly linked with the people of the Netherlands for many centuries, has been further secured by the birth of a second daughter to Princess Juliana on 5 August 1939. Born in a

time of international stress, she was given the names Irene (meaning Peace) Emma Elizabeth.

At the 40th anniversary of her accession, celebrated in September 1938, Queen Wilhelmina issued a stirring call to Youth: "I want to point out your great responsibilities, because the return of better times depends greatly on your character, your thoroughness, enterprise and adaptive power . . . the foundations of our State form a solid basis to build on."

The international situation made it necessary for Holland to take all precautions to secure military and economic safety for the country in case of war. In the crisis of September 1938 she declared her resolution to retain her neutrality, and at the outbreak of war in September 1939 reaffirmed this traditional Dutch policy. During the year both Army and Navy were strengthened, and eastern frontier defences constructed. To the Penal Code was added a clause making "propaganda against the integrity and independence of the State, with the aid of foreign support, grounds for high reason."

June and July 1939 were troubled months politically. In June Dr. Colyn and his Cabinet resigned on questions of financial policy. Attempts by Dr. Colyn to form a Cabinet failing, Jonkheer de Geer, a leading political figure in Holland, was entrusted with this task and on 9 August 1939 submitted a Cabinet, thus becoming Prime Minister for the second time and Finance Minister for the fourth time. For the first time

in Dutch political history Social-Democrats are included in the Government.

Holland's response to the Anti-Semitic excesses in Germany in November 1938 was characteristic of her ancient policy of asylum. The Dutch Government approached Denmark, Great Britain, Belgium, France and Switzerland with a proposal to offer collective relief to the Jews. Two camps capable of housing 2000 refugees were built in Holland, and Amsterdam arranged for their housing in municipal buildings. An International Jewish Colonization Society was founded at the Hague with the object of finding a new home for 1,000,000 Jews from Central Europe, and within a very short time 1,000,000 florins were subscribed for that purpose.

**Theosophy in Holland:** Holland is not content with one Convention, but holds two National Conventions, in December and June, as well as many smaller gatherings. The half-yearly Convention in December 1938 was devoted to the Campaign for Understanding. Mr. Jinarajadasa was the distinguished visitor at the Convention held in Amsterdam in June 1939. A thousand reprints of Dr. Bhagavan Das's article "The World's Dire Need for a Scientific Manifesto" were distributed to University libraries, doctors, professors and other scientists. Mr. T. D. Ros directed with great ability many talks of a Theosophical nature over the Humanitarian-Idealistic Radio Corporation. A large delegation from Holland was represented at the European Congress in Paris in July-August 1939. Many active Lodges are raising an enthusiastic and live membership.

## NORTHERN EUROPE

### THE BALTIC COUNTRIES

#### Lithuania—Latvia—Estonia

At a Conference of the Baltic States in February 1939 Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia agreed on a joint policy of continued neutrality, and all declared their intention to remain neutral when war broke out in September 1939.

Earlier neutrality legislation had closely followed that of the Scandinavian countries.

Non-Aggression Pacts with Germany were accepted in May and ratified in June 1939.

After the partition of Poland between Germany and Russia, Mutual Assistance and Non-Aggression Pacts were

signed with Russia, granting this country important concessions of military and naval bases.

In October 1939 Germany recalled all her nationals from the Baltic States and these were compelled to return to the Reich at short notice, leaving all their possessions behind.

**Lithuania:** Dr. Antanas Smetona was re-elected President for a further period of seven years in November 1938. After a lapse of 18 years, normal economic and diplomatic relations with Poland were restored in August 1938, and followed by a Trade Agreement in December providing a most favoured nation clause.

In December 1938 the Germans in Memel obtained 87.3% of votes for the new Memel Diet elections and declared: "Memel, separated against its will from the German Fatherland, desires reunion with the Reich." In March 1939, a week after the incorporation of Czechoslovakia in the Reich, Memel was ceded to Germany under pressure. A new Cabinet was formed on March 27, under General Chernius, having the strong support of the army. Much stress was laid on national solidarity for maintaining the independence and integrity of the Republic.

Notwithstanding the protest of the Polish Minister to Lithuania, Russia in October 1939 returned Vilna and surrounding area, regarded by Lithuanians as their historic capital.

**Theosophy in the Baltic States:** *Estonia:* Kitej Lodge, in Tallinn, belonging to the Russian T.S. outside Russia, has met twice monthly, holding regular meetings for members and the public. Three public lectures were given on the comparative study of religion, and several on Theosophy.

Theosophy in *Latvia* and *Lithuania* is not yet established.

## SCANDINAVIA

Contact between the Scandinavian countries has become increasingly close during the past year.

In December 1938 the Ministers of Education of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland met at a con-

ference in Copenhagen to discuss plans for the foundation of a common Nordic University. An extensive scheme of cultural, educational and financial collaboration was outlined and agreed upon. Göteborg in Sweden was mentioned as a suitable seat, and an exchange of teachers and students was planned.

In May 1939 German proposals for a Non-Aggression Pact with Scandinavia were submitted, but after consultation the Foreign Ministers concerned declared that "the northern countries, as hitherto, remain outside all groups of Powers" and that their "international policy . . . excludes them from being the object of any political combination whatever." Denmark, however, decided to accept, and a Non-Aggression Pact between Denmark and Germany was ratified.

When war broke out in September 1939 all the Scandinavian countries reaffirmed their traditional policy of neutrality.

In October 1939 as a result of the growing influence of Russia in the Baltic, and the pressure put on Finland, a Four-Power Conference of unity of Scandinavian countries was called by the King of Sweden at Stockholm.

## FINLAND

A characteristic trend of the past year was the Scandinavian orientation of Finland, resulting in a close economic, cultural and political co-operation between all the Scandinavian countries.

The internal development of the country has gone ahead very favourably. Although only one tenth of its area is cultivated, two thirds being forest land and the rest lakeland, the Finnish small farmers and proprietors are so industrious and far-seeing that the prosperity of the country is constantly increasing. At the same time national unity has also been consolidated and the General Elections in July 1939 resulted in a great strengthening of the Government bloc.

Friendly relations with other countries have also been maintained. A Joint Frontier Demarcation Committee

officially approved the final frontiers between Finland and Soviet Russia in December 1938.

By paying the last instalment on 15 December 1938, Finland has the unique distinction of repaying in full her war debt to the United States of America.

After the partition of Poland between Germany and Russia, the latter approached Finland with a view to obtaining important concessions. A Finnish delegation had prolonged talks in Moscow, during which period all men were called to arms in Finland and all the Southern Finnish cities and ports evacuated. No final details of the Moscow talks are yet available, but Russia has assured President Roosevelt of the United States of America of her full recognition of Finland's independence.

**Theosophy in Finland** makes steady progress and is very alive and active. It received a fine impetus from a visit by Captain Sidney Ransom, whose lectures are being distributed to all Lodges as instruction material for those who could not visit Helsinki to hear him. The annual Convention was held at Helsinki during Easter Week. Theosophical books, original as well as translations, are published at short intervals.

An old, beloved and able member, Dr. Willie Angervo, passed into the peace in November 1938. He wrote many Theosophical books and was an outstanding lecturer. A special memorial fund founded in his honour will be used for publishing books on Theosophy and the ancient Finnish Kalevala Wisdom.

## SWEDEN

Sweden is making steady progress along a path of independence and social well-being. When Germany in November 1938 demanded the Aryanization of the staffs of businesses trading with Germany, Herr Sandler, Swedish Foreign Minister, at Göteborg asked business leaders to co-operate in vindicating the principle that Sweden acknowledged only Swedish law and could not accept dictation from a foreign commercial intelligence service.

General Elections in November 1938 resulted in considerably increased gains for the Social Democrats, the leading Party, who now have an absolute majority over all parties of 55 to 45.

An interesting experiment in Social Legislation has been working for some years past in the Swedish Inheritance Law, which excludes cousins and more remote relatives from inheriting where a person dies intestate. The Swedish Government "inherits" the money instead, and the law stipulates that all such monies shall be used for the care of children and young persons. In this way many summer colonies for poor children, permanent children's homes, crèches, Boy Scout centres, technical schools, etc., have been established and receive support, and the social function of inheritance is fulfilled, transferred from the individual to the social plane.

The Swedish Budget provided large estimates for defence and for the building of two new warships. The convoy system for Sweden's merchant ships against the attacks of German U-boats was decided on in October 1939.

The country is still chiefly an agricultural one with wide open spaces within the reach of all. Slow to make up his mind, the Swede is not easily diverted from his path once he has made his decision. He is little given to formalism or hero-worship and has an impersonal attitude towards life which tends towards balance. He loves the silence and solitude of the countryside, makes friends of the animals and is often very sensitive to devic influences. Class snobbery is fast disappearing, the distribution of wealth is becoming more even and the standard of living higher. People are better educated and more conscious of civic responsibility.

**Theosophy in Sweden**: The Jubilee of the Section was celebrated on 18 February 1939 simultaneously with the Annual Convention at Stockholm. "A strong sense of unity ran like a golden thread through the meetings. There was no need to talk of Brotherhood, because we were living in the reality of it," writes the General Secretary. The activities of the Section are going



on steadily. There are several young enthusiastic members giving great hopes for the future.

### NORWAY

Much sympathy was felt for the Royal Family when H. M. Queen Maud died in London in November 1938. With the separation of Norway from Sweden in 1905, her husband, then Prince Charles of Denmark, was called to the Norwegian Throne by popular plebiscite, and Their Majesties speedily established themselves deeply in the affection of their subjects. Daughter and youngest child of King Edward VII of England, she remained always in close touch with the country of her birth and will be greatly missed in both countries.

Early in 1939 Norway announced the annexation of new land in the Antarctic not hitherto belonging to any nation, but of great importance to her whaling industry.

**Theosophy in Norway:** An increase of members is recorded and the financial situation is in good order. Emphasis is laid on social service, and young unemployed workers are entertained in the Lodge rooms. The General Secretary, Fru Zadig, is President of the Anti-Vivisection League, and leader in several other social and political organizations, and spreads Theosophical ideals from all these platforms. Two of the Lodges have elected young members as Presidents. The Summer School of 1938, conducted by Mr. Bolt, and the lecture tour by Mr. Sidney Ransom in 1939 greatly strengthened the work.

### DENMARK

The disturbed situation in Europe was responsible for the presentation in 1938 of the largest Budget in the history of the country by Finance Minister Buhl. In order to be ready to defend her neutrality, should it ever be challenged, the defence estimates were increased by 10,000,000 Kr.

In the General Elections of April 1939 the Government retained its majority. To the satisfaction of the country the Danish vote in Southern

Jutland increased even more than did the German vote. Proposals for a new Constitution having been put forward, involving the abolition of the Lands-thing, these were submitted in May 1939 to a referendum of the people, and rejected.

**Theosophy in Denmark:** Working to make Theosophical meetings more interesting and beneficial, the Danish Section benefited much in 1938 from the visits of the English General Secretary, Mrs. Gardner, and Professor van der Stok from Holland, who both gave new impetus and enthusiasm to our members.

Many members work with the Chain of Peace and Goodwill, inaugurated by the President at St. Michael's Centre, Huizen, in the summer of 1938.

The magazine *Theosophia* is doing good service. Several members contribute articles.

Mr. Viking's lectures in Copenhagen and his classes on meditation have been very helpful. A Youth Lodge, founded and presided over by Mrs. M. E. Mathiesen, has given some appreciated dramatic performances. It meets weekly.

At the end of 1938 there was a membership gain of 10.

### ICELAND

The 20th anniversary of her Independence was suitably celebrated throughout Iceland on 1 December 1938.

The various political parties in Iceland have united in a common effort to solve the economic difficulties of the country, and the importance of united effort in national life has thus become more fully realized.

The election of Monseigneur Sigurgeir Sigursson to the episcopate shows a progressive tendency, as he is a liberal man with a deep understanding of the spirit of the new age.

The keynote of Iceland is: A strong individuality, an enquiring mind and a disposition to poetry and mysticism.

**Theosophy in Iceland** is still going ahead and public opinion towards Theosophy and The Theosophical Society is improving. "We are no longer

considered as eccentrics, but as rational men," writes the General Secretary. In 1938 a very successful Summer School was conducted at Thingvellir by

Mr. Bolt " in the same spirit as The Theosophical Society in Iceland, *i.e.*, in the spirit of perfect freedom, in the spirit of youth and adventure."

## THE BRITISH ISLES

### ENGLAND

At the Guildhall Banquet on 23 June 1939, given in honour of the return of the King and Queen from their visit to Canada, His Majesty King George VI said "In Canada I saw also, flourishing as strongly as they do here, institutions, . . . British in origin, British in their slow and almost casual growth, which, because they are grounded root and branch on British faith in liberty and justice, mean more to us even than the splendour of our history or the glories of our English tongue. . . . It was not alone the presence of their King and Queen that made them open their hearts to us; their welcome was also an expression of their thankfulness for those rights of free citizenship which are the heritage of every member of our Commonwealth of Nations."

In Great Britain and the Empire the year under review has been marked pre-eminently by the steady growth in all sections of the community of a conscious appreciation of these hereditary "rights of free citizenship." To defend these rights, for the first time in English history, compulsory military training in peace time was introduced, and finally, for the sake of them, the nation went to war.

**International Relations:** On the dismemberment of Czecho-Slovakia by Germany, in spite of solemn pledges to the contrary given to Mr. Chamberlain in person and to both Britain and France, the English nation set itself to develop a military organization capable of defending personal, social and spiritual liberty in Europe. War preparations—economic, civil and military—were rushed through effectively; auxiliary services for air-raid precautions, hospital work and defence against fire were rapidly developed; the nation was thus mobilized in spirit as in material to meet

a potential national emergency. The inclusiveness of the preparations, the willingness with which volunteers came forward, the seriousness with which suitable training was undertaken, and the sustained quality of the resulting performance when war conditions actually developed, are evidence of the unanimous support given to the Government and the determination of the English to fight for the right of European peoples to live in peace with each other without fear of aggression from without or persecution within their borders.

At the moment of writing this summary, September 1939, war has merely begun. It was undertaken from necessity only, and after every possible effort to avoid it. Moreover, the atmosphere of England is strikingly free from animosity towards its opponents even while there is heartfelt appreciation for the gallantry of the Polish Nation and compassion for their suffering. There is also a fixed determination to see the freedom both of Poland and of Czecho-Slovakia permanently re-established.

During the months between September 1938 and 1939 the year was characterized by many attempts to build friendship between nations in Europe; the enhancement of close relationship between all members of the British Commonwealth; and the development of good feeling between various groups and classes within the nation. The Royal visit to Canada in May and June 1939 was "unique in that no reigning sovereign has in times past entered one of the sister Dominions that constitute our British Empire" (*King George VI, Guildhall Speech*). The extension of that visit to the United States of America had far-reaching importance. His Majesty personally signed a friendly Trade Pact between Canada and the

United States linking these two countries in closer trade agreement. The progress of the King and Queen through both countries provoked a tremendous outburst of enthusiasm and in Canada a great wave of renewed devotion to the Crown.

The Prime Minister visited Italy and France; the President of the French Republic made an official visit to England; after the British guarantee of full support for Poland had been made in March 1939, Colonel Beck visited London, and important industrial, political and military deputations came and went throughout the year. Many friendly agreements were undertaken. The Anglo-Italian agreement, the French Entente, trade agreements with Romania and the United States of America, and a Scandinavian Naval Agreement were concluded, as well as the pledge given of support for Poland and a mutual aid pact with Turkey. Sir Samuel Hoare, speaking of the solidarity of the three great democracies, commented on their "unshakable determination to ward off any attack on their historic liberties." It is significant of the present peace spirit in these democracies that during 1939 Great Britain and the United States made a 50-year agreement concerning the use of the Phoenix Islands, a strategic group in the Pacific, arranging that the airport there should be used jointly and under joint control.

**Colonial Questions** have been much to the fore, pressing industrial, social and political problems continuing to arise in Jamaica, Trinidad, Burma, and in the mandated territory of Palestine. The Colonial Office is considering the appointment of a permanent Parliamentary Committee to keep under review the changing social and industrial conditions in colonial areas, while many reforms dealing with urgent matters are already under way.

**Education:** In England there have been a large number of important advances along educational, industrial and humanitarian lines. After a five-year inquiry the report of the Consultative Committee on Secondary Education was published in December, 1938. This

recommended new technical high schools and a thorough remodelling of the curriculum for secondary schools. "Existing arrangements for the whole-time education of boys and girls above the age of 11 no longer correspond with the actual structure of modern society nor with economic realities. The curriculum should be thought of in terms of activity and experience rather than of knowledge to be acquired and facts to be stored." Pupils in secondary schools should be encouraged to learn at least one foreign language and no homework should be assigned to children under 11.

The National Union of Teachers during the year recommended very drastic changes in the training of teachers, while the Board of Education Report for 1938 states that classes including 50 or more children have been reduced by 500 out of a total of 2000 and that the reduction continues.

**Industry:** There has been much unemployment, but owing to unemployment benefit the number receiving public assistance is lower than for 60 years. The Government recommendations for paid holidays have been taken up by many manufacturers, and amongst others 350,000 cotton operators were granted paid holidays by agreement between trades unions and millowners. Trade Union membership is increasing, and a National Union of Domestic Workers has been formed with a charter for domestic workers laying down the desired conditions for hours of work, time off, etc.

**Humanitarian Activities:** One of the most important activities of the year has been the extension of care for the refugees from Germany, Austria and Czecho-Slovakia. Lord Baldwin's Fund was opened for Czecho-Slovakian refugees, and the work of the German Jewish Aid Committee and the Friends' Service Council has continued with increasing effectiveness and co-ordination. Although the Government is unable to give direct aid, it has been instrumental in facilitating the training and emigration of the thousands of refugees who have been permitted to enter the country.

Prison reform continues, and during the year the abolition of certain ancient jails has been recommended and a plan initiated for the construction of new types of prisons.

The British Medical Association and the Trades Unions Council have combined to suggest a National Maternity Service which would have far-reaching effects. The Mental Health Services have been improved, and owing to war preparations a register of medical practitioners willing to undertake national service was instituted.

Lord Nuffield has continued his generous benefactions to hospitals. In recent years he has given £13,000,000 to humanitarian causes and this year added £1,500,000 to be used for recreational facilities for the defence forces.

Improved rates of pay for the Army and Royal Air Force have been instituted in addition to more adequate care for dependents.

**Trends in British Life:** One of the very significant trends of the year is the growing concern of the State for the health, safety, and general wellbeing of the individual citizen. Typical of this is the issue of a gas mask, free of expense, to every single person in the country, as well as the evacuation of millions of children, expectant mothers, blind persons and those otherwise disabled from the more dangerous areas, all at Government expense. During the evacuation period the feeling of goodwill amongst all classes was particularly marked in spite of inevitable confusion. The transfer of evacuees from one district to another was carried out with speed and efficiency and those offering hospitality and those receiving it adapted themselves remarkably well to the emergencies of the situation.

One of the most marked features of British life is the great number of individuals and movements giving public service. This tends to increase as years go on. The trend is more marked now than in 1914. A change in direction has been the greater interest in physical well-being—enforced nutrition of children, Nursery Schools for the under-

fives, the National Fitness movement. There has also been a trend towards very much improved education all round and a tendency to increase, continually increase, the ages over which education is given.

In regard to home life, the whole problem of nutrition is receiving an entirely different type of attention. The continuation of fitness campaigns has resulted in an immense improvement of the national health. The beginnings of adequate interest in the cultivation of pure food may be seen, for there is a growing resistance to the tendency to stimulate the earth with poisons and artificial mineral manures which, while they grow larger crops of uncertain value, seem to have a deteriorating effect upon the ultimate productive quality of the ground. The interests of the farmers are being carefully studied and a larger degree of co-operation and co-ordination is coming into force in agricultural activities.

The tendency to respect natural beauty grows, and so does the realization that one and all are entitled to share it. The acreage included in Town Planning Schemes has been increased during the year by 1,750,000 acres and now equals two-thirds of the acreage of the whole of England and Wales. The South Downs have been adequately protected from exploitation and should remain for all time one of the great beauty spots of England. The National Trust for the Preservation of Ancient and Historic Monuments has been affiliated with the same type of trust in other countries.

Afforestation has continued in 140 districts with a widely increased acreage being restored to natural conditions by Government activity.

The end of the five-year plan for slum clearance has resulted in 800,000 people being removed to new homes since 1933. In many of the new districts, infant welfare centres and other social service activities are part of the housing scheme. Women's Institutes are spreading knowledge of craftsmanship and culture in many country districts, and bringing about encouragement of thrift, a real

sense of co-operation and a development of ingenuity and constructiveness amongst women whose lives are otherwise very barren.

**Other Items of Interest** are the increased recognition on the part of scientists of their social obligations; the official approval by the Convocation of Canterbury of cremation as a preliminary to burial; the celebration of the fourth centenary of the open Bible and of the centenary of photography; the launching of the 'Queen Elizabeth,' the largest ship in the world; and in the field of aviation the development of gliding and the establishment of a weekly Trans-Atlantic Airmail Service between Great Britain and the United States.

With regard to the art emotion expression side of life—there has been in the last few years a boom in gardening, for the sake of the beauty it produces and for the sake of interest in the problem of growth of living plants. There has been an increase in the appreciation of music and of poetry and good literature generally.

Architecture is also improving, although many houses are still too much of one monotonous type—a series of types.

The great growth in a sense of international understanding, which was shown so markedly in the Peace Ballot of 1935, continues—it is one of the reasons why we are at war now fighting for the ideal of liberty and not against the Germans. The emphasis on this aspect in Mr. Chamberlain's speeches and elsewhere is marked.

**Broadcasting:**—A very notable change in the quality of public life has come about through the British Broadcasting Corporation. Broadcasting has been used to make factual statements to other countries in their own language. These have been warmly praised abroad for their impersonality and clarity. On July 1 the Labour Party broadcast a message to the German people in German, and also in French, Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. The growth of an intelligent public spirit as well as the unanimity of public support for the Government in the war crisis

are partly due to the wise use of broadcasting, by which not only accurate news has been disseminated but Government notices, instruction for civilians and considered comment by responsible people have been made available throughout the whole country in a minimum period of time. Whereas the dangers of abuse of broadcasting are obvious, Great Britain has demonstrated its capacity to educate the public so that they give sincere and reasoned support to important activities at critical periods.

It is also partly through broadcasting that the country has become more and more internationally-minded. The concept of a World Federation of States is now familiar in thoughtful circles and the organization called "Federal Union" (the first public meeting of which was held in Besant Hall, London), is receiving support from all classes. There is a marked absence of hatred in the public consciousness and an increased understanding of the trends and tendencies of world events and of the interdependence of peoples, leading naturally to a growth of human fellowship and the realization of universal brotherhood. Not only members of The Theosophical Society but practically all thoughtful persons in England today are determined that the terms of peace when ultimately made shall be such as to make possible the permanent establishment of friendly relations amongst all European nations.

**Theosophy in England:** In September 1938 we were fortunate in having the President in England during the crisis concerned with Czecho-Slovakia. At a members' meeting held in London he gave an immense impulse to the work of the Section. Meditation groups were formed in support of world peace. These have continued active during the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ransom returned from India in October 1938, and were warmly welcomed as lecturers in the Section throughout the winter. Mr. and Mrs. J. B. S. Coats toured the Lodges with the coloured film of Adyar which they had taken when visiting India previously, and their talks and descriptions

of the International Headquarters have done much to link Lodge members to this centre of The Society's life. The visit of the General Secretary to Adyar and Benares from November to February also did much to vivify the link between the International Headquarters and England, and the issue of The Next Step Campaign in January continued the flow of stimulus which the President constantly gives to Section activities.

One event of extreme importance to the Section is that Mr. Jinarajadasa, on his return from touring South America, made a permanent home for himself in London at 33 Ovington Square. This has already had a stimulating effect on the life of the Section, while Mr. Jinarajadasa's personal tours to certain of our larger Lodges brought further vigour to the movement.

A Christmas Study Weekend was conducted from 29 December 1938, to 1 January 1939, and an Easter Study Weekend was held at Matlock from April 6 to 11. At the Annual Convention, May 26 to 29, Mr. Jinarajadasa was the guest of honour. The meetings were enthusiastic and well attended, and there was a lively spirit of interest and co-operation in all Section activities.

During the year a German-Speaking Centre composed of refugees, all F.T.S. speaking the German tongue, was formed at the National Headquarters. Until the war began, members of this centre issued a cyclostyled monthly German magazine which was sent to German-speaking members scattered over the world.

*International Aspects* of the work include a lecture tour by Mr. S. Ransom in Scandinavia, and participation in the European Congress in Paris on the part of the General Secretary and 45 members, many of whom went on to the Summer School at Fontainebleau, July 31—August 6. The General Secretary of Sweden, Miss Eva Franzen, visited England and lectured at the Besant Hall on July 2.

*Study Classes Publications.*—Various study classes have been held at Headquarters, including an Introductory

Course on "Thought Power and Concentration," one on "Psychology," and one on *The Bhagavad Gita*, as well as a series of discussions on "Social and Political Problems in the Light of the Laws of Manu." Two important books have been published during the year by English members, *Some Unrecognized Factors in Medicine*, issued by The Theosophical Research Centre, and *The Play of Consciousness*, by E. L. Gardner.

The Society continues its work in spite of the difficulties of "blackout" conditions at night, and wholesale shifts of population owing to evacuation and war service. Many members are in Government service and many others are engaged in voluntary work of every description, but the spreading of the teachings continues and will doubtless be instrumental in building reliable foundations for lasting peace.

## SCOTLAND

A notable exhibition of Scottish Art took place at the Royal Academy, London, during the winter season. Not only were the greatest Scottish painters represented in full strength, but the exhibits included other treasures of Scottish art and craftsmanship, old silver, armour, needlework and Jacobite relics.

The National Trust for Scotland is constantly on the watch to guard against the despoilment of beautiful old palaces and castles and places of national and historical interest; it also takes keen interest in scientific experimental farming, as at Burg, on the West coast of Mull, where bracken is being eradicated, stock increased, arable land reconditioned and a motorboat and a pier provide communication with markets.

A new Home Department was created to discharge the function formerly exercised by the Scottish Office, Fishery Board of Scotland and Prison Department for Scotland.

The Glasgow Empire Exhibition closed on 30 October 1938 after a total attendance of over 12,500,000 visitors.

New oil wells have been discovered at Dalkeith, near Edinburgh.

To meet the needs of high speed aircraft a Central Scottish airport is being constructed half-way between Edinburgh and Glasgow, which will also serve as training centre for the R.A.F. Volunteer Reserve.

**Theosophy in Scotland:** An important event in 1939 was the visit of Mr. Jinarajadasa to Edinburgh and Glasgow. He suggested many new ways of spreading the truths of Theosophy other than by lectures. A Summer School for those comparatively new to the study of Theosophy was held in July and August by the Lodge of the Fair City of Perth.

## WALES

In the Autumn of 1938 a demand was put forward for the removal of the Welsh language ban in all proceedings connected with the administration of justice and public life in Wales and Monmouthshire. The Eisteddfod at Denbigh failed to award the Crown and Chair for Poetry in August 1939, though several prizes for outstanding prose were given. Come down through 50 generations, the Eisteddfod aims at binding together the culture, temperament and outlook which is called Welsh. It breathes a spirit of unity and is the University of the people, one of the greatest assets of Wales.

**Theosophy in Wales:** Mr. Jinarajadasa visited Wales in April 1939. At a public meeting held in the beautiful National Temple of Peace and Health at Cardiff he spoke on "Building the Temple of Peace on Earth," showing how hatred, cruelty and tyranny are the real causes of war. He also gave an inspiring address to F.T.S. in the Besant Hall. In January the Young Theosophists in Cardiff gave a party to some Basque children refugees. The 18th Annual Convention was held in Cardiff on 30 September and 1 October 1939, with Captain Sidney Ransom and Mr. John Coats as distinguished visitors.

## IRELAND (EIRE)

The country is passing through a difficult transition period, while it is

slowly becoming more industrialized. Although there are general complaints against the high cost of living, the highest in the British Empire, there is still a general support for Government, which brought in the new 1937 Constitution and assures the "right of the Irish nation to choose its own form of Government, to determine its relations with other nations and to develop its life, political, economic and cultural, in accordance with its own genius and traditions."

A new Irish Association, founded by Lord Charlemount in December 1938, with himself as first President, aims at promoting greater goodwill and co-operation between the peoples of Eire and Northern Ireland and at fostering friendly relations in political and cultural contacts.

In many schools several lessons are now given in Gaelic.

When Great Britain introduced conscription, Mr. de Valera protested in the strongest terms in May 1939 against threatened conscription in Northern Ireland. "We claim the whole of Ireland as national territory. Therefore to conscript Irishmen . . . is an act of aggression."

While increasing the army vote in the 1939-40 budget estimates, neutrality was reaffirmed when Great Britain declared war on 3 September 1939.

Northern Ireland reaffirmed support to Britain.

**Theosophy in Ireland:** Surmounting many difficulties, political, religious and economic, the members have steadily concentrated on "spreading a knowledge of the Ancient Wisdom in Ireland by means of public lectures and study-groups." Mr. Jinarajadasa's visit in April 1939 was an inspiration much welcomed and his lectures at Belfast and Dublin were greatly appreciated. *Theosophy in Ireland* is a quarterly journal with original and interesting articles.



## THE AMERICAS

The close linking and mutual understanding of all the nations in The Americas is expressed first in the very friendly spirit of comradeship existent between Canada and The United States,

and second, by the Pan-American Conferences held each year (see Peru) which especially link The United States with Latin America.

## NORTH AMERICA

### CANADA

Canada declared war for the first time in her history in September 1939, in support of Britain. "There can be no neutrality for Canada in a war of life and death," declared Mr. Manion, Opposition Leader. As for some time past she had voted large sums for defence, rearmament, and the expansion of the Air Force, and was already fulfilling important contracts for the British Air Force, Canada is in a unique position to furnish trained airmen, mechanics, munitions and armament supplies in quantities for Britain's aid.

With this one exception, no other event in Canada's recent history can compare in importance with the visit of Their Majesties the King and Queen in May and June 1939. Their Majesties arrived in Quebec on 17 May, the prelude to a 3000-mile tour, during which they visited all the principal cities, and the Royal train stopped at many villages and hamlets. All sections of the community united in giving their King and Queen a welcome of utmost enthusiasm.

In a memorable Empire Day broadcast from Toronto, Winnipeg, His Majesty said: "One of the greatest qualities of the British Empire is that it serves to link and harmonize . . . the Old World and the New. . . . Is not this a moment when the Old World . . . might look for hope and guidance to the achievements of the New?" And in a speech at Halifax, Nova Scotia, he emphasized the theme that "here lies a large part of the earth where there is no possibility of war between neighbours, whose peoples are wholly dedicated to peace, a pattern to all men of how civilized nations should live together."

The King and Queen's visit has enormously consolidated the eleven million people of Canada, barely half of whom are of British stock; it has found them "bound together by a common attachment to the Crown," the focus of common sentiments and ideals.

A Trans-Canadian Air Service was inaugurated in October 1938.

A Liberal Ministry of the Federal Parliament opened its session in January 1939, commanding the largest majority in Canadian Parliamentary history.

One of the most distinguished characters Canada has produced during the last century, Major Sir Andrew Macphail, O.B.E., M.D., died in September 1938, a great loss to the medical profession, journalism, literature and politics.

Canada is a country with every possible variety of scenery and a population comprising every nationality, yet as the King said on his return to England: "Within the geographical limits of the continent from which I have returned, live men of almost every race, of many creeds, of divers political faiths; yet first and foremost they are human beings, over them all is humanity. . . . In this age of machines and mass-production the strength of human feeling is still the most potent of all forces affecting world affairs."

**Theosophy in Canada:** The General Secretary traversed the Section in a "Friendly Relations" tour, and brought about a closer co-operation among the Lodges. He finds the appeal of Theosophy as great as ever. Dr. P. K. Roest and Miss Mary K. Neff accomplished good work during their Canadian visits.

The Young Theosophists have undertaken a campaign to bring young people

everywhere into touch with Theosophy, taking "True Universal Brotherhood" as their slogan. *The Canadian Theosophist* for June stresses "The Royal Visit" as the greatest national event and opportunity.

On 31 October 1938 an increase of 17 members was shown.

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The American people have "hitched their wagon to a Star—the Star of Peace" said President Roosevelt when opening the New York World's Fair on 30 April 1939, and all through the last year America's President, viewing European developments with gravest apprehension, has responded to "the desire of the people of my country that the voice of their Government be raised again and yet again to avert and avoid war."

When in spite of numerous peace messages and personal appeals war did break out in Europe, the United States immediately asserted its neutrality.

### Defence Measures

In the light of foreign developments, national defence requirements were reviewed and from time to time huge armament appropriations were made. Standardization and mass production of war material were specially emphasized; in October 1938 President Roosevelt introduced a vast 2-year National Electricity Scheme providing for a general industrial programme of re-equipment, designed to ensure the fullest possible capacity for defence purposes. The National Youth Administration inaugurated the training of 20,000 civilian pilots, who could be called up in time of war.

In January 1939 the President's message to Congress urged the need of internal unity and the solution of the problem of bringing idle men and idle money together "Our nation's programme of social and economic reforms is a part of defence, a part as basic as armaments themselves. . . . To us much is given, more is expected. This generation will nobly save or meanly lose." "It will cost us taxes and voluntary

risks of capital. . . . I would bear those taxes willingly as the price of my breathing, and my children breathing, free air in a free country, in a living, and not a dead, world." The creation of a Caribbean Department to be quartered at San Juan, Puerto Rico, was at the same time announced.

Safety zones have been established in the Pacific and Atlantic.

A triumph for the Administration was the repeal of the Neutrality Act, now permitting munitions to be sold on the cash-and-carry plan to all belligerents.

The feeling of the people of the U.S.A. ran high against aggression, and the condemnation of Anti-Semitic excesses was so strong that in November 1938 the Ambassador to Berlin was recalled to Washington "for report and consultation." An influential committee was formed to combat Anti-Semitism.

### Trade and Commerce

Treaties of trade and commerce were signed with several nations, including the South American Republics, at the Eighth Pan-American Congress at Lima, Peru, attended by Mr. Cordell Hull in December 1938; also with Iraq and Great Britain, while the treaty of commerce and navigation with Japan was terminated in July 1939 "with a view to the better safe-guarding of American interests," and additional countervailing duties of 25% were imposed on all products from Germany and the new German protectorates in March 1939.

### Social Legislation

In the social-economic field the Fair Labour Standards Act, establishing a minimum rate of wages and maximum hours of work for all employees in industries concerned in inter-State commerce, became effective in October 1938. Social Security legislation has been amended in several respects to extend security to a greater number of people. In December 1938 some 20,900,000 people received public aid from Federal, State and local funds, 28% increase over the past year. Further liberalizing

terms passed in June 1939 brought an additional 1,300,000 people within its scope. The huge sum of \$1,735,600,000 was voted for the 1939-40 Relief Bill.

Civic responsibility is also more generally recognized. The Federal Government has intensified its activities in tracking down crime and in cleaning up crooked State politics and politicians. The New Citizenship Pledge, "conceived in the principles of Ordered Liberty to the end of universal happiness in right prosperity," and the creation of Citizenship Day on May 21 in Wisconsin all point the same way.

Elections for Congressmen and Governors in the autumn of 1938 resulted in substantial gains for the Republicans, though the Democrats still retain majorities in both Houses of Congress. Although these gains are interpreted as a setback to the New Deal, an outstanding feature is the continued popularity of the humanitarian President himself.

### **A United America**

There is a growing interest in establishing stronger economic and cultural ties with the Western Hemisphere as a whole. The States Department has created a special division to promote better understanding and appreciation amongst all the American peoples.

### **International Events**

The inauguration in May 1939 of a Trans-Atlantic Air Service with England and Europe by the "Yankee Clipper" was an event of international importance, while the two international exhibitions at the Golden Gate, San Francisco, and at New York can also be classed as such. The former expressed the Saga of the West as well as the infinite variety of culture, race and folklore of the Pacific coasts, all countries bordering on the Pacific, except China, taking part in it. The keynote of the World's Fair in New York was aptly summarized in the phrase "The World of Tomorrow." Practically every country in the world was represented, including Czecho-Slovakia, whose pavilion was completed by the United States, a nation that refuses to recognize the German conquest.

The opening ceremonies performed by President Roosevelt centred about the 150th anniversary of George Washington as first President of the U.S.A. One of the greatest features of the entire Fair was the nightly application of "colour music." Main avenues, radiating from the Theme Centre like spokes from a wheel, were each dedicated to a certain colour, darkening as it receded. Colour masses, used with reckless courage, created spectacles of wondrous beauty.

Another event which profoundly stirred popular imagination was the visit of T. M. the King and Queen of England to President and Mrs. Roosevelt at Washington in June 1939. They were accorded enthusiastic welcome by dense crowds everywhere, and after visiting the New York World Fair and paying an informal visit to the country home of the Roosevelts, they resumed their tour in Canada.

The *New York Herald Tribune* declared that "the visit of the King and Queen deserves to rank as a landmark along the welcome path of English-speaking accord."

### **Education**

Education has become almost a national religion. Practically every important educational institution holds a summer session to which not only young students, but also adults in thousands, flock from all over the country, thus extending the school period indefinitely throughout life, in a significantly American way.

A distinctly American art is developing, along with an increasing appreciation of classical art and music through its display in popular art exhibitions and its broadcasting over radio programmes.

Students of thirteen Faiths met on common ground at the University Religious Conference. A new wing built for their use at the University of California at Los Angeles was opened early in 1939 by Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin, who said: "We testify to our belief in one God and the Brotherhood of Man and rededicate America in the name of Religion. . . . It is such movements

as this that express the Spirit of America."

### Social Experiment

The Civilian Conservation Corps utilizes the services of 311,000 boys in camps for "simple work, not interfering with normal employment." It enjoys greater support than any other New Deal experiment.

### Science

In the scientific field the year has also been fruitful. Professor Einstein has outlined a new "Theory of the Unified Field," a single equation yielding all the properties of what the human senses apprehend as matter, radiation and electricity, which, if substantiated by experiment, will constitute the greatest advance in Science since Newton's discovery of gravitation.

A new synthetic material, known as Nylon, said to be considerably stronger and more elastic than real silk, has been patented; two new satellites of Jupiter were discovered by Dr. Seth B. Nicholson; deep sea research has announced a new depth-sounding record of 29,135 feet in the Atlantic ocean; films one atom thick prove to have 3-dimensional crystals; and a host of other discoveries. In all these business plays a commanding part, an approach widely different from that of Europe. It is business men who from coast to coast pay for pure and applied research in the laboratories of the Universities.

### The Spirit of the U.S.A.

The old spirit of independence and revolt has amalgamated with many newer trends, but is still a magnificently rebellious spirit, unwilling to take anything for granted, ready for any experimentation, ready to build on the past but not subservient to it. It is very mobile, vigorous, various; urgent with the temper of the quest, with bold efforts to be true to the superb national material at its command. The miracle of the United States is its will to adaptation, the exhilaration with which novelty is received and the courage with

which it is given the opportunity to prove itself.

In her Charter of Liberty the right to happiness has been described as one of the purposes of her civilization. Real brotherhood is of the very soul of the people of the United States, courage is of her spirit. When the heterogeneous elements of mixed races and cultures have been synthesized, when the handicaps of a still young pioneer nation have been overcome, when her objectives have emerged clearly from the stage of experimentation, when her power and vitality and search for beauty have been blended, then the United States will lead the world towards that consummation of the Sixth Root Race, which is already bringing America's unimaginable future into her brilliantly vivid present.

**Theosophy in the United States of America:** A greater virility is growing in this Section as a result of the leadership of the Lodges passing into the hands of younger people.

Miss Mary K. Neff will continue her tour of the Lodges until the spring of 1940. She was the chief speaker at a Y.W.C.A. Friendship Dinner for promoting better International, Inter-Racial and Inter-Faith relations.

Mr. Jinarajadasa was the honoured guest at the 1939 Convention at Olcott, Wheaton, Illionis, in July and the Summer School which followed (see "In the Field").

Mr. John Toren, Vancouver, B.C., greatly stimulated the Young Theosophist Lodges and formed three new groups.

The Mothers' Advisory Group led by Mrs. M. L. Lewis issues each quarter a splendid collection of Theosophical material concerning the care and education of children. The Children's Department steadily progresses under Mrs. J. R. McAllister, making contact with the children of members and organizing them into groups for the reading of simple Theosophical stories, etc.

## LATIN AMERICA

### CUBA

The comprehensive 3-year plan of reconstruction for the State announced by Col. Fulgencio Batista, head of the Republic, is adding to the security and amelioration of its life, while raising also the cultural standard of the people in remote parts of the Island.

In April 1939 the Government dissolved the Falange Española because of its pro-Franco Fascist activities.

**Theosophy in Cuba:** Two visits of great importance were paid to the Section in 1939. Mr. Jinarajadasa included Cuba in his American tour in January and gave several lectures, of which one "God's Agents, the Children" was printed in a special edition for wide distribution, especially to teachers. Señor Coronada also visited Cuba. Señora Ester de la Peña was elected General Secretary. A Liaison Officer at Adyar keeps the Section in close touch with International Headquarters.

### PUERTO RICO

Improving conditions tend towards greater prosperity and a healthier future. A closer relationship with the United States of America is sought by the majority of Puerto Ricans.

**Theosophy in Puerto Rico:** On New Year's Day Mr. Jinarajadasa addressed the prisoners at Rio Pedras on "The Growth of the Soul through the Process of Reincarnation." A weekly article on Theosophy is published in the Saturday edition of *La Correspondencia*. A gain of six members is noted, and several difficulties of previous years have been surmounted.

### OUTPOST LODGES

**West Indies:** Barbados Lodge is directly attached to Adyar.

**Dutch Guinea (Surinam):** H.P.B. Lodge, Paramaribo, belongs to the Netherlands Section.

### MEXICO

President Cardenas is continuing his enlightened policy and rehabilitating

the traditionally national institution of small properties as against the ownership of large estates. Mexico is gradually emerging from its state of political adolescence into adult nationhood. The Government are trying to free the country from the yoke of foreign capital and assuming the mastery in their own house. The fundamentally different conception of property rights held by the Mexican State for centuries created tension in her relations with U.S.A. and England over the question of oil rights and the expropriation of oil lands. The dispute aroused again the spirit of oligarchy against the agrarian reforms, which were almost completed, and made the struggle more difficult for the popular elements in their endeavour to create a nationality through these reforms. The more settled state of the country is at last improving living conditions for the gay and friendly, simple and generous Mexican, and under the liberating standard of General Cardenas adding a unique culture to the spirit of the American continent.

**Theosophy in Mexico** is very active and 53 new members were enrolled in 1938. The Government afforded every facility to Mr. Jinarajadasa during his visit. He gave public lectures in eight towns and talks to the Lodges, and founded the Ritual of the Mystic Star. During his tour 50,000 propaganda leaflets and 20,000 booklets were distributed. The Section is striving to make Theosophy a decisive factor in the life of the people.

### CENTRAL AMERICA

Sensitive, beauty-loving, intuitive and flaming in idealism—these are characteristics of the Central American peoples. The countries comprising this Section are progressive, cosmopolitan and modern and in close touch culturally with the rest of the Continent.

**Guatemala,** together with many States in Latin America, dissolved all foreign political groups, banning foreign propaganda, uniforms and insignia. This action automatically dissolved the Nazi

Party and suspended two German-language newspapers.

**Panama**, the youngest of the Latin-American Republics, was the gathering place for the Extraordinary Session of the Pan-American Conference, called in September 1939 to discuss questions of neutrality and economic co-operation resulting from the outbreak of war in Europe.

**Theosophy in Central America:** Mr. Jinarajadasa spent twelve days in

Costa Rica and his lectures were well attended and broadcast by radio. On 5 October he left for Nicaragua, Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala and thence to Mexico, travelling by air.

Señor Mariano L. Coronado, an old and faithful worker, has been appointed Travelling Presidential Agent. Señorita Lydia F. Jiménez has been re-elected General Secretary for the next two years. Much earnest and efficient work has been done and several Sections publish their own journals.

## SOUTH AMERICA

### COLOMBIA

Colombia being one of the cultural centres of South America, the people speak a very pure Castilian Spanish, and the ancient University of Bogota, dating from 1572, has a great cultural influence on the life of the nation. Four other universities and eleven schools of music and art testify to the people's thirst for enlightenment, their desire to find expression for their innate sense of beauty and art.

Señor Don Eduardo Santos is President of the Republic for the term 1938-42.

**Theosophy in Colombia** was much stimulated by Mr. Jinarajadasa's visit in September 1938, when he personally handed the new Charter to this youngest Section of The Theosophical Society. The Lodges are active in child and animal welfare and youth activities. The *Revista Teosofica Colombiana* is actively spreading Theosophical knowledge in the country.

### BRAZIL

A decree by President Vargas in January 1939 inaugurated a 5-year plan of public works and national defences. Large-scale transport schemes have been announced, including extensive interior highway and railway construction.

The third largest known diamond in the world, found in Brazil, was named after President Vargas.

The signing of a Non-Aggression Pact between Brazil and Venezuela at Caracas in December 1938 and a Trade and Credit Agreement with the United States of America in March 1939 ensure further security and friendly relations.

By a decree published in July 1939, Brazil found it necessary to permit the printing of foreign publications only if accompanied by a Portuguese translation. Chiefly German and Italian newspapers are affected. Latin-American nationalism everywhere is showing its determination to block the use of foreign colonies for alien penetration. Diplomatic differences with Germany were adjusted in June.

The Brazilian people have a real feeling for the ideal of Brotherhood, and the legally instituted Day of Universal Brotherhood is always enthusiastically observed.

**Theosophy in Brazil:** Mr. Jinarajadasa's tour in South America brought much inspiration and enthusiasm and left the Section stronger.

Theosophy is steadily spreading, and the three great centres of activity, Rio de Janeiro, S. Paulo, and Santos are showing greater strength and improvement. The Lodge in Rio de Janeiro, having moved to more central and roomier quarters, is now reorganizing its library for greater usefulness. A National Congress is planned for 7-15 December 1939, and a fund for the printing of Theosophical books is being raised throughout the country. The

Open Letters of the President have been translated and distributed to all the Lodges. At the suggestion of Mr. Jinarajadasa, *Boletim Teosofico* is being printed, in addition to the attractive journal, *O Teosofista*, which translates into Portuguese many of the President's articles, besides publishing fine contributions and poems by Brazilian Theosophists.

The General Secretary undertook a very successful propaganda tour and the Next Step Campaign was inaugurated all over the country. The Executive Council has been increased from 3 to 7 members.

The General Secretary, Senhor Aleixo Alves de Souza, records the departure of two great Theosophists into the Peace, namely D. Celeste Jaquaribe de Matos-Favia, "a consummate artist, poet, and musician," and Dr. Ariovaldo Chaves, "worthy of being emulated by members of The Theosophical Society."

## PARAGUAY

The General Elections in April 1939 brought General José Estigarribia to the Presidency. A new Cabinet had been formed in October 1938.

Paraguay's doors were open to many refugees from the Saar area in Germany, and the Nansen Office Report of September 1938 expresses great satisfaction at their settlement in agricultural pursuits. Among these fine independent people the refugees will find a new home and new ideals.

Theosophy in Paraguay was much stimulated by Mr. Jinarajadasa's visit in 1938; he had good audiences and five of his lectures were broadcast.

## URUGUAY

One of the early Presidents of Uruguay was a Theosophist. In this progressive nation much advanced legislation has been passed. The death penalty has been abolished. All children have been legitimized. There is no colour distinction, the inhabitants of the country being descendants of the Incas. A liberal religious spirit and the progressive Government outlook provide a

fertile field for the spread of Theosophy.

In January 1939 a Barter Agreement was concluded with Italy, which, exchanging wool for armaments, is expected to treble the trade between these countries. Uruguay was represented at the Panama Congress in September 1939.

The people of Uruguay have a deeply artistic nature, which receives every encouragement from the Government through educational institutions, exhibitions, competitions for select scholarships and travel-purses which enable artists to go to Europe and North America to perfect their technique. Music especially enjoys the support of the Government, and Montevideo is famous as a centre of musical appreciation. Both musical and dramatic work have now been crystallized in the Servicio Oficial de Difusion Radio Electrica, which not only organizes many symphony concerts, performed by an orchestra numbering over 100 musicians, but broadcasts these concerts to all countries on both long and short-wave transmitting stations and gives much practical assistance to the drama in its various aspects.

**Theosophy in Uruguay:** The Section delivered to the Board of Primary and Normal Education, to be distributed under official seal, 5000 copies of Mr. Jinarajadasa's lecture: "God's Agents: the Children," destined for the teachers of the Republic and for national study. Remarkable gains in membership are noted, and the General Secretary reports "a much greater interest and inclination of the public towards Theosophy and The Theosophical Society."

## ARGENTINA

President Roberto M. Ortiz, whose Government is pledged to world friendship and the ideals of democracy, in the crisis of September 1938 appealed to both Herr Hitler and M. Benesh for the peaceful settlement of the Czecho-Slovakian question.



To weld the young Argentine nation into a whole and to counteract subversive propaganda in certain foreign schools, where the Spanish language and Argentine ideals, history and constitution were utterly ignored, Government passed stringent regulations, among which was the prohibition of foreign financial support to such organizations.

All privately-owned railways were purchased, and measures approved for the nationalization of the railways.

Argentina acted as one of the mediators in the frontier demarcation dispute between Ecuador and Peru (q.v.). On 2 June 1939 an important Barter Agreement was signed with Italy for the export of wheat, maize, oil seeds, etc., to the value of about £5,000,000.

**Theosophy in Argentina:** A new Federation covering the territories of Mendoza, San Juan, and San Luis was formed. Mr. Jinarajadasa presided at its inauguration on 9 July 1938. The 20th Theosophical Convention, held in 1939, proved most successful. Argentina, one of the most active centres of Theosophical propaganda in South America, with its library foundation, its several beautiful journals, undertook the distribution of a large number of pamphlets entitled "Theosophy: Is it a Science, a Religion, a Philosophy?" An important step for the Section was the formation of an enthusiastic group of Young Theosophists.

In Argentina, a country which must always translate its ideals into action, many Theosophists have thrown themselves ardently into the work of helping war-torn Spain.

**Bolivia:** Colonel German Busch, President of Bolivia, issued a decree on 24 April 1939, making Bolivia a strongly nationalist State. The first decrees issued under the new régime included measures to ban "foreign political and doctrinal propaganda and the use of foreign flags and emblems," and the regulation by the Government of relations between workmen and employers.

## CHILE

One of the most devastating earthquakes of recent years rent Southern Chile on 26 January 1939. Over 20,000 people were killed and some 50,000 were injured. Chillan and Concepcion were destroyed.

A new Cabinet took the helm in September 1938, and on 27 September the President, Don Arturo Alessandri, sent a personal appeal for peace to Herr Hitler and M. Benesh; he also helped as a mediator in the frontier demarcation dispute between Peru and Ecuador in October 1938.

Presidential elections took place in December 1938, resulting in Señor Don Pedro Aguirre Cerda succeeding Señor Don Alessandri.

Chile strongly encourages immigration, proposing various measures and facilities to attract foreign settlers. Her Government declared: "Chile, a land of opportunity, opens her doors to all useful men without distinction of race or creed."

**Theosophy in Chile:** Together with other Central and South American countries the Chilean Section greatly benefited from by Mr. Jinarajadasa's visit. He delivered many public lectures, and the lecture on children, given by invitation at several training schools for teachers, was published in a special edition. Some of his talks were broadcast.

## PERU

The most important happening of the year was the Eighth Pan-American Conference at Lima in December 1938, opened with an address by President Benavides. Every country on the American continent sent its representatives. Mr. Cordell Hull represented the United States of America. The Declaration of Lima, signed by all members, provides for the increase of mutual trade and complete equality of commercial opportunity for all.

The question of a common frontier demarcation between Peru and Ecuador was peacefully settled in October 1938 with the aid of the Presidents of

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, United States of America and Uruguay.

In February 1939 an attempt by General Rodriguez, Minister for the Interior, to seize power by a *coup d'état* in the absence of the President was

frustrated and the General himself was killed.

In April 1939 Peru resigned from the League of Nations.

**Theosophy in Peru** is spread by an enthusiastic Lodge.

## AUSTRALASIA

### NEW ZEALAND

From the day of Germany's invasion of Poland New Zealand has stood ready to act, and even on 2 September 1939, Mr. Fraser, Acting Prime Minister, pledged the country's fullest co-operation. The military authorities were besieged with offers for overseas service.

Even before war broke out, complete agreement had been reached between the British and New Zealand Governments in June 1939 for the manufacture of air craft and the expansion of training facilities in the Dominion to increase the flying personnel for the Air Forces of both countries. New Zealand is very "air-conscious." In August 1938 a triangular service to be operated by the Tasman Sea Air Line was decided on, with three flights weekly between Auckland, Wellington and Sydney. A Trans-Pacific Passenger Service with America is also being investigated.

The National Health Insurance and Superannuation (Social Security) Bill, first introduced in August 1938, became operative 1 April 1939. This makes many health benefits available without a means test, and old age payments to all over 60 possessing qualifying residential periods.

The General Elections in October 1938 returned another Labour Government to power, which is putting up a strenuous fight for the economic security of all citizens and definitely tackling one of the great menaces of modern life—usury. The Government desires to secure a higher standard of living by a policy of insulating the Dominion's credit, by exchange control in particular, and by integrating the whole economic and financial structure in the interests of all citizens.

1939 brought many difficulties, first a six months' drought, then severe floods which destroyed thousands of head of stock. Rising prices, falling markets and large public works schemes have necessitated increased taxation, while the excess of imports over exports was no longer covered by the London Sterling Fund, necessitating control of credit legislation.

The Centenary celebrations opened on 8 November 1939 with a great exhibition at Wellington, fully illustrating the history of the past century in every phase of life, in science, industry and art, and including many historical pageants, festival weeks, etc., in all of which the Maori population are taking their full share.

Out of the difficulties of 100 years ago has grown a virile nation now standing side by side with the Mother country. The straightforward, neighbourly New Zealander is helping England through with the War, for the victorious outcome of which he has already been laying foundation stones in his own social structure.

**Theosophy in New Zealand:** A fine piece of work by the Section is the Vasanta Garden School, five of whose students won prizes in radio competitions for original announcements.

The Ritual of the Mystic Star, introduced by Mr. Jinarajadasa in 1935, has now a membership of nearly 50 and is very helpful to the life of the Section.

The Round Table and The Theosophical Order of Service take a very active part in the community life. In Christchurch a Boy Scout Group adopted the Round Table ideals as the basis of a series of ethical talks. In Auckland *The Torch*, edited entirely by members of the Round Table, is completing its third year of publication.

One of the most encouraging features of the work is the activity of the younger members, working in the Lodges in complete harmony with the older members. They show initiative and accept responsibility.

The Section journal is very attractive, and a special Adyar number, in September, united the Section with Headquarters in an even closer bond.

## AUSTRALIA

H. R. H. the Duke of Kent, having taken up a naval appointment at the beginning of the war, has had to postpone fulfilling his appointment as Governor-General of the Commonwealth, as from November 1939, and Lord Gowrie carries on in that office.

Australia lost an able Prime Minister by the death in April 1939 of Mr. J. A. Lyons, who had been head of the Coalition Cabinet and Treasurer since 1932. Sir Earle Page acted as Prime Minister, until the United Australia Party elected Mr. Robert Menzies to that office.

Mr. Menzies' slogan for the war is: "We stand by Britain. . . . One King, one Flag, one Cause." He offered all possible help from Australia and speeded up war preparations. Australia is in a splendid position to assist because her preparations for national emergency have been accelerated each year and the Army, Navy and Air Forces have been expanded. The Government are both buying and building aeroplanes, and many new Air Force stations are being established. Recruiting for a Special Volunteer Corps for home or overseas service aroused enthusiastic response.

A special session of Parliament was called at Canberra to formulate amendments to the Federal Constitution giving Parliament powers to deal with various national problems including health and industry. These amendments will be submitted to a popular referendum.

The controversial National Insurance Act led to a Cabinet crisis, but equilibrium was restored through replacement of the Act by a system of health insurance and family medical benefits which, with increasing defence liabilities, is

more within the Commonwealth's financial powers.

Economic conditions in 1938-39 were difficult owing to prolonged droughts over great parts of the country, and falls in wool and wheat prices. On the other hand, manufacturing production of all kinds increased, and oversea trade showed a substantial advance on 1937-38.

The first discovery in Australia of oil in a free state capable of commercial exploitation was made in south-east Gippsland, Victoria, eight square miles of oil sands varying in thickness from twenty to forty feet being estimated to have an oil content of not less than 150 million gallons.

Far northern towns in South Australia are having a desperate fight with soil erosion, being threatened by submerging sands. An important report dated October 1938 calls for Government aid.

The population of the Commonwealth is nearly 7,000,000 (June 1939). The Assisted Passages Scheme of immigration, put into operation by the Commonwealth Government in 1938, is expected to assist 5000 immigrants annually. Other private schemes are operating. Thousands of refugees were admitted into the Commonwealth during 1939, and to offset this flow of immigrants who have little in common with the British tradition, Australia is seeking to attract the farming classes of Holland and Switzerland.

An increasingly awakening sense of responsibility for the fast disappearing aboriginal population has caused the Federal Cabinet to set up a Department of Native Affairs. It is proposed to deal with native offenders in special courts and to recruit a native constabulary.

**Theosophy in Australia:** The Section is active and the membership is increasing. A happy and successful 43rd Convention was held in beautiful Sydney in April 1939.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson continues to draw large audiences in Sydney, helps suburban Lodges, and broadcasts. Mr. J. L. Davidge, touring from Adyar,

visited the capital city Lodges from May to July 1939 and gave a great impetus to the work. Brisbane Lodge presented Mr. Jinarajadasa's *First Principles of Theosophy* to three prominent citizens in appreciation of their help with lectures. The Lodge book shops are doing fine propaganda, speci-

ally Adelaide, which stresses the written word. Sydney is making good use of its 2GB radio service (four talks weekly), and the Editor of the Section journal has discovered several new contributors. The Young Theosophists of Australia are a promising group, strong on leadership.

## THE ORIENT

### JAPAN

The conflict in China is still engaging the whole of Japan's attention. In August 1938 the Cabinet decided "to place Japan on an emergency footing, both moral and material," and far-reaching measures under a National Mobilisation Act in September 1938, affecting over 4,000,000 workers, ensured a smooth and steady flow of labour and technical skill into essential war industries. These measures, however, being severely criticized, caused a Cabinet crisis in January 1939, when Prince Konoye resigned and was succeeded as Prime Minister by Count Kiichiro. A 5-year plan for industrial development in Manchukuo was speeded up and greatly expanded to co-ordinate Manchukuo's heavy industries with Japan's war-time needs. The new Budget provides 23,000,000 yen for helping the settlement in Manchukuo of 30,000 young men and 13,000 families.

Japan is now in possession of all the largest cities in China, as well as the most important industrial area in the Yangtse Valley.

In January 1939 Prince Konoye presented peace terms to China, but these were found unacceptable. Severe fighting continues along a 1500-mile front, and Chinese guerilla tactics behind the Japanese lines are greatly impeding troops and supplies. In February 1939 Hainan Island, off the South China coast, was occupied, and in March the Spratley Islands, of great strategic importance, were annexed.

A China Board, established in October 1938 to administer the political, economic and cultural affairs of China, made determined efforts to

exploit the economic resources of Japanese-controlled areas. A shipping control firm provides for the maintenance and expansion of China river and coastal shipping services. General Itagaki, Japanese Minister for War, stated in August 1938 that, "the sole objective of Japan's military campaign was the foundation of an economic bloc . . . which would lead to stabilization in East Asia"; Prince Konoye, in November, repeated that development and co-operation, not conquest and ruin, were Japan's aim: "Japan desires to build up a stabilized Far East with the co-operation of the Chinese people." Mr. Arita, Foreign Minister, declared in the Diet in January 1939 that "Japan desires permanent peace in East Asia" on "an ethical foundation . . . for active collaboration and mutual aid along all lines of political, economic and cultural activities."

The war expenditure incurred so far is a very heavy drain on Japan's finances. Alleged assistance to Nationalist China and the support of Chinese currency developed strong anti-British and anti-French propaganda, which culminated in a blockade of the Foreign Concession at Tientsin until temporary agreement was arrived at in talks between Mr. Arita and Sir Robert Craigie.

A cultural agreement with Germany in November 1938, followed later by a trade agreement, emphasized friendly relations with that country, as did also a trade agreement with France in June 1939.

At the outbreak of war in Europe Japan declared her intention to remain neutral.

The army has ruled Japan since 1931, more especially since the rebellion of

1936, and the traditional homage given to it is well illustrated by the saying: "As the cherry is the first among the flowers, so is the warrior first among men." In a nation which closes its schools in order that Youth may go out in thousands to the woods and countryside to see and love the beauty of spring and the glory of the autumn, a saying such as this reveals the strength of their devotion no less than their appreciation of the beautiful.

**Theosophy in Japan** centres around the Miroku Lodge of Tokio, which admitted four new members in 1938. The visits of Miss Glen Walker and several other Theosophists heartened the members and made valuable contacts. The Secretary of the Lodge wrote on White Lotus Day, the anniversary of its foundation: "We hope to become, during this time of stress, a strong centre in the cause of International Brotherhood."

## CHINA

China is indomitable. Although 120,000 square miles of Chinese territory are in Japanese possession; all China's largest cities have fallen into Japanese hands; 50,000,000 refugees, 16,000,000 destitute people, 6,000,000 orphaned children are the fruitage of this cruel war in which over 1,000,000 Chinese soldiers have been sacrificed, yet the soul of China remains unbroken. The Peace terms announced by Japan, which would have meant complete submission, were unequivocally rejected. China is determined to fight her way through the dark shadows of temporary suffering to an ultimately glorious victory.

This war has consolidated the national spirit of China as nothing else could have done. Formerly disunited factions now cooperate with the Central Government, moved to Chungking under compulsion of war. War has led to the opening up of hitherto almost inaccessible interior provinces, especially Yunnan (about the size of Germany), where the repercussions of war are hardly felt and numerous refugees have settled, creating many educational and

commercial centres and growing industries. In January 1939, vast Sinkiang, so far only under Chinese suzerainty, was reattached to China proper and many refugees are being settled there.

The Government National Relief Commission was raised to the status of a Ministry in 1938, aiding over 10,000,000 refugees and organizing for the reclamation of waste land, industrial and handicraft activities—one of the most splendid systems of cooperative endeavour the world has ever known.

A remarkable feat of road-building, proof of China's invincible determination to win, was the completion in December 1938 of a 1400-mile road from Chungking to the Burmese border. The entire road, through mountainous country, was surveyed and built in less than a year by native labour, without a single piece of road-building equipment, stone-rollers being carved from the rock in the district, and bullock carts used for transport. With Japan's control of the coast, this road, with the long overland caravan routes to the West, has become of the utmost importance, and Yunnan will doubtless in future play a leading rôle in China's national life.

The Chinese Eighth Route Army, formerly known as the Red Army, is co-operating in organizing the population everywhere for self-defence. Yen-an, its headquarters in North China, has become a centre of artistic and intellectual life, with 700 schools and 20,000 reading circles to spread the facts of the Japanese invasion, Chinese nationhood, sanitation and measures against airplane and gas attacks. Political, cultural and military training is being perfected, and thousands of men and women students come to Yen-an not only from all points of the compass in China, but even from Malaya, the Philippines and the East Indies. They live and study in caves dug out from the mountain sides, and on returning home are employed in schemes of national reconstruction. The best graduates are picked and sent to the "Resist Japan" University, the special training school for Army officers.

A large number of health centres in the open country with the motto "Prevention is better than cure" are proving of inestimable worth to the masses.

As the bulk of the Chinese population tion has never wholeheartedly accepted western innovations, the loss of the coastal towns has scarcely affected Chinese economic life in the hinterland; and much export is still forthcoming for shipment abroad, as, for example, exports of tea, which were the largest for five years, nearly 92,000,000 lbs., while the Japanese-occupied North held the smallest share of China's exports.

In February 1939 a Supreme National Defence Council was formed at Chungking, headed by Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek, and including Premier Kung and three members of the Executive Committee of the Kuomintang. No Communist leaders are on the Committee.

In spite of attempts to undermine the Chinese dollar, China's credit is little impaired. The National Government has set up an Exchange Stabilization Fund in which Great Britain co-operates.

Thus the mellow soul of China, with its philosophic calm and passive strength, its tremendous endurance and enormous vitality, its rapturous love of nature, and its subtle appreciation of all beauty, is rising stronger and more united from the anxious present to what promises to be a future of magnificent achievement.

In July 1939 Chungking reported that the Tibetan search for the reincarnated Dalai Lama had ended. A peasant boy, five years old, found in Kansu some years previously, had proved himself as showing true signs of reincarnation, and was proclaimed 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet.

**Theosophy in China:** Manuk Lodge, Hongkong, reports a gain of five members; it does excellent work in co-operation with the Press and other sources of publicity. Shanghai Lodge has founded a Youth Lodge comprising a brilliant set of young people of many nationalities with musical and artistic talents.

A growing number of Chinese scholars and non-English-speaking Chinese attending the study class may yet become the nucleus for a Chinese Lodge.

Owing to the disturbed state of the country, travel is impossible and every energy is being concentrated on strengthening the accessible Lodges.

The Translating Committee is continuing its valuable work and regular public lectures and radio talks are being given by Mr. A. F. Knudsen (Presidential Agent), Mr. H. B. Campbell and Mr. Wright.

The passing in December 1938 of Mrs. Knudsen was bravely faced and all with whom and for whom she worked feel her continued presence as one of the strongest bulwarks of Theosophy in China.

## PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

The Commonwealth Department of Education and President Quezon are both stressing Patriotism in an attempt to make the people conscious of their cultural and spiritual heritage. To this end the Government are emphasizing the collection of an ancient folklore, making Tagalog the official language, encouraging the study in the schools of Philippine literature and the lives of national heroes and martyrs.

A public works programme specially fulfils the need for playgrounds and parks, while the introduction of an 8-hour day, minimum pay, unemployment schemes and the "Social Justice" movement show increased civic responsibility and concern for the people's welfare.

A national contest in English, Spanish and Tagalog in various departments of literature offers separate prizes in each section in each language. Tagalog has been found to have many affinities with Sanskrit.

**Theosophy in the Philippines** is very active, and Theosophists consider it the strongest single spiritualizing force in the nation today. A Federation of Mindanao Lodges is in formation. A strong Youth Movement conducted a "Symposium on the Religions of the World," the first of its kind in the

Philippines. The essays read will be published. The Philippine Theosophical Institute has now a lecture hall of its own in the house of its director.

## MALAYA

**Singapore Lodge:** The year 1938 shows a record increase in membership through the activities of youthful members; 13 members were admitted and one resigned, making 33 on the membership roll. The Library has been augmented by a number of interesting books; increasing use is made of it. Miss Glen Walker's visit was much appreciated.

**Selangor Lodge:** The progress of the Lodge has been very satisfactory. Active membership is 10. Several new books have been acquired by the Library through the generous gifts of friends. During 1938 the Lodge welcomed the following visitors: Miss Glen Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Knudsen, Mr. Pfeiffer (an Austrian member), Mrs. Prior, from Singapore, and Mr. Flowerdew, former President of the Lodge.

## NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES

These beautiful and densely populated islands are enjoying peaceful and harmonious conditions. The Government is planning the industrialization of Java, and though this implies a radical adaptation of mental outlook by the Javanese population, their inherent mysticism and social feeling will counterbalance any ill effects. Colonization of Javanese on the other large islands for agricultural purposes is also contemplated.

Many Javanese and other leaders of religious and civic life responded to the call by H. M. Queen Wilhelmina in September 1938 for moral and spiritual rearmament. The fact of Universal Brotherhood is increasingly accepted, and many remains of the old laws of Manu are still discernible in village life.

**Theosophy in the Netherlands East Indies:** Moral and Spiritual Rearmament was the keynote of the last Congress. There is a quest for some-

thing new, something spiritual capable of being carried forward in the new campaign, "Theosophy is the Next Step."

The semi-official bookshop, "Minerva," celebrated its Silver Jubilee, and the Young Theosophists, under the leadership of Mr. Jan de Munck Mortier, have started a monthly magazine: *The Lotus*.

## BURMA

The completion of the Burma-Yunnan Road into China has been of great importance, and Rangoon is already benefiting as a new port for China trade. A seriously disturbed internal situation due to rioting and the slowing down of educational work caused the Governor, Sir Archibald Cochrane, to voice grave warnings.

A new lead to governmental policy is being given by the administration formed under U Pu Yamethin in February 1939. An increasing friendship and a growing volume of trade with Japan are apparent.

**Theosophy in Burma:** Very active work has been done by the Section, especially in the field of humanitarianism and vegetarianism; 15,000 copies of "Ahimsa," a pamphlet of the Burma Humanitarian League, were distributed free. The three schools under Theosophical management have over 1000 pupils and the Boys' High School is enlarging its quarters. The Young Theosophists are working vigorously, especially in the new Olcott Publishing House. Visits from Miss Glen Walker and Mr. and Mrs. Knudsen were much appreciated during 1938. Burma showed the highest percentage membership increase of any Section, 18.1%.

The Section is awaiting a less disturbed economic state of the country to continue its plans for further intensive work in strengthening Buddhism and other faiths. *The Message of Theosophy* is being issued at frequent intervals.

## CEYLON

Following the demand for Self-Government by a delegation from the



Ceylon National Congress, the Governor, Sir Andrew Caldecott, put forward in December 1938 various reforms, such as the re-shaping of electoral areas and suggestions for a Cabinet system. During 1939 there were periods of strained relations with India over labour questions, the principal difficulty being the employment of Indians while so many Sinhalese are unemployed.

## INDIA—LAND OF THE GREATER LIGHT

This is a time for exaltation and for fervour of spirit, for self-sacrifice and calm and certain courage, for a most deep sense of dedication and consecration to the attainment of the glorious purpose set before the human world—to establish happiness among all the children of Life.

This is a time for noble chivalry and boundless understanding, that the Fatherhood of Life may be truly revered and therefore reflected in a Universal Brotherhood of all that lives.

This is a time for the release of the spirit of war, not of a war to abase, enslave, destroy, but of a war to pass sure and speedy judgment upon all who invoke hatred-force to gain their evil ends, upon all who use injustice, tyranny and oppression to minister ruthlessly to their selfishness.

This is a time when the world needs war, not that it shall end in an ignoble and unjust peace, but that it shall seek out everywhere, without fear or favour, all who suffer under the enchainment of might and restore them to the freedom of Right.

This is a time when no country, however victorious and triumphant, shall dare to crush underfoot those whom it has vanquished. Rather shall it lift them up into a state of Righteousness and Peace, girding them about with peace and with prosperity.

This is a time when no nation shall become prouder or more powerful because of victory in war, but when every nation shall become nobler according to its national standards of greatness such as were set for it in its childhood and have been remembered from time

**Theosophy in Ceylon** is active in educational work. The Buddhist Theosophical Society (started in 1880) has sponsored a Million Rupee Fund—it now manages 285 schools of all types, with 65,000 children. Theosophy is being promoted at the Wellawatte headquarters and in private Groups, and by the Youth Movement through social welfare work.

to time in its great men and women and in its towering times of selfless action.

This is a time for the bold assertion of such Declarations of Rights as shall set forth a freedom and a justice still to be achieved.

This is a time for the active redress of wrongs wherever these exist.

This is a time for the entry of the whole world into a standard of living and of relationship higher and nobler than it has reached heretofore.

And as, from time immemorial, the East has been the source of the Light of Truth, of Culture, of Brotherhood, so today, in a supreme need of the world, let the East awaken to her Light that it may shine forth upon a world darkened by an uprising of barbarism.

India is the Land of the Greater Light, the very East of the world, and she must shine again as she has shone aforetime but has not shone for centuries.

India's soul must awaken and arise, and reverently must her sons and daughters cherish her in strength as she brings forth the Day of a new world.

Let them reverence her and abandon themselves to her as they gaze upon those mighty mountain ranges of her past which shall be the Everest of her future. Is the stupendous Himalayan range aught but an outward and visible sign of the inner range which is the abode of Light?

Let them know in an ecstasy of happy certainty that in this inner range, and for those who know, in the outer, too, are to be discovered the might and

glory of the human race, for eternal witness, throughout the ages and throughout the world, to the ceaseless unfolding of the Divinity in man and in all other life no less. Let them remember, as in service and sacrifice and brotherhood they lift up the India of today and seek to give her people happiness, that India's life is not for herself alone but for the ennobling of the world of which she is the heart.

Let them, therefore, see to it that they hear her message to the world, and incarnate it in purity and strength.

In this time of war, let India herself declare the nature of its Purpose, and call the world to understand its Purpose and to achieve its ends.

Let India's Voice speak the word of Universal Peace. Let India's Voice be heard above the clashing clamour in the West and in the East.

Let the Land of the Greater Light bring the whole world to the dawning of a new Hope.

Thus, let India enter not only into her own Freedom, for so she must if she is

to ascend to the measure of her mountain standards, but let her proclaim that Freedom is the Birthright of the world.

Thus, let India call the world, as she alone can call it, to die from out the Sign of Might forever, and to be reborn under the Sign of everlasting Brotherhood. Thus, let India's Voice be vibrant through the world and mighty for the Right.

Let her Voice be heard in the cause of all peoples and nations which are not heard because the world is afraid to hear.

Let her Voice call the whole world out of its crucifixion in unrighteousness into a resurrection in Universal Righteousness.

It is the time for the East to speak, and indeed will she be heard, for the Centre of the world's Gravity is moving from West to East. And India shall be the Voice of the East ringing through the world and calling it to its Redemption.

O INDIA! LAND OF THE GREATER LIGHT! MAY THY LIGHT IRRADIATE THE DARKNESS OF THE WORLD.

## INDIA'S HOUR HAS STRUCK!

Let India sound the note of that Universal Brotherhood, of that Universal Understanding between races, between nations, between faiths, between communities, which so urgently needs sounding at the present time.

We must be One People. We must have One Life, however much that life may be rich in splendid differences. We must have One Goal, and there is not a single Indian citizen who cannot work for that Goal here and now in a spirit of harmlessness, in a spirit of fashioning such a citizenship for India as shall give joy and gladness to every man, woman and child.

India's Hour Has Struck! Let those who have the ears to hear, let them hear, and let them act, and let them see to it that ere long India is ready to take her place as a respected equal, as an honoured equal, even as a revered equal, among all the nations of the world.

## THEOSOPHY THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

No.	National Societies	No. of Lodges	Provisional totals for 1938	Revised Net gain or loss in 1937	Provisional Net gain or loss in 1938
1	United States ...	152	3936	-270	-111
2	England ...	120	3327	-97	-21
3	India ...	249	4083	-89	+48
4	Australia ...	18	1098	-130	+47
5	Sweden ...	26	410	-50	-38
6	New Zealand ...	17	768	-7	-27
7	Netherlands ...	45	1993	-27	-30
8	France ...	65	2639	-25	+36
9	Italy ...	18	362*	—	—
10	Cuba ...	29	611	+50	-11
11	Hungary ...	9	169	-35	-8
12	Finland ...	21	578	+33	+23
13	Russia ...	12	184	+9	+9
14	Czecho-Slovakia ...	9	103	+11	+8
15	South Africa ...	9	390	+139	+36
16	Scotland ...	26	379	-14	-9
17	Switzerland ...	15	317	+1	+13
18	Belgium ...	12	387	-15	+21
19	Ned. East Indies ...	28	1335	-3	+3
20	Burma ...	12	196	+5	+30
21	Norway ...	8	193	-13	+2
22	Denmark ...	12	453	-12	+10
23	Ireland ...	9	87	+5	Nil
24	Mexico ...	19	332	—	+51
25	Canada ...	16	317	-26	-2
26	Argentina ...	23	428	+21	+68
27	Chile ...	7	139	+3	+6
28	Brazil ...	17	320	+7	-11
29	Bulgaria ...	4	105	+19	+3
30	Iceland ...	6	158	-1	-8
31	Spain ...	—	510*	—	—
32	Portugal ...	8	176	+4	+15
33	Wales ...	13	231	-10	-30
34	Poland ...	8	197	—	Nil
35	Uruguay ...	3	71	+6	+8
36	Puerto Rico ...	7	100	Nil	+6
37	Romania ...	8	191	+9	+6
38	Yugoslavia ...	16	371	+24	+36
39	Ceylon ...	3	146*	—	—
	Forward ...	1079	27,790		

\* No Report. Previous year's figures.

No.	National Societies	No. of Lodges	Provisional totals for 1938	Revised Net gain or loss in 1937	Provisional Net gain or loss in 1938
	Forward ...	1079	27,790		
40	Greece ...	7	182	+68	+9
41	Central America ...	8	139	+11	-82
42	Philippine Islands ...	11	125	—	+41
43	Colombia ...	13	167	—	+167
	<b>Presidential Agencies</b>				
1	East Asia :	4	67	—	+7
2	Egypt ...	1	39*	—	—
3	Paraguay ...	1	9	—	—
4	Peru ...	1	20*	—	—
5	Canadian Federation ...	8	166	+10	+18
	<b>Non-Sectionalized Lodges</b>				
1	Barbados Lodge ...	1	9*	—	—
2	Nairobi Lodge ...	1	20	—	+3
3	Singapore Lodge ...	1	33	+5	+12
4	H.P.B. Lodge Ontario ...	1	10	—	Nil
5	Selangor Lodge ...	1	10	-1	+3
6	Krishna Lodge Zanzibar ...	1	22	—	+5
7	Narayana Lodge Tanganyika ...	1	25	—	-2
8	Mombasa Lodge Kenya ...	1	9	—	Nil
	Fellows-at-Large	—	20	—	+4
	<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1141</b>	<b>28,862</b>		

Acknowledgment is given to *Keesing's Contemporary Archives*, *The Statesman's Year Book*, and other authoritative publications which have supplemented the reports of General Secretaries in the compiling of The World Survey.

## THE ADVANCE GUARD

**ADYAR:** Rottela Mudaliyandan Chettiar, B.A., d. 30-4-39; from 1915 resident at Adyar, supported Dr. Besant in all her activities; Ware, Sarah (Miss), d. 2-5-39, resident at Adyar since 1922. For seven years teacher in Theosophical Girls' College, Benares.

**INDIA:** The following F.T.S. have passed over between May 1938 and 7th May 1939:

S. Jambunatha Iyer; Nusserwanji Rustomji Mistri; Burjorji Nusserwanji Mengushi; O. Laxmanaswami Rao; R. Narayanaswami Rao (Hassan); S. Sundar Rao (Bangalore); A.G. Balakrishna Iyer; V. G. Kardile (Nasik); Sister Krishna Chuharmal (Karachi); C. S. Padmanaba Pillai; K. Padmanabha Rao (Belgaum); Munshi Shiva Shankar Sahai; P. Govindarajulu Naidu; Kailash Chandra Banerjee.

**EAST ASIA:** Knudsen, Alice K. (Mrs.), Shanghai, d. 18-12-38; Beatrice Lane Suzuki, Japan, d. 16-7-39.

### AUSTRALASIA

**New Zealand:** Thomson, John Ross; Auckland, d. 23-10-38; Gen. Sec. New Zealand 1918-25; Bishop L.C.C.

**Australia:** Bean, J.W.B. (Mrs.), Brisbane, d. 14-5-39; member for 40 years, 23 years associated with Section Headquarters. Patterson, Henrietta (Mrs.), Perth; d. 23-11-38; aged 90, joined in 1891, organized Lodges.

### AMERICA:

**Canada:** Murney, C. Hubel, d. 15-12-28; Lang, Albion E., d. 2-11-38.

**The United States:** Allaire, Emma (Miss), d. 16-5-39; Breyman, Annie (Miss), d. 9-10-38; Christensen, M.P., d. 30-12-38; Coline, Robert H., d. recently; Cureton, Elizabeth (Miss), d. 6-4-39; Doughty, Lida (Mrs), d. recently; Draper, Mary C. (Mrs.), d. recently; Goddard, John L. d. 15-9-38; Hall, Grace S. (Mrs.), d. 5-2-39; Hesse, Alice A. (Mrs.), d. recently; Hopkins, Gussie Trull (Mrs.), d. 9-8-38; Hurd, Daisy (Mrs.), d. 23-1-39; Kenyon, Florence (Mrs.), d. 5-3-39; Klusky, Mildred (Mrs.), d. 20-7-39; Knuth,

Bertha (Mrs.), d. 29-5-39; Langworthy Roy E., d. 7-5-39; Logan, Sara Wetherill (Mrs), U.S.A. corres. for *New India*, d. 2-12-38; MacArthur, Edith K. (Mrs), d. recently; Miller, Carolyn A. (Mrs.), d. 24-6-39; Palmer, Annie Reed (Mrs.), d. 29-1-39; Pelton, Ella M. (Miss), d. 10-7-39; Richards, Laura J., d. 4-1-39; Rowse, Amy J. (Dr.), d. 8-6-39; Seipel, Effie (Mrs.), d. 23-12-38; Schraeder, Minnie (Mrs.), d. 14-6-39; Thornburg, Arthur H., d. 20-4-39; Ward, Martha (Miss), d. 7-5-39; Warrington, Albert Powell, d. 16-6-39, Vice-President, T.S., 1928-34, co-founder Krotona and Ojai; Young, Minnie (Mrs.), d. recently.

**Peru:** Lauferty, Rozella (Mrs.), d. 27-7-38; worker in T.S.

### EUROPE—BRITAIN

**England:** Massingham, Henry G., Brighton, d. 23-9-28, aged 87; Baker, F. (Mrs.); W. Bladen; Boyanton, E. (Mrs.); Frost, Marie Q.Y. (Mrs.); Heiman, L. (Miss); Kuster, A. de (Baroness); Maclean, M.P. (Mrs.); Neale, W.J.; Robinson, J. H.; Seaber, E. (Mrs.); Spence, J.T. (Miss); Spencer, L. (Mrs.).

**Non-Member:** Guest, David, killed in action while fighting with the Government forces in Spain; 26 years of age; son of Dr. Haden Guest.

**Scotland:** Ellingsen, N.A., Edinburgh, d. 3-12-38, Gen. Sec. for Scotland, 1927-29. Hay, Emily (Mrs.), d. 25-6-38, active worker for 40 years.

**Ireland:** Yeats, William Butler, d. 30-1-39; first rank poet and one of leaders Irish literary revival, prominent worker in early history of T.S. in London and Ireland.

**Wales:** Brown, Mary Alice (Mrs.), d. 19-1-39; Ellis, Marie (Miss), d. 3-3-39; Garman, Clara (Mrs.), d. 29-7-38; Roberts, Emma (Mrs.), d. 8-2-39.

**HUNGARY:** Nadler, Robert (Professor), d. recently, at age of 80; former Gen. Sec. for Hungary; eminent scholar and painter.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

**The President's Work 1939:** The first work of the year was the inauguration of *The Adyar 1939 Plan*. Almost every resident at Adyar allied himself to one or another of a number of activities, so that ten groups were formed for various purposes, resulting in a very definite strengthening of Adyar.

Another highly appreciated piece of work was the sending week by week of an *Open Letter* from the President to every single Lodge in the world. The ten letters have been issued in booklet form by The Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar.

The *Liaison Officer* scheme, which was inaugurated in 1938, has been revised.

On *February 17th 1939* there appeared the first issue of a fortnightly journal entitled *Conscience*, edited by what the President has called "an anonymous group of consciences." While this new journal expresses the consciences of its Editorial Board, it does not in the least degree suggest that these consciences are the last word in Conscience. On the contrary *Conscience* expresses Conscience in order to stimulate individual Consciences and a World Conscience, which at present is only awakening. On 2 November 1939 this journal became a weekly.

On *April 9th* (Easter Sunday) Dr. Arundale unveiled the H.P.B. memorial stone, placed in the eastern wall of her old room at Headquarters which has been restored, as far as possible, to its original condition, with many pieces of her furniture. The stone is inscribed within a triangle: "H.P.B. lived here 19-12-1882—31-3-1885."

On *May 8th* (White Lotus Day) a small tablet, imbedded in a low brick column in the garden near Headquarters Building, was unveiled and dedicated "To those unknown members of The Theosophical Society throughout the world whose silent loyalty and sacrifice ensures to it the Masters' constant blessing."

*May 18th*, Goodwill Day, was remembered at Adyar with a full day's programme beginning with the Prayers of all the Religions in the Great Hall. In the afternoon Dr. Arundale and Shrimati Rukmini Devi broadcast brief talks from the All-India Radio Station, Madras.

On *July 24th*, the President sent out in pamphlet form a special appeal to religious authorities to co-operate in the work for peace. It is meeting with good response in India from the heads of temples and mosques. The President also produced a special Invocation, "O Powers of Love," which has been translated into a number of languages.

On *August 3rd*, Dr. Arundale and Shrimati Rukmini Devi and a small party left Adyar for a tour in South India. At Trivandrum, capital of the State of Travancore, a Theosophical Conference was held, which included a public lecture on "Theosophy and The Theosophical Society" by Dr. Arundale, who also gave an address on Education under the auspices of the University of Travancore.

Shrimati Rukmini Devi gave two dance recitals under the patronage of the Maharaja, which were praised by the Dewan as the highest expression of Indian art.

At Tinnevely, Rukmini Devi gave a lecture on Art, and a dance recital; a Theosophical Lodge was resuscitated, and a number of meetings were held, Dr. Arundale delivering three addresses in one day.

Subsequently dance recitals and lectures were given in Madras, Trichinopoly, Madura, Kumbakonam, Salem, and Coimbatore.

The October number of *The Theosophist* celebrated with special articles the sixtieth anniversary of its first publication, 1st October 1879.

*The Visit of Mme. Montessori:* A special activity which occupied the attention of the President was the visit of Mme. Montessori to India. She arrived at Adyar November 4. She studied the

nature of the Indian child as to the modifications which her methods may need in respect to Indian children, and held a diploma training course for teachers. Enrolment for the teachers' course closed in August, and included applicants from South Africa, Ceylon and other oversea countries.

**In the Field:** Mr. C. Jinarajadasa completed his thirteen-months tour in Central and South America at the end of January 1939. During the tour he delivered 204 public lectures, a quarter of that number to members, and addresses to philanthropic societies.

On January 1st he lectured to about 900 prisoners in the courtyard of the prison of Rio Pedras, San Juan, Puerto Rico, on "The Growth of the Soul through the Process of Reincarnation." A lecture on "The Religion and Philanthropy of Freemasonry" was delivered to some twenty Masonic Lodges of the Masculine Obedience. A lecture on education, "God's Agents, the Children," was given by invitation at several training schools for teachers. Special editions of this lecture have been printed in Argentina, Chile, Mexico and Cuba for wide distribution, especially to teachers.

All the lectures delivered in this tour are published in Mr. Jinarajadasa's new book, *The Humanity of the Intuition*.

In February Mr. Jinarajadasa returned to England, where he delivered a series of public lectures in the Besant Hall, London, under the general title "Men Like Gods—the Road to Utopia." This course was greatly appreciated

both by members and the public. During April and May he visited Scotland, Ireland and Wales and was the distinguished visitor at the Conventions of France, Belgium, Holland and England. At the London Headquarters on White Lotus Day he gave readings and an address, and at the Convention delivered the Blavatsky Lecture, "Veils Over Consciousness." His chief work in England was the establishment of a new Centre for work in the British Isles at 33 Ovington Square, London, S.W. 3 (near Harrod's). Fifty or more members, including visitors from Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Vienna and America, visited this new Centre during the Convention.

On June 22 Mr. Jinarajadasa sailed for U.S.A., arriving in New York on June 30.

Mr. J. L. Davidge, leaving Adyar on April 13, visited Australia's capital cities from Perth to Brisbane, spending a week in each city and three weeks in Sydney. In every Lodge he stirred the enthusiasm of the members for the Next Step Campaign, and lectured on Adyar, the political situation in India and "The Fight for Freedom and Democracy." Mr. Davidge returned to Adyar on August 11, after spending a useful week in Colombo.

During April and May, 1939, Miss Serge Brisy, General Secretary for Belgium, made a stimulating lecture tour in Central Europe, visiting Bulgaria, Greece, Hungary, Romania and Yugoslavia.

## GREAT CONVENTIONS

**1. International Convention:** The Sixty-Third International Convention, held at Benares from 26th to 30th December 1939, was outstanding for several reasons:

(1) The President's urgent call to brotherhood throughout The Society in face of political and other tyrannies dominant in the world;

(2) Four Convention Lectures on Yoga;

(3) The President's "Marching Orders" for 1939 to infuse the Besant Spirit into the work of The Theosophical Society;

(4) The raising of a Fund to establish a Besant Theosophical School at Benares.

The Presidential Address was divided into three parts; the first consisted of a review of the world situation, especially with reference to the challenge of the war spirit and a survey of the international



activities of The Society; the second part dealt with the activities of Adyar; and the third part reviewed the work of the National Sections.

The President made an important pronouncement as to The Society's neutrality. After reviewing its maintenance over many years, with extensive quotations from Dr. Besant and other authorities, notwithstanding that his own personal inclinations were strong for a "great statement" from The Society in its official capacity in respect of "the present awful tyrannies and persecutions," he gave as his considered opinion that it would not be wise and helpful for The Society, as such, to intervene by way of an official pronouncement, the fundamental reason being "that The Society, as such, is not yet strong enough to be able to discern unerringly, impersonally, which wrongs should, and which wrongs should not, be the subject of an official statement."

The President noted an increasing membership and cited concrete indications of renewed activity.

**Symbolic Yoga:** The President's lectures on Symbolic Yoga differed somewhat from those he had given on this subject in other countries. He seemed to react differently to an Indian audience, of whom so many were deeply immersed in Yoga practice. The audience quickly grasped the significance of the Cosmic Symbols, and the life which pours through the Symbols.

**Marching Orders:** The President's Marching Orders for 1939 are epitomized in H. P. Blavatsky's Golden Stairs. He urged that "this spirit of Brotherhood embodied in 'the Golden Stairs' must be emphasized in every possible way. It is the same fire of Brotherhood as pervades the Besant Spirit."

**Educational Work:** The climax of the Convention was the decision to re-start a Theosophical School at Benares in the compound of the Indian Section Headquarters. An appeal for money met with the most encouraging response, and July marked the re-inauguration of the northern counterpart of the Besant School at Adyar.

**2. The European Congress:** The 16th Congress of the National Societies in Europe met in Paris, July 28-31. About 390 delegates were present and all the meetings were well attended. Nineteen Sections were officially represented, eleven by their General Secretaries. Den Heer Kruisheer, General Secretary for Holland, presided.

In his opening address, Mr. Kruisheer said that no true spirituality was possible without active brotherhood. He urged Theosophists to practise Brotherhood in their social contacts, and take part in the development of the new civilization.

At this opening meeting the French Minister for Public Health, M. Marc Rucart, a member of The Society of long standing, recalled the work of the great Theosophists of the past, and declared the Theosophical teachings were the only sound solution of present-day difficulties.

Professor Marcault, General Secretary for France, and Mr. J. E. Van Dissel, General Secretary of the European Federation, were the other speakers.

Mr. Kruisheer gave a fine lecture on "Yoga as Theosophy Applied" on July 29, and Mrs. Gardner, General Secretary for England, spoke that evening on "The Laws of Manu, the Charter of the Aryan Race."

Sunday, July 30, was French Day, to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the French Section. A special programme of French music arranged by M. Emile Maze, Chairman of the National Committee on Leisure, was performed by a group of distinguished artists, members of the Society of Ancient Music. The programme included chamber music, dances and songs of the 11th to 18th centuries.

M. Gaston Polak, former General Secretary for Belgium, made an "Examen Critique de Quelques Enseignements Theosophiques," a subject on which, later, he and Professor Marcault led a well attended class at the Summer School. In the evening Mr. Leon Ben-zimbra, Attaché to the Cabinet of the Minister for Health, spoke to the public

on "The Three Paths of Union and Their Application."

The Young Theosophists gave a most creditable play in costume.

On July 31, the closing day of the Congress, Mr. D. Jeffrey Williams, International Director of the Theosophical Order of Service, reported that during this last year the emphasis had been mainly upon refugee work. About 30 members had been helped to leave Germany, Austria and Czecho-Slovakia, and some had already gone to China, New Zealand, America and other countries. Mr. J. J. Poortman of Holland described the work done both for refugees and for the unemployed, through exchange of labour services, and Professor Marcault outlined the policy followed by his group in dealing with the 60 refugee families and nearly 120 persons who, having fled from Spain, were now seeking to go to South America.

After the formal closing of the Congress, the same evening in the Salle de Fêtes of the Municipal Theatre at Fontainebleau, a Summer School of 180 members was opened with a social at which the Mayor of Fontainebleau welcomed the delegates.

On Tuesday morning (August 1) the School broke up into five groups under chosen leaders, and for four meetings continued to study the subjects selected in these smaller divisions. On the 6th the group leaders reported to the whole Congress, giving an outline of the ground covered and conclusions drawn. The greater chance for discussion, questions and experiment which the smaller groups permitted was a decided advantage, and the method will certainly be applied again.

Among these study groups was a group for Young Theosophists taken by Miss Dijkgraaf of Holland, a group on the *Mahabharata* and its teachings in relation to present-day problems, led by Professor I. Selleger, and one on *The Self and the Bodies* conducted by Dr. Corona Trew of London.

Lectures were given by Miss Franzen (General Secretary for Sweden), Mr. Kruisheer and Mlle Serge Brisy.

The European Federation will meet in 1940 at the end of July in Edinburgh, Scotland. The Congress meetings will be followed by a Summer School of the four British Sections at Bangor, North Wales.

## THEOSOPHY IS THE NEXT STEP

The current world campaign, *Theosophy Is the Next Step*, has made a strong appeal to the Lodges and Sections throughout the world. There was a fine response to the request to the individual workers to contribute articles from their store of knowledge on specialized subjects. These have been used in many ways, for the international journals, for different Section journals, and for the series of twenty-two booklets that are now having wide public distribution.

Many of The Society's busiest workers helped to write the booklets, which make a fresh contribution to Theosophical propaganda literature. They deal with art, business, economics, education, heredity, humanitarianism, industry and leisure, nationalism, internationalism, medicine, psychotherapy, statecraft, science, science and social responsibility,

psychology, the approach of Eastern and Western psychology, and in addition four booklets by the President, *For Those Who Suffer, For Those Who Are Happy, For Those Who Love, and To More Youthful Living*.

The plan of work for the Campaign, in leaflet form, reached all the Lodges in January. The first part of the year was devoted to preparatory schemes of study for the Lodges, which sent in their findings as summaries or transactions to the Publicity Officer.

The public work was outlined in a large, attractive, Campaign Folder which reached the Lodges in April, to enable them to arrange their lectures and discussion groups from September onwards into 1940. Hints on carrying out this work are being given in Campaign Notes each month in the Adyar journals.

It is impossible to measure the results of this Campaign, though, as in former Campaigns, there is no doubt as to its widespreading and leavening impact on modern thought. And it certainly has clarified the outlook and given a forward impetus to Theosophists themselves.

Will the indications and possible solutions offered in Campaign literature and lectures help the world in its present state of stress and upheaval? A return to fundamentals is needed, and it is because Theosophy points to these in every walk of our varied life that the Next Step Campaign must be fruitful.

## THEOSOPHY AND WAR

The stress and strain of the horrors and apparent injustices of war make a further call for the teachings of Theos-

ophy. In order to meet the questions that arise at such special times as this, a series of practical leaflets has been published for wide distribution.

The subjects immediately available are:

- The High Purpose of War
- When Shall War Cease?
- Right and Wrong in War
- Death in War
- The Fruits of War
- Why War?
- A Theosophist Looks At War
- My Resolve
- Good Citizenship in War
- Peace Through Suffering
- Rebirth and Suffering

These leaflets fill a vital need—they answer the questions which a war-torn world is asking.

## WHY! WHEN! HOW!

### WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN

### THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

First, because membership adds the friendly touch to your circle of friends. Theosophists are friendly people, might even be called—pardon the phrase—good mixers. They happen to know that friendship matters infinitely more than opinion or belief or conviction or social status or race or nationality or creed. Within The Theosophical Society are men and women belonging to every race and creed and nation and persuasion under the sun. And each may hold fast to whatever he has and is. Where the Theosophist differs from some others is that he does not think he has the sole monopoly of everything good, beautiful and true. He thinks that others have their good and beautiful and true things for themselves just as he has them for himself. So he is happy himself and happy in others' happiness. And what is more, he is confident that others are treading ways no less straight than he knows his own to be. Thus, letting live, he himself is able to live more abundantly. And it is fascinating to discover and to watch how very many ways,

many so different from others, lead HOME.

Second, because through membership you are brought into touch with people who are intensely free. They may hold the truths which are called Theosophy, being attached to no special creed. They may be professing Christians or Hindus or Buddhists or Musalmans or Jews or Parsis. They may have strong convictions, amounting to certainties, in every department of thought and aspiration. They may be as sure as sure can be that they are right. But they are never the slaves of these things. They will never allow themselves to be prisoners in them. They hold, above all these, the great motto of the Society: "There is no Religion higher than Truth"; and they know that even their deepest certainty is at the very best but a fragment of the Truth—the shadow of a shade. They know that as they grow they will substantially modify the wisdom which for the time being, perhaps, seems so perfect, complete, unalterable, final. And they are fascinated by the thought that as time passes they will change radically, out of all knowledge of their present selves. *Omnia mutantur nos, et mutamur in illis.* "All

things change, and we in them." What new light is waiting just round the corner which will make the present light seem but as darkness? What enlightenment is coming to show how infinitely more beautiful, wonderful, worth living, Life is even than it already appears just now? What peace is waiting our onward movement through sorrow and despair to make us know forever and forever that Love is the Law?

Theosophists are free men and women, free within their limitations, free to leave these, free in their search for Truth, free from prejudices, superstitions, and from the narrow pride of ignorance.

Thus, to join The Theosophical Society is to join the ranks of the FRIENDLY and the FREE.

### **WHEN YOU SHOULD JOIN THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY**

When you feel you really want to, never because friends urge you to join. It is a great thing to join The Theosophical Society, and a challenging thing, too.

It is a great thing, because membership at once places you among the few who are treading a narrow way which some day shall become the broad way of the many. Membership classes you among pioneers, among the forward-looking, among those who care not if they have to break chains and fetters so long as they can escape from the less into the more. Membership classes you among those who feel suffocated by the dust of crowds, who long for the clear air of those sparsely populated regions where Truth shines undimmed by dust.

It is a challenging thing, because membership often means a ceasing to lead lives sheltered by the sanctions of orthodoxy, tradition, convention; by homage to public opinion, and movement within established grooves. Membership of The Theosophical Society often seems to involve adventure, sometimes even catastrophic cataclysms, in its magic power of blasting people out of small self-centredness. Membership often involves the challenge of establish-

ment, with an aftermath of personal disestablishment out of the accepted orders of life. All these soul-quakes are the "tension-thrills" which

... hint the larger state  
Though but in shadow of a shade . . .  
And the world and happiness and peace grow because of them.

But you may well hesitate to join The Theosophical Society if you are not quite sure if you will mind weather somewhat more stormy than that to which you have been accustomed, or if you want to learn how to ride storms spiritedly. You may well hesitate to join if you are perfectly happy just as you are and seek for nothing more. Even then membership of The Society adds to the number of real friends, But you may be disappointed if you want all your friends to be more or less like yourself.

No; do not rush into membership. Wait—if you are at all doubtful. Quick admissions so often mean quick resignations. I wonder if it is better to have become a member and to have resigned than never to have joined at all. For sometimes there is hardly any scorn greater than the scorn of a movement for which one no longer has any use. And scorn is a variant of the most deadly of all ignorances—hatred.

Join when you are reasonably sure that membership is your heart's desire, and that you will be steadfast in your membership to the end.

### **HOW YOU SHOULD JOIN THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY**

✍ In a spirit of determination to make friendliness the dominant note of your life. You come among those who are FRIENDLY and FREE. Among them be FRIENDLY and FREE; and let nothing, no difference however radical, mar the steady shining of your friendship and understanding, in a spirit of determination to make The Society stronger for your membership. The Society gives much to its members, even though they do not always know they are receiving much. What are you going to give to The Society? First

and foremost, the strength of steady friendship and goodwill. Other members may set the bad example of illwill, misunderstanding, quarrelsomeness, narrowness, dogmatism, self-assurance. Amidst them you must stand strongly and imperturbably for goodwill, understanding, peace, broadmindedness, tolerance, respect. No member of The Society is perfect. All of us from time to time fall by the way. When some of us so fall, let there be many to remain erect, thus helping the fallen to rise and be erect once more.

Then you can give The Society your public support. Never be ashamed of your membership. Ever be proud of The Society's Objects, of the work it has achieved, and of the destiny that lies before it. Be proud of its great origins. Be proud of its great protagonists. Be proud of its Truths. Be proud of its purposes. Be proud of your membership.

Study the Truths which are The Society's life. Strengthen The Society which is their channel. Serve the world which is the field of its activity.

## ADYAR PUBLICATIONS

In order to help in the renaissance of Dr. Annie Besant's wonderful work for India, emphasized in various ways during 1939, the Theosophical Publishing House, Adyar, has published five volumes entitled *The Besant Spirit* (8 as. per volume). The first deals with the ideals of Dr. Besant applied to many of life's problems, the second with education, the third with the broad foundations on which she based her Indian political policy, the fourth is her Presidential Address to the Indian National Congress at Calcutta in 1917, and the fifth her famous work: *India, Bond or Free: A World Problem*. The President (Dr. G. S. Arundale) has written a personal and intimate introduction to each volume. These utterances and articles are as topical today as when they were delivered.

*The Adyar Diary 1940* is of enlarged size, giving two days and a quotation from Dr. Besant on every page. (As. 8)

The President spent much time in the preparation of his book *The Lotus Fire: a Study in Symbolic Yoga*, for the press. The first copies were released on May 3, the day of the Vaisakh festival. (Rs. 10)

The President has also published, especially for earnest students, a small book entitled *A Guardian Wall of Will*, suggesting methods of work on the inner planes for the helping of people suffering under persecution and the rule of force. (Rs. 2)

In April the name of *The Theosophical World* was changed to *The Theosophical Worker*, as better expressing the immediate purpose of the journal.

The Theosophical Publishing House has produced *Gem Stones of the Seven Rays* by C. Nelson Stewart, Scottish Theosophist (Re. 1); also the following important reprints: *The Ancient Wisdom* (Annie Besant) (Rs. 2-8); *The Bhagavad Gita*, Annie Besant's English translation, with index (Re. 1-8); H. P. Blavatsky's *Practical Occultism* (Re. 0-12).

On behalf of Kalāshetra the T.P.H. published *The Dark Well*, a book of poems by Harindranath Chattopadhyaya (Rs. 3); *Kirtanamala*, a book of Tamil songs composed by the famous South Indian musician Papanasam Sivan; and *The Temple Invisible*, a book of poems by Mary Corringham, who was encouraged to publish her verses by Australian women writers.

On October 1, The Theosophical Publishing House published Annie Besant's *Autobiography*, with a 100-page review of her life by Dr. Arundale, and autobiographical notes compiled from her own writings covering nearly 200 pages and completing the story to the end of her career (Rs. 7-8). This publication includes a *de luxe* edition of 250 copies, autographed by Dr. Arundale. (Rs. 25)

The Theosophical Publishing House has in the press a semi-centenary edition

of *The Voice of the Silence* (H. P. Blavatsky); *The Bhagavad Gita* (Annie Besant and Bhagavan Das) with up-to-date transliteration and a fuller

word index; *An Elementary Text Book* and *An Advanced Text Book of Hindu Religion and Ethics* in the Sanatana Dharma Series, edited by Annie Besant.

## KALĀKSHETRA

### THE INTERNATIONAL ARTS CENTRE

Adyar, Madras, India

This International Centre of the Arts was founded by Rukmini Devi in December 1935 with the following objects:

1. To emphasize the essential unity of all true Art.
2. To work for the recognition of the Arts as inherent in effective individual, national, religious and international growth.

It is her hope that the Centre may help to revive throughout India the true spirit of the Arts so that India's re-awakening freedom may become beautiful and true through the rebirth in every Indian home of the age-old Indian culture. Without culture, she insists, there can be no 'real freedom, just as without freedom there can be no true culture. Both must grow together.

Rukmini Devi also hopes that the Centre may help towards a drawing together of the western and eastern Arts, for she regards the Arts as above all distinctions of race, of nation and of faith. She herself has been engaged for some time in developing that aspect of the Hindu Classical Dance called Bharata Natya, for she is convinced that her work must for some time to come be largely, though by no means exclusively, in her own Motherland. She has been giving a number of Dance Recitals throughout Southern India which have won high praise from all who understand the spirit and technique of this particular form of the Divine Rhythm.

Rukmini Devi does not hesitate, as far as available, to use the most modern effects in stage-craft, including colour schemes and lighting. But she is most

careful to preserve in its purity the Indian spirit.

Rukmini Devi has organized classes in the Arts so that side by side with the conventional system of education there may be available to students—both girls and boys—an unfoldment of their natures along lines so far most deplorably neglected. There are also classes for students who desire to specialize in the Arts, making the ordinary educational curriculum second to these.

Very eminent teachers in dancing and music are directing the studies of Kalākshetra. If one visits Kalākshetra, one sees many classes being conducted such as Bharata Natya, Kathakali, Dramatic Art, Mridangam, Veena and Vocal Music, all under the personal supervision of Rukmini Devi.

Kalākshetra is working in co-operation with The Besant Theosophical School and hopes in the future to contribute more and more to the art education of the school. Various amenities, including very convenient hostel accommodation, are provided by The Besant Theosophical School for Kalākshetra students.

A Weaving Centre under the direction of Kalākshetra is reviving the beautiful woven handwork of olden design.

Those who desire to help Rukmini Devi in her work are very cordially invited to become members of the International Arts Centre at the following rates:

Joining Fee	... Rs. 2, \$ 1.00, 5sh.
Annual Dues	... Rs. 4, \$ 5.00 £ 1
Life Membership	... Rs. 100, \$ 100, £ 20

For further information regarding membership, tuition and orders for saris and other hand-woven products, please communicate with The Manager.

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**International Link:** Miss Clara M. Codd, Box 863, Johannesburg, South Africa.

**Chief Representative:** Mrs. Margaret Hemsted, 52 Springvale Terrace, Glasgow, N., Scotland.

## WORLD CALENDAR FOR 1940

### GREAT THEOSOPHICAL DAYS

There are three special festivals for The Theosophical Society:

**Adyar Day, February 17:** On this day, Dr. Besant has said, "the thoughts and love of all our members scattered over the wide world should turn to Adyar." February 17th brings three important memories:

On 17th February 1907, the President-Founder (Col. Olcott) left his mortal body.

On 17th February 1847, Charles W. Leadbeater was born into this world.

On 17th February 1600, Giordano Bruno went home in a chariot of fire from the Field of Flowers in Rome.

On Adyar Day some National Societies make generous donations to the Adyar Fund. In 1939 the American Section contributed \$4800.

**White Lotus Day, May 8:** Commemoration Day, sacred to those who have passed into the Light. White Lotus Day is the anniversary of H. P.

Blavatsky's passing in 1892. According to her own wish expressed in her Will, the anniversary of her death is observed at Adyar (and in other places) with readings from *The Light of Asia* and *The Bhagavad Gita*.

At Adyar food is supplied to several hundred villagers.

Today Theosophists the world over observe May 8th as a day of remembrance not only of H. P. Blavatsky, but also of all Theosophist workers who have passed over.

**Foundation Day, November 17:** On 17th November 1875 the formation of The Theosophical Society was publicly announced by the President-Founder in his inaugural address at the Mott Memorial Hall in the City of New York.

The worldwide development of The Society from this inauguration may be followed in *A Short History of The Theosophical Society*, published in 1938 at Adyar, and less fully in the *Golden Book* and *Old Diary Leaves*.

# GREAT FESTIVALS OF ALL FAITHS AND NATIONS—1940

## JANUARY

1. New Year's Day (Christian).
2. ☾ Last Quarter, 10.26 p.m., Adyar.
6. Epiphany (Christian).
9. ● New Moon, 7.23 p.m., Adyar.
14. Makarsankranti, Day of rejoicing and goodwill for Hindus.
15. Baptism of the Lord Christ.
17. ☾ First Quarter, 11.51 p.m., Adyar.
21. Septuagesima (Christian).
- Bakri-Idd, Day of Sacrifice; culmination of ceremonies in Haj pilgrimage to Mecca. (Muhammadan). Called Idd-e-Zohā by Arabs.
22. New Zealand Centenary Celebration.
24. ○ Full Moon, 4.52 a.m., Adyar.
25. Conversion of St. Paul (Christian).
- Rosh Hashanah Leillanoth. New Year for Trees. Jewish date: Shebat 15, 5700.
26. Australia Day. Proclaimed 1788.
27. The Transfiguration (Liberal Catholic).
28. Sexagesima (Christian).
31. ☾ Last Quarter, 8.17 p.m., Adyar.

## FEBRUARY

1. Idd-e-Gadir. Installation of Ali as Muhammad's successor.
2. Candlemas. Presentation of the Lord Christ in the Temple.
7. Ash Wednesday. First Day of Lent (Christian).
8. ● New Moon, 1.15 p.m., Adyar.
10. Muharram. First Day of Muhammadan New Year.
11. Quadragesima (Christian).
16. ☾ First Quarter, 6.25 p.m., Adyar.
17. Adyar Day:  
C. W. Leadbeater b. 1847.  
H. S. Olcott passed 1907.  
Giordano Bruno martyred 1600.
19. Ashura. 10th day of Muharram or Tabut Day. Battle of Karbala where Husain, son of Ali, and his whole family were extirpated.

23. ○ Full Moon, 3.25 p.m., Adyar.
29. Rukmini Devi b. 1904.

## MARCH

1. St. David (Wales).
- C. W. Leadbeater passed 1934.
2. ☾ Last Quarter, 8.05 a.m., Adyar.
3. Refreshment Sunday (Christian).
7. Mahāshivratri, Holy Night of Shiva (Hindu).
9. ● New Moon, 7.53 a.m., Adyar.
10. Passion Sunday (Christian).
17. Palm Sunday (Christian).
- St. Patrick (Ireland).
18. ☾ First Quarter, 8.55 a.m., Adyar.
21. Spring Equinox. Sun enters Aries.
- Maundy Thursday (Christian).
- Jamshedi Navroz. Parsi Spring Festival.
- Siddhachal Pradaxina. Jain Pilgrimage.
22. Good Friday (Christian).
- Chaumasi Chaudas. Introspection and Atonement (Jain).
23. Holy Saturday (Christian).
- Holikā Purnimā. Shiva burns the Kama Deva to ashes.
24. Easter Day (Christian).
- Purim. Deliverance of Jews from the wiles of Haman. Jewish date: Adar 14, 5700.
- Full Moon, 1.03 a.m., Adyar.
25. Annunciation of our Lady (Christian).
30. ☾ Last Quarter, 9.50 p.m., Adyar.

## APRIL

8. Hindu New Year (Gudi Pādvā)—North India. (Shālī Vahan Shaké 1862).
9. ● New Moon, 1.48 a.m., Adyar.
12. Avan Parabh. Offering to Water Element (Parsi).
15. ☾ First Quarter, 7.16 p.m., Adyar.
16. Ramnavmi: Birthday of Sri Ramachandra (Hindu).
20. Mahavir Jayanti. Birthday of Mahavir Tirthankar (Jain).
21. Princess Elizabeth, Heiress-Apparent to British Throne, b. 1926.



- Barāwafāt. Birth and Death Anniversary of prophet Muhammad.
22. Hanuman Jayanti. Birthday of Hanuman (Hindu).  
○ Full moon, 10.07 a.m., Adyar.
23. St. George. Martyr (England). Pesah Yom Rishon, 23rd to 30th; Passover, Jewish redemption from Egypt. Nisan 15 to 22, 5700.
25. St. Mark (Christian).  
Anzac Day (British Empire).
29. ☾ Last Quarter, 1.19 p.m., Adyar.

## MAY

2. Ascension Day (Christian).
6. ● New Moon, 5.37 p.m., Adyar.
8. White Lotus Day (H. P. Blavatsky passed 1891).
11. Atash Parabh. Offering to Fire Element (Parsi).
12. Coronation Day. King George VI, 1937. Whitsunday (Christian).
15. ☾ First Quarter, 12.21 p.m., Adyar.
18. Goodwill Day.
19. Trinity Sunday (Christian).
21. ○ Full Moon: Greenwich, 1.33 p.m.; India 7.03 p.m.; New York 8.33 a.m.  
Vaisakh (Wesak) Purnima: Lord Buddha's Birthday, Enlightenment and Deathday.  
Hindus worship World Teacher or Jagatguru.
23. Corpus Christi (Christian).
24. Empire Day (British).
26. Queen Mary born 1867.
29. ☾ Last Quarter, 6.10 a.m., Adyar.
31. Union Day, South Africa.

## JUNE

6. ● New Moon, 6.35 a.m., Adyar.
12. Shabuoth Yom Rishon; Pentecost. Anniversary of the delivery of the Commandments from Mount Sinai. Jewish date: Sivan 6 & 7, 5700.  
Zarthost Diso. Death of Zoroaster.
13. Official celebration of the birthday of King George VI.  
☾ First Quarter, 7.29 a.m., Adyar.
19. Jyestha Purnima. Full Moon Day of Jyestha.  
Mahinda establishes Buddhism in Ceylon.

20. ○ Full Moon, 4.52 a.m., Adyar.
21. Dr. George S. Arundale elected President of The Theosophical Society 1934.
22. Summer Solstice. Sun enters Cancer.  
St. Alban, Martyr (Christian).
24. St. John Baptist (Christian).
27. ☾ Last Quarter, 11.43 p.m., Adyar.
29. St. Peter and the Apostles (Christian).

## JULY

1. Dominion Day, Canada.
4. Independence Day, U.S.A.
5. ● New Moon, 4.58 p.m., Adyar.
12. ☾ First Quarter, 6.35 a.m., Adyar.
18. Chaumasi Chaudas. Introspection and atonement (Jain).
19. ○ Full Moon: Greenwich, 9.55 a.m.; India, 3.25 p.m.; New York, 4.55 a.m.;  
Ashadha (Asala) Purnima: Worship of World Teacher or Jagatguru.  
Lord Buddha's First Sermon at Sarnath, near Benares.
23. Fast of Tammuz. Jewish date: Tammuz 17, 5700.
24. St. James (Christian).
27. ☾ Last Quarter, 11.29 a.m., Adyar.

## AUGUST

2. H. S. Olcott b. 1832.
3. ● New Moon, 8.09 p.m., Adyar.
4. Queen Elizabeth b. 1900.
8. Naga Panchmi (Hindu).
10. ☾ First Quarter, 12 noon, Adyar.
12. Helena Petrovna Blavatsky, Co-Founder, The Theosophical Society, b. 1831.  
(The Greek orthodox calendar makes this day July 31; H.P.B. was born on the night of July 30-31).
13. Tishabeab; Commemoration of the destruction of the Temple. Jewish date 9th Ab 9, 5700.
15. Assumption of Our Lady (Christian).
17. Avani Avittam, Coconut Day. Hindus renew the Sacred Thread.  
○ Full Moon, 11.02 p.m., Adyar.

26. Gokul Ashtami ; Birthday of Shri Krishna.  
    ( Last Quarter, 3.33 a.m., Adyar.
29. Paryushan Parva. Religious holidays for eight days begin on this day (Jewish).

## SEPTEMBER

2. Matrudin ; Mother's Day, dedicated to the worship of the World Mother (Hindu).  
    ● New Moon, 4.15 a.m., Adyar.
3. Mahavir Janma. Life of Mahavir from Kalpautra is read on this day.  
    Teladhar. Three fast days (Jewish).  
    Britain and France declared war on aggression 1939.
4. Papeti or Last Gatha. Last day of the Parsi year.
5. Ganesh Chaturthi, dedicated to Ganesh, Lord of Wisdom (Hindu).  
    Samvatsari. Day of Introspection (Jain).  
    Navroz. New Year Day (Parsi).
8. Nativity of Our Lady (Christian).
9. Dubali Ashtami. Day of Fast (Jain).  
    ) First Quarter, 7.32 p.m., Adyar.
10. Khordad-Sal, Birthday of Zoroaster.
16. ○ Full Moon, 2. 41 p.m., Adyar.
17. Shab-e-Barat. All Souls' Day (Muhammadan).
20. Annie Besant passed 1933.  
    Young Theosophists Day.
21. St. Matthew, Apostle (Christian).
22. Autumn Equinox. Farvadin Parabh, Remembrance Day for departed souls (Parsi).
24. ( Last Quarter, 5.47 p.m., Adyar.
25. Dominion Day, New Zealand.
29. St. Michael and All Angels, Michaelmas (Christian).

## OCTOBER

1. Annie Besant b. 1847.  
    *The Theosophist* first issued 1897.  
    ● New Moon, 12.41 p.m., Adyar.
2. Rosh Hashannah. New Year Day.  
    Jewish date : Tishri 1, 5701.

- Ramzan. First day of Ramazan, the month of fasting (Muhammadan).
4. World Day for Animals (St. Francis of Assisi).
8. ) First Quarter, 6.18 a.m., Adyar.
10. Dasara, or Dasera, dedicated to the Shakti aspect of Shiva (Hindu).
12. Yom Kippur ; Day of Atonement.  
    Jewish date : Tishri 10, 5701.
16. ○ Full Moon, 8.15 a.m., Adyar.
17. (17th-25th) Succoth. Feast of Tabernacles. Jewish date : Tishri 15 to 23, 5701.
18. St. Luke, Apostle and Physician (Christian).
22. Death Anniversary of Ali, son-in-law of Prophet Muhammad.
24. ( Last Quarter, 6.04 a.m., Adyar.
30. Divali or Dipavali. Last Day of Commercial Year (Hindu).  
    ● New Moon, 10.03 a.m., Adyar.
31. Hindu Commercial New Year. All merchants dedicate new account Books. Vikrama Samvat 1997.  
    Jain New Year Day. Self-realization of Shri Gautama Swamiji.

## NOVEMBER

1. All Saints Day (Christian).
2. All Souls Day (Christian).  
    Idd-ul-Fitr. First day of Sawal month. (Muhammadan).
4. Gñana Panchmi. Worship of knowledge by fast (Jain).
6. ) First Quarter, 9.08 p.m., Adyar.
11. Armistice Day, 1918.  
    St. Martin, (Christian).
13. Chaumasi Chaudas. Introspection and Atonement (Jain).
15. Kartik Purnima. Day dedicated to Shiva, called Yogeshwar, Lord of Yoga (Hindu).  
    ○ Full Moon, 2.23 a.m., Adyar.  
    Day of Kartik. Pilgrimage of Siddhachalji.  
    Jain Sadhus start their Vihar from this date (Jain).
17. Founders' Day. The Theosophical Society founded 1875.
22. ( Last Quarter, 4.36 p.m., Adyar.
28. Thanksgiving Day, U.S.A.
29. ● New Moon, 8.42 a.m., Adyar.

30. St. Andrew, Apostle and Martyr,  
Patron Saint of Scotland (Chris-  
tian).

**DECEMBER**

1. Dr. George Sydney Arundale,  
President, The Theosophical  
Society, b. 1878.  
Advent Sunday (Christian).
3. All-Prophets Day (Muhammadan).
6. > First Quarter, 4.01 p.m., Adyar.
11. Accession Day of King George VI,  
1936.
14. King George VI b. 1895 (British  
Empire).  
○ Full Moon, 7.38 p.m., Adyar.
19. Day of Compassion.

21. St. Thomas, Apostle and Martyr  
(Christian).

22. Winter Solstice.
23. < Last Quarter, 1.45 a.m., Adyar.
24. Christmas Eve (Christian).
25. Christmas Day. Birth of the Lord  
Christ.  
Hannukah (Dec. 25th to Jan. 1st)  
Feast of dedication. Jewish date :  
Kislev 25 to Tebeth 2, 5701.
26. St. Stephen, first Christian Martyr.
27. St. John the Divine, Apostle and  
Evangelist (Christian).
28. Holy Innocent's Day (Christian).  
● New Moon, 8.56 p.m., Adyar.
31. New Year's Eve (Christian).

**TO CHANGE ADYAR TIME****TO STANDARD TIME IN**

	Subtract	Add		Subtract	Add
	HOURS			HOURS	
AMERICA, NORTH			Edinburgh	5½	
Newfoundland	9h 1m		Florence	4½	
Eastern (Olcott)	10½		Geneva	4½	
Central	11½		Glasgow	5½	
Mountain	12½		Greenwich	5½	
Pacific (Krotona)	13½		Huizen	5h 10m	
Amsterdam	5h 10m		Istanbul	3½	
Athens	3½		Japan, Korea		3½
AUSTRALASIA			Jerusalem	3½	
Adelaide		4	Leningrad	2½	
Brisbane		4½	Lisbon	5½	
Hobart		4½	London	5½	
Melbourne		4½	Madrid	5½	
Perth, W.A.		2½	Montevideo	9	
Sydney (The Manor)		4½	Moscow	2½	
Wellington, N.Z.		6	New York	10½	
Batavia		2	Oslo	4½	
Berlin	4½		Paris	5½	
Berne	4½		Philippines		2½
Borneo		2½	Rangoon		1
Brussels	5½		Rio de Janeiro	8½	
Buenos Aires	9½		Rome	4½	
Bucharest	3½		Shanghai		2½
Budapest	4½		Singapore		1½
Burma		1	Sofia	4	
Cairo	3½		Stockholm	4½	
Cape Town	3½		Suez	3½	
China, East		2½	Vienna	4½	
Copenhagen	4½		Warsaw	4½	
Dublin	5½				

# MEDITATION FOR THE COMRADESHIP OF PEOPLES

At Huizen in 1938, during the critical September days, a group of people established a kind of retreat for the purpose of doing all in their power—through will, thought and aspiration—to avert the war that seemed so menacing.

Now, in 1939, in the midst of this Greater War, a number of residents at Adyar are reserving between 7.30 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. (Indian Standard Time), not necessarily the whole time, to aid in fulfilling the War's high purposes, grouping the countries which seem to be most concerned, so that they may be covered within the period of one week. Central and South America and certain other countries have been omitted, as less immediately involved.

There is no actual gathering. Each resident makes his invocation from where he happens to be, and, within the hour, at the time and for as long as suits him. Each resident, too, uses his own "technique," but the idea is to link Adyar, as a reservoir of brotherly strength by its very nature as the International Headquarters of The Theosophical Society, with the countries chosen to be the subject of the meditation, so that the blessings of the Universal Brotherhood may flow into and fructify each country to its greater peace and happiness.

For the sake of more impersonal receptivity and channelship the following offering is made before beginning the meditation on each country.

I offer my will to the One Will.  
I offer my life to the One Life.  
I offer my self to the One Self.

"My will" is my eternal purpose.  
"My life" is my evolutionary way. My self "is my present incarnation on that way.

At the close of the meditation the following invocation is made :

## O POWERS OF LOVE

We pledge to You our faithfulness, knowing that only Love can redeem the world.

We invoke Your Blessing upon all who strive to serve You.

We invoke Your Blessing upon all who are enduring cruelty, that they may discover their enfoldment in Your Love even in their misery.

We invoke Your Blessing upon all who are inflicting cruelty, that they may be moved to return to You and serve You.

It is hoped that there may be many members in every Section who will feel disposed to co-operate with this group at Adyar by taking a short meditation during the corresponding time in their respective countries. They might think of Adyar as the International Headquarters of one of the greatest movements for Universal Brotherhood at work in the world, and, seeking to receive its brotherly power, relay this among the countries of the day. They, too, might make the offering and conclude with the invocation, as given above.

It should be repeated that the meditation itself may be of any duration—a flash or a number of minutes. It is the impersonal intensity that matters. And this intensity of will in no way implies a tenseness of body or any set posture. Relaxation is the keynote of this type of meditation.

We should make our channels from Adyar to the peoples of every country rather than to their Governments, and we should be entirely impersonal in making this channel.

Would those who are undertaking this meditation communicate their names to *The Publicity Officer, The Theosophical Society, Adyar*, stating whether they will endeavour to follow the

whole week's schedule, or will only join in when certain specific countries are undertaken?

*The times given below correspond to Adyar at 7.30 p.m.*

#### SUNDAY:

<u>India,</u>	<u>Burma,</u>	<u>China,</u>	<u>Egypt,</u>
7.30 p.m.	8.30 p.m.	10 p.m.	4 p.m.

#### MONDAY:

*The British Commonwealth of Nations,*

<u>Britain,</u>	<u>Canada</u>
2 p.m.	Vancouver 6 a.m.
	to Newfoundland 10.30 a.m.

<u>South Africa,</u>	<u>Australia</u>
4 p.m.	Perth 10 p.m.
	to Sydney 12 Midnight

New Zealand  
1.30 a.m.

*France, and the United States of America,*

<u>France,</u>	<u>United States of America</u>
2 p.m.	Pacific Coast 6 a.m. to
	Atlantic Coast 9 a.m.

#### TUESDAY:

<u>Russia,</u>	<u>Poland</u>
Leningrad 4 p.m. to Pacific	4 p.m.
Coast 2 a.m.	

#### WEDNESDAY:

*Balkan States and Central Europe,*

<u>Czecho-Slovakia,</u>	<u>Austria,</u>	<u>Hungary</u>
3 p.m.	3 p.m.	3 p.m.

<u>Romania,</u>	<u>Yugoslavia,</u>	<u>Bulgaria,</u>
4 p.m.	3 p.m.	4 p.m.

<u>Greece,</u>	<u>Turkey</u>
4 p.m.	4 p.m.

#### THURSDAY:

<u>Holland,</u>	<u>Belgium,</u>	<u>Switzerland,</u>
2.20 p.m.	2 p.m.	3 p.m.

Portugal,  
2 p.m.

#### FRIDAY:

<u>Germany,</u>	<u>Italy,</u>	<u>Spain,</u>	<u>Japan</u>
3 p.m.	3 p.m.	2 p.m.	11 p.m.

#### SATURDAY:

*Scandinavia and the Baltic States,*

<u>Iceland,</u>	<u>Denmark,</u>	<u>Norway,</u>
1 p.m.	3 p.m.	3 p.m.

<u>Sweden,</u>	<u>Finland</u>
3 p.m.	3 p.m.

<u>Estonia</u>	<u>Latvia</u>	<u>Lithuania</u>
3 p.m.	3 p.m.	3 p.m.

*(Daylight-saving or "Summer-time" is not taken into consideration.)*

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*"Do not for one moment relax in your efforts; press closer, shoulder to shoulder every day; stand together as one man, come what may, fine weather or storm, and the victory of the cause to which you have pledged yourselves is certain."*

—H. P. BLAVATSKY,

(to the American Convention 1890)

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