

# 1915 Diary of Sir Horace Curzon Plunkett (1854–1932)

Transcribed, annotated and indexed by Kate Targett. December 2012

## NOTES

*‘There was nothing wrong with my head, but only with my handwriting,  
which has often caused difficulties.’*

Horace Plunkett, *Irish Homestead*, 30 July 1910

### *Conventions*

In order to reflect the manuscript as completely and accurately as possible and to retain its original ‘flavour’, Plunkett’s spelling, punctuation, capitalisation and amendments have been reproduced unless otherwise indicated. The conventions adopted for transcription are outlined below.

1) Common titles (usually with an underscored superscript in the original) have been standardised with full stops: Archbp. (Archbishop), Bp. (Bishop), Capt./Capt’n., Col., Fr. (Father), Gen./Gen’l, Gov./Gov’r (Governor), Hon. (Honourable), Jr., Ld., Mr., Mrs., Mgr. (Monsignor), Dr., Prof./Prof’r., Rev’d.

2) Unclear words for which there is a ‘best guess’ are preceded by a query (e.g. ?battle) in transcription; alternative transcriptions are expressed as ?bond/band.

3) Illegible letters are represented, as nearly as possible, by hyphens (e.g. b----t)

4) Any query (?) that does not *immediately* precede a word appears in the original manuscript unless otherwise indicated.

5) Punctuation (or lack of)

- Commas have been inserted only to reduce ambiguity. ‘Best guess’ additions appear as [,].
- Apostrophes have been inserted in:
  - surnames beginning with O (e.g. O’Hara)
  - negative contractions (e.g. can’t, don’t, won’t, didn’t)
  - possessives, to clarify context (e.g. Adams’ house; Adam’s house). However, Plunkett commonly indicates the plural of surnames ending in ‘s’ by an apostrophe (e.g. Yeats’).
- Initials preceding names reflect the original as nearly as possible (e.g. TP Gill, T.P. Gill, T P Gill, T. P. Gill).
- Plunkett’s symbols for ‘about’, ‘therefore’ and the ‘long (double) s’ have been expanded.

6) Text in parentheses ( ) is Plunkett’s; text in brackets [ ] is editorial.

7) Capitalisation, particularly of the letter C and common nouns, is inconsistent and has been retained if unambiguous.

8) Words crossed out in the original are usually reproduced in the transcript, as their frequency or content may indicate Plunkett’s thinking at the time.

9) Cd (could), wd (would), wh: (which) and Plunkett’s symbol for ‘about’ and ‘therefore’ have been expanded; the ‘long f’ (J) has been expanded to ‘ss’.

10) Approximate monetary equivalents were derived and adapted from Lawrence H. Officer and Samuel H. Williamson, “Five Ways to Compute the Relative Value of a UK Pound Amount, 1830 to Present”, and Samuel H. Williamson, “Seven Ways to Compute the Relative Value of a U.S. Dollar Amount, 1774 to Present”, [www.measuringworth.com](http://www.measuringworth.com), 2011. The index used was the Gross Domestic Product Deflator, a measure of average prices covering a ‘bundle’ of all goods and services produced in an economy (making it broader than just the consumer goods in the Retail Price Index). Figures

rounded to the nearest £ or \$. See website for alternative and more detailed measures of relative worth.

Although great care has been taken to ensure accuracy, some misinterpretations will inevitably have occurred in transcription. For clarification, readers are advised to consult microfilm copies of the diaries available in several libraries.

## ***Correspondence***

The diaries are associated with, and cross-referenced to, an alphabetical indexed collection of nearly 4000 items of correspondence donated to the Plunkett Foundation in the years following Sir Horace's death.

- Letters with an identifiable date are noted beside the diary entry for the corresponding day. Letters attributable to only a particular year or month are indicated at the beginning of the relevant section.
- Letters sent by Plunkett appear in Roman type, alphabetically by addressee (e.g. To Balfour, Arthur); letters received by Plunkett appear in italics, alphabetically by sender (e.g. *Fr Balfour, Arthur*).
- Letters between correspondents other than Plunkett appear in parenthesis and are filed with the letters of the first-named correspondent: (*Fr Balfour, Arthur to House, E.M.*).
- If, for some reason, a letter between two correspondents is filed with neither recipient nor sender, the file location is indicated: (*Fr Anderson, R.A. [BAL]*).

For additional holdings, see <http://www.nra.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/searches/> (National Register of Archives) and Archives in 'Plunkett, Sir Horace Curzon (1854–1932)', Bull, P., *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press) 2006.

## ***Abbreviations***

1) Frequently occurring abbreviations and contractions:

### **Names**

Æ	George William Russell	JGB	John George Butcher
AJB	Arthur James Balfour	KW	Karl Walter
EVL	Ernest V. Longworth	Lady B	Lady Elizabeth (Betty) Balfour
F / Fs	Fingall / Fingalls	LI.G.	David Lloyd George
GBS	George Bernard Shaw	RAA	Robert Andrew Anderson
GH	Gerald Heard	SHB	Samuel Henry Butcher
GWB	Gerald William Balfour		

### **Organisations**

AAOS	American Agricultural Organisation Society	IH	<i>Irish Homestead</i>
AOS	Agricultural Organisation Society	IS	<i>Irish Statesman</i>
AOS & SHL	Allotments Organisations Society and Small Holders Ltd.	IIA	Irish Industries Association
BB Co	Berthon Boat Company	IRA	Irish Reconstruction Ass'n./ Irish Republican Army (depending on context)
CDB	Congested Districts Board	IUA	Irish Unionist Alliance
CWS	Co-operative Wholesale Society	K St Club/K.S.C.	Kildare Street Club
DATI	Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction	NAOS	National Agricultural Organization Society
FO	Foreign Office	NFU	National Farmers Union
H of C	House of Commons	RDS	Royal Dublin Society
HPF	Horace Plunkett Foundation	RIC	Royal Irish Constabulary
IAOS	Irish Agricultural Organisation Society	TCD	Trinity College, Dublin
IAWS	Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society	UAOS	Ulster Agricultural Organisation Society
ICAS	Irish Co-operative Agency Society	UI	United Irishwomen
IDL	Irish Dominion League	UP	Union Pacific
		Wyo Dev Co	Wyoming Development
		WO	War Office

## General

&c	etcetera (etc.)	Gt	Great
a/c a/cs	account/s	HR	Home Rule
ADC	aide-de-camp	Inst/Inst:/Inst'n	Instruction
agricl / agric'l	agricultural	I.Q.	Irish Question
ag / agric're	agriculture	legisl'n	legislation
Amer'n	American	Ltd.	Limited
ass'n / assoc'n	association	moted	motored
ass't	assistant	MP	Member of Parliament
betw'n	between	Mov't	movement
bd	board	Nat / Nat'l	National
CC (by context)	Catholic curate	Nat's	Nationalists
	Cricket Club	o'c	o'clock
	County Councillor	Parl / Parl't	Parliament
Ch: Sec	Chief Secretary	parl'y	parliamentary
coll / coll:	college	PP	parish priest
co / co.	company or county	Powder R	Powder River
com'n/comm'n	commission	Pres't	President
Conv'n/Conv'tn	Convention	Prot	Protestant
coop/coop:	co-operative	Qn	Question
coop'n	co-operation	RC	Roman Catholic
ct'e/c'tee/c'tte/ com'tee	committee	Rel'n / Rel'ns	Relation/s
DD	Doctor of Divinity	RR	Railroad
dep't	department	R'y	Railway
Do / do	ditto	Sec / Sec'y	Secretary
ed'n / educ'n	education	Soc'y	Society
Eng'd	England	SS	steamship
Ex / Exs	Excellency/ Excellencies (usu. Lord Lieutenant)	TD	Teachtai Delai (representatives in lower house of Dail)
exhib'n	exhibition	Tech/Tech:/Tec'l	technical
gen'l	general		
gov't	government		

N.B. The apostrophe in a contraction usually indicates that in Plunkett's handwriting the word ended with underscored superscript letters (e.g. Parl<sup>x</sup> is transcribed as Parl'y).

2) Less frequent or ambiguous contractions are expanded in brackets for clarity and easier reading (e.g. rec[eive]d, originally handwritten "rec<sup>d</sup>"). If the same usage occurs in close proximity, the expanded version is generally not repeated.

## 1915

### Events:

- 7 May – *Lusitania* torpedoed off Old Head of Kinsale
- 25 May – Coalition ministry formed
- 1 Aug – Patrick Pearse’s inflammatory funeral oration for O’Donovan Rossa
- Dec – Douglas Haig appointed commander of British Expeditionary Force

### Publications:

- ‘McCarthy of Wisconsin’, *The Nineteenth Century and After*, v.77, pp. 1335-47
- “McCarthy of Wisconsin: The Career of an Irishman Abroad As It Appears and Appeals to an Irishman at Home” (Spottiswoode, London)
- “Irish Farmers and the War – the Need of Food Production” (letter), *Irish Times*, 4 March; reprinted in *Bulletin and Miscellaneous Publications of the Co-operative Reference Library*, I:11 (May), pp. 288-292
- “The Future of Irish Agriculture” (letter), *Freeman’s Journal*, 10 Apr; reprinted in *Bulletin and Miscellaneous Publications of the Co-operative Reference Library*, I:11 (May), pp. 298-303
- “Continuous Cropping and Co-operation”, *Freeman’s Journal*, 23 Jun, p. 6
- *The Coming of Age of the Irish Agricultural Organisation Society* (Dublin) pp. 3-5, 6-17
- ‘Report of the Departmental Committee on Food Production in Ireland, Minority Report’, *DATI Journal*, v.xvi, pp.53-4
- Attributed articles in *Irish Homestead*:
  - Letter, “Increased Tillage in Ireland”, XXII:19 (8 May 1915), pp. 305-6 (with RA Anderson and Fr. T. Finlay)
  - “Catechism for Students of Agricultural Organisation in Ireland”, XXII:24 (12 Jun 1915), p.390
  - “Continuous Cropping and Co-operation”, XXII:26 (26 Jun 1915), pp. 421-3
  - Letter to Phelan, Canon at Waterford Conference, XXII:30 (24 Jul 1915), pp. 489-90
  - Text of address to IAOS Annual General Meeting, XXII:42 (16 Oct 1915), pp. 678-81

### Government:

- Prime Minister*: Herbert Asquith (Liberal) to 25 May; (Liberal/Conservative coalition)
- Chief Secretary*: Augustine Birrell
- Lord Lieutenant*: Earl of Aberdeen to 19 Feb; Viscount Wimborne

Approximate monetary equivalents (2010): £1= £84; \$1 = \$16

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
	1 Jan, Fri	<p>Conrad Young turned up at night to begin his cure. I have fully briefed Dr. Riley the excellent neurologist of the Battle Creek Sanitarium (where I find myself at the beginning of 1915) as to my agent’s little trouble.</p> <p>Today I paid a “surprise visit” to a “guest” of the Sanitarium who had not been out of his room for 4 years. He had domestic trouble. I don’t believe there’s anything the matter with him. There is another “mental case” here which is interesting. It is a rich business man who is quite normal in every way but one. He cannot be got to put his name to any writing whatever!</p> <p>Conrad Young arrived at night.</p>
	2 Jan, Sat	The dreary Sabbath. But I was glad to have a chance to talk things out with Conrad Young. This I did in 3 hours of walking morning & afternoon.
	3 Jan, Sun	Spent the day preparing & at night delivering a lecture on The War & Civilisation. The audience was large & appreciative. The lecture was above my poor average.
	4 Jan, Mon	Tired but not the worse for my lecture.
	5 Jan, Tue	Charles W. Holman came in from Wisconsin to see me, sent by McCarthy. He will make a very good worker in agric’l

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		organisation if we can get the funds.
	6 Jan, Wed	A warm thaw!
	7 Jan, Thu	Last day. Packing & endless talks very tiring.
	8 Jan, Fri	Packing, tips, goodbyes & off at 10 A.M. for Chicago. In train met Lucy Page Gaston of the Anti Cigarette League, one of the champion worthy bores. Called on J.B. Wilbur of Vermont one of the people I want to interest in agric'l organisation. Telephoned McCarthy to come along from Madison.
<i>Fr Harris, J. Nugent</i>	9 Jan, Sat	<p>George Woodruff a young banker of Joliet who had studied banking and agric'l coop'n in Europe (he was with the Amer'n Agric'l Com'n in Ireland) came to breakfast. He has good ideas (which I think I improved) about agric'l organ[isatio]n in Illinois. McCarthy came in &amp; I saw Wilbur with him. We advanced plans for Vermont. Lunched with Julius Rosenwald at Sears Roebuck's mammoth mail order house over which I was shown. I think I roped him into an organisation movement. My 26 hours in Chicago was not wasted. I have real hopes of a big start being made in the near future.</p> <p>Samuel Harper called on me and he knows Russia well &amp; repeated what he told me before about the ideals for which Russia was fighting.</p> <p>Took afternoon train for New York.</p>
	10 Jan, Sun	A long day in the train. Got to Godkin's by 6 P.M. He had misread my letters & did not expect me. But he made me as welcome & comfortable as ever.
<p><i>[fidus Achates – "faithful Achates" (the companion of Aeneas); true friend]</i></p> <p><i>[Wm. F. Sheehan]</i></p>	11 Jan, Mon	<p>A very interesting day. Worked at the Carnegie Foundation on my scheme for an American A.O.S. Then went to lunch with Col. EM House (Wilson's fidus Achates) who told me in confidence Wilson's mind on the war. He appears to be pro German in his policy but it is only in order to avoid playing into the hands of the pro Germans by appearing to depart from his strict neutrality attitude. House told me many things too confidential to commit to writing.</p> <p>Had also long talk with Chas. R. Crane. He read to me letters from Russia &amp; Constantinople. Further confirmed in belief that Russian <u>people</u> are in this war in the best possible spirit. The people don't take any interest in war unless their heart is in it. It was in the Russo Turkish war of 1877 &amp; is in this war but was not in the Russo-Jap War.</p> <p>Dined with Jim Byrne &amp; met Morgan J. O'Brien &amp; Wm. J. <i>[sic]</i> Sheehan ("Blue Eyed Billy"). They were interesting on the Irish in America, and on the anti Catholic spirit in U.S.A.</p> <p>At tea at Crane's, I forgot to say above, Christabel Pankhurst was present – a pushful clever "aggressive" (to use an American term of praise!) young lady was present. She was not made more of by the others than I was &amp; resented it. Her talk rather repelled me.</p>
To Crane, Charles R. (2) To McCarthy, Charles	12 Jan, Tue	<p>Wrote Sir E Grey urging caution in dealing with Wilson as the latter is embarrassed by politicians trying to make trouble betw'n Eng'd &amp; U.S.A.</p> <p>At night had to go to a Ball in the Amsterdam Opera House (44th &amp; 8th Ave) to address a large audience on their support of the</p>

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		P[rince] of Wales Fund for Relief of Distress. Made rather a good 10 minutes' speech. Ralph Stuart Wortley took me there. He I think got up the Fund.
To Godkin, Lawrence  [Wood]; COS – Chief of Staff]	13 Jan, Wed	<p>Lunched with Mrs. Douglas Robinson (9 E. 63) to meet Roosevelt her brother. A large talkative party &amp; I heard little. R was not very interesting &amp; has written all he has to say. Met Leonard Woods [sic] C.O.S. of American Army who has little opinion of the force. He advocates the Australian system of universal military training, not conscription.</p> <p>Arranged with Pritchett to pay \$5000.00 Carnegie money to Godkin as Treasurer for the American A.O.S. that is to be! So we shall get a start.</p> <p>5 PM train to Boston where the Lawrence Lowells received me as hospitably as ever.</p>
<i>Fr Kellogg, Dr. J.H.</i>	14 Jan, Thu	<p>Had to devote the morning to work at Lowell[']s office where a kind Miss Dwyer, his chief stenographer gave me most willing help because the work was Irish. Then went to lunch with Wm. H. Rideing of "The Youth's Companion" a hugely circulating (among adults largely) weekly. Promised him another article on rural life in U.S.A.</p> <p>Back for a walk with Lowell &amp; much talk on the war &amp; the terms of peace. He tells me Amer'n opinion was stirred chiefly by Belgium, but also by the refusal of Germany to help in the settlement betw'n Austria &amp; Servia, by the levies on captured towns and by the Scarborough &amp;c bombardment. He is quite satisfied that the allies must win but upon the terms of peace his mind is not made up. Belgian reparation of course. But what guarantees against militarism? He thinks Ed[ward]. Grey's suggestion to him that the adoption of a more liberal government by Germany is fanciful &amp; impracticable. Alsace &amp; Lorraine must at least be given the option of allegiance &amp; the exercise of the option would be controlled by the winner!</p> <p>At dinner T B Fitzpatrick Treas[urer] U[nited]. I[rish]. L[eague]. of America, Judge McLaughlin &amp; J H Corcoran – three prominent Irish Americans met me to discuss the I.Q. They were so moderate that I really believe Belfast would listen to them! Nothing could have been more friendly than they were to me. I shall send them my pamphlets! "Insidious" John Dillon will say.</p>
To McCarthy, Charles	15 Jan, Fri	<p>Got promise of assistance from Prof James Ford (Social Ethics Dept.[]) for McCarthy &amp; the A.A.O.S. Long talk with Archibald Cary Coolidge recently Exchange Professor at Berlin. He is Prof of History &amp; director of the Harvard Library. Very able &amp; has wide knowledge of European affairs, especially towards the East. He thinks the basis of settlement should be nationalistic – but the peoples to choose their governments. He agreed with me that it would be desirable for England to ask for no territory if the allies win &amp; Lowell's suggestion that we must have some German colonies in S Africa to secure our Cape to Cairo route he sweeps aside as the adjustment of frontiers would get us into trouble with France. I made notes of his views too many for space here. Had talk too with Prof'r Wilson (International Law) upon the friction betw'n US &amp; Britain over contraband &amp;c. He was reassuring. He strongly advocated conference betw'n the B[ritish] embassy &amp; the State Department at Washington before public[atio]n of</p>

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		differences. Saw Dr. Francis G Peabody & left by Federal Express for Washington.
<i>Fr Childers, Erskine</i>	16 Jan, Sat	<p>Spring Rice the most charming of hosts. Anxious to get me in touch with all I want to meet. Arthur Willert (Times correspondent) at lunch, Belgian Minister (Havenith), Sec of Interior (Lane) with their wives &amp; Mrs. Houston without her husband, who was away, to dinner. Long talk with the new [Assistant] Sec of Agric're Carl Vrooman (not pro-German) at Dept of Ag. Him I am to see again &amp; I think at last I have found a cooperator.</p> <p>The embassy is shorthanded – the Counsellor (Barclay) being an appendicitis patient, Tom Spring Rice is worked to a shadow. The home Gov't cannot see the importance of friendly relations with the U.S. The German efforts to secure it ought to enlighten them. I pressed on our ambassador that we ought to put our dignity in our pockets &amp; make the largest concessions to even the bad political susceptibilities &amp; sordid machinations by which Wilson is being dragged into the appearance of pro German leanings. I urged giving American shippers a lot of rope &amp; then pouncing on a suspected cargo. Roosevelt in a confidential letter gives substantially the same advice. He notes that though Amer'n opinion is strongly on side of the allies &amp; that Eng'd may well tell the U.S. that after swallowing the camel of Germany's violation of Belgian neutrality they need not lecture her on the rights of neutral trade. Still the average politician has much more to fear from the violent hostility of the pro German minority than from the rather tepidly taken position of the majority.</p> <p>Further the Pacifists are inclined to agree with the minority in the vague belief that stoppage of supplies makes for peace. Again "The average Amer'n does not know much about neutrality rights; but he has a strong feeling that if it is right to ship ammunition &amp; horses to Eng'd it cannot be wrong to ship rubber &amp; copper to Germany". Willert told me that Lane said to him in effect England should be very careful about these seizures of vessels. She is <u>not popular</u> in U.S.A. &amp; is only supported because she is fighting for the underdog Belgium. If she doesn't look out she will make the Americans feel that her navalism is as tyrannical as German militarism. The Belgian minister with whom I discussed Coolidge's suggestion (from which Lowell dissented) that England should put out a simple convincing denial of the Anglo Franco Belgian conspiracy, said 85% of the Amer'ns were for the allies. If England does this it will irritate Amer'n opinion and she might add 25% to the pro German 15% (which is 2/3rds German &amp; 1/3rd American including Irish) whereas if Belgium does it the 15% may be swelled.</p>
	17 Jan, Sun	<p>Duty call on Senator Fletcher. He had a tale of woe from Florida, his state. Nearly all their trade was suspended. Even resin could not be exported because it was used by Germans to smear over the shells &amp; keep the damp out! Senator Burton, Rep[ublican], called. He was strongly on our side. He declares the Shipping Bill is a very crooked business, the ostensible reasons for it having been one after another shown to be absurd.</p> <p>Long talk with Vrooman and Lane. Think I have got them on my side re agric'l organisation in U.S.A. The Belgian Minister Havenith sent me a pamphlet he was publishing to deny the</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
		alleged Anglo Franco Belgian conspiracy to attack Germany through Belgium. It was very badly done & he let me revise some of his English which I think will make it much more intelligible. He makes a few good points & these I clarified a bit. Quiet evening with Spring Rice whom I was able to help in a few matters where knowledge of American opinion was useful.
<i>Fr Vrooman, Carl</i>	18 Jan, Mon	First interview with Wm. J Bryan, Sec of State. Found him with little knowledge & no thoughts worth reading on European situation. He platitudinised & told me it was not for publicity. Wilson feared to see me. Saw Lane again & Vrooman. Burrell [ <i>sic</i> ] Canadian Minister of Agriculture lunched. Returned New York in afternoon.
	19 Jan, Tue	<p>Began with a call upon Charles R. Crane with whom I have arranged much of the plan for founding &amp; endowing an American Agric'l Organ[isatio]n Society with Dr. Charles McCarthy as director. Lunched with Col. E M House &amp; discussed matters too confidential to commit to writing in a diary which might fall into German hands should the ship I take tomorrow be captured! He is coming to London where I shall have to keep in close touch with him. Downtown I did some business for Hanson, made inquiries about the firms who could supply munitions of war. Worked at Carnegie Educ'n Foundation office at my old project, the American A.O.S. Had tea at University Club with Norman Hapgood who is running Harpers Weekly for Chas. R Crane, a bad purchase of C's &amp; a doubtful editorial appointment. Then called on Myron T. Herrick former ambassador to Paris &amp; now an aspirant for the Republican nomination in 1916. He has written a book on rural credits which he promised to send me to the ship. We had a talk on the subject.</p> <p>At night Godkin had Martin J Keogh (very much aged &amp; shaken), Jim Byrne &amp; Pritchett to meet me. It was a most fruitful 2½ hours I believe. We agreed to form the A.A.O.S. at once and discussed it in detail. Organisers will be sent over to be trained by us in Ireland &amp; I shall direct the movement from the Plunkett House Dublin. The Carnegie Corporation will put up the preliminary money &amp; my American friends will get the rest. I feel happy in this but it has cost me dear. I never worked as I have these last few days &amp; my head did queer things. But the Atlantic is kind to me.</p>
To Kellogg, Dr. J.H. To Vrooman, Carl <i>(Fr O'Leary, John; VRO.2)</i>	20 Jan, Wed	Rose at 6.30 A.M. packed. Had Poynton (Carnegie's Secretary) & John M. Glenn to b[rea]kfa[st]. That dear good Godkin took my baggage to the steamer S.S. Lapland (Red Star run by White Star) while I went down to Jim Byrne's office and dictated furiously. I think I got the necessary documents for the starting of an American A.O.S. into good shape. At the steamer there met one John A Stevenson of Winnipeg, Roger Williams, Crane's business manager and a messenger from Myron T Herrick re rural credits. I was thoroughly tired out when the pilot boat took my last 10 letters ashore. I think I have done good work this time.
	21 Jan, Thu	356
	22 Jan, Fri	387. Taking a southerly course. All ships go their own sweet will to dodge the watchful German pirates! I don't know whether this gives us additional safety but it does give us summer weather today!



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		Barry Pain and Philip Snowden (Labour M.P.) & wife on board. First named rather the professional writer but a nice fellow & of course interesting. Snowden & wife introduced themselves to me. Both had met me before.
	23 Jan, Sat	384. Long talk with Snowden about the war. Reminded him of the 1911 crisis & the stoppage of the railway strike by the govt (through pressure on the employers) for fear of mobilisation being hampered – of the talk about International labour making war impossible without their consent & of the utter failure of labour to be a factor in the diplomacy which led up to the War. He admitted all this & said the failure was due to the fact that international labour moved so slowly. They had had conferences and referred the question of labour’s attitude in the event of war to the national organisations but had got no replies which enabled definite action to be taken. I went on to the failure of Christianity to help towards peace. This also pained him. He expressed chief disgust at Dr. Clifford[’s] change since the Boer war. He was now Jingo of the Jingo.
	24 Jan, Sun	375. The Snowdens had been to New Zealand Australia & Canada in their trip. They found three different patriotisms in these colonies. In N.Z. there is a real attachment to the <u>Home</u> country, Australia values the Imperial connection as a necessity of the Australia which is to grow and Canada cares little for England but much for “The Empire” as against the “Republic” down south. A Col. Aemilius Jarvis who knows Canada well told me that the people who have come into Western Canada from Minnesota, the Dakotas & other states were neither annexationist nor Imperialist but “Canada for the Canadians” in their sentiment. He said that B[ritish]. C[olumbia]. is preposterously boomed & is kept up by a succession of fictitious enhancement of values with which successive British immigrants are victimised. The climate is ideal but the heavy timber which has to be got off the land & the absence or distance of market makes things difficult.
	25 Jan, Mon	386
<i>Fr Harris, J. Nugent</i> [River Scheldt - runs through France and Belgium to the Netherlands]	26 Jan, Tue	357 A very hard sea boat. She is built for the shallow Scheldt & rolls horribly.  News came of the abortive raid by the German Fleet & the sinking of the Blucher.
	27 Jan, Wed	375
	28 Jan, Thu	361. We have now run 2981 miles and as the Capt is forbidden to put up the chart for fear passengers should let the Germans know where we go [&] we don’t know how far it is to L[iver]pool. The Capt however tells me it is a little over 3250 [so] we know we shall be in tomorrow morning.  The voyage has been very restful. Barry Pain & the Snowdens, and a mechanical engineer W.K. Laurie Dickson trained by Edison being quite interesting fellow passengers. Sowed good Irish seed in Snowden.
	29 Jan, Fri	Landed & got back to Kilteragh. Anderson, looking miserably ill, met me at Kingstown and we came back to Kilteragh together. I began to pick up the threads.
	30 Jan, Sat	Trying to get a grasp of the situation in the agric’l movement in

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		the morning. Wrote also to Sir E. Grey on American opinion about the war. Healy came to dine & told me a good deal of general news.
	31 Jan, Sun	Over my grounds with Anderson & Costello in the morning. To Killeen to see Oliver now a man in 16th Lancers at Curragh – God how time flies) & Fingall both with week end leave. Walked over to Dunsany where Eddie was also having a quiet Sunday with Beatrice. Eddie was cross-examining me as to the probable duration of the war. Poor fellow he is terribly anxious to outlive it! But he won't fail if he is tested in the field.
To Childers, Erskine <i>Fr Vrooman, Carl</i>	1 Feb, Mon	Back to Kilteragh leaving Mamie at the City of Dublin Hospital as a probationer nurse. Daisy & Hetty came to me. Had a hard day's work at Plunkett House.
To Lowell, Mrs. A. Lawrence	2 Feb, Tue	Worked at I.A.O.S. all day. In evening dined with D.A.T.I. at Hotel, W S Green (on retirement) being the guest of the evening. The spirit seemed to me to have gone out of the Dept.
To Harris, J. Nugent <i>[more Hibernico – after the Irish fashion]</i>  [Randal Arthur Henry Plunkett b. 1906]	3 Feb, Wed	Began the day with a providential escape from a very nasty motor accident. Edward White's pony trap was on my left as I was passing his gate. More Hibernico the driver, without looking back to see if anything was coming, swept across the road just in front of me into the gate of Scofield. I did all that was possible – managed only to strike the hind wheel of the pony trap which came off projecting the man & a woman he was driving to the ground. My car was swung round against the semicircular wall on the Dublin side of the gate. Nobody hurt. Woman a bit shocked & pony trap & car (fortunately my little Morris Oxford) about £50 damages betw'n them I should say. Insurance should cover. I telephoned E White to come from town and was able to show him the tracks which exonerated me from blame. White was extremely nice about it.  Worked at IAOS. Eddie's first born & his nice Swiss governess came to me, Beatrice to follow for 10 days' dentistry in Dublin. The boy is quite charming & I hope not spoiled. The Hannays dined.
	4 Feb, Thu	3 meetings of different kinds & I.A.O.S. work. W.G.S. Adams was over for a lecture & called. We discussed the European situation. Sir E Grey wrote asking me to call on him in London Saturday.
To Nathan, Sir Matthew  <i>[sic transit gloria mundi – literally 'thus passes the glory of the world', but here a Plunkett pun.]</i>	5 Feb, Fri	The quarterly meeting of the General C'tee of the I.A.O.S. Hall & Nash having crossed the Irish Sea in storm & amid German submarines – two nights running – to attend. The business was well done as usual. Attended local Distress C'tee. No distress.  Crossed over to London. Curtin stimulated himself – I think to unconsciousness <i>sic transiter</i> – against the submarine peril. But he began too early & then packing was difficult.
	6 Feb, Sat	Arrived in London feeling the worse for the passage. Had to call on Edward Grey. Interesting hour's talk. I think I gave him an accurate account of American feeling. I told him that Wilson would very likely be pushed forward by the Democratic party as an arbitrator. Grey seemed to welcome this & said he would tell House (who arrives today & is to see him tomorrow) that

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
		<p>America can only hope to affect anything if she “plays the big part”. He explained that he looked to her to come in with the neutral states into a League of peace each agreeing to submit to arbitration its quarrels with any of the Leaguers &amp; to put pressure upon any Leaguer who refuses to act similarly. I suggested that it would be better for England to dominate the peace negotiations by herself proposing a generous peace &amp; asking the neutral states with America as their leader to support her proposals. Of course reparation to Belgium (which should be guaranteed by the belligerents in agreed proportions &amp; not left to Germany if beaten) and then independence of small states should be postulated. After that I suggested that England should ask for no territory whatever so that the sincerity of her desire for peace should be proved. Here Grey said there was an insuperable objection. The self governing colonies will not give up what they have taken from Germany e.g. Australia won’t cede New Guinea. I replied that they might be appealed to to make this sacrifice to enable England to secure lasting peace. But if they refused England could say that the self governing colonies are self governing &amp; she cannot coerce them. The contraband difficulty was greatly relieved by Germany’s having announced a blockade of England &amp; that she will sink ships trying to run it, drowning the crews! This will enable England to do ditto to Germany but to guarantee not to murder the crews.</p>
	7 Feb, Sun	<p>Called on Dorothy. Lunched with Lady Paget &amp; met interesting people, but she absorbed me &amp; the talk. Had a long talk with Col. House. In talking to him you are talking to President Wilson. I argued strongly against U.S. offering to arbitrate betw’n the belligerents now or soon or ever upon matters to be settled betw’n them. On the other hand the U.S. should be ready to support a policy of lasting peace, if such can be worked out and bring the neutral nations along also. I told him that not only was there considerable irritation at the U.S.’s [“]spiritless and selfish neutrality” as Roosevelt calls it but Russia &amp; France are more angry. He seemed to agree.</p>
	8 Feb, Mon	<p>Ld. Londonderry died of pneumonia. He was 2 years older than I &amp; immensely more robust. Battle Creek, tho the very idea would have given him a dangerous chill, would have saved him.</p> <p>Called on Geoffrey Robinson &amp; later arranged with House to meet him at a club.</p> <p>Met Hargrove &amp; Sir Lewis Beaumont at Gardiner’s office to deal with matters chiefly arising out of G’s health &amp; his inability to get on with his staff.</p> <p>I begin to feel that the war will end this summer if not sooner – or rather that negotiations will begin. My general reasons are economic and psychological.</p>
	9 Feb, Tue	<p>Chief events of the day a long talk with Hall re I.A.O.S. applic[ati]on for funds &amp; another with Sir W Tyrrell about House’s mission &amp; terms of peace. Then I went to call on Bernard Shaw &amp; ‘slated’ him over his attack on Sir E Grey. I also said that I wholly dissented from his conclusion that peace was to be attained only by a league of Western powers against Russia. Strangely he rhapsodised Russians, mainly on the extraordinary appreciation of his plays they had shown. Had A.G. Gardiner to meet House at dinner &amp; he (House) seemed more at home with</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
		<p>the Daily News than he had been with the Times the night before.</p> <p>Lunched with the Pages – Lady Paget &amp; the Houses being the other guests. Lady P. was garrulous as usual. She told me one story very interesting if true. A German aristocrat of her acquaintance – I forget his name – was on the way from England (where she had entertained him) to S Africa when the war broke out. On landing Botha arrested him and on him was found an appointment by the Kaiser as Governor General of South Africa. If this amazing story is true why was such an invaluable ‘proof’ so long concealed?</p>
<i>Fr Olivier, Sydney H.</i>	10 Feb, Wed	<p>Another interesting day. Interview with House &amp; Geoffrey Robinson in morning. Francis D Acland, now Secretary of Treasury, lunched with me. Betty Balfour &amp; Lady Selborne invited me to tea at latter’s house. I dined with the V. Nashs at Hampstead to meet a brother of Asquith’s a dull good man. Took 11.45 P.M. train to Newcastle.</p>
	11 Feb, Thu	<p>Meetings of Bowes, Pelton &amp; Framwellgate Collieries. The last named is hopelessly insolvent &amp; an attempt is made to make Pelton responsible for its debts because I am chairman of both collieries. Gardiner has done very badly over this business &amp; I don’t know how it will come out. Mrs. G writes imploring me to get G. to give the whole thing up &amp; generally I fear we are in for a bad time.</p>
To House, E.M.	12 Feb, Fri	<p>Back to Kilteragh. Found Eddie &amp; Beatrice &amp; Tom &amp; May’s children &amp; nurses in possession. Worked at IAOS all day.</p>
	13 Feb, Sat	<p>Sir Matthew Nathan sent for me to consult me about the forthcoming Home Rule Act Amendment scheme to pacify Ulster! His idea was to give the members of that Province large powers of veto of legislation &amp; also large control over local administration. I advised him to get drafted the Government’s actual proposal in detail, i.e. the 6 years exclusion of Ulster counties. This would suggest reasons for Ulster not claiming that concession. Till this is done they won’t look at his scheme. Attended farewell reception to the Aberdeens who did not depart because the sea was rough! The crowd was of the usual Aberdeen collection type – largely office seekers and beneficiaries of the Aberdeen jobbery. They have let out a lot of prisoners for political reasons.</p>
	14 Feb, Sun	<p>Ventry came to lunch to talk about growing New Zealand Flax at his Kerry house &amp; getting the C.D.B. to put up a mill to work the fibre. He use[d] to drink &amp; I fear his brains were not improved. Æ, Sir J Barton &amp; Walter Callan also lunched – quite a Kilteragh collection.</p>
[Alexis Roche had died 18 December 1914]	15 Feb, Mon	<p>I am not feeling well. I think the anxiety of these times is wearing me down. I am losing weight &amp; my head swims a bit. But I work away.</p> <p>Moirra Roche, poor Alexis’ eldest daughter dined &amp; slept en route to England. I told her I meant to pay her father’s overdraft which I guaranteed at the Bank of Ireland though the estate could pay it.</p> <p>Lunched with Healy of Irish Times &amp; heard what news there was of the war. Little definite but the conviction grows that it should end in the summer.</p>

<b>Correspondence [Notes]</b>	<b>1915</b>	<b>Diary Entry</b>
<i>Fr Irvine, W.C. (MOO)</i>	16 Feb, Tue	Eddie & Beatrice left. Randal & his governess stayed. Worked at I.A.O.S. all day.
To Healy, Dr. J. (Archbp. of Tuam) To Olivier, Sydney H.	17 Feb, Wed	I.A.O.S. & a Belgian Refugee meeting took whole day. Daisy came to Kilteragh & we had a quiet old time tête à tête in the evening.
	18 Feb, Thu	Did my small part in the ridiculous function of swearing in a new Lord Lieutenant at the Privy Council Chamber. Ld. Wimborne is a very bad appointment but better anything than the Aberdeens.  A.L. Hetherington Secretary of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees came over & I gave most of the day to him.
<i>Fr Healy, Dr. J. (Archbp. of Tuam)</i>	19 Feb, Fri	Rose 5.30 AM & went by morning mail to Newcastle West taking Smith Gordon & Hetherington. The latter's introduction to Irish life in a conference betw'n the R[ural]. D[istrict]. Council & ourselves representing the Carnegie Trust was diverting. Carnegie had personally committed himself – & we take over the liability – to donate £3900 for 10 libraries in that very primitive rural district. We wanted to impose conditions, chiefly that they should be libraries & not merely smoking & card playing resorts! The proceedings were orderly because I knew how not to rub up the local authority. Poor Hetherington was bewildered but he will learn gradually.
	20 Feb, Sat	Worked half day but my evening rest was disturbed by a pressing invitation to go & dine with Wimborne the new Viceroy. He may be an under bred common man, with indifferent intelligence who has been jobbed into the post to satisfy his social ambitions by Winston Churchill – a cousin – and heavy payments to political funds. He also “ratted” at the right time as W.C. did! He may turn out a very different man. My appreciation as above is taken from some who know him well. Our conversation which was long never got to where I could form a real judgment because a sporting friend & a “Castle hack” were present.
	21 Feb, Sun	Hetherington & his Irish education was the occupation of the day. I had Father Ryan who has invented a system for treating the blind – better he seems to prove than the Brail[?]e system – to make his case for help from the Carnegie Trust. Also Mrs. Alfred Hamilton to plead for the United Irishwomen. Mamie came in from her nursing home. Sir Henry Robinson golfed with Hetherington, Healy & me in the morning & he & Healy lunched. Characteristic Kilteragh Sunday.
	22 Feb, Mon	Ordinary work. Called on Mahaffy at his request. His eldest son was with him prior to his departure to govern St Dominica.
To Norman, Harry F.	23 Feb, Tue	Meeting of Congested Districts Board & business at I.A.O.S. To England by night mail. Vile passage.
	24 Feb, Wed	In poor form after bad night. Saw Hargrove, Gardiner's solicitor & Walsh about my attempt to get Gardiner to reorganise his business so that it won't break down his health. Had an hour with House & ½ hour with Mrs. Gifford Pinchot on American situation as regards the war. Met A.D. Hall to discuss I.A.O.S. grant which seems progressing satisfactorily. Had O'Donovan to dine with me at Club. He wanted to see me but did not ask me for anything tho he says times are bad with him!
	25 Feb, Thu	Three colliery meetings at which Gardiner had to be very tactfully

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		handled. Then went to Adams at Oxford for a dine & sleep. The dinner was at All Souls. Present Goudy, ?Goldhurst, the Warden (Pember), Egerton, AL Smith, Spenser Wilkinson & a few others. Discussed the war. Nothing new. My business in Oxford was to get Adams' views on the Carnegie Trust library work in Ireland.
	26 Feb, Fri	<p>Left Oxford early &amp; travelled with Charles S. Orwin of the Agric'l Economics Institute to London. Had interesting talk with him on the decline of tillage question &amp; the means of stopping it. In town got news that Philip Anderson had died of his wounds. Poor R.A.! Two gone out of three &amp; the other shortly to go to the front! I feel very depressed over it all.</p> <p>Sundry work &amp; called on Mrs. Gifford Pinchot to meet the Russian Ambassador – Benckendorf. He was not, I thought, quite confident that the [Russians] could hold out but he said they would make big sacrifices. He confirmed my impressions as noted before in this diary of the Russian people. He agreed that the gov't badly wanted reforming especially in the direction of "governing less". He was very interesting on the racial difficulties before the peacemakers. In Eastern Europe the races have been moved about so much that a nationalistic basis is the hardest thing in the world to agree upon. Constantinople was not an unmixed blessing as a possession. The fortification would be difficult &amp; expensive. He was enthusiastic on the agricultural development beginning in Siberia &amp; other parts of Russia.</p> <p>Dined with Lady Paget.</p>
[query in original; Croal]	27 Feb, Sat	Exec C'tee & annual general meeting of Carnegie Trustees. I spent the day with Sir Wm. McCormick who after the meeting had Sir J Struthers, Croale(?) Editor of Scotsman, Hetherington & an amusing Dr. Littlejohn to dine. Got into touch with the important trustees re Irish business. Ed of Scotsman was very pro Ulster. He was also optimistic about the War.
	28 Feb, Sun	Tired after 2 nights in train. Went to Hall at Wimbledon for lunch and dined with the Pinchots.
	1 Mar, Mon	Writing letter to Press about Irish agriculture & the War. Dined with the Houses who had Lady Paget, the Pages & Laughlin of the U.S. Embassy. A meeting of the Berthon Boat Co at which G. Price & E.P. Berthon attended. The Co has made a loss of £4000 odd in the 12 months! George Price is 73 & looks failing. I fear he has a bad heart.
<i>Fr Kellogg, Dr. J.H.</i>	2 Mar, Tue	Got off my letter to the Irish Press on the way to make Ireland produce more food & employ more labour in its production. The whole difficulty was that TW Russell absolutely bars progress in this direction & if I said so the Development Com'n would not be able to get the I.A.O.S. money for their part of the work. Lunched with Geoffrey Robinson.
<i>Fr Byrne, James (Fr Byrne, James to Daimler Co. Ltd)</i>  [Zentrum – Centre Party]	3 Mar, Wed	Met Hewins M.P. at lunch at the Carlton Club. Told him that the Germans in America based the case of their government largely upon the welfare of the working classes under militarism & that they ?gristed the Tariff Reformers who had made great play with the <u>fact</u> , tho they of course attributed it to Protection. Hewins stood to his ground. The fact was as stated, but it was not the military but the <u>Central</u> [ <i>sic</i> ] (chiefly R.C.) party which had

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
		<p>insisted, for their own purposes, on insurance, education, old age pensions &amp;c with ?choice of pauperism.</p> <p>Had talk with Arthur Balfour but inconclusive. I told him about American situation &amp; got him to agree to see House tomorrow. I also talked about the Russians &amp; he said "it is a common fallacy that the Russian government is strong. Its far flung empire is governed through irresponsible bureaucrats &amp; other governments find that when there is trouble anywhere it is with these &amp; not the central gov't they have to deal".</p> <p>Dined with F.S. Oliver. He thinks slowly but methodically. He is bringing out a book on the situation which will be interesting.</p>
	4 Mar, Thu	<p>A meeting of Pelton S.S. Co chiefly to hear ?Heatley director &amp; Gardiner's chief man in office at Newcastle from which latter post Gardiner is dismissing him. G. is ill &amp; unreasonable. I had a talk with his wife later &amp; she is worried &amp; not helpful with suggestions.</p> <p>Lunched with Ld. Grey, House being present. Then took House to call on Arthur Balfour. B. was greatly interested in H. who told him all his negotiations before the war with The Kaiser, Von Jagow, Bethmann-Hol[I]weg &amp;c. He also projected his idea of a lasting peace settlement, the basis being a moratorium upon all manufacture of implements of war for a period of years during which democracy is to rise against any nonsense of the kind. B. seemed impressed &amp; H is to lunch with him next week &amp; talk it all over again.</p> <p>B. was very interesting on the astounding psychology of the Germans &amp; also was amazed at their <u>ethics</u> as regards treaties &amp; conduct of war. "Morals after all do pay. No nation can do without them".</p> <p>Had a talk with Bryce but he concentrated on the Ulster question &amp; was not good on that.</p> <p>Said goodbye to Gifford Pinchot, dined with ?May/Mary &amp; Dorothy &amp; left at night for Ireland.</p>
To Irvine, W.C. (MOO)	5 Mar, Fri	<p>Back to find Anderson sadly broken in health &amp; spirit by his double bereavement. Worked hard at I.A.O.S. Daisy came to Kilteragh &amp; Willie Plunket dined.</p> <p>Tried to write a 3000 word article for the Youth's Companion of Boston (for a million circulation issue) &amp; failed. Had to take another 3 days &amp; miss a mail.</p>
	6 Mar, Sat	I.A.O.S. & laziness in afternoon. Mamie came for week end.
	7 Mar, Sun	<p>E O'Farrell golfed, Oliver &amp; 3 young soldiers, Mrs. Fowle &amp; her Belgian son, W. Wyndham Quin, a Miss Porter (friend of Mamie's) &amp; Hammond were lunch or dinner guests. The Belgian boy 20 years who had had thrilling adventures in the Belgian army &amp; was badly wounded, was extraordinarily interesting. At 20 he had seen life &amp; talked like a man of 50. He told me that the Belgian reconstruction would be easy &amp; quick except the art treasures &amp; buildings which were destroyed beyond reparation. He said if the war had been in 1916 instead of 1914 the German Army would have been stopped for months in Belgium. Liege was fairly treated as the mining population fought as miners always would. Louvain was sacked ruthlessly &amp; without excuse.</p>

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		It was a cold designed frightening of the Belgians.
To Phelan, Canon T. To Ponsonby, Thomas	8 Mar, Mon	Work at I.A.O.S. & at a letter for American "Youth's Companion".
<i>Fr Ponsonby, Thomas</i> <i>Fr Shaw, Charlotte F.</i>	9 Mar, Tue	CDB sat from 11 to 5 & I had to stay till near the end as the question of the annual grant of £350 to the IAOS was to be settled. I managed to get it renewed <u>once more</u> . I also got off a 3000 word letter to the Youth's Companion. It will have a million circulation.
To Adams, W.G.S To Healy, J.E. (PON) To Ponsonby, Thomas <i>Fr Phelan, Canon T.</i>	10 Mar, Wed	Another meeting of the C.D.B. & then rested from the labours of yesterday. In afternoon had a meeting of the Belgian Refugee Ctee & opposed a mad scheme for getting over Belgians, now refugees in Holland, to start glass making in Ireland trusting that somebody would find the capital when they came.
To Seton, Sir Malcolm  <i>Fr ?Sandelin (OLIV)</i>	11 Mar, Thu	½ day at I.A.O.S. Went to Bank of Ireland & arranged for further extension of Society's overdraft which I have to guarantee. It is rather unsatisfactory that the I.A.O.S. would collapse financially if I did not support it. The death of Alan Anderson makes it necessary to look for another young man who can take up his father's & my work in the Society.
<i>Fr Bryce, James</i> To Olivier, Sydney (and cable) To Shaw, Charlotte F.	12 Mar, Fri	Tom Ponsonby & John E Healy came to me the latter for a rare experience – a 3 days' rest from his journalistic work. Monteagle & a Japanese agriculturist Tadaatsu Ichigano, secretary of Dept of Ag & Commerce at Tokio [ <i>sic</i> ] dined. He 'had no English' or very little & we learned little from him.
To Bryce, James	13 Mar, Sat	Rushed to the IAOS for letters & then took a holiday. Daisy left.
	14 Mar, Sun	Mahaffy, Lane, Tom Ponsonby, Healy, R.A.A. & Col. Moore were the boarders & callers at Kilteragh. Moore was very asinine about his Volunteers. RAA had just got back from his very brief holiday looking wretched but still clearly better than when he left.
To Seton, Sir Malcolm  <i>Fr Olivier, Sydney H.</i>	15 Mar, Mon	Worked at I.A.O.S. Two ?G----ine agriculturists whom we may employ under Wibberley if funds ever permit came to be vetted. H Barbour dined & slept.
To Byrne, James <i>Fr Moore, George</i>	16 Mar, Tue	Meeting of I.A.O.S. Financial C'tee. Worked whole day at agric'l organising jobs.
	17 Mar, Wed	St. Paddy. Bedecked with shamrock lunched with the Arnotts & attended an Industries sale at Iveagh's House. At lunch General Friend told me the Ulster Volunteers were not so hopeless as I had been told. But their company officers he admitted were very poor and they were maintaining a volunteer force for the civil war quite as big as their contribution to the Kitchener army!
To Adams, W.S.G. <i>Fr Adams, W.S.G.</i>	18 Mar, Thu	Worked hard at my coming lecture.
To Kellogg, Dr. J.H. <i>Fr Auto. Assoc'n. &amp; Motor Union [BYR/J]</i>	19 Mar, Fri	Ditto. Two British & one French Battleships were sunk in the Dardanelles. A fresh horror. They swept the field mines but the current (4 knots) brought numerous floating mines along. It looks as if the Dardanelles must be taken by land.
To Adams, W.G.S. To Auto. Assoc'n. & Motor Union [BYR/J]	20 Mar, Sat	Col. Pat Cox & Killeen came for a short week end, both from the Curragh. The Colonel had been to the trenches & was rather pessimistic. Our shortage of officers was alarming. The Germans



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		were magnificent in every respect.												
	21 Mar, Sun	Same soldier boys, the Gogartys (he in great form), Æ. A restful Sunday tho I had to work a bit at my lecture for the morrow.												
<i>Fr Haggard, H. Rider</i>	22 Mar, Mon	Read my paper, McCarthy of Wisconsin, to a good (in size) audience at the National Literary Society. The evening was spoiled by the Chairman closing the discussion in a rambling stupid speech after two good speeches by Fr. Finlay & Norman. My paper I think was well put together & was appreciated by the few thinkers in the audience.												
<i>Fr Aut.o Assoc'n. &amp; Motor Union [BYR/J] Fr Byrne, James</i>	23 Mar, Tue	Very tired & not very well. Rested.												
To Byrne, James To Snowden, Philip <i>Fr Irvine, W.C. (MOO)</i>	24 Mar, Wed	Worked at I.A.O.S. Lady Conyngham wired inviting herself to dine & sleep. I wired Daisy to come & chaperone us.												
	25 Mar, Thu	Work at I.A.O.S.												
To Godkin, Lawrence To McCarthy, Charles <i>Fr Snowden, Philip</i>	26 Mar, Fri	Chief business trying to get the Irish Gov't thru Sir Matthew Nathan to "recognise" Anderson's Veterans Corps & similar bodies of non political non-recruitables.												
To Bullock, Shan	27 Mar, Sat	<p>½ day at office &amp; then Healy came to tea and Fingall &amp; Stephen Gwynne [<i>sic</i>] in Khaki en route from Kilworth Camp to Killeen dined. S.G. is still a private but he is to get a commission immediately. He says the only discomfort he has suffered is in the filthiness of the sanitary arrangements. I find Norman a delightful companion. I have heard he will come this week. Healy told me he had been given the Irish recruiting figures confidentially. They were, since the outbreak of war 51,000. The figures I was given confidentially up to Oct 24, 1914 before I met Ld. Roberts to discuss the subject with him in London were</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>From Belfast &amp; district</td> <td style="text-align: right;">14194</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dublin " "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">5770</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cork " "</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2097</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ulster Counties about</td> <td style="text-align: right;">4000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rest of Ireland "</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>5207</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>31268</u></td> </tr> </table>	From Belfast & district	14194	Dublin " "	5770	Cork " "	2097	Ulster Counties about	4000	Rest of Ireland "	<u>5207</u>		<u>31268</u>
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	28 Mar, Sun	<p>Had the Cruise O'Briens &amp; Smith Gordons to lunch. Tom Ponsonby also came. He had just got back from Boulogne where he had been to see his brother-in-law George Paynter who had been shot through the Lungs. He heard a good deal about the battle of Neuve Chapelle which seems to have been a bad blunder in two ways. Our artillery fired into our men and the Germans had managed to conceal a large number of machine guns from our airmen. The wounded were rather pessimistic about the chances of breaking through the German lines. The talk about "having them on the run[?]" is ignorant gossip.</p> <p>Left by night mail for London. The skipper Capt. Birch told me he feared collisions much more than submarines, having to go at such a speed with lights out. He also told me that The Bulwark had been blown up by a traitor who was in charge of the magazine. He was ashore. He was suspected, confessed &amp; was shot.</p>												
To Sec'y, War Office [BYR/J]	29 Mar, Mon	The small hours were intensely cold & there was no steam heat in the "sleeping[?]" car so called. A talk with Geoffrey Robinson												

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
		(Ed[itor] Times) who knows no more than the rest of us what is going on at the front! Then annual meeting of the Berthon Boat Co which lost some £4000 last year! But it is doing well now. Lunch & a talk with Hall about the grant, with Olivier about agriculture & the war, with Hanson about his job (W[ar].O[ffice]. contracts) & a quiet dinner with May & Dorothy.
	30 Mar, Tue	Adams came up & he & Bullock lunched with me. We had a meeting of the Carnegie Trustees Library Subcom'tee. I had great difficulty in getting them to handle the Newcastle West tangle wisely. Had a talk with R S Gardiner & agreed to give up chairmanship of Pelton S.S. Co. He made me take it & I cannot attend to its duties. Dined with Mrs. Erskine Childers & left by 10.15 PM train for Dublin.
To Foster, Wm. (War Office) [BYR/J] To Daimler Co. Ltd. [BYR/J] <i>Fr Kellogg, Dr. J.H.</i> <i>Fr Pritchett, Henry S.</i>	31 Mar, Wed	Back to Dublin for ½ day's work & then Kilteragh where came the Bernard Shaws & Daisy. Æ came to dinner. I was dog tired & don't know what I should have done without Daisy & AE to entertain my guests.
To Childers, Erskine To Childers, Mary  <b>("Molly"; Mrs. Erskine)</b>	1 Apr, Thu	½ day at office & then enjoyable day with the Shaws at Kilteragh.
[query in original]	2 Apr, Fri	W F Bailey & Wibberley lunched. We did the continuous cropping to the edification of Sir Sydney Olivier who arrived in the morning & G.B.S. In afternoon Daisy left & I took Olivier & Shaw up the 3 Rock Mountain. Then a Distress(?) Committee at Cabinteely.
<i>Fr Bullock, Shan</i>	3 Apr, Sat	Walked to top of the Sugar Loaf with B Shaw & Olivier. The Gogartys dined. A day of rest.
	4 Apr, Sun	Mahaffy came to stay. Also to lunch the O'Farrells bringing Prof'r. (Lecky Chair of Modern History TCD) Alison Phillips a very intelligent, alive & modern man. Knew Wyoming well. ?Wm ----- to dinner.
	5 Apr, Mon Bank Holiday	Delightful party in the house & then came by the Day Mail Mrs. W L Courtney of the Carnegie Trustees (to look over the U.I. who have applied for a grant), Hetherington the Sec'y of the Trust, Daisy as Pres of U.I. To dinner Nathan & Bailey brought Lady Gregory & W.B. Yeats. An interesting crowd.
To Byrne, James	6 Apr, Tue	Hetherington, Daisy & Mrs. Courtney went to Ballyragget on U.I. business. Rev Hutchison of Dunfermline was taken by Mrs. B Shaw (with Mrs. Green & Mrs. Hamilton) to Glendalough where they saw another branch. I think a grant will follow.
	7 Apr, Wed	Most of the day attending on the Carnegie people. Hetherington & Hutchison left & Mrs. Courtney remained. Tried to write a letter to papers on continuous cropping.
<i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>  [play – <i>Shanwalla</i> ]	8 Apr, Thu	A Co Distress Ctee. Work at I.A.O.S. Lunch with W F Bailey (for the Shaws), Lady Gregory, Yeats, Sally Purser &c, finished letter to Irish Times &c for Saturday. Went to a new play of Lady Gregory's, rather good, at night.
[In 1927 T. Bodkin	9 Apr, Fri	Thomas Bodkin, son of "Matty" Bodkin ex M.P. K.C. & County

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
became director of the National Gallery of Ireland.]		Court Judge (a Job – he was one of the Freeman’s Journal staff) came in afternoon & dined. A nice young fellow & a good judge of pictures. ‘G.B.S.’ was sick with a headache & we had a quiet day. Daisy left.
	10 Apr, Sat	An all wet day. Long talks with G.B. Shaw. Norman, Smith Gordons &c came to Kilteragh.
	11 Apr, Sun	Motored to Dunsany & Killeen taking the B Shaws. On way back called on Nathan who had staying with him Gershom Stewart, Tory M.P. for Wirral Div[isio]n of Cheshire. Nathan was called off to London & I took in his guest at Kilteragh. Tom Ponsonby came.
<i>Fr O’Doherty, P.</i> <i>Fr Olivier, Sydney</i>	12 Apr, Mon	Dorothy, 2 children, 2 nurses & 2 “prams” arrived. The Bernard Shaws left. Then came also Wilfrid Tyne, English agricultural student from Leeds University whom I am employing to help Wibberley in the I.A.O.S. continuous cropping propaganda.
<i>Fr Culitt, B.B. (War Office)[BYR/J]</i> <i>Fr Shaw, Charlotte F.</i>	13 Apr, Tue	Wrote a letter to Freeman’s Journal (& sent copies to Irish Times & Independent) on the continuous cropping controversy. The I.A.O.S. is winning all along the line, but is insolvent! Robert Barton came to Kilteragh. Meeting of CDB, nothing to do. Also of R.A.A.’s Veterans Corps.
To Shaw, Charlotte F.	14 Apr, Wed	The R.D.S. Spring Show, Sir ?Hunt Walshe & wife (neé Br---) brought to see my farm by Tom, the Hannays to dinner took all my time except some office work.
To Byrne, James To Olivier, Sydney H.	15 Apr, Thu	Meeting of the United Irishwomen. Daisy made an excellent little speech.  The Irish Independent came out firmly in my defence against the Freeman. The I.A.O.S. movement is growing stronger every day.
To Pritchett, Henry S. [Report of address to assembled farmers in <i>IH</i> , XXII:19 (8 May 1915), p. 308]	16 Apr, Fri	After morning in office had some 300 to 400 farmers at Kilteragh to see the “Universal Tractor”, which the I.A.W.S. has the sole agency for, tried. It was a great success I think in ploughing, harrowing &c. Daisy left for Nathan’s.  The Freeman’s Journal published a furious letter against Fingall & me on the continuous cropping question, his grievance being my remarks upon Church Building in Ireland in the New Century.
	17 Apr, Sat	I.A.O.S. work.
	18 Apr, Sun	AD Hall came & we had a very pleasant golfing & agricultural Sunday. I took him & Dorothy to Powerscourt (to say good bye in any case to Ld. P. who is going to the front & may never see his beautiful earthly Paradise again). W E Callan dined, Basil Blackwood sec to Ld. Wimborne called.
[W.]	19 Apr, Mon	I.A.O.S. & golf with Hall. H Barbour came. C.H. [ <i>sic</i> ] Holman came (without notice) from Dr. McCarthy to learn agric’l organisation. This is an event in my life’s work – America sending to Ireland to learn business.
<i>Fr Dunsany, Ld. Edward</i>	20 Apr, Tue	Up & at work at 6 A.M. for Quarterly meeting of I.A.O.S. which went off well. At night had to attend a lecture by Fletcher on Ireland’s industrial opportunity. Talk – tosh.  Lady Aberdeen was there surrounded by the few faithful beneficiaries of her jobbery. Most of them have left her side.

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<i>Fr Butterfield, Kenyon</i>	21 Apr, Wed	Spent most of day "training" Holman and left for London by night mail for a single day's colliery business.
	22 Apr, Thu	Meeting of Bowes, Meiros & Pelton Collieries. Gardiner rather difficult but in better health.  Had Adams to lunch. Also Sir Claud Schuster barrister & L.B. Namier a Polish Jew I think, both wanting to consult me about the attitude of Americans toward the war.  Saw Skilbeck of XIX Century & offered him my McCarthy article which he will insert in June if not in May number.  Dined with Mary after seeing Conny & Raymond & then took 10.15 train to Dublin.
To Dunsany, Ld. Edward (To Godkin, Lawrence fr Williams, Roger H.)	23 Apr, Fri	Back to office work at I.A.O.S. Eddie is ordered to the front & goes rather gloomily I gather from his letter. Poor fellow he is not lacking in courage but thinks he has a great place in literature which he may not realise if he is killed! Dined with Nathan to meet Lady Scott the explorer's widow & sculptor whom I took in & half liked & Violet Asquith. Clever of course by [?but] far behind Elizabeth.
[C. Digges La Touche died late 1914]	24 Apr, Sat	Had Sir James Digges & Lady La Touche out for week end. He is an old Indian civil servant of distinction & brother Christopher. I shall never know James as I did him, but he is quite nice & so is his wife.
	25 Apr, Sun	Sir Matthew Nathan & party lunched & I think I got some things about the Irish Question into his head. Restful day.
	26 Apr, Mon	Wibberley was laid up & I took a meeting for him at Rathmolyon near Summerhill where I tea'd with Langford who presided at the meeting. Spoke for an hour(!) on catch cropping &c to a dead audience. Took Gifford and Holman with me.
	27 Apr, Tue	I.A.O.S. work. It was first day of Punchestown but I had no heart for the fun. Capt. Parjiter [?Pargiter] – Irish, Co Wicklow! – who was with Philip Anderson when he was killed came to tea & dine with R.A.A. & told us about the splendid qualities & end of the poor boy as well as much about the war in its grim realities. He is confident as to the ultimate issue.
	28 Apr, Wed	I.A.O.S. Beatrice & Randal were to cross to Eddie tonight. At the mail boat his Swiss governess was stopped for want of a passport & had to come to Kilteragh whence I shall have to get her duly vouched in Dublin while the mother & son wait at Holyhead.
	29 Apr, Thu	Half day spent getting the Swiss governess' papers arranged. The rest I.A.O.S. & my own farm.
	30 Apr, Fri	Went to Killeen with Wibberley & tried to smooth over certain difficulties for divided control &c. Col. Cox ('Pat') dined & said goodbye. He goes to England on way to front tomorrow.
[See entry 11 May. Due to a binding fault in the diary, daily headings skip from Friday, 30 April to Thursday, 13 May. Plunkett makes the entries at right in spaces for 13 and 14 May, then		Thursday, 13: Co Relief Ctee & IAOS work.  Friday, 14: Went to Killeen with Wibberley to settle difficulties betw'n the various cooks who are spoiling the new agricultural broth there! Think I did good. Got back to dinner.

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crosses through them vertically, amends subsequent dates, and adds missing dates by hand.]		
[ <i>more Americano</i> – in the American way]	1 May, Sat	Gifford Pinchot & Charles Edward Russell (American socialist & Journalist who is going to speak in Cha[u]tauqua lectures on the Rural Life Problem & wanted to know all Ireland could tell him) arrived day mail. I had Healy & Æ to meet them. C.E.R. was held up as an alien without passport Friday night at Holyhead! I only got him through 12 hours later by wiring Amer'n ambassador & Home Secretary. He could not spare more than a day – <u>more Americano</u> . He was extremely interesting & I think will help the American A.O.S. on his return.
	2 May, Sun	Took Charles Ed'd Russell to morning mail. Had day with Gifford Pinchot & Holman, Sir Matthew Nathan lunching. All going well with the Movement in Ireland & America.
To Butterfield, Kenyon	3 May, Mon	Spent the day mainly with Gifford Pinchot. Holman started on an organising tour.
To Kellogg, Dr. J.H.	4 May, Tue	Gifford Pinchot left. Council of Agriculture met & TW Russell attacked the I.A.O.S. No harm done.
	5 May, Wed	Journeyed by day to London. Daisy came too, her mother not being at all well. Dined with Conny. Poor Raymond is suffering again from depression.
	6 May, Thu	<p>At the Carnegie 'Trust Executive' meeting I got £500 a year for 3 years for the United Irishwomen and £3000 for Irish Libraries scheme.</p> <p>First call in morning on House who showed me some cables passing betw'n him &amp; Wilson. He tells me that he it was who put the Germans on to "the freedom of the seas" as a main term of peace. I said I liked it because submarines would soon make it impossible for England to ride &amp; rule the waves. That he said was the reason he proposed the plan.</p> <p>House was very interesting about the Germans. He had seen their high people in Berlin on behalf of Wilson. Nothing he said could be done "till the Allies did something". The Germans were holding them everywhere at present. Still Germany wanted peace &amp; when things change on the battlefield will talk peace. His contempt for their diplomacy is greater than ever. They know that they have blundered badly but they cannot waver now or the fabric of power would be swept aside. The French are confident &amp; determined.</p> <p>Lunched with Hoover the chief executive of the American Belgian relief fund which is feeding 9,000,000 Belgians in Belgium! He told me they had food to last till August arranged for. He spoke little but was amazed at the ignorance over here about the German army. They had a Kitchener army of 2 million just as good as ours. They normally did not draw on more than half their fighting material. Their food &amp; ammunition is ample.</p> <p>F.W. Hirst of the Economist was there too. He thinks universal bankruptcy stares Europe in the face. He thinks no government of today will stand after the war. Social revolution is threatened.</p>

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		<p>Conscription he regards as worse than defeat!</p> <p>Norman Hapgood made the fourth at our luncheon quartette. He had little to tell me about American feeling I did not know.</p> <p>Dined with Lady Paget who had a delightful little party of 7. Arthur Balfour &amp; House, Daisy &amp; Mrs. Rochfort Maguire &amp; Sir Arthur just back from a tour of visits to the Russian &amp; Balkan courts distributing honours. The most interesting thing he told us was that the Russian army was superior to the German in every respect but they lacked ammunition. The want of strategic railways was their great deficiency.</p> <p>House told us that he had put the British case to the French in a way which made Balfour exclaim, [“] that’s the best speech I ever heard”! His point was that we only undertook to control the seas &amp; this we had done thoroughly &amp; in a most masterly way. Balfour was very wrath at the talk about England not taking the war seriously! In addition to our sea work we had more than fulfilled the most extravagant claims upon us for an expeditionary force.</p>
To Norman, Harry F.  <i>Fr Byrne, James</i>	7 May, Fri	<p>Joint Boards for Agric’l Organisation &amp; Trade met &amp; did little. Pinchot lunched with RAA, Barbour &amp; me. Dined with Mrs. F D Acland to meet Madame Vandervelde wife of the Belgian socialist leader – a clever nice woman.</p> <p>Shocking news that the Germans had torpedoed the Lusitania 8 miles S.W. of Queenstown came just before dinner. Should not wonder if this brings in America (U.S.) &amp; other neutrals &amp; expedites end of war.</p>
[Letter, “Increased Tillage in Ireland”, in <i>IH</i> XXII:19 (8 May 1915), pp. 305-6 (jointly with RA Anderson and Fr. Finlay)]	8 May, Sat	<p>News of Lusitania dribbled in. Disaster equal to that of Titanic. Had to go with a full heart to meet Hetherington &amp; Sir J Struthers over Irish Library scheme of Carnegie Trustees. Then lunched Hanson, Daisy &amp; Madame Vandervelde at Wellington Club and talked seriously to House about situation. He too fears that Wilson may be dragged in. The King sent for him.</p> <p>The Pinchots left for New York. He rushed in before breakfast &amp; I urged him in any action he [takes] to avoid possibility of party appearance.</p>
	9 May, Sun	Went to Oxford to discuss the War situation with Adams. Had 5 hours with him & returned to town to dine Sydney Brooks.
(To Godkin, Lawrence fr Rosenwald, J. (by sec’y)) <i>Fr Waldstein, Sir Charles</i>	10 May, Mon	Began the day with House & advised him about a message the King might send to Pres. Wilson. Then lunched Norman Hapgood, FW Hirst & Filson Young at St. James Club. Left for Ireland night mail.
To Godkin, Lawrence [See entry at beginning of May]	11 May, Tue	Arrived early & worked at I.A.O.S., CDB meeting &c. Here I discovered that the makers of this diary had omitted a whole fortnight!!!
To Waldstein, Sir Charles	12 May, Wed	Worked at I.A.O.S. Long conference with Nathan over controversy with the Department. Norman Hapgood came for the night on his way back from Queenstown where he had gone to identify a friend lost in the Lusitania. The body was not recovered.
To Bonn, Moritz Julius	13 May, Thu	Sir Walter Nugent M.P. of Australia (where I think he made or inherited his money) & Westmeath wanted to see Killeen. He is a ?show Nationalist, Esmonde being no good. He has subscribed

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		largely to the Freeman's Journal and wanted to see continuous cropping over which the Freeman is coming a continuous cropper. So I brought him down to Killeen with Wibberley. He [Nugent] is an empty unserious person. We stayed the night & I talked to, not at, him I hope for his good.
<i>Fr Byrne, James</i> <i>Fr Shaw, Charlotte F.</i> [See also entry at beginning of May.]	14 May, Fri	W – Flynn new Managing Editor of Freeman's Journal came to Killeen. Sir Walter Nugent spent the night with me at Kilteragh. I hope for better things in the vilest rag in the Irish Press.
	15 May, Sat	Flynn of the Freeman came to finish his education in "Continuous Cropping" at Kilteragh, Wibberley being the cicerone. Nugent left. The Smith Gordons came.
	16 May, Sun	Mahaffy, Dr. Ralph Mecredy survivor of Lusitania & RAA to lunch. Lennox Robinson, Cruise O'Brien to dinner. A restful but useful day.
To Gwynn, Denis <i>To Shaw, Charlotte F.</i> <i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>	17 May, Mon	I.A.O.S. work. Neville Anderson came to see his father before going to the front.
To Byrne, James <i>Fr Gwynn, Denis</i>	18 May, Tue	Meeting of IAOS Creameries & Office & Finance Subcommittees took the business day.
<i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i>	19 May, Wed	Felt seedy. No good work.
(To Godkin, Lawrence fr Williams, Roger H.) To Gwynn, Denis	20 May, Thu	I.A.O.S. work. Co Relief C'tee &c & I.A.O.S.
<i>Fr Godkin, Lawrence</i>	21 May, Fri	Local Relief Ctee & I.A.O.S.
	22 May, Sat	My pruritis has been temporarily allayed by Xray treatment and I can postpone the operation Sir C Ball says is the only cure. Had a talk with Sir Matthew Nathan today upon the relations betw'n IAOS & Department. I thought Government might interfere but the announcement a few days ago of a coalition government probably means that the Irish members won't stand for conscription in Ireland (if it becomes necessary) and if this is further proof of their power it would be an inconvenient time to raise any fresh issue
["Whit" – Whitsun or Pentecost (7th Sunday after Easter)]	23 May, Sun "Whit"	After lunch (Nathan, Mrs. Hobhouse, Æ &c) motored to Killeen where Oliver was on what may be his last visit, poor boy. He is going to the front shortly. Norman was with me & we stayed the night. I wanted to go over Wibberley's work with Fingall.
	24 May, Mon	Spent morning going over Fingall's continuous cropping with him. Wibberley I fear is not a good business man. He does not make allowances for the difficulty of working at long range with inferior agents. But I think his idea is sound if only Fingall could stay at home and learn to work it.
To Pritchett, Henry S.	25 May, Tue	I.A.O.S. chiefly. Relief came from Treasury in shape of approval of Development Commissioner's recom[mendatio]n for Grant. Much American correspondence  Called on Boss Croker who has a new rather young & good looking half Indian wife. She was quite agreeable.
	26 May, Wed	Dined with the Wimbornes. Took her in to dinner. Very nice & sympathetically intelligent. On other side Lady Massereene a violent Ulster bigot with whom some fun. Wimborne had a quiet

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		talk with me. He imagined that the I.A.O.S. <u>provided</u> agricultural implements for poor farmers and said he supposed that now we could finance them, tillage would go ahead! He is far from clever. He has been making very good speeches in answer to addresses of welcome – all except one & I elicited that this was unexpected & he had to make it himself!
To Byrne, James To Wallace, Henry	27 May, Thu	Relief of Distress meeting. IAOS work & Wibberley & Fingall at Kilteragh to discuss the Killeen continuous cropping experiment took the day.
["Catechism" in <i>IH</i> , XXII:24 (12 Jun 1915), p. 390]	28 May, Fri	Usual work at Plunkett House. Made out a Cooperative Catechism for Holman & other students of the Irish scheme of rural reconstruction. Shall get organisers RAA & Norman & c to answer it & answer it myself. It will do good all round.
To Holman, Charles W. To McCarthy, Charles	29 May, Sat	Tom & May came to me. Had a talk with Birrell. He told me more than I can write about the recent political crisis. He left me less impressed than ever with Asquith's statesmanship.
	30 May, Sun	Wimborne came to lunch. Curtain celebrated the occasion by getting drunk <u>before</u> lunch & collapsing completely after. Daisy came & helped May to entertain his Ex[cellency]. Wibberley came after lunch and showed him my continuous cropping. I took Anderson & went to an out of doors recruiting meeting at Singelstown Big Tree. I spoke fairly but to speak in the middle of a crossroads with a crowd all round & motor cars rushing by is not a joy. Left for London night mail, leaving Curtain to get sober.
	31 May, Mon	Arrived tired. Pelton S.S. Co meeting at which I resigned the chairmanship & would have resigned the directorship but that Gardiner thought it would possibly scare shareholders. Rest of day calling on sundry people & picking up opinions & news. There is a very general depression over the outlook. The horizon is cloudy all round & not only when the Germans darken it. The complications of the settlement when it comes & the economic waste are enough to chill the bravest hearts.
( <i>Fr Pinchot, Cornelia Bryce, PIN.126</i> )	June; date uncertain	
	1 Jun, Tue	House called early: he had suddenly determined that he must go to U.S.A. I called on Lansdowne & arranged an interview for him for tomorrow, having explained the purpose of his mission. I also through Adams & his friend ER Cross (York solicitor of the Rountrees, chairman of The Nation & friend of the late Chancellor of the Exchequer) brought House to see Lloyd George now "minister of Munitions". The talk with L.G. made me feel that his was a very bad appointment. He is the very opposite of a <u>business man</u> . Adams who was up from Oxford spent much of the day with me. I dined with F.S. Oliver.  Saw Lord Bryce at the Athenaeum. He told me that his ghastly report on the German outrages in Belgium was short of the truth. He went into the inquiry fully expecting to find that the public charges against the German soldiery were grossly exaggerated.  Had long conference with House. We agreed that the U.S. must come in. We also agreed that the American intervention should be on the following lines. Pres. Wilson should say in effect to the Allies – "Now that it has become clear that you are fighting
[ <i>casus belli</i> – cause for		



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war]		<p>against barbarism, we who have been given more than a <i>casus belli</i> must play our part. We are a business people and the chief service we can render at the moment is to make you efficient in more than the German – the American sense. At the same time we do not mean to play a small part. We will prepare ourselves to send an expeditionary force (if necessary) as big as is required to decide the issue”. House &amp; I agreed that this announcement from a young people 100 million strong, with the heart of Europe in their population &amp; with endless resources would practically settle the business. The only cloud is Mexico. If German influence makes trouble there the U.S. might not be able to supply the allies with munitions &amp; then the first effect of intervention would be to weaken civilisation &amp; strengthen barbarism in the fight.</p>
<i>Fr O'Farrell, Sir Edw.</i>	2 Jun, Wed	<p>Interviews with two more Cabinet Ministers! Selborne has just taken up the Bd. of Agric &amp; Fisheries – knows nothing of its work but is not pig headed. Wanted to see me about his Food Supply in War policy. My advice to him was (1) to get at the facts through the Board's statistician Reid (2) to consult AD Hall about the possibilities of increased production, Adams &amp; Orwin about the economic issues involved. Rest of day with House or upon his business. Had long talk with Arthur Balfour now First Lord of the Admiralty. Arranged for him to see House on Friday &amp; I am to be there. Explained the American position in regard to intervention as House &amp; I had discussed it. Got A.B. to see that the U.S. could give important help immediately and hold in reserve a decisive factor in the way of a potential army.</p> <p>A.B. got more &amp; more interested &amp; I turned then to the Naval aspect of America's coming in. I told him of House's suggestion that the terms of peace should include “the freedom of the seas” &amp; that I particularly wanted him to be clear in his mind as to England's view in the matter. I said I was sure House's mind had completely changed towards Germany and that he was now for smashing her. This I found subsequently to be the case for I dined with House &amp; had a long talk upon it. A.B. said that the Colonies could not be asked to give up anything they had taken from Germany. The Empire would be destroyed by any such demand. He seemed very anxious over the situation on the Eastern Frontier. He did not know what munitions the Russians had.</p> <p>Saw later Hanson upon purchases of munitions from U.S. &amp; agreed that it was no good going into details with House at present.</p> <p>Had a talk with T.G. Bowles (ex M.P.). Congratulated him on his opposition to Declaration of London. He told me that Arthur Balfour had been the chief agent in its rejection. He said that nets were being extensively used in narrow channels against submarines &amp; that other means of destroying or frustrating them were likely to be devised soon. He was confident that no enemy devices could possibly make an effective blockade of the British Isles.</p>
<i>Fr Adams, W.G.S.</i>	3 Jun, Thu	<p>More with House. I agreed to act as his colleague (while he is with Wilson) &amp; to interview ministers &amp;c when asked by cable. Had to lunch House, S Brooks, Adams, Armytage [<i>sic</i>] Smith and Charles H Grasty American of Associated Press whom House wanted me to meet. Dined with Mrs. Childers &amp; her mother and met a Marchese Ordoño de Rosales (married to a rich Miss Bagg</p>

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		<p>whose mother a very clever American was also present). Rosales said Italy was not at war with any power but Austria &amp; hoped not to be! A few islands on the ?Casperi shore of the Adriatic, the Trentino &amp;c all Italy wanted. Russia the prospective enemy if no independent Balkan Federation formed.</p>
<p>To Godkin, Lawrence To Pinchot, Gifford To Roosevelt, Theodore (HOU.129) To Wilson, Pres. Woodrow [James W. Gerard]</p>	<p>4 Jun, Fri</p>	<p>Wrote to President Wilson about House's services over here. House &amp; I lunched with Arthur Balfour and had a thrillingly interesting talk. House read a letter from Girard [<i>sic</i>] the Amer'n ambassador in Berlin in which he said the Germans were now absolutely confident &amp; united. A woman's Peace demonstration outside the Reichstag was dispersed by the police &amp; no newspapers were allowed to mention it. They <u>are</u> beating the Russians badly, they are holding the French &amp; the English easily and also keeping control of the Dardanelles. Italy they say will be beaten. America Girard [<i>sic</i>] says is getting more &amp; more hated. The Germans will probably offer to respect passenger ships carrying Americans from America if they guarantee that there are neither guns or ammunition &amp; that they won't ram submarines. Girard [<i>sic</i>] thinks England cannot win except through compulsory service furnishing another 2,000,000 men! He said if we knew what Germany means to do if she wins "men would come from the graveyards to join the colours"! Arthur Balfour could not understand the ground of German confidence considering the numbers against them. The Russians were being beaten it is true simply because the gross corruption has diverted into private pockets the money provided for munitions. Still German losses were also enormous &amp; the last reserves were being called out. Girard [<i>sic</i>] had pointed out that while hard pressed in external trade the Germans were spending all their war money in the country &amp; their economic position was strong. They meant now to hold Belgium and levy huge indemnities from England and France. He also said they were launching already a new class of submarine 2800 tons. He thought these would be a powerful menace. A.B. said he was ordering some small craft 70 feet long which he hoped would be effective submarine destroyers. I pressed him whether he felt that the new menace could be successfully dealt with. He thought it could now &amp; next month but how much longer he did not know.</p> <p>House fully explained the pos[iti]o[n] of the U.S. &amp; what he would advise the President to do if it came in. They would immensely increase the output of munitions and would proclaim to the world that they would see the thing through as an armed nation. A.B. said torpedo destroyers were very badly wanted &amp; House said they would send some. Then A.B. asked what about Mexico. House admitted that that was a grave complication and said that possibly some Germans might join the Mexicans from the U.S. &amp; more come up from South America. Still the U.S. would not be drawn off thus from the world war.</p> <p>Later I had a final talk with House and asked him in all the circumstances whether he did not think it better for the U.S. to come in. He said (after a pause of thought) "Yes I do. We cannot take any risk of England being beaten". I urged him to get Roosevelt &amp; Pinchot in on a non-party basis &amp; he said he would.</p>
<p><i>Fr Figgis, Darrell</i></p>	<p>5 Jun, Sat</p>	<p>Up early to make a private cable code with House. A typist came at 8.30 but brought no carbon paper! Only got half code made when I had to rush with my package to the American boat special</p>

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[Masterton]		<p>&amp; deliver to a friend of House's my package. A charming wire from the Colonel acknowledged its receipt.</p> <p>Then came the question how to get permission to use the code. All codes are prohibited except decipherable ones &amp; I want to send &amp; receive messages on vitally important international affairs which the diplomats &amp; governments of neither nation must read! Well Arthur Balfour was the man to get over the irregularity and to him I went. He asked me to lunch. There I met Admiral Oliver (chief of staff at Admiralty) and Masterson [<i>sic</i>] Smith, A.B.'s chief private secretary (official). The latter made the necessary arrangements.</p> <p>At lunch the submarine menace was discussed. It is clear that no adequate defence has been discovered. Oliver thinks that they may yet deal with the nuisance, but he is uncertain. I told him of Tommy Bowles' confidence that the enemy can never blockade us. He remarked that it is not everywhere that food can be landed in large quantity – "it cannot be dumped down anywhere along the coast". I asked A.B. what he thought of "National Granaries". He said he believed in them when formerly suggested &amp; of course much more now.</p> <p>A.B. in course of general conversation on the War situation made the interesting comment on this War that it showed how the idea he had cherished of stopping war by making defence impregnable had given way to the idea of making offence irresistible.</p> <p>The coalition, AB thinks, will work along all right. I mentioned the unwisdom (as I thought it) of the James Campbell appointment to the Irish Ld Chancellorship &amp; the mad folly of delaying the announcement &amp; so stimulating opposition. He had no opinion on the unwisdom but felt strongly the folly. Asquith he said is not a coward in these things but an inveterate procrastinator – which sometimes hurts &amp; sometimes helps him. The appointment he said cannot be undone.</p> <p>Called on the Sidney Webbs &amp; had an hour's concentrated talk. They want America to come in. The Fabians have just had a "Retreat" to discuss terms of peace &amp; evidently they think America would back their plan. Even they feel that Germany must be smashed first but evidently the restoration of the status quo as near as possible is their chief fruit of victory if &amp; when it comes.</p>
<i>Fr Adams, W.G.S.</i>	6 Jun, Sun	Had Geoffrey Robinson with me for lunch. He was very depressed about Northcliffe's attack on Kitchener. I told him about the American situation. Then to Hall (for supper with Bateson) at Wimbledon. A comparatively restful day after a most strenuous week.
<i>Fr Hall, Sir A.D.</i>	7 Jun, Mon	<p>Yet another walk &amp; talk with Arthur Balfour. I wanted him to get the Press Bureau to prevent unfavourable comment on American motives in deciding for or against joining the allies, on their ability to affect the issue &amp; their probable attitude towards Great Britain in the final settlement. It was the Premier's job. Saw Hall &amp; Reid about the Food problem in England &amp; the duty of the Board of Agriculture during the war. Heard from P.S. Young in New Jersey that Conrad Young had taken to drink again!</p> <p>Left by night express for Ireland after the most momentous week</p>

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		I had ever spent.
To Figgis, Darrell To House, E.M.	8 Jun, Tue	A hard day at Plunkett House. News came that Conrad Young had relapsed. That meant important business letters. It was American Mail day & I had to write a long & important letter to House. Very tiring. There was a C.D.B. meeting all the morning. I got back to dinner 8.30 having worked all day after the night journey.
<i>Fr Balfour, A.J. (cable)</i> <i>Fr Figgis, Darrell</i> <i>Fr Gwynn, Denis</i>	9 Jun, Wed	I.A.O.S. work and correspondence re American situation. Got a message from Admiralty saying that American Embassy wanted me to tell House that [Wm. Jennings] Bryan's resignation had been accepted. Sent House a Marconigram.
To Adams, W.G.S. To Figgis, Darrell To Webb, Beatrice	10 Jun, Thu	I.A.O.S. & American situation – sufficient for the day!
To Byrne, James To Gwynn, Denis To Hanson, P. [HOU] To House, E.M. (2)	11 Jun, Fri	American Mail day. Two letters to House &c. The American reply to Germany's evasion of the Lusitania note was published. It was much more milk & watery than it would have been if House had been in Washington.  The Marchesa de Rosales and her Ma Mrs. Bagg (Springfield Mass[achusetts]) arrived day mail the Italian Marquese being too busy at the Italian embassy to come till the night mail. The two women very nice & clever.
To Balfour, A.J. (HOU.17) <i>Fr Dunsany, Ld. Edward</i> <i>Fr Hall, Sir A.D.</i>	12 Jun, Sat	The Marquis de Rosales arrived. Also Mahaffy, ?Kenten (Sir M Nathan's clever private sec), Healy (for dinner)& Daisy. An interesting talk on Italy & the Eastern end of the war. Rosales was dubious about us getting through the Dardanelles at any early date. He had talked to a mining engineer (American I think) who nine years ago had been employed by the Germans in the Gallipoli Peninsula. I gathered that the Balkan situation was so complicated that the war was not likely to find any solution. Greece claims Constantinople. But Greece has missed its chance of getting much more reasonable concessions by letting Italy come in first!
	13 Jun, Sun	The party was very interesting. Italy seems to me to [be] joining in merely for what she can get. Rosales makes no high claim for his country's action. He told me that they expected to enroll 40% of the absent reservists & had got 91%. Nathan & a Mr. & Mrs. Ponsonby lunched & Fr. Finlay dined.  Went to a "recruiting rally" in Dublin & spoke (fairly) for 8 minutes to a 4000 audience in The Coliseum the biggest Dublin Theatre. How many recruits we got I know not – perhaps half a dozen!
To Hall, Sir A.D.	14 Jun, Mon	Staff day in office & then took guests to Howth Castle. The Rhododendrons were a bit past but glorious. The weather was perfect. Had Boss Croker & his Red Indian wife to dinner. She was a wonderful product of American education ending up with the School of Expression in Boston. She recited – not very well – & was really amusing. Her old man is wildly proud of his squaw. He had no thoughts on America & the war. But his instinct was that if the U.S. comes in there will be a fusion of parties notwithstanding the 1916 Election.
To House, E.M. <i>Fr Hall, Sir A.D.</i>	15 Jun, Tue	All the party left. I worked all day at various jobs.
To Hall, Sir A.D.	16 Jun, Wed	Æ is on his holiday & the Homestead has to be got out by a

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To Oliver, F.S.		scratch crew. I lent a hand today.
<i>Fr Wilson, Woodrow</i>	17 Jun, Thu	Work at I.A.O.S. Holman came to dine & sleep.
To House, E.M. <i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i>	18 Jun, Fri	Worked most of the day at the P[lunkett]. House. Alone at Kilteragh, rather a good change.
	19 Jun, Sat	IAOS half day.
	20 Jun, Sun	Golfed with Healy & D--ly Whi-- K.C. (a nice ?little typical "getting on" lawyer) at Kingstown. Returned with them to lunch & went down to Killeen to see Fingall's catch cropping. Returned to sleep at home for early morning work.
	21 Jun, Mon	I.A.O.S. all day except luncheon with the Wimbornes.
<i>Fr Figgis, Darrell</i> <i>Fr Russell, T.W.</i>	22 Jun, Tue	An interview by the Freeman's Journal which was trying to treat "Continuous Cropping & Cooperation" impartially took my day. I think it will clear the air (among Priests) on the I.A.O.S. vs the Department controversy.
To Figgis, Darrell To Russell, T.W. ['Continuous Cropping and Co-operation', <i>Freeman's Journal</i> , 23 Jun, p. 6] [Excerpts from interview in <i>IH XXII:26</i> (26 Jun 1915), pp. 421-3]	23 Jun, Wed	My interview in the Freeman was published. They cut out a material portion but did not tamper with the remainder which was all that one could expect.  Worked at I.A.O.S. Agreed to go on Departmental Committee to inquire into Food Supply. TW Russell had not seen my interview when he asked me.
	24 Jun, Thu	Not very well & nothing done.
To Douglas, Charles	25 Jun, Fri	Worked hard at I.A.O.S. in morning. Afternoon party at V[ice].R[egal]. Lodge, Wimborne's first. They made a good impression. The Aberdeens were easy to follow. Tom & May came to stay a couple of days.
	26 Jun, Sat	Daisy & girls came. Half day at I.A.O.S.
	27 Jun, Sun	A numerous party for the Killeen girls. George Moore also came There is a good side to the beast, I think. But nobody has brought it out. His associates come more ?from the other side.
[ <i>functus officio</i> – out of office]	28 Jun, Mon	½ day at I.A.O.S. Heard that a petition to me to stand for T.C.D. when one of their lawyer representatives is functus officio – (Got office!). James Campbell was promised the Ld. Chancellorship of Ireland in the Coalition Gov't. The Nationalists howled & so he had to have a job made for him – a superfluous Lord of Appeal!! Don't know what I shall say. I hate politics & Parliaments. It might help my larger work. My health would suffer.
To House, E.M. <i>(Fr Carson, Edward to Mahaffy, John Pentland)</i>	29 Jun, Tue	Wrote for Homestead Æ being still away. Got a very nice letter from President Wilson thanking me for helping House.
(To Oliver, F.S. fr Gwynn, Stephen) <i>Fr Carson, Edward (and draft reply?)</i>	30 Jun, Wed	Writing for the Homestead most of the day. Also attended a function (Lady Wimborne's official visit at <u>the</u> Alexandra College. Daisy & Mamie left & Hetty stayed.
<i>Fr Lyman, C.A.</i> <i>(MCC/C.79/1)</i>	July – day uncertain	

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To Carson, Edward <i>Fr Wilson, Woodrow (fr sec'y J.P. Tumulty)</i> [?“Milk-maid’s Song” in Isaac Walton’s <i>Compleat Angler</i> ]	1 Jul, Thu	Got letter from Carson (enclosing letter he had written to Mahaffy[]) protesting against my standing (he heard I had been asked which I have not) for T.C.D. Replied that until I was approached by some responsible person I should not lay myself open to the milkmaid’s famous rebuff!
To House, E.M.	2 Jul, Fri	Vesey Dawson, not changed from the Eton days, came to stay over the week end. He is nice, not very interesting as a <u>general</u> ought to be these times, a sort of comfortable social asset, the darling of duchesses I think he has been called.  Lady Wimborne & party came to tea after inspecting Belgians.
To Milner, Ld. To Phelan, Canon T.	3 Jul, Sat	A lazy day with Vesey Dawson though I did a good bit of work in the morning.
	4 Jul, Sun	Motored Vesey Dawson to Killeen to meet Hammond & the Fingalls.
To House, E.M.	5 Jul, Mon	A wire from Reggie that he is in London today & tomorrow. Being anxious to discuss the “Command” vs “Freedom” of the Seas issue with him in order to be able to advise House I went over by night.
	6 Jul, Tue	Spent a good deal of the day with Reggie who was called back to his ship (at the Naval base in the Firth of Forth) in the late afternoon. Arthur Balfour was away. Eddie turned up with Beatrice for lunch at the Wellington. Reggie was not very convincing on the one question I wanted light upon – whether submarines seriously threatened to render England’s command of the seas almost valueless by making it impossible to maintain our food supply. He talked generalities such as “every poison brings its antidote”. A long talk with Ld. Milner upon his Food Supply Committee.
[?What Federalism Is Not, 1914]	7 Jul, Wed	Talks with Hanson & Adams about munitions & with FS Oliver about his book – all to the same purpose of discussing conscription vs voluntary service <u>at this juncture</u> . Conclusion that on the whole, notwithstanding F.S.O.’s brilliant argument showing that our voluntary system was not really voluntary (every kind of pressure political & social, every inducement of extravagant pay & pension being resorted to) it is better not to “swap spirits” in the middle of such a dangerous stream. As Arthur Balfour said in my interview with him, you can get more men than you can arm. You cannot conscript munitions. Adams also says that the plan of compelling workers & employers in the manufacture which is commandeered while other employers are allowed to profiteer to their hearts’ content is not workable. The Unions won’t stand it. There is the further complication that often only part of a firm’s works would be commandeered & many of those engaged in munitions work are only temporarily at it.  To Arthur Balfour I showed my latest correspondence with House & the President’s warm letter to me. I satisfied him that though House feared to write much (Spring Rice having warned him that the American P.O. was full of German spies) it was clear that the President was still firmly for the Allies. I said I still think the U.S. will come in and for the reason that the Americans reading both versions of the war news somewhat impartially must be a bit apprehensive. A.B. said “Why?” I replied that just now reading

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		<p>only our news it was hard to avoid anxiety. "Well" he said "I trust it will all come right.["]</p> <p>We then discussed the chief point of our possible new relations with the U.S. as comrades in the Peace negotiations after the war, their insistence on "the freedom of the seas". B &amp; I both scouted the objections to the U.S. coming in (1) that they would only come for what they could make out of the war &amp; (2) that they could not give much help. But the 3rd objection that they might be embarrassing in the negotiations was more serious. He agreed to put his views upon the freedom of the seas on paper &amp; I undertook to forward them to House.</p>
<p><i>Fr Oliver, F.S.</i></p> <p>[query in original]</p>	8 Jul, Thu	<p>Not fit &amp; got through little useful work. Had an interview on Irish recruiting with General Sir H.C. Sclater (A[djutant]. G[eneral].) at the W[ar].O[ffice]. Lunched with S Brooks, Pollen &amp; Sir ? Huntingdon wounded home from the war. Discussed with A D Hall the Food Supply question &amp;c &amp;c.</p> <p>Left for Ireland by night.</p>
<p>To Hammond, Col. Dayrell Talbot To House, E.M. To Sclater, Gen. H.C.</p> <p><i>Fr Childers, Mary</i> (<i>"Molly"</i>; <i>Mrs. Erskine</i>)</p>	9 Jul, Fri	<p>Hard day's work at I.A.O.S. Wrote House important letter asking him to get the question of the Freedom of the Seas held up till I could send him Balfour's views. Wrote long letter to the Adjutant General at the W.O. (Lt. Gen. Sir H.C. Sclater K.C.B.) advocating an amalgam[atio]n of the 16th &amp; 36th (Ulster) Irish divisions.</p>
<p>To Oliver, F.S. To Phelan, Canon T. [and in <i>IH</i>, XXII:30 (24 Jul 1915), pp. 489-90] <i>Fr Byrne, James</i> <i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i></p>	10 Jul, Sat	<p>Interesting letter from Godkin. He is now furiously pro ally &amp; pro intervention. He enclosed a letter rec[eive]d from Roosevelt who would rather have Tammany bosses Pres &amp; Sec of State than Wilson &amp; Bryan! Lyman the new AAOS organiser came to lunch. Much better type than Holman.</p>
	11 Jul, Sun	<p>Restful day. Drove 4 "Tommys" from Corrig Castle (Kingstown) Voluntary Aid Hospital to the Country Club at The Scalp.</p>
<p><i>Fr Dunsany, Ld. Edward</i> <i>Fr Bowers, W. (RUS.3</i> <i>Fr Sclater, Gen. H.C.)</i></p> <p>[Riding]</p>	12 Jul, Mon	<p>A long I.A.O.S. day. The news looked rather more like American intervention. An American mail arrived and brought letters from Cecil Spring Rice, House &amp; Rideing [<i>sic</i>] the Editor of the Youth's Companion. The first &amp; last seemed to think there would be no intervention. House did not dare express an opinion for fear his letter would be opened.</p>
<p>To Byrne, James To Childers, Mary (<i>"Molly"</i>; <i>Mrs Erskine</i>) To Dunsany, Ld. Edward To House, E.M. <i>Fr House, E.M.</i> (<i>cable forwarded to Admiralty 20/7/15</i>)</p>	13 Jul, Tue	<p>First meeting of the Food Prod[uctio]n C'tee. A wretchedly composed body of 18 – not a single representative of the small farmer.</p> <p>Mary Spring Rice came to stay a night or two.</p>
<p>To Hammond, Dayrell Talbot To Oliver, F.S.</p>	14 Jul, Wed	<p>Second day of Committee on Food Production &amp; all talk &amp; no business. T.W. Russell is one of nature's cads &amp; makes a vile chairman.</p>
<p>[Cardinal John Henry Newman]</p>	15 Jul, Thu	<p>A.H. Pollen came to lecture on the Naval aspects of the war. He is a friend of Reggie's &amp; Sydney Brooks'. His father [con]verted under Newman in Dublin &amp; built the little church next to Newman's "University" the first revival of Byzantine architecture</p>

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		in Europe A.H.P. tells me. The Food C'tee sat again & discussed transit & labour with equal irrelevance.
	16 Jul, Fri	Pouring wet day. Worked at I.A.O.S. Percy La Touche came for a dine & sleep & Daisy & girls for week end.
To Phelan, Canon	17 Jul, Sat	Pollen left me. Went to his lecture at night. Got Cruise O'Brien out to Kilteragh to try & make a better physical specimen of him.
	18 Jul, Sun	Hetty was a bit hysterical & had to go to a nursing home in Dublin. Mamie's friends called. A peaceful day.
<i>Fr Hall, Sir A.D.</i>	19 Jul, Mon	Worked at I.A.O.S.
To House, E.M. To Leslie, Shane To Masterton-Smith, J.E. (cable)	20 Jul, Tue	A very satisfactory meeting of the I.A.O.S. General Committee. They agreed to my memorandum for the Food Committee although it deprecated state doles to farmers to enable them to till more land!  Received very urgent cable from Col. House to effect that if Great Britain does not concede something to America in the matter of cotton sales to neutral countries Congress will embarrass Wilson.
To Norman, Harry F.	21 Jul, Wed	5 hours wasted at that ridiculous Committee on Food Production – quite the worst body I have ever sat upon to deal with a serious subject. Brought Montgomery to Kilteragh.
	22 Jul, Thu	6 hours examining cooperative witnesses (RAA, Wibberley, Joseph Hunt & T J Crowe) before the Food C'tee. Hostile audience but made some good points & I think gave a little education to the anti's.  A. Bullard, very interesting American journalist who is over studying the war situation, came to stay 2 days to study Ireland!
To Byrne, James To House, E.M.  [ <i>reductio ad absurdum</i> – a method of disproving a proposition by showing that its inevitable consequences would be absurd]	23 Jul, Fri	After examining manure & seed merchants "T.W." [Russell] told us he had been favoured with a confidential copy of the interim report of Ld. Milner's Food C'tee. This in substance was that if the Gov't wanted to increase the staff of life in England they should guarantee to the farmers who fulfilled certain conditions a minimum price for 4 years upon the wheat they produce of 45/- a quarter. So we solemnly resolved that if the Government took any such extraordinary course they would have to give a similar guarantee in Ireland not only to the wheat growers who have some 80,000-odd acres under wheat this year but to the oat growers with their million acres. This is the <i>reductio ad absurdum</i> of the English suggestion!  After over 24 hours of mostly irrelevant talk this farcical committee adjourned till August 4 to enable the Chairman to produce his report. He told us he would recommend neither co-operation nor continuous cropping. So I am in for a minority report which I should think Bagwell may sign but I doubt whether anyone else will have the courage.
To Hall, Sir A.D.	24 Jul, Sat	Pleasant half holiday. A. Bullard is the clearest headed thinker on the war situation & on the American attitude towards it I have met. There came out to dine a Capt. Kelly who is over here on Munitions business for the W[ar]. O[ffice]. He was a boy in a humble post in John Barker & Co universal provider, South Kensington. He rose to £1500 a year & then left to serve in the war. A first class brain & I hope to see more of him. Had ?Kurten,



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		Healy, Norman & Cruise O'Brien with me too – good discourse.
	25 Jul, Sun	Bullard left after a most interesting visit.
	26 Jul, Mon	I.A.O.S. work.
To Byrne, James To Dunsany, Ld. Edward To House, E.M. To Godkin, Lawrence To Pinchot, Gifford <i>Fr Hall, Sir Daniel</i>	27 Jul, Tue	I.A.O.S. Wrote House, Pinchot, Godkin & other American correspondents. Had Lyman, the American A.O.S. organiser out to dine & sleep for education purposes.
To Adams, W.G.S.	28 Jul, Wed	Went to Killeen to meet Wibberley & Gavin Low & talk over the farm management there.
<i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>	29 Jul, Thu	I.A.O.S., C.D.B. & Co Relief C'tee.
To McCarthy, Charles	30 Jul, Fri	IAOS. In evening Capt ?Creed came out to discuss a scheme for recruiting farmers & I had ?Kurten & R.A.A. to meet him.
<i>Fr Grey, 4th Earl</i>	31 Jul, Sat	Morning I.A.O.S. In afternoon came Mrs. Waldorf Astor & Mrs. Brooks (her sister, separated from her husband Brooks) Fingall & Gerald for the weekend. The two Virginian ladies were a complete change from my ordinary guests & very pleasant.
To Russell, T.W. (not sent) <i>Fr Adams, W.G.S.</i>	undated	
<i>Fr Adams, W.G.S.</i>	1 Aug, Sun	Restful day but for a dinner at Vice Regal Lodge. Wimborne talked the most indiscreet pessimism about the War. We must win in the end but not in <u>this</u> war. The Germans have all the strong cards, we must patch up a peace & then the allies must put their heads together & see how this new menace to civilisation can be met.
	2 Aug, Mon	Golfed with Mrs. Astor & made a complete holiday of it to my great physical & I hope mental benefit. The ladies left at night for England.
To Dunsany, Ld. Edward To House, E.M.	3 Aug, Tue	Letter from House (which I wired to Balfour) dated July 21st which was much more illuminating on the "freedom of the seas" & indicated probable armed intervention of U.S. on side of Allies.  Had frank talk with T.W. Russell: told him I must stick out for cooperation.
To Grey, 4th Earl	4 Aug, Wed	R. Hart Synnot turned up for the day. Sat on Food Committee for 4½ hours. Very disagreeable rows with T W Russell.
<i>Fr Kellogg, Dr. J.H.</i>	5 Aug, Thu	The Food Committee rejected my cooperative paragraphs by 14 to 10, Montgomery, Bagwell & Barrie M.P. voting with me. This after a very stormy session.
To Hall, Sir A.D. To House, E.M. <i>Fr Grey, 4th Earl</i>	6 Aug, Fri	A final stormy session when T.W. ranted on the Rolleston letter, the Homestead & all the other iniquities of H.P. & the I.A.O.S. I decided on a Minority report.
	7 Aug, Sat	Working & thinking all day over my Minority Report on Food Production.
	8 Aug, Sun	A. Allsebrook, Smallholdings Commissioner in England arrived, Æ lunched & Wibberley came to tea. The new guest intelligent &

<b>Correspondence [Notes]</b>	<b>1915</b>	<b>Diary Entry</b>
		earnest. Subject of conversation may be guessed.
<i>Fr Hall, Sir A.D. Fr Selborne, Ld.</i>	9 Aug, Mon	Worked at Minority Report without any results! Very tired somehow after last week's worries.  Monteagle & Hart Synnot passed through on way to London. Dined & slept.
	10 Aug, Tue	C.D.B. and a talk with Birrell. He told me what had taken place at the Cabinet on several very important questions. But I must not write it down. I may say he depressed me about the war situation.  I told him of T W Russell's outrageous conduct of the Food Production C'tee.
To Montgomery, Hugh de Fellenberg To Russell, T.W. To Selborne, Ld. <i>Fr C'tee on Food Production in Ireland (EAM Morris; RUS.4)</i>	11 Aug, Wed	Worked most of day at Minority Report. Tom & May came to stay two nights.
	12 Aug, Thu	The same work took the whole day.
To House, E.M. To McCarthy, Charles	13 Aug, Fri	Ditto of yesterday.
<i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i>	14 Aug, Sat	Monteagle was coming to me from London. The Irish Mail had a terrible smash at Weedon & he was badly shaken. He had to go into hospital at Northampton. Dominic Spring Rice was with him & also escaped well.  In the afternoon Madam d'Esterre (a strange lady who has a school of elocution in Chelsea where she claims to have taught most of our M.P.s to orate[]) brought a crippled & other child she had picked up as waif & strays to spend the afternoon at Kilteragh. Such devotion is fine.
	15 Aug, Sun	Had to work all day at Minority report.  Did my garden course in 24 with one club.
	16 Aug, Mon	Spent the day working at Minority Report & had to go to bed with 5 paragraphs to do!
To House, E.M. <i>Fr Byrne, James Fr Duncan, Mrs Ellen (2)</i>	17 Aug, Tue	Sent in my Report – a big job. I don't suppose it will repay the labour spent on it but it might stir some useful economic thought & help the IAOS. So I had to do it.
To Adams, W.G.S. To Duncan, Mrs. Ellen	18 Aug, Wed	Utterly tired out & did nothing.
To Selborne, Ld.	19 Aug, Thu	Morning at office. Mahaffy & Miss Rachel M., the Westropp Roberts lunched to see the garden. I was glad to have a half holiday.  The news came that the White Star Arabic (outward bound) had been torpedoed by a submarine off the Fastnet without notice. Most of the passengers were saved, but among the lost some 4 Americans. What will Wilson do? I think he will have to come in.
To House, E.M. (2) To McCarthy, Charles To Milner, Ld. To Pinchot, Gifford	20 Aug, Fri	Monteagle came on his way home after his terrible experience in the wreck of the Irish mail at Weedon on Saturday last. He does not seem to be a bit shaken even!

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	21 Aug, Sat	Half day at office & then lazy afternoon. Monteagle kept his bed but was not I think really unwell but only tired.
	22 Aug, Sun	Restful day looking after Monteagle. The Hannays came to dinner.
To House, E.M. [Sir Charles Ball; see 30 Nov 1905]	23 Aug, Mon	Letters on American A.O.S. & to House (to be taken by C N Carver of American Embassy on 25th) on general situation.  Had Xrays again for my local complaint, hoping thereby to avert the Ball operation which relieved me for 10 years but not permanently.
To Godkin, Lawrence To Vrooman, Carl ( <i>Fr Nathan, Sir Matthew to Birrell, Augustine; NATH.2/2</i> ) [ <i>Cui bono</i> – who benefits? what’s the point?]	24 Aug, Tue	Saw Nathan about a rumour that T.W. Russell was going to hold up the Food Report. N. confessed that the behaviour of T.W.R. was tolerated because the Gov’t were afraid to weaken the Parl’y party for fear of strengthening the physical force people! I nearly told him what I thought. I also wrote rather bitterly to Birrell. <i>Cui bono</i> ?
To Nathan, Sir Matthew	25 Aug, Wed	I.A.O.S. work all day.
To Kellogg, Dr. J.H.	26 Aug, Thu	I.A.O.S. Percy La Touche came for a couple of nights.
<i>Fr Nathan, Sir Matthew</i>	27 Aug, Fri	Worked at Annual Report of IAOS wishing to take the burden off R.A.A.’s shoulders which are sadly weakened by his sorrows.
<i>Fr Childers, Mary</i> (“Molly”; <i>Mrs. Erskine</i> )	28 Aug, Sat	Went down with Cruise O’Brien to Killeen to see W. H. Tyne, Wibberley’s assistant starting to take up the stewardship. Back at night.
<i>Fr Kellogg, Dr. J.H.</i>	29 Aug, Sun	Mrs. Jack Leslie came to lunch & told me of her recent trip to U.S.A. & the feeling there. The best feeling on the war side was that the U.S. was a heterogeneous uncoordinated human congeries with no common aims & ideals & that a war on a high moral issue would make the nation. I tea’d at Powerscourt & met Nathan there. He took just the opposite view & thought that in keeping out of war there was more chance for the building up of a national spirit.
To Childers, Mary (“Molly”; <i>Mrs. Erskine</i> )	30 Aug, Mon	Had a long straight talk with Nathan about his Irish policy of complete subservience to the Nat[ionalis]t M.P.s & his sacrifice of principle (in the IAOS vs DATI controversy) to expediency. He had no case, & indeed little knowledge for making one.  Lunched with Healy & told him about the Food C’ttee whose report he will have to discuss in tomorrow’s Irish Times.
To Byrne, James To Godkin, Lawrence To House, E.M. <i>Fr Asquith, Violet</i>	31 Aug, Tue	The Irish Times splendidly supporting, the Independent flabby & the Freeman normally hostile & dishonest. Fr. Finlay presided over an “All Ireland Farmers’ Convention” which plumped for coop’n. Things are moving well.  Cecil G T Morison whose wife’s people own The Abbey, Shanagolden came for a couple of nights to consult me whether he should buy 200 acres of the land there & work it (both on borrowed money) for his own & Ireland’s good. I did not like to advise but stated my views on the prospects of Irish farming as against mere land owning & grazing.

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	1 Sep, Wed	Tom Ponsonby came.
<i>Fr Bonn, Moritz Julius</i>	2 Sep, Thu	Wimborne, Professor Somerville & Strang (W's farm manager) met Wibberley, Tom Ponsonby, Smith Gordon & self at Kilteragh where we continuous cropped and lunched. Wibberley scored.
To Godkin, Lawrence To House, E.M.	3 Sep, Fri	Mrs. Starkie a friend of Daisy's, Mamie & Frank Anderton visited me – a dine & sleep.
To Ponsonby, Thomas	4 Sep, Sat	Hanson, tired out with War work in the Munitions office brought his wife for a week's holiday & rest at Kilteragh. I was disappointed to find that he knew nothing more than was in the daily papers about anything I was interested in affecting the War situation.
	5 Sep, Sun	Rested.
To Lowell, A. Lawrence	6 Sep, Mon	IAOS work. The Misses Hart Synnot dined & slept on way to England.
<i>Fr Sadler, Michael E.</i>	7 Sep, Tue	I.A.O.S. work.
	8 Sep, Wed	James Hope M.P. called at Plunkett House & I took him out to lunch. He is an English R.C. & not very intelligent. Tried to put my ideas on the Food Question into form of a letter to Asquith.
<i>To Sadler, Michael E.</i> <i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i>	9 Sep, Thu	Worked hard at letter to Asquith & finally decided to put my advice to the Gov't in a memorandum fit for publi[catio]n, my threats in a private letter to the P.M.
To Sadler, Michael E.	10 Sep, Fri	6 A.M. to 5 PM at the I.A.O.S. work.
	11 Sep, Sat	Had a long talk (over the telephone) with Nathan in which I told him what I thought of the Government's attitude on the Food Question. I think I impressed him & hope he will try to move Birrell. I am still concocting a memo for the Cabinet.
	12 Sep, Sun	General Friend lunched & I liked him. He understands Ireland better I think than the civilian rulers of the country.
	13 Sep, Mon	I.A.O.S.
<i>Fr Mezes, S.E.</i> <i>(MCC/C.83/3)</i> <i>Fr Sadler, Michael E.</i>	14 Sep, Tue	I.A.O.S. & C.D.B.
To Nash, Vaughan	15 Sep, Wed	I.A.O.S. Got off my long memorandum to Asquith protesting against the Irish Government's support of T W Russell against the IAOS.
<i>Fr Montgomery, Hugh de Fellenberg</i> <i>(Fr Montgomery, Hugh de Fellenberg to Russell, T.W.)</i>	16 Sep, Thu	Masterton Smith wrote me that Balfour had not yet completed his promised note on the freedom of the seas but enclosed a letter which to Col. House I could transmit if I thought it well to do so(!) saying he had heard that the State Department contemplated a change in American Municipal Laws relating to merchant ships which would practically put England in the wrong in the submarine controversy with Germany. The object would of course be to help American business. I cabled House that the letter was coming & let him know, as far as was possible with our very imperfect code, its gist and asked him to arrange to <u>suspend action until he received my letter</u> of tomorrow. The word <u>dado</u> covers the underlined words.  For the rest worked hard at I.A.O.S.

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	17 Sep, Fri	Day spent wiring to the Admiralty about stoppage of my cable of yesterday to House by the stupid censor and also getting information as to precise change in American Municipal Law which the F[oreign].O[ffice]. & Admiralty feared. I pointed out that Wilson had a craze for a Mercantile Marine & Arthur Balfour (I think it was, though I communicated with his principal private secretary at the Admiralty J Masterton Smith) made the excellent reply that if America had a mercantile fleet, she would never tolerate any restrictions upon its protection from submarines. Apparently what is proposed is to forbid merchant ships doing peaceful work to carry any guns for protection against attack. This would mean that if a Lusitania had a gun at its stern it would not be allowed to ply from American ports! Wrote House strongly endorsing A.J.B.'s firm "man to man" letter.
	18 Sep, Sat	<p>Beach Thomas came. He had been Daily Mail correspondent at the Front in the early stages of the war &amp; has since been much in France. He &amp; Wareham Smith (typical cockney &amp; manager of D[aily] Mail adv[ertisemen]ts came rather needlessly, though most welcome was B.T., to brief me for a 10 minutes speech on Wed[nesday] at a Daily Mail Food Prod[uctio]n prize competition show.</p> <p>Got an extraordinarily interesting letter from A. Bullard who had gone to the U.S. since he was at Kilteragh to study the feeling of the U.S. about the War. His conclusions are that the people don't want to go in but if Wilson (who has immensely strengthened his pos[itio]n as betw'n Bryan the extreme pacifist &amp; Roosevelt the extreme bellicose (who hates Wilson more than he does the Kaiser) calls the people to go in they will go in <u>hard</u>.</p> <p>Neither jingoism nor peace at any price predominates. Financial interests (which count say 30% in deciding issue) divided. Jews strongly anti Russia, Morgan &amp; crowd coining out of war but have "gambled to the limit on the defeat of Germany", so would become warlike to "save their stakes". But "it will not be a bankers' war". American attitude not so simple as Liberty vs Despotism formula (which Germany also uses!). Catholics hate French Free Thinking as much as German Frightfulness. All the smaller nations – or nearly all – have grievances against England which our censor cannot keep out of American Press. Most of the Russians in America are refugees from religious &amp; political persecution. American pro-German Press far more than offset by pro English. But sentiment generally 'not pro British'. If Britain wins, which Britain will it be[?] Important to assure Americans that the progressive &amp; not the reactionary party will profit by victory. If U.S. comes in Munitions output will be enormously increased. Goethals will probably be put at head of business.</p>
<i>Fr Montgomery, Hugh de Fellenberg</i>	19 Sep, Sun	Fr. Finlay, R.A.A. (back from his brief holiday at the Caterham Sanitarium!) Norman, Wibberley, Mrs. J R Green, Nathan, Beach Thomas & the Cockney manager of the Daily Mail made a characteristic Kilteragh Sunday.
To Montgomery, Hugh de Fellenberg	20 Sep, Mon	½ day at I.A.O.S. & rest of day with Beach Thomas – charming & interesting – who left by night mail.
	21 Sep, Tue	Meeting of IAOS Office & Finance C'tee & ran over to London by night mail.
	22 Sep, Wed	Arrived very tired after suffocating night in train. The Daily Mail

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		<p>Food Production Show was very well done. Jerry O'Donovan in Khaki, JG Butcher &amp; Beach Thomas were there to meet me. I think I did rather well. I raised the issue whether a democracy could defend &amp; feed itself which autocracy could do.</p> <p>Pelton S.S. Co meeting. Dined with P.J. Hannon &amp; met Marsh, Winston Churchill's p[ri]vate]. sec (very clever) and Shirley Benn M.P. ("bounder" I thought). Hannon is a wonderful type of the successful Irishman playing upon &amp; with Englishness.</p>
[Seaman – editor of <i>Punch</i> ]	23 Sep, Thu	<p>Pelton quarterly meeting.</p> <p>Adams &amp; I had a long confab on Food policy of Gov't. Daily Mail had a good leader on my speech yesterday which will stir some thought on the subject.</p> <p>Dined with Struthers to meet McKinnon Wood a very mediocre Cabinet Minister. Evidently a rich influential Scot.</p> <p>Had Owen Seaman, Arthur Pollen, JG Butcher &amp; Beach Thomas to lunch. The first I was anxious to stop abusing the Americans.</p>
	24 Sep, Fri	<p>Had Clifford N Carver to lunch. He had just returned from 10 days in U.S. He confirmed A Bullard's diagnosis but was perhaps more convinced that Wilson would not come in to the fray. Our strikes, extravagance &amp; lack of seriousness (not in the field but at home) shocked Americans. He impressed upon me urgent necessity of getting the allies to get together in any matters where U.S.A. might be affected &amp; influenced. It suited the Germans better to attack them in detail at Washington.</p> <p>Long conference with Adams &amp; agreed that Hall, Orwin, he &amp; I should draft an agric'l policy &amp; try to get the press to unite upon it.</p> <p>Called on Mrs. Bagg – as interesting as ever. She is convinced that if Eng'd &amp; France would make Russia agree to some Balkan settlement and to a concession to the Duma which has been madly proposed. She is very well informed and very pessimistic.</p> <p>Called on Selborne to urge necessity of an agric'l policy on this minister of agriculture. Found him absolutely useless. He has no ideas – no vision – no knowledge.</p> <p>Dined with Oliver. Had a slight attack of vertigo &amp; had to leave the dinner table. Was violently sick in the night.</p>
<i>Fr Byrne, James</i>	25 Sep, Sat	<p>O'Donovan called again in Khaki. He told me he was "hiring agent" for the Humber District, i.e. had to arrange terms on which buildings, lands &amp;c were hired for the troops. His experience was that the extravagance was appalling &amp; the profiteering often corrupt. He attributed the evil chiefly to military "dug outs" being given high business posts because they were inefficient for military service.</p> <p>Called on Sidney Webbs. Got them to agree to <u>my agric'l policy – (1) increase of home food prod[uctio]n because we can no longer buy food abroad (which we have done in order to sell manufactures) owing to this terrible ?ad--- and (2) a <u>more intensive cultivation in order to employ more men on the land.</u></u> They agreed. Then they got on to their subject. They impressed earnestly upon me the urgent necessity of stopping the Government's conscription policy with its corollary of enforced output of munitions. This they were convinced would lead to riots</p>

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		<p>&amp; bloodshed. I rather gathered that they felt Lloyd George would carry with him (in his new capitalistic crusade) many of the labour leaders. I think they feared a break up of <u>their</u> party! They were very bitter upon the unfairness of allowing capital to hold on to its profits &amp; demanding a sacrifice from labour. They rejoiced in the higher standard of living the war business (separation allowances &amp;c) had established in the minds of the proletariat.</p> <p>Lunched with Arthur Balfour &amp; in a crowded hour discussed intimately my agric'l policy, conscription, the American-German-British situation, the Balkan muddle &amp; naval warfare.</p> <p>He liked my agric'l policy &amp; saw its urgency &amp; importance. My two parts (see above) were not touched upon by Selborne when he brought Milner's interim report recommending a guaranteed price for wheat for 4 years before the Cabinet. On conscription B. was clearly opposed to such a swapping of horses at the present stage. He feared labour troubles. I said I did not think the limits of persuasion were reached. If Asquith would come out upon the extreme peril of the situation &amp; not leave it all to Lloyd George the nation would rise to the call. B. said you can't get Asquith to do anything! – On the American situation I found A.B. altogether sound. He thoroughly understood the American attitude. He liked House immensely, &amp; Wilson because he appreciated House. We agreed that H was not intellectually brilliant but what was far better, intellectually honest. We agreed too on the enormous importance of American intervention, that it would decide &amp; end the war.</p> <p>The general war situation was gravely alarming. The military authorities (French &amp; English) had decided on trying to resume the offensive all along the Western Front. Evidently A.B. was alarmed &amp; I confess I fear a calamity. All the soldiers from the front I have recently met say neither side can break through without a sacrifice of life appalling to contemplate &amp; fatal to success.</p> <p>The Balkan muddle was as bad as ever. Bulgaria now mobilising <u>may</u> be still in the ?market.</p> <p>B felt it in his bones that Germany was breaking down internally. I asked had not our blockade policy added to her military strength by concentrating all her industrial energies upon war &amp; munitions, &amp; were not the financiers of this work bound to see it through with their last penny as they were paid in paper which victory alone could redeem. B. agreed.</p> <p>B. looked worn. I fear he will not maintain his physical powers much longer if he remains under this awful strain.</p> <p>Went out to Shan Bullock for supper as I had to see him some time &amp; he would not mind having me when I was rather sick. He has a friend and neighbour a mechanical engineer in the Armstrong Whitworth works who told him of the methods of capturing submarines (1 was sunk today A.B. had told me, after sinking a Wilson Liner). It is chiefly done by decoy boats in telephonic communication with British submarines. When the former are "given warning" they have already called for aid which comes &amp; sinks their captors. The Bullock's boy Sydney is in the Dardanelles in motor boats. They do not expect to see him again.</p>

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	26 Sep, Sun	Went to lunch with A.D Hall & had good talk on agricultural policy after the war. Called on Ella Simeon & had a good talk. It was like old times. I see very little of my relations nowadays.
To House, E.M.	27 Sep, Mon	The most important event of the day a conference with Hall, Orwin, Adams & Edward Shortt upon a proposal of mine to move public op[inio]n (through the Press, to a selected list of whom a full memorandum should be sent) as to say the necessity of an agric'l policy – i.e. More food prod[uctio]n at home (1) for military reasons (Germany's immense advantage & the submarine menace) (2) to restore foreign exchange (3) to employ more labour. I carried my point & Hall is to draft the memorandum.  A call for Betty Balfour, O'Donovan & Allsebrook.
To Godkin, L. (by sec'y) (MCC/C 83/2) To McCarthy, Charles	28 Sep, Tue	Lunched Geoffrey Robinson who was very pessimistic over the muddling of the Grant. He seemed to think Carson the only man among them. He preferred Lloyd George to Asquith as Prime Minister. He agreed to back my agric'l policy.  Came for a dine & sleep with Bryce at Forest Row. Had a long talk over the American, the Irish, the Balkan & the general war situations. Nothing very new about it all. He is wonderfully vigorous after his 78 years.
	29 Sep, Wed	Long talk with Mrs. Bagg who takes a firm view of the Balkan & Russian situations – very much the best American progressive Democracy view.  Chief event of the day a talk with Sir E Grey. He was anxious about his eyes. We discussed the American situation & the chief point was that Grey is convinced that America's intervention would be of essential importance in the final settlement if a means of avoiding war is to be found. The resources of destruction are not nearly reached. Explosions, poisonous gases, bacteria, and the instinct of self preservation must be called upon. America alone would come in not against any nation but <u>against war</u> . The Germans would have to make peace on terms to which America agreed as they could not possibly survive economically without American help. I pressed Grey upon the importance of making Russia promise <u>now</u> reform at home & proper concessions to the Jews, the Finns & the Poles. He said he was doing all in his power but Russia was very difficult to deal with.  Lunched with the Lutyens & met Betty B[alfour].
	30 Sep, Thu	Came to Kilteragh. Norman dined & brought me up to date with I.A.O.S. news.
To Byrne, James (2) To House, E.M. (HOU.129)	1 Oct, Fri	Endless letters including a long one to House. Got Cruise O'Brien, who is in poor health out to Foxrock to try & get him to take care of himself.
	2 Oct, Sat	I.A.O.S. & half holiday at Kilteragh.
	3 Oct, Sun	Mahaffy, Bailey, Mrs. Noel Guinness & 3 Fingalls.
To C'tee on Food Production in Ireland (Morris, E.A.M.; RUS.7)	4 Oct, Mon	Worked at my speech for the Annual General Meeting of the IAOS with little success.
	5 Oct, Tue	Ditto. In evening Lennox Robinson, Smith Gordon, Cruise O'Brien & I had a conference on the Carnegie Trust operations in



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		Ireland.
To Byrne, James	6 Oct, Wed	Working at IAOS speech.
	7 Oct, Thu	Up early for work at AGM speech – what a world of work these ephemeral things take – & off with Wibberley to meet our organiser Moore at Roscommon & do 3 meetings in two days. It poured so cruelly all day that only the most enthusiastic came to our meetings at Glinsk (where a hostile Canon is P.P. & a splendid young curate Fr. Reilly C.C.) and Fourmilehouse where Wibberley & his lecture almost made us forget the misery of the weather conditions. This part of Connaught would break almost any reformer’s spirit were it not for the fine patriots one meets among the noisy frothy charlatans which dominate Irish rural life. Joseph Hunt the secretary of the Fourmilehouse Society is one brilliant exception & Fr. Reilly is another. At 11 PM on the way back to Castle French, where I was put up (for the two nights) by the Estates Commissioners’ officers who are housekeeping there, a front wheel came off our car. We were fortunately going slow. One of the party walked 2½ miles to Castle French & got another car. We got there 12.40 A.M. tired & by no means dry.
	8 Oct, Fri	A very good meeting at Menlough where I learned a good deal of the rural economy of Galway.
<i>Fr Byrne, James</i>	9 Oct, Sat	Back to Kilteragh. Mary Spring Rice came.
	10 Oct, Sun	A quiet party at Kilteragh. Went over to see Powerscourt, back with dysentery from the Dardanelles. He is very despondent about the situation there.
<i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i> [Tabloid – trademark for a patent medicine in tablet form]	11 Oct, Mon	Very unwell. Saw Pim the local “pill” who diagnosed acidity & gave me some tabloids. Worked hard all day at my speech for the morrow & made little progress.
[Text of address in <i>IH</i> XXII:42 (16 Oct 1915), pp. 678-81]	12 Oct, Tue	Up at 5.30 AM to finish my speech, Norman & Cruise O’Brien each rising a bit later to take dictation from my bed. Faced the largest annual general meeting of the I.A.O.S. in its history. (It celebrates its majority this year). Read my speech with great difficulty as I was in much pain from acute prostatitis (as T Gil[ ]man Moorhead M.D. the best Dublin physician diagnosed it when I got him to consult with Pim in the afternoon). I was well received. Fr. Finlay made an admirable speech in seconding the adoption of the Report. Managed to preside for the beginning of the afternoon proceedings then Anderson read a moving appeal to the Societies to support the movement & make it independent. Then I went home & went to bed.  I think the meeting marked the opening of a new era for the movement. My address aimed at showing that it would have a wholly new economic & social situation to face and the delegates (some 150 in a meeting of 350 about) were I think convinced.
	13 Oct, Wed	In bed all day & very low. At 61 the recuperative process is slower than at 30 or even 50 an obvious but little accepted lesson.  The Irish Times had a very fine article on yesterday’s meeting. Considering the preoccupation of men’s minds in other things the affair was a success.
	14 Oct, Thu	Lay in the veranda in a glorious summer-like day & got much

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		better.
	15 Oct, Fri	Invalided still.
	16 Oct, Sat	My nurse left & I was on my legs again. Sheela Roche came for the week end.
	17 Oct, Sun	Rested in glorious Indian summer weather. The sun has been hotter the last 3 days than I ever remember it in mid October. Chill October wind!
	18 Oct, Mon	Back at work & did a good bit of it at the Plunkett House.
To Byrne, James	19 Oct, Tue	IAOS quarterly meeting. Good spirit. Hall & Jones Davies came over for it.
	20 Oct, Wed	Worked all day & went over by night to London. Bad passage.
<i>Fr Vrooman, Carl</i>	21 Oct, Thu	Adams to lunch & a meeting of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trustees Library subcommittee consumed the whole working day.
[Judge Lynch – American “rough justice” carried out by mobs that held impromptu trials and meted out their own swift punishment]	22 Oct, Fri	<p>The guest of The American Luncheon Club a body of very rich (I should say) representatives of big American interests in London. Spoke to them on The Irish in America &amp; I think made a good effort – for me.</p> <p>Daily Mail on my allusion to Nurse Cavell [re newspaper item pasted in:]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JUDGE LYNCH NEVER SHOT A WOMAN</p> <p>‘Judge Lynch never shot a woman,’ said Sir Horace Plunkett in a speech to the American Luncheon Club at the Savoy Hotel yesterday, and the manner in which the Americans in London received his words showed what they feel.</p> <p>Meeting of Executive C’ttee of Carnegie U.K. Trust. My chief interest a fight for the remaining £4000 of the 6000 I asked for a 5 years’ experiment, The Cooperative Reference Library. Adams wrote a fine letter in its favour which converted the chairman Dr. Ross. Sir Wm. McCormick &amp; Struthers moved &amp; seconded a grant of £4000 out of hand. Sir Wm. Robinson moved that it be £2000. Lord Shaw backed him &amp; the Dunfermline crowd without argument supported him. So we got the £2000 which will relieve our anxiety for 2 years when we shall have a stronger case for the remaining £2000.</p> <p>Dined with JG Butcher who told me that Carson resigned because Asquith could not make up his mind about anything &amp; hence the fatal drift in the Balkans.</p>
	23 Oct, Sat	A talk with Mrs. Bagg with whom I met Mrs. Erskine Childers. Most depressing. Mrs. B knows the Balkans well & her views on Balkan diplomacy are not pleasant to hear. She thinks – I fear she knows – that we might have had the whole of the Balkans with us. She knows Czar Ferdinand. In a conversation with him not long ago he told her that he did not expect Kings to last long. The Socialists were growing everywhere. Went down to Fisher’s Hill.
	24 Oct, Sun	A peaceful restful day with Gerald & Betty Balfour & two girls.

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<i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>  [The two daughters were from W. Ashley's first marriage.]	25 Oct, Mon	Early to Romsey where I put up for 24 hours with Wilfrid Ashley at Broadlands to look over the Berthon Boat Co. I want him to act as Chairman & attend to the Co., which I think he may do later. My host married first Sir Ernest Cassell's daughter & then a widow with two girls (I think they are hers & not the first Mrs. A's) & now seems comfortably settled. She was quite collapsed by the indisposition of a Pekinese dog & I saw little of her. The house is full of most interesting letters & books of the Palmerston time.
	26 Oct, Tue	Back to London. Had Hall, Orwin & Adams to lunch to discuss agric'l policy of U.K. after the war. Got papers from Admiralty which gave me all I wanted to know about recent negotiations with U.S. over contraband.
	27 Oct, Wed	Presided over a well attended meeting of Joint Board for Agric'l Organ[isatio]n & for Trade to discuss farmers' attitude towards the war taxes. Had Clifford Carver and S. Brooks to dinner at Club & talked American situation. S.B. is going to America for Daily Mail to study pos[itio]n.
	28 Oct, Thu	Coal business all day nearly.
<i>Fr Byrne, James</i> (year uncertain) [Diary's printed dates skip from Wed 27 October to Tue 9 November. Plunkett inserts missing dates by hand as space permits.]	29 Oct, Fri	Another piece of Irish work. A fortnight omitted by the binder!  Gave evidence (2½ hours) before a rather weak Committee of Bd. of Ag & F[isheries] upon settlement of soldiers & sailors upon the land after the war. Repeated the views I had expressed at annual gen'l meeting of I.A.O.S.  Dined with Mrs. Bagg as interesting as ever.
To House, E.M. (cable) <i>Fr Byrne, James</i>	30 Oct, Sat	Journeyed to Kilteragh where I found a letter from House urging me to go to USA <u>much sooner</u> than I had intended (Nov 24), to tell nobody – not even Grey & A Balfour that he had asked me to come – to say I was going on my own business & that the matter was <u>very</u> important. Cabled him I could <u>if the matter was still of urgency</u> sail a fortnight earlier but <u>I thought it advisable to explain to A.B.</u> as our relations were purely personal. The underlined words were coded.  Dined at Vice Regal.
	31 Oct, Sun	A quiet day with Norman & Anderson getting into touch with things.
To House, E.M.	1 Nov, Mon	IAOS work for a long day.
To Godkin, Lawrence To House, E.M. To Pinchot, Gifford <i>Fr Stokes, Sir Gabriel</i>	2 Nov, Tue	Same as yesterday.
To Stokes, Sir Gabriel	3 Nov, Wed	Ditto.
	4 Nov, Thu	Ditto. Sir S Olivier & Percy La Touche, a nice mixture arrived.
<i>Fr Yeats, W.B.</i>	5 Nov, Fri	H.W. Massingham arrived. He is bitterly anti Asquith, anti Lloyd George, considers Arthur Balfour a possible prime minister. He thinks we shall win the war all right chiefly because Germany will starve. Moreover he doubts the success of their Balkan diversion. He is very gloomy about the after war social situation.

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		Olivier went off on a 2 days' organising tour with Gregan.
To Yeats, W.B.	6 Nov, Sat	I.A.O.S. ½ day & educated Massingham in the principles of our movement.
	7 Nov, Sun	A big lot of letters & a very cheery day's talk about Irish work chiefly. We all tried to be optimistic.
	8 Nov, Mon	<p>Yesterday Anderson gave most of my household a month's warning. I have used Kilteragh as a meeting place for my Irish fellow-workers &amp; as a pleasure house for them too. I have had interesting English &amp; American visitors also interested in social problems (e.g. Massingham &amp; Olivier who both left today) to meet us here. But there seems no justification in keeping a large bachelor establishment in such times when I must apply all my spare cash to the relief of the awful suffering &amp; to work upon the problems of reconstruction which will absorb all our thoughts &amp; energies for the rest of my life after this terrible war.</p> <p>My cook told me she had no home &amp; no money, that the latter had all been spent on her "boy" who I fancy has been made a Priest! Whether the statement is true or not it is a sad business. She is very extravagant &amp; I fear in with the traders who supply me. But she is getting on in life &amp; told me she had hoped to end her working days chez moi.</p>
To McCarthy, Charles	9 Nov, Tue	Brought R Cantrell a retired official of the Department of Agriculture out to Kilteragh for a rest after a serious operation.
	10 Nov, Wed	I.A.O.S. work.
	11 Nov, Thu	Working at address for a big National Agric'l Conference at Chicago which I shall just miss.
To Byrne, James To House, E.M.	12 Nov, Fri	Alice came to me for a few days' rest.
	13 Nov, Sat	Tom & May came from England for week end. Daisy left in the morning & came back at night having heard that Killeen was to go off tomorrow night en route for the front.
	14 Nov, Sun	Large luncheon party. Saw Killeen in Dublin & said goodbye to him. It will be a very sad day for the Plunketts if that boy gets killed. But being in the cavalry (17th Lancers) the chances are he won't have much fighting for some time to come.
To Shaw, George Bernard	15 Nov, Mon	Worked hard at I.A.O.S. Wrote begging Bernard Shaw to postpone the production of his play O'Flaherty V.C. which would provoke riots in Dublin just now, and attended a function at Alexandra college.
	16 Nov, Tue	<p>5 A.M. I began to write (for the American post) a long address to the American farmers backing up the A.A.O.S. Then the meeting of the Committee of the I.A.O.S. AD Hall &amp; Jones Davies to be entertained – a big tea party mostly staying for dinner. Well Kilteragh &amp; the Plunkett House will soon have to do without me. I hope I am helping them to.</p> <p>At the IAOS Committee meeting a nice little interchange of courtesies betw'n Rev E F Campbell militant Orangeman &amp; Father Phelan – C. "One of my sons (chaplain at the Front) found himself in a strange pos[itio]n the other day. He had to bury 30 of our soldiers in France. He was afterwards told they were all Roman Catholics." P. "It was well for them that they got</p>

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		Christian burial”.
	17 Nov, Wed	Richard Bevrige one of the largest (in acreage) landowners in the U.K. now bought out by the C.D.B. dined with his American & quite clever wife. He is a fat stupid Englishman who was lord of a huge tract of mountain & bog in Connemara. He is a good riddance I should say as a landlord!  A report from A.D. Hall on Costello’s & Wibberley’s views as to how my Kilteragh Farm should be run shows that both are wrong!
To Bonn, Moritz Julius	18 Nov, Thu	Penultimate day. Shall possibly be away 2 months & possibly (who knows whether & when in such times) much longer. So heavy domestic arrangements.
To House, E.M.	19 Nov, Fri	Goodbyes all round & off to London by night mail.  Cable from House hoping I should talk freely to Arthur Balfour. He had suggested that I should conceal the fact that he had asked me to come over from Balfour & Grey. I wrote that I must be absolutely frank with B. Hence the cable.
[Feminist Olive Shreiner’s husband, Samuel Cronwright, took her surname at marriage.]	20 Nov, Sat	After a rather rough crossing & a disturbed night in the train wasn’t much good. Lunched with the Prothero’s to see him, but he was in bed with Flu. Monteagle was there rather feeble but much better from a bad cold. Called on Lady Emily Lutyens who wanted me to write on social reconstruction after the war in its agric’l aspects – for the Theosophical Review! Referred her to Nugent Harris!! Had a talk with Mrs. Bagg who is very gloomy about the future of England. So hopelessly incapable of understanding the feelings of other peoples & now wantonly aggravating the US. I arranged for a private conference with Arthur Balfour tomorrow & must see what can be done.  Dined with Sir Sydney Olivier & his rather dull family. There was an interesting Hobhouse & Shreiner (husband of Olive) late Attorney General of the Cape Govt I think. But I was too tired to talk or even listen.  The general tone in London is one of bad depression. The best people can do is to talk of the darkness before the dawn!
<i>Fr Smith-Gordon, Lionel (year uncertain)</i>	21 Nov, Sun	Lunched with Arthur Balfour alone. Longed to talk to him about the Eastern situation but he had an engagement which gave us only 1 hour and I had to concentrate on what line to take with House & Wilson (if the latter thinks it prudent to see me). B. was most friendly and gave me his entire confidence. We discussed chiefly the right & wrong way of regarding “The American people” for whom Wilson acts. We agreed that I should frame a code for informing A.J.B. of the real situation. Also I said I preferred to have (pseudo)-official relations with him only for safety sake.
	22 Nov, Mon	A crowded day (penultimate) chief interest a dinner at Mrs. Bagg’s where I met Hoover who is head of the vast food distribution schemes in Belgium & France. He is going on to Poland where he says 18 million people are starving & there is no local organis[atio]n (like the Belgian communes where the Burgomaster seems to do everything for him) & there’s the language! It seems the Germans are not behaving badly to the American Commissioner. True, food is taken by the soldiers which is meant for the people, but the gov’t gives it back! Hoover

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
		<p>is always accompanied by a German staff officer &amp; he knows the German war policy &amp; method through &amp; through. His comments on the English at war was [<i>sic</i>] awful to listen to. We were simply <u>mad</u>. The extravagance of the war was a worse punishment than the Central Powers could devise, e.g. The “blockade” had strengthened Germany (1) by forcing her to <u>economise</u> all round (2) by making every family curse England at every meal – hate a real power in war (3) by injuring us with neutral op[inio]n. It had at the same time demoralised England. We had entered upon a wild extravagance of living. Jewellery trade never so prosperous! Had the pinch of war been felt we should have won long ago. After the war we should have 15 years of desperate poverty. The rich classes would be taxed 75% of their incomes as the means of working the revolution quietly! Chaos &amp; disorder! A W. Barker of Vickers confirmed Hoover’s statement that the Germans wanted nothing in ammunition. H. who was just back from U.S. said House badly wanted to see me.</p>
	23 Nov, Tue	<p>A long conference with Adams &amp; Hall. Lunch with G Bernard Shaw who was in a delightful (&amp; chastened) mood. He has offended people about the war – quite unintentionally for he is strongly pro-ally – &amp; wants to get back his influence. He quite agreed to withdraw his O’Flaherty V.C. play. Went to see Arthur Balfour again but he was engaged with Runciman &amp; Grey &amp; I could not wait for I had an appointment with Douglas Haig. I had a long &amp; intimate talk with him &amp; found, as I feared, that his mind moved far too slowly for the big work he now has. He is a keen industrious soldier, but a man of detail rather than of ideas. Dined with Lady Paget who had the Pages, Daisy &amp; Filson Young to meet me.</p>
	24 Nov, Wed	<p>Up at 6.30 AM after not getting to bed till after midnight &amp; had to transact a lot of business. Also made a code between Arthur Balfour &amp; myself which the Admiralty people typed for me &amp; sent to my train the White Star Special which I took at noon. A business interview with Gardiner, a talk with Adams, two calls from Reggie just come to town for a week’s leave, packing &amp; writing numerous letters made an awful day. Daisy came to see me off at L[iver]pool on the way back to Ireland. There the Smith Gordons (two generations) met us. I had palatial rooms on the Adriatic.</p>
	25 Nov, Thu	<p>192 miles. When first looked out there were green hills close to the ship on the port side. I thought we were still creeping along the Welsh coast near Holyhead. I looked out on the other side &amp; there was more land! We had gone north, ---ts &amp; we were between the Glen of Antrim &amp; the Scottish coast! We went through Rathlin Sound carefully convoyed by a Destroyer. Suddenly we stopped &amp; went astern, I suppose were creeping through a mine field.</p>
	26 Nov, Fri	<p>We were convoyed till we got to Tory Island when we put out into the Atlantic water a very dark ship &amp; were I trust safe.</p>
	27 Nov, Sat	<p>376. The Captain, W. Finch R[oyal].N[aval].R[eserve]. made his first meal appearance at breakfast. I sat next to him. He it was who saved 90% of the passengers of the Arabic when she was torpedoed by a submarine in August and went down in 8 minutes. He saw the torpedo coming but no sign of the submarine. (The German excuse was that he was trying to ram the submarine). He</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
[ <i>sang froid</i> – literally ‘cold blood’; calm]		<p>had all the boats ready &amp; life belts everywhere. It was an awful experience as he and many others were crippled &amp; there was a cold NE wind blowing on their wet bodies for 4 hours before any rescue came. He said the women behaved splendidly. One young American saved two bull dogs but lost his mother!</p> <p>The torpedo made no noise but sent a column of water 90 feet into the air &amp; in it ship’s boats &amp; other wreckage in thousands of pieces. The whole ship seemed to lift &amp; then quickly went down by the stern. In 5 minutes she was nearly erect by the bow. The whole crew showed extraordinary sang froid through it all. He attributes this largely to the better terms (pensions &amp;c) which reconcile them to any risk.</p>
	28 Nov, Sun	335
	29 Nov, Mon	384
[In 1916 Thompson produced the daring and highly acclaimed film, <i>Fighting the War.</i> ]	30 Nov, Tue	<p>408. The weather was favourable &amp; the ship has done 455 going west. The difference is in the stokers, the best having gone to the War. But the captain told me that the treatment of submarined crews &amp; their dependents [was] on the same basis as soldiers. Sailors serving with the colours enables the ships to get much better men than they otherwise would.</p> <p>We had a concert on board – usually an infliction, especially to the chairman – my fate. But Sybil Vane a marvellous grand opera singer &amp; a couple of other first rate artistes made the evening very pleasant. Moreover one Donald C Thompson of Kansas who had been employed by numerous newspapers, American, French &amp; British to photograph the war, told me his experiences, he had been with all the armies engaged &amp; his adventures were as thrilling as they were amazing. He was a mere boy to look at, smaller a good deal than I am, but all wires. He went everywhere &amp; did everything by mere push &amp; bluff. He was in all the armies &amp; in all the battle areas – in many battles. His first fighting experience was the flight from Mons. He <u>may</u> be a clever fraud.</p> <p>I had a talk with him later &amp; here are some of the things he said. On the Western Front neither Eng’d nor Germany can do anything. In the spring the Russians (to whom the English &amp; French are lending officers &amp; men in considerable numbers with excellent <u>moral</u> effect) will renew the offensive &amp; have great victories. But these will be followed by a slump. The Russian armies always need a rest. They must have their vodka &amp;c. In the Balkans we are too late. Servia could easily have been defended. He drove before the Austro-German mission with a Servian general in a motor car from Nish to Monastir &amp; asked him “Why are not these mountains fortified[?]” [“]Because the Greeks will come and do it” said the General. The Gallipoli situation is hopeless. The Turks can kill the British as fast as they like! “They don’t know who they are fighting.” When they do fight often no quarter is given, but all the same they are extraordinarily humane to the wounded &amp; prisoners on other occasions.</p> <p>Thompson is worried that the English will muddle through but he says they may have very bad times ahead first. The Balkan &amp; Scandinavian countries &amp; Switzerland are all watching for the Crimea.</p>

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	1 Dec, Wed	408.
<i>Fr Bonn, Moritz Julius</i>	2 Dec, Thu	384 – 142 to go.
[Bernstorff ) German ambassador to US]	3 Dec, Fri	<p>An old experience – landed early but not before 8 reporters had snap shotted me. Fortunately Tod Sloan the famous jockey with the added lustre of having been deported as an undesirable alien was the centre of attention. Godkin &amp; C.N. Carver (Page’s secretary) met me. Event of the day a long conference with Col. House. He told me his (&amp; Wilson’s) whole mind upon the war. They are determined to see the Allies through but they cannot go further than public opinion will support them. Those who in England &amp; the U.S. were trying to bring them into the war were really making reactions which kept them out. Bernsdorff [<i>sic</i>] had been with House only yesterday and had stated that he recognised the U.S. was drifting towards the allies. Wilson was going to open his “campaign” – this is a bad complication – at once. The note will be a sort of “Amerika ueber Alles” – an attempt to get a consciously united nation taking its own line without any dictation or interference from outside.</p> <p>The chief trouble in the Anglo-American situation was the temperament of Sir Cecil Spring Rice. He is the slave of his nerves &amp; all the State Department – Lansing, Polk &amp; Phillips he named – found him impossible to negotiate with. The President, Lansing &amp; House would like me to be appointed ambassador! It would be the end of me as it is the most unhealthy post in the ambassadorial service. It is of course an absurd idea in many other ways. I know no foreign languages, have no wife or plate &amp; it’s not my job. But it is a delightfully American idea!</p> <p>House seemed to think a severance of diplomatic relations with Austria might come out of the Ancona affair. The only question was whether the ship was running away! If Bernsdorff [<i>sic</i>] were the only link with the Central European powers the situation would be immensely simplified. That link could be used or snapped as occasion required.</p> <p>House still believes America will make the terms of peace even if she does not participate in the war.</p>
	4 Dec, Sat	James B Wilbur, nominated by Carnegie on the AAOS has been keen to make a success of the project. Wired to McCarthy to come on at once. Two talks with Gifford Pinchot and a dinner with James Byrne (who has made another fortune & has taken a Palace for the year of his eldest daughter Helen’s coming out) were the only other interests of the day.
	5 Dec, Sun	Went with J Byrne to call on Judge Keogh at New Rochelle & met Boyle M.P. for N Mayo who was out trying to found a newspaper to represent Redmond & the pro-ally Irish. Pritchett, Wilbur, Godkin & I had a symposium in the evening over the A.A.O.S.
	6 Dec, Mon	McCarthy turned up from Wisconsin & we had a morning’s discussion upon the future of the A.A.O.S. Then I went to lunch with House where I met Capt. Gaunt R.N. our Naval attaché. Had a straight talk about the relations of the U.S. & Great Britain. House declared that (1) The U.S. means to see the allies through if necessary (2) that the U.S. would take action in its own way & at its own time. I feel strongly that Wilson means to come in



Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
		<p>when he has made his position at home unassailable.</p> <p>Godkin had Wilbur &amp; Pritchett again to dinner &amp; McCarthy to meet them. We came to no conclusion as to the future of the A.A.O.S. Wilbur being a successful retired banker &amp; wishing to apply business principles to McCarthy's activities!</p>
	7 Dec, Tue	<p>Another long talk with House. Unless he is a liar – and I am absolutely satisfied he is the embodiment of truth – the President is seeking to break off diplomatic relations with Austria over the Ancona outrage &amp; then to have a single diplomatic link (the German) with the Central powers. House talks as if the only question about this link is not whether but when it shall be snapped. I have insisted all through that the only hope of a lasting peace is one agreed to by the U.S. &amp; B[ritish]. Empire.</p> <p>Lunched with Ernest Poole (the author of The Harbor, a good social study of New York labour conditions) at the Players Club. He was interesting on the effect of the War on society. He fears it will instil militarism which must always be controlled by “the classes” as they do it better.</p> <p>Rest of day spent organising the A.A.O.S. with Pritchett, Roger Williams, McCarthy &amp; Godkin. Left for Washington at midnight.</p>
	8 Dec, Wed	<p>Arrived early at the British Embassy Washington. Cecil Spring Rice is in good outward health but his nerves seem very “jumpy” &amp; I fear he is not helping our cause. I had a talk with the Secretary of State Lansing &amp; Polk the Department's legal adviser. They both confirmed House's estimate of the situation. The Lusitania &amp; Ancona outrages are still under discussion with Germany &amp; Austria respectively &amp; relations with both are critical. Lansing particularly regretted that we could not see the real behind the official attitude of the U.S. Wilson's message to Congress was as pro-Ally as was possible. But we are in danger of playing into the German hands by not making the obvious concessions to the American business interests which our naval “blockade” is hurting. Polk was convinced that our blockade policy was all wrong. It prevented Germany going bankrupt by buying abroad. He assured me that the prohibition of defensive armament to merchant ships was to deprive Germany of their best excuse for their submarine outrages.</p> <p>Met Sydney Brooks who has been talking very unwisely and warned him. Had a first talk with Vrooman at the Department of Agriculture.</p>
[Hughes was the 1916 Republican presidential nominee, losing to Woodrow Wilson]	9 Dec, Thu	<p>A long and interesting conference with Brand, the Dept of Ag Chief of “Markets &amp; rural organisation” bureau &amp; his staff, Senator Fletcher &amp; Smith Gordon being present. I urged the formulation of an agric'l policy by the Department which should assign to voluntary effort its proper place in the scheme of agric'l development.</p> <p>Lunched with Norman Hapgood. Met Polk &amp; Lansing, S. Brooks, who had had a most interesting talk with Wilson, C.R. Crane, Houston, Walter Lippman[n] (of New Republic), Franklin K Lane Sec of Interior. In domestic politics they were agreed that Hughes would be the best candidate for Republicans but thought he would not run.</p> <p>Roosevelt might get the nomination but they did not fear him.</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1915	Diary Entry
		<p>Wilson they regarded as pretty safe.</p> <p>The attitude of America to the war was still neutrality &amp; I find my forecast of active intervention has little support here. But the relations with Germany are getting more &amp; more strained, the plots are getting on the nerves of the Americans &amp; fresh troubles abroad – more American ships sunk &amp; c – are threatening the position of Bernsdorff [sic]. Spring Rice does not think breaking diplomatic relations necessarily means war. I think it would probably so result.</p> <p>Dined with the Wm. C Eustis' a pleasant party.</p>
	10 Dec, Fri	<p>Brand &amp; Hichens of the Round Table turned up &amp; it was interesting to discuss the situation with them. Morning at Department working for my agricultural policy. Agreed with Houston to furnish him with a memorandum of it. Vrooman took me to lunch at a hotel with the Governor of Illinois (Dunne) a regular Middle West politician. His father insisted on his being educated at T.C.D. &amp; it did not greatly improve him. Pritchett came &amp; I agreed with him about the AAOS scheme. Arthur Willert of Times gave me an hour and I think I brought him round to my view as to probability of American intervention. I told him in strict confidence that Bernsdorff [sic] had told House that he recognised that America was drifting away from Germany. He told me that he thought Wilson might plunge into the big war to divert attention from his Mexican failure.</p> <p>¾ hours with McAdoo Secretary to Treasury. Not a big man! His tongue wagged. The Pres't could not get Congress to support him in War unless he had an unanswerable case, which the Lusitania was not because it left room for negotiation. But I said the negotiations surely must result in some satisfaction of U.S. demands. "Ah! there's the trouble" said McA, "the situation is very grave". "And the Ancona?" I suggested. "Yes that too" he said. The Shipping Bill was a very modest measure, he said, recognising the principle that no great country must be dependent upon countries which it might possibly be at war with for its transportation. In the light of present disputes the possibility of war with Eng'd must not be ignored. He did not think the war would disturb American prosperity which was great now.</p>
	11 Dec, Sat	<p>Interview with Franklin Roosevelt ass't Sec'y to Navy. Discussed defensive arming of merchant ships against submarines. Got to a point where I could write to Arthur Balfour &amp; suggest that he should propose a plan which the U.S. might accept.</p> <p>A long talk with Franklin K Lane Sec of Interior about irrigation (the object of the visit) but got on to the war and American politics – especially the Presidential Election &amp; Wilson's chances. He is strongly pro-ally. He argued that America could not help the allies &amp; I argued that she could end the war. He listened &amp; seemed to agree. He thought badly of Wilson's prospects. He was not a popular man &amp; was too honest for the game. The administration was promoting many useful bills which would be wrecked by demagogic amendments which went impossibly far. The administration bills would alienate the business people, the failure to accept the amendments or to legislate "along that line" would alienate the masses.</p> <p>Left Washington for Omaha. The Middle West may change my</p>

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		mind. I still think the U.S. will be drawn into the war, but few there be who agree with me. A peremptory note has been sent to Austria about the Ancona.
	12 Dec, Sun	4 hours in Chicago, otherwise train all day. Very comfortable time but oh! so hot. Found fellow travellers very unwilling to talk to strangers about the war.
	13 Dec, Mon	<p>Arrived at Omaha &amp; met Cannon who had finished my audit. During the day we agreed with Switzler att[orne]y to incorporate my Western property as The Nebraska &amp; Wyoming Investment Co, capital (authorised) \$800,000. I shall practically own the stock of course &amp; it will be a convenient form for my executors to leave my American property in.</p> <p>Had little time to talk about the War. But I find business men disposed to take a strong American attitude.</p>
	14 Dec, Tue	<p>Went to S. Omaha now amalgamated with Omaha with the idea of a 200000 population status &amp; with the result of a much heavier taxation so the incorporated area purposely exhausted all its funds in jobbery. S. Omaha prominent people denounced the change. I gathered the real trouble was that the Omaha politicians will be dearer to buy than the S. Omaha.</p> <p>Lunched with Victor Caldwell Pres't of my (the United States National) Bank &amp; his chief officers. All but one of these business men felt that it was impossible for the U.S. to come into the war, partly on account of the Germans &amp; partly because they could take no active part. I disputed both objections &amp; found they had not given thought to the matter – they had simply assumed that the U.S. would stay out. In the afternoon I had two interesting talks. Crouse, son of the man I bought the Crouse Block from was in the business department of Senator Hitchcock's paper The World Herald which is playing for the German vote for the proprietor. Crouse is of German origin, but he was strongly pro-ally &amp; thought the US would be drawn in. He did not fear much trouble with the Germans in that event. Far the most interesting man I talked to was McCullagh of The Bee. He too is in the business not the editorial dep't but he has thought out the whole situation. He expressed as well as House could have done the shortcomings of England's handling of American interests during the war &amp; felt we were blundering badly in restricting American commerce with Scandinavia when we were not able to stop Scandinavia's commerce with Germany – which of course is our reason for interfering with U.S. business. Otherwise he took a strong pro ally attitude &amp; would go to war if necessary. He was convinced that the peace of the world was dependant upon a perfect understanding betw'n the English &amp; Americans. The situation in the far East particularly demanded this. He told me that Russia was placing enormous orders in America for rolling stock &amp; rails for the railroads from Vladivostock. He thought Russia would be fairly well supplied with the munitions of war by the spring.</p> <p>Left Omaha at midnight for Cheyenne.</p>
[Peirce]	15 Dec, Wed	Arrived at Cheyenne 3.20 in a snowstorm. Carey & his son Charlie took me to the Judge's house where Mrs. Carey hearing less but talking more than ever "rattled" me. Johnny Pierce [ <i>sic</i> ] & Bosler were waiting for me at the Plains Hotel & we talked

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		<p>some business &amp; much war. Pierce [<i>sic</i>] is very definite in his views. America should play England's game &amp; make all the money she can out of the war but in no case come in.</p> <p>Wilson, whom he hates &amp; who will be badly beaten he says, should tell John Bull to stop his interference with American business &amp; the German ambassador should be sent home without any passports for allowing Germans to blow up American business houses making munitions!! Carey's views I have yet to get.</p>
[Peirce]	16 Dec, Thu	<p>Business with John Chaplin, Bosler &amp; Pierce [<i>sic</i>]. Met many typical Wyoming men. The R C Bishop of Wyo dined. He is a young thoroughly Americanised Co Cavan man named McGovern. After dinner we all went to the Parish House of the Episcopal church. Spoke to some 25 young men on the war in its most abstract aspects!</p> <p>Carey is convinced that the U.S. won't become involved in the war. He thinks Wilson's preparedness measures will split the Democratic party. But nobody seems to have given any serious thought to the problem.</p> <p>Carey told me today that at the beginning of the war the German-Americans were angry with the Kaiser &amp; so anti-militarist that they did not care which side won. Now that they think the Germans are winning they are rabidly pro German.</p> <p>Johnny Pierce [<i>sic</i>] made an interesting remark about the Irish. They made splendid police &amp; peace officers (sheriffs &amp;c) because they did not use their revolvers till the last resort.</p>
	17 Dec, Fri	<p>Up early to catch the luxurious Overland Limited to Omaha which reached 8.45 P.M. What a change in those 500 miles since I first went over them with Gussy Briscoe in 1879 – and how the memories of those &amp; the following careless days comes [<i>sic</i>] back every time I take the trip on dull business bent. I don't think the ten years in the West were wholly wasted though doubtless they might have been better used. Met Benjamin Guinness travelling [with] secretaries with typewriters on his way back from California with a couple of other financiers. He told me strange stories of British financing of the war. He thought the Americans would not come in.</p>
	18 Dec, Sat	<p>Finished up my business in Omaha. Transferred all my Omaha &amp; other western interests to the Nebraska &amp; Wyoming Investment Co. Four other incorporators but they return to me their single shares so that I shall hold all the stock.</p> <p>Letter from House telling me Wilson has told him to go back to London. He sails on 28th Dec &amp; wants me to go with him! I wired that I was going tonight to Battle Creek but would go to N.Y. if possible to see him before he leaves.</p> <p>Conrad Young is hesitating on account of his drink habit to propose to a very nice Miss Scobie. I advised him to take the pledge first &amp; then offer himself. Left at night.</p>
<i>Fr Smith-Gordon, Lionel</i>	19 Dec, Sun	<p>In Chicago for 8½ hours. Spent it nearly all with McCarthy, excepting an hour with Henry A Blair. The latter had just come from New York where he said the business world were in a state of nervousness. Enormous fortunes were being made out of the war but the general feeling was that it was better to keep pretty</p>

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[ <i>status pro ante</i> – the way things were before]		<p>close to this shore. He thought the US might get involved.</p> <p>Mac was as interesting &amp; informing as ever. We discussed agric'l organisation chiefly. He sees a great opportunity of combining German efficiency with democratic control of agriculture. This is his "Wisconsin Idea".</p> <p>On the war he was with me. He is pro-ally in sentiment, thinks the U.S. will come in – and ought to. The Germans are talking peace on the basis of the German outlet to Bagdad being conceded &amp; for the rest the status pro ante!! But they wanted much more formerly in the war. He says news is getting through from Germany which is very disquieting. The suppression of the Lokal-anzeiger &amp; two other leading papers in today's news he considers significant. He knows the German character well &amp; does not believe that they will do well when things go against them. He was very interesting on the Jews. Their bitter anti Russian feeling he considers a potent factor in the U.S. He will write me on the situation as he sees it. He feels strongly that British diplomacy could do wonders in the U.S. &amp; thinks a visit by Bryce would be very helpful.</p>
To Smith-Gordon, Lionel	20 Dec, Mon	Many letters about plans chiefly & started my short cure. Rest is what I want but how to get it in such times is beyond me.
	21 Dec, Tue	<p>Met a Captain Harrison U.S.N[avy]. who was very interesting about the War. He had been in sympathy with Germany but now was wholly with the Allies. He felt the U.S. would have to be in it.</p> <p>Cannon came from Carlisle where he had been auditing Bosler's companies. He advises me to get out of them.</p> <p>My physical examination so far shows no loss since last year.</p>
	22 Dec, Wed	<p>Capt. Harrison USN told me today that in 1902-3 he was sent to his ship off the coast of Brazil. An inquiry was ordered into the German plans in that part of the world &amp; the Capt'n in command of his ship had travelled Lower Brazil as a Canadian lawyer looking for the relatives of a deceased German in Cincinnati! The information he got showed that the Germans would have organised a rebellion to which they would have given moral if not material aid &amp; that only the British Fleet prevented them from annexing the territory. I am not sure that I heard this quite correctly but I think I did.</p> <p>Col. House was run to ground by the Press &amp; in today's Chicago Tribune his secret mission to Europe is divulged in a statement from him.</p>
To Smith-Gordon, Lionel <i>Fr Smith-Gordon, Lionel</i>	23 Dec, Thu	<p>Dr. Kellogg induced me to give a talk "in the Parlor on Some Thoughts on the War". I spoke of course as a pro Ally but took the line of Owen Wister in The Pentecost of Calamity – giving Germany full credit for her efficiency &amp;c &amp; making the war an issue upon the <u>means</u> by which our civilisation was to be advanced, democracy vs military bureaucracy &amp;c. I spoke fairly &amp; had the audience with me excepting one German who accused me of preaching "hate". In the Conversation after the lecture I heard much war sympathy with the ally cause &amp; not a little active intervention talk. I am convinced that the Middle West would respond to a call to arms, if it came from Wilson.</p> <p>Kellogg &amp; I had a midnight talk at his house. He talked about our government of India. He said he had ceased to subscribe to our</p>

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		Lepers of whom there were 20,000 who would cost \$100 a year or \$2,000,000 to look after. He said also we ought to end the opium scandal & he thought it was a blot on the English name that people still died of famine in India. On this last point I thought our defence was perfect as we are reducing the degree of famine rapidly. But he cited instances of quite recent times where England in his judgment could easily have fed the people & let them die in districts so limited that they could be dealt with. I do not know the facts.
To Smith-Gordon, Lionel	24 Dec, Fri	Rested & got more impressions, all confirmatory of views expressed above.
(Fr ?Frewen, Moreton to Mr. Long)	25 Dec, Sat	Rev. James P McNaughtson chaplain at the "San" & formerly missionary in Turkey, who knows the Balkan situation well gave me a most gloomy account of the prospects of the allies. He has no trust in Egypt. He says the Turks liked England better than any white race till now. He fears that any defeat by the Germans would greatly damage British prestige throughout the Mohammedan world. An intelligent Turk told him that Turkey would have to come under some foreign power. They would prefer Japan to any other. No white people could understand the East. Next to Japan, England.
	26 Dec, Sun	After 2 hours with Dentist spent the rest of the day in the train for New York.
Fr Smith-Gordon, Lionel (date uncertain)	27 Dec, Mon	James W. Robertson of Canada called early & in afternoon had a conference with Col. House. He is not going to propose Peace but only to keep Wilson informed of the situation. He thinks Austria will not climb down. Last week he had a long frank talk with Bernsdorff [ <i>sic</i> ] who held this view. He said that the Austrians were a proud people like the Spanish & the tone of Wilson's note hurt their pride. Bernsdorff [ <i>sic</i> ] said too that the German gov't had no views upon the subject. This House evidently did not believe, though he said Bernsdorff [ <i>sic</i> ] would not know if they had.
To Smith-Gordon, Lionel (date uncertain)	28 Dec, Tue	Dined with Pritchett & met Senator Newlands of Nevada, a great supporter of Roosevelt in Conservation days but a man apparently with little influence though considerable political intelligence, Chauncey Depew, rather senile, a lawyer Hines & their women folk. We talked war of course Newlands urging peace and in no case war as the objective of the U.S. He thought that if the Germans failed in their larger ambitions they would assert the claims of democracy & deal with their Government. This a propos of my admission that a democratic uprising in Germany was the only real solution of the problem. The others were not very communicative. Pritchett is strongly against American intervention.
[eo nomine – by that name]	29 Dec, Wed	Spent most of the day writing a long letter to Secretary Houston, whom I afterwards met at dinner with Crane, upon an agricultural policy for the United States. I want the Federal Department to accept and announce the Irish agric'l policy – not of course eo nomine. The papers are full of the split in the British Cabinet over Conscription.
(To de Bary, Richard fr Bigger, F.J.)	30 Dec, Thu	Arrived early at the British Embassy. There was a Pan American Congress in the city. The economists, sociologists, international lawyers, feminists, faddists & all the rest of the lions were there.

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		<p>McCarthy, Pres't McVey of N Dakota University &amp; many others of my lot, Bonn &amp; his wife whom I dined with (he only rubbing in the, alas, true fact that the War had produced no big English men in the field of battle or in the Counsels of the Nation) the Aberdeens whom I did not meet or want to, Elihu Root whom I sought in vain were all buzzing about. I went to a smoker in Bonn's hotel where the Economists talked a bit &amp; I was called upon for "a few words", which I did badly being very tired. But the work of the day was at the Dept of Agriculture in the morning with McCarthy &amp; Vrooman.</p> <p>Spring Rice told me that the Lusitania and Ancona difficulties were going to be settled – another "diplomatic triumph" for Wilson – and I fear confirmed neutrality and prolongation of the war!</p>
	31 Dec, Fri	<p>The last day of this sad year was spent at my hobby agricultural organisation chiefly. Worked at Dept of Ag &amp; called on Lane Sec of Interior about my idea of a policy to be announced by the Cabinet.</p> <p>Robert Bacon former American ambassador in Paris lunched &amp; was very interesting. He declares that the French are improving steadily &amp; that their resolve to go through with the war is hardening.</p> <p>Introduced McCarthy to Spring Rice &amp; I think this strange Irishman made a good impression. He certainly gave S.R. some good advice as to how to handle the middle western sentiment.</p>
	Year-end Summary	<p>Twelve dreary months in the War of Exhaustion! At no time was there a notable gain for the Allies. German preparation, German organisation, seems to have made her unconquerable and the only hope of an early end to this ghastly tragedy appears to me to be a democratic uprising in Germany – which, I fancy, has been fully "prepared" against.</p> <p>My own poor part in the crisis has been two-fold. I have done my best to help towards a mutual understanding between the U.S. &amp; the British Empire &amp; my diary will show that I have had the ear of important people on both sides. My other effort was to advance the cause of rural reconstruction as one of the chief measures in the general reconstruction after the war. Here I think I moved thought along a bit both at home &amp; in the U.S.</p> <p>My physical powers did not seem to get any more feeble which considering the strain I was under is a matter for much thankfulness.</p> <p>So far the war has taken none of my kith &amp; kin. Poor Bryan remains a prisoner.</p>