

1925 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, 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^x 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^d"). If the same usage occurs in close proximity, the expanded version is generally not repeated.

1925

Events:

Co-operative Reference Library moved to Horace Plunkett Foundation, London

28 May – Northern Ireland Land Act to complete land purchase in NI

4 Jul – Shannon Electricity Act authorises massive Shannon hydro-electric scheme

3 Dec – Agreement among governments of UK, Irish Free State and NI revokes powers of Boundary Commission and retains existing NI boundary

Publications:

- Foreword to *Agricultural Co-operation in the British Empire* (George Routledge & Sons, London), pp. 1-28

“Ireland’s Leadership in Co-operation” (letter), *IS*, III:20 (Jan 24), pp. 623-4

- *The Evolution of Ireland’s Agricultural Policy, a Retrospect and a Prospect* (London)

- “Co-operation in Agriculture – South African Farmers at Wembley (excerpts), *The Times*, 6 Jul, p. 22

- “Ireland’s Contribution to Agricultural Thought and Development”, *IS*, IV:19 (18 Jul), pp. 590-1; excerpts in *International Co-operative Bulletin* (International Co-operative Alliance, London) pp 260-1

- “The Agricultural Problem in South Africa”, *Journal of the Department of Agriculture of South Africa*, October

“The Co-operative Reference Library” (text of address to Association of Special Libraries and Information Bureaux, Oxford, 25 Sep), *IS*, V:11 (21 Nov), pp. 331-2

- *UAOS Annual Report*, Appendix B, pp. 35-6

Government:

President of the Executive Council: William T. Cosgrave (Cumann na nGaedheal)

Governor-General: Timothy M. Healy

British Prime Minister: Stanley Baldwin (Conservative)

Prime Minister of Northern Ireland: Sir James Craig

Approximate monetary equivalents (2010): £1= £49; \$1 = \$10

Correspondence [Notes]	1925	Diary Entry
	1 Jan, Thu	Called on George Price. Had the sad feeling that I may not see him again as he is 10 years my senior & shaky.
(To Cullinan, J.S. fr Campbell, Richard; IRS)	2 Jan, Fri	Day in London to have consultation with Hall and Adams about Foundation matters. Hall is leaving tomorrow for U.S.A. where he will try to get from the Rockefeller Foundation a large sum to enable the Foundation to extend its research work from the Empire to Europe & U.S.A. Very satisfactory interviews. My work should prosper after I leave it.
Fr Young, Conrad	3 Jan, Sat	Called on Lanes & Betty Balfour who is still in bed. Interesting talk.
	4 Jan, Sun	My Weybridge doctor S.S. Beare and his wife lunched. It was the first time I had seen her and I liked her much.
	5 Jan, Mon	Came to town to “vet” Frank J. Prewett who is to conduct my secret experiment in cooperation in Dorsetshire. I liked him much and determined to go to Oxford and see Colonel Peel & him together and settle upon the details of the scheme.
	6 Jan, Tue	Lunched with the Setons to meet Sir Claude Hill ex member of the Indian Council & now Director General of the Indian Red Cross. Saw lawyers about my affairs (chiefly income & super tax) during my absence.
	7 Jan, Wed	Rested. Karl Walter dined & slept. It is difficult to get him & G[erald].H[eard]. to interest themselves <u>keenly</u> enough in the

Correspondence [Notes]	1925	Diary Entry
		work to “enthuse” others. But perhaps my memory will stir them more than my presence. They don’t see that kindness to my idea is the greatest kindness to me.
	8 Jan, Thu	To Oxford to see Peel & Prewett and attend a Rural Community Council meeting. The talk was discursive & poor, but the people were very earnest & some of them practical. Put up with Adams.
	9 Jan, Fri	Interviewed Peel, Prewett, Miss Hadow and Morris education director of Cambridgeshire. Saw little of Conference. The dear old Poet Laureate came to see me. Much touched by receiving a parchment scroll with the names of all the literary people who had given him the clavichord. He, however, thought it a huge joke that he knew very few of them & none of his personal friends had been enlisted.
	10 Jan, Sat	Back to Oxford. En route saw Wingfield, who told me he did not expect to see me again. I fear he is in a bad way. He has spent his life trying to relieve suffering. His advice to me was on no account to try to give up the morphia, but to stabilise it at a low dosage. He does not fear a dosage as high as 4 gr[ains] in the 24 hours if gradually worked up to. He says truly that nature resents changes of life in people too old to adjust themselves to them. As regards my lungs – the catarrhal condition which leads to invasion of influenza & bronchial pneumonia, especially in summer – he fears tubercle more than the pneumo-bacillus!
	11 Jan, Sun	Fog prevented our doing more than one of our final calls. We did the Barnes’ but Lane & Betty B. had to be left over. After dark the headlights erect an impenetrable luminous wall a few feet in front of the screen and progress is slow & dangerous.
	12 Jan, Mon	This part of the world fog-bound. In the evening Æ came to my great delight. I was back at my job in earnest. Dr. Beare came to give me general advice about my health. He, Wingfield, Dr. Harris & Dr. Sainsbury all agree in advising me to stabilise but not to give up the morphia. They say the insomnia at my age would probably wreck me. I fear they are right. I hope to reduce the dosage from the 2 gr[ains] I take now to 1½ gr. on the voyage.
	13 Jan, Tue	Æ spent his day renewing his acquaintance with art in the London galleries. Then Walter & he delighted Heard & me at night. I had to go to town to make sailing arrangements. Cable codes etc to be attended to. Called at office & felt how many things are pushed forward when I am there! I hate leaving the work.
<i>Fr Young, Conrad</i>	14 Jan, Wed	Came to 105 for two last days. Lunched with the Club of journalists etc who use the board room of the H.P. Foundation. Æ was the guest & gave a most interesting survey of things in the Free State. Tom Spring Rice dined his father & me at the St. James Club. The dear old man was in splendid spirits considering what he has been through.
	15 Jan, Thu	Adams and RA Anderson came early and helped the final discussion of Foundation affairs. A day of writing and packing.

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	16 Jan, Fri	<p>Seen off at Waterloo by Eliz. Perceval, Monteagle & R.A.A. K.W. meant to come but was I fear unwell. We had very good accommodation in the best Union Castle line – The Arundel Castle, nearly 20,000 tons. Now for 17 days <u>rest</u>.</p> <p>Wrote from ship Daisy, Bryan, Karl Walter (2), Orwin, Edward Wood calling his attention to the book of the Wembley Conference, Mitchell about the future of the Cooperative Reference Library, RS Gardiner, Naomi Mitchison, Lennox Robinson, John Graham Brooks, R[alph] M[ontagu] S[tuart] W[ortley], Ken[n]eth Leys.</p>
To Mitchison, Naomi	17 Jan, Sat	144. Appearing for first time at table found an Admiral Fitzmaurice who is in command of the S. African station and a General Byron who farms in S.A. & is keen on agric'l coop'n as Gerald & my sole table companions.
	18 Jan, Sun	377. 60° in the ship and something less outside. I am very low & feel bitterly cold. I suppose the heat will equally bowl me over.
	19 Jan, Mon	<p>383 Temperature creeping up. The sea is a great equaliser of the air. Heard that Sir Lionel Phillips is a keen supporter of agricultural organisation. I must get introduced to him & try to interest him in my Foundation.</p> <p>Posted from Madeira letters to Daisy, Bryan, E. Wood, K. Walter (2) Orwin, K. Leys, Naomi Mitchison, RS Gardiner, Lennox Robinson, J Graham Brooks, RMSW, J. M. Mitchell.</p>
	20 Jan, Tue	303 Too rough to land at Madeira. 31 years ago the boys who dived for pennies thrown into the water from the ship were naked, now they dive for silver & wear drawers. Otherwise the scene had not changed. A flotilla of rowing boats with these naked urchins and a few carrying basket chairs for which 3 times what is taken is asked and others carrying crochet work cruder by far than what the Irish peasantry brought out to the ships calling at Queenstown when they did delay there, one boat carrying a parrot & a cockatoo – all the “natives[?]” screaming at the top of their voices – it was Madeira as it was a generation ago & will be, I suppose, a generation hence. Most unattractive. GBS & his Superman were there but we could not land to look for them.
	21 Jan, Wed	375.
	22 Jan, Thu	390 Was introduced to Sir Lionel Phillips, S.A. multimillionaire, who might be interested in the Rural Life Problem in S.A. and help us. He talked intelligently about the problem. Added to the familiar difficulties you have the race antagonism and the laziness unprogressiveness & provincialism of the Boers. Walloping their “niggers” when necessary and for the rest sitting in their stoops (verandahs) seemed to be the normal existence. But I think he will help. He took the Book of the Conference, will read my Introduction & talk again.
Fr Campbell, Richard (IRS) (Fr Campbell, Richard to Walter, Karl; IRS)	23 Jan, Fri	382 A full talk with General Byron a Cape M.P., and really interested in agriculture as a factor in national well being.
[“Ireland’s Leadership in Co-operation” (letter), <i>IS</i> , III:20 (24 Jan), pp. 623-4]	24 Jan, Sat	<p>375. 80° Fahr.</p> <p>I have paid the top price for Gerald and he is enjoying himself hugely on the luxurious ship. Justified only if he does the work</p>

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		for the Foundation we have come out to do. I think he will.
	25 Jan, Sun	372. 84° Fahr. But a wind which made the damp heat tolerable.
	26 Jan, Mon	375 Said to be a “phenomenally” cool passage. 80°. Nice breeze.
	27 Jan, Tue	365
	28 Jan, Wed	373
	29 Jan, Thu	377. Had hoped that the Reporter nuisance did not trouble in South Africa. But the Argus Marconied me. “Welcome to South Africa. Will you give our representative at Capetown an interview on the outlook in Ireland and cooperation”. Well it is a chance to interest the right people in the right thing – that is if I don’t rouse the wrath of the wild Irish.
	30 Jan, Fri	365, 72°
	31 Jan, Sat	371, 71°
	1 Feb, Sun	372. 70° Wrote an interview for the Cape Argus on agricultural Cooperation.
	2 Feb, Mon	Landed early. My interview was taken by the Capetown “Argus” as written. It was inten[d]ed to get the people I want to see to come to me. It was published in full and will, I think, have its effect. We put up at the Mount Nelson Hotel. Hertzog the Premier & Kemp the Minister of Agriculture have both asked me to call on them tomorrow. It was a hot day – 80° in shade. I doubt being able to stand it.
[Van der Byl]	3 Feb, Tue	Half an hour each with “General” Kemp (ex-rebel) Minister of Agriculture & with General Hertzog Premier. Then half an hour with Athlone, Governor General of S.A. The Vander Byl’s – friends of the Willie Jamesons – called in the afternoon & so did E. Ramsay who had met me in Cheyenne 41 years ago. A heavy day’s work. If I were well & younger I could get the S African farmers to join my agric’l cooperative movement. I doubt being able to do it as I am. But if only Heard had had the necessary experience to follow up my start the thing could be pulled off. The outlook in South Africa is cloudy. I don’t like the relations betw’n the Whites & the extraordinarily mixed other races. The Whites won’t mix with the coloured and cannot work in competition with them. That may bring the British & Dutch together – but I don’t know!
[Baker House – English architect Sir Herbert Baker, who restored many Cape Dutch houses.]	4 Feb, Wed	Lunched with Sir Thomas Smartt at Civil Service Club to meet Jagger (ex Minister of Railways) and many prominent folk. Plugged away at my job & did good. Dined & slept at Muizenberg chez Abe Bailey at Rust-en-Vrede. A Baker house on the sea shore. Glorious view and perfect climate, though less than 20 miles from Capetown. A charming Baker House. One ‘crab’ the suburban R’y puffs past the house betw’n sea & slope making infernal noise. But it is to be electrified. Watered lawns, all the flowering plants that will grow – a Paradise. Party consisted of Milner & ?Homans whom we met (but did not speak to!) on the boat and Smartt. To dinner came local celebrities, including editor

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		of the Argus (G.A.L. Green) and chairman of Cape Times company (E R Syfret). Again I made headway with my job. But I must get home as soon as it is finished. Woke up with big swelling in lips – sign of blood poisoning. The food is so vile in Capetown – and everywhere I fear – that I shall probably have to face what may be the worst of the winter at my new home. No place like home for the old!
(To Campbell, Richard fr Walter, Karl; IRS)	5 Feb, Thu	Chief event a two hours interview with the Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, P.J. du Toit. He will help me for all he is worth and will get the Registrar of Coop. Societies, Johs Retief to come from Pretoria to see me. This because I find I cannot possibly go far inland, my health not being up to the travelling in the heat. Du Toit is with me in all my principles & of course understands the local conditions & the adjustment of the principles thereto a thousand times better.
	6 Feb, Fri	Unwell. Had to remain in the Hotel where there was a lightning waiter strike! I suspect the waiters are badly treated. The Hotel is made as uncomfortable as possible for the guests & the manager is hardly likely to pay much attention to the comfort of his staff. I almost made up my mind to go home much – perhaps a month earlier than I had intended – possibly dodging the winter at Torquay. It seems possible to get my work done by Feb 20 when the Arundel Castle sails. But until Parliament meets I shant know how much I can do for the H.P. Foundation.
	7 Feb, Sat	At breakfast Mr. & Mrs. W H Poultney – he Hon. organiser & Parl’y Sec’y S A Agric’l Union – told me of interesting talks they had with Mark Twain 30 years ago. They were very strong Republicans. Mark Twain was, of course, entertained at Capetown. Chiefly by the British interest. He went later to Bloemfontain, Johannesburg, Natal, everywhere he heard <u>different</u> views of the political situation. When asked whether he would write about his trip he replied that it would be a “fool proposition”; he added “Keep your weather eye on John Cecil Rhodes – he will smash you if he can”. Was driven round the sea road with glorious scenery by Mrs. Thorne who hailed from Londonderry. At night had <u>severe</u> pain over the heart – very suggestive of angina.
	8 Feb, Sun	Unwell & unable to spend the day with the multimillionaire Sir Lionel Phil[l]ips at Somerset West. Had such pain in the region of the heart that I feared angina (pseudo). E. Ramsay, my Wyoming acquaintance of 41 years ago called again. We talked old times.
	9 Feb, Mon	Another long talk with du Toit (see Feb 5). He had studied carefully the Report of the Wembley Conference and is definitely in accord with my views. Heard with me taking notes. He advises me to have a meeting of farmers at Paarl, which seems possible at an early date as well as a meeting with politicians (as proposed by Smartt or Byron I forget which) in a Committee Room in the Parliament House. In the afternoon he sent us out by car with W.J. Lamont, Director(?) to the agricultural College at Elsenburg 8 miles short of Stellenbosch. It seems an admirable institution. Lamont is at heart a cooperator & will do his best to introduce the system among S.A. farmers. A most interesting day. <u>But</u> I am not

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		up to the work. But for that X ray burn, I could do the best work of my life now.
	10 Feb, Tue	Smuts turned up & I had a short but useful talk with him (This is Wed[nesda]y). Went with Heard to Abe Bailey's for lunch & the afternoon. Milner had his wife there. Sat next to her. Too bitter tongue. Abused the Balfours particularly. But it was a propos spooks. Diverted my attention to Abe Bailey who, I hope, will help the Foundation. He told me he would gladly give £50,000 to any doctor who could cure his arthritis.
	11 Feb, Wed	Wrote all the morning – chiefly to Abe Bailey to whom I had promised to send the Report of the Conference. I began about his arthritis & then let him off with the Introduction. H.E.V. Pickstone and du Toit came to lunch. I arranged to visit former at his fruit farm at Stellenbosch on Sat[urda]y & must note his qualities there. To tea at the Club and met Smuts (see Tuesday) Farrar permanent head of Treasury & many other possibly useful people. Am getting on famously with my mission. But the proof of the pudding – the association of S.A. cooperation with my Foundation – is a good way off.
	12 Feb, Thu	Milner lunched with us & discussed the Native problem interestingly. He sees their limitations but insists that they must be allowed to own land. He agrees with us that the best solution of the Cape S.A. problem is to try and establish a white working farmer community, the natives doing the most unskilled labour. We went to the Botanic Gardens at Newlands, Harold Compton an intimate Cambridge pal of Gerald's, the Director, receiving us.
	13 Feb, Fri	Attended dreariest function – the opening of Parliament by the Earl of Athlone & Princess Alice, with Princess Beatrice, apparently on her own. The usual King's Speech, telling nothing & hinting less than is usual. It had to be read in the Boer patois by the Pres't. of the Senate. Snobbery to the nth of course, but sincere & deep feelings besides. Smuts lunched us and was very interesting (& interested on what I had to tell him) about Ireland. He found the South quite as impracticable as the North when Lloyd George asked him to help towards a settlement in 1921-2. He had strongly urged the Cabinet to give Dominion Home Rule with no reservations. "Let them have tariffs, armies & navies – anything they want". He thinks Europe will recover in time. Time is the solvent of all political problems is his philosophy & ignoring this truth the cause of nearly all political errors. I pointed out that in S.A. time was on the side of the natives & he had no answer. He had some of his ex Ministers to meet us & showed his bilinguality. I asked him in which language he thought. "In domestic matters in Dutch, in European & other large questions in English. But when he had to speak he thought in the language he had to use.
	14 Feb, Sat	A Mrs. Dockrell from Dublin lent us a 6 cylinder Minerva & Sheridan took us to Paarl – a 5 mile rural street in the fruit & wine country and Stellenbosch where I paid my respects to John F.X. Merriman – a fine old S.A. statesman now 84 and stricken. About 4 months ago his wife died suddenly & he had a stroke next day. He was 54 years in the Cape Parl't & still haunts the chamber. His mind is quite gone. On our way from Paarl to Stellenbosch lunched & spent some

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		hours with HEV Pickstone, fruit grower & enthusiastic cooperator. Got immense help for our mission. He is getting up a meeting at Paarl for me next Sat[urda]y & I ought to have a great chance of doing good at it to cooperation & the Foundation.
	15 Feb, Sun	For the day to Sheridans at St. James' for lunch & to the Thornes to tea. Dull but restful after a hard day yesterday & before what I fear will be a hard week.
	16 Feb, Mon	Edward Strutt arrived at the Mt. Nelson Hotel & I had a long talk with him. I am being greatly advertised for my meeting next Sat[urda]y in the papers & shall have a great opportunity.
	17 Feb, Tue	Edward Strutt read my Introduction & approved of it. <u>He doubts whether wheat can be grown to pay.</u> But he is heart & soul for cooperation, although it is no use to him in its present state of <u>unorganisation</u> . More talk with du Toit & preparation of my speech for Saturday.
[MLA – Member of the Legislative Assembly]	18 Feb, Wed	E R Syfret lent us a very good car and we went to see Sir Lionel Phillips in his costly old Dutch home rejuvenated. He had an old sister & his wife (sick & miserable) in the house. More interesting was the real farm of Jagger M.L.A. a man who had started life peddling in Cape Town & is now hugely rich. He is developing every resource of the soil over 8000 acres (1100 arable) Fruit, mealies, oats & vetches for silage &c. He dries fruit & sells it fresh, has a dairy herd, pigs etc & poultry. But all the work is done by some 45 natives with 8 white foremen supervising. Can it last? What are the natives thinking? Is it a white man's country? 80° in the shade all today. Motor very refreshing.
	19 Feb, Thu	Dictated half my speech for Sat[urda]y at the Ministry of Agriculture. There the Registrar of Cooperative Societies (Retief) had come from Pretoria to meet me. J.W. Jagger came to lunch & Pickstone after. A very heavy day. Edward Strutt & his daughter-in-law (née Devas) left for the North where a young Strutt is farming. I like them both. He will be helpful to the Foundation. He is pessimistic about British farming alas.
	20 Feb, Fri	Dictated second half of speech for Press. Lunched with Green, Editor of Argus. Moved from Mt. Nelson Hotel, Cape Town to Queens Hotel, Seapoint. The Prophet <u>abroad!</u> Cape Town Argus 21/2/25 [Newspaper item pasted in:] SIR HORACE PLUNKETT, who spoke at Paarl to-day on the subject which he understands better than any other man living, is one of the least pretentious-looking of celebrities. He talks slowly and with some diffidence, and it is only gradually that you realise that this little grey man is burning with great purposes, and that behind his economy of words there lies much culture and a powerful constructive intellect. When Eton and Oxford had done with him, Horace Plunkett, threatened with lung trouble, went cattle ranching in California. He has still many good stories to tell of the happy years he spent there, and of his many subsequent visits to America. In 1889 he returned to Ireland and set to work on the redemption of the country districts. The formation of the Irish Agricultural Organisation some years later marked a new epoch in the history of Ireland. The co-operation movement indeed

Correspondence [Notes]	1925	Diary Entry
		<p>has transformed Ireland and is its chief hope for the future. ***</p> <p>His Favourite Saying.</p> <p>What Ireland thinks of Sir Horace Plunkett was shown in 1919, when the Irish Convention assembled and he was unanimously elected to its chairmanship. And it was not Sir Horace's fault that it did not succeed either.</p> <p>A favourite saying of his used to be, 'We must disinfect Irish politics with a little commonsense.' It is a motto which is, by the way, particularly suitable to South Africa.</p>
	21 Feb, Sat	<p>Before 8 A.M. du Toit fetched us for the drive to Paarl. In Cape Town we picked up one Fourie M.L.A., one of Hertzog's Ministers. He was sent to balance Sir Thomas Smartt. The day was torrid – 100° in the shade at Paarl. I got leave to speak without coat or waistcoat – the Chairman (Pickstone) doing the same. There were about 100 present – numerically bad, but by all accounts the "key men" were all present. I spoke for 50 minutes & held the audience. The best point I made was that the white man had to justify his position, using his brain & the sweat of the dark man's brow, by demonstrating that he could use the resources he had grabbed to the advantage of the majority. Too tired to remember tonight how I put it.</p> <p>There followed a lunch – another speech. Gerald spoke well for the Foundation.</p> <p>On way home went to tea with Sir Thomas Smartt & wife. Lord Methuen was there. A lovely spot.</p>
	22 Feb, Sun	<p>Worn out after yesterday. Du Toit took us for a beautiful drive round the Victorian Road to the Government wine farm at Groot Constantia where the manager – a charming man with a nice wife & family told us all about the wine making industry. Otherwise I simply loafed & rested. The temperature fell to 70°. Very refreshing breeze off the sea. I talked lazily to fellow guests at the Hotel upon the future of the White race in S.A. No one seems to have any idea what is going to happen.</p>
[O.F.S. – Orange Free State]	23 Feb, Mon	<p>Lunched with E.M.O. Clough, Clerk of Senate & attended debate in Legislative Assembly nearly all in Dutch! BJ Bourke (of Karroo Kom, P.O. Vierfontein. O.F.S.) his brother-in-law was there. A fine young fellow, doing his utmost to work out on his own & other farms the economic, social & political problems of South African Agriculture. He wants to promote settlements of whites – British preferably.</p> <p>The Argus came out with a very helpful leader on my mission. The two whips arranged today a joint meeting of Senate & L[egative].A[ssembly]. at Parliament House for Thursday – they wanted Wed[nesday] but I had to ask for more time to recover from the Saturday ordeal – at which I am to talk upon the political aspects of agric'l coop'n.</p>
	24 Feb, Tue	<p>General Kemp, Minister of Agriculture, asked me to come & see him. He wanted me to advise him on some technical points in his agricultural policy of which he appears to know as near nothing as makes no matter. Did some work in the town – all detail.</p>
To Campbell, Richard (IRS)	25 Feb, Wed	<p>Called on Major Featherstone, British Trade Commissioner. There I heard the gloomiest account of the White man in S.A. The major evidently hated his job & the people among whom his lot was cast. Next to Dr. W.J. Viljoen, Sup[erintenden]t-General of</p>

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		Educ'n in Cape Province who is said to specialise in rural education. He read me some of his latest pronouncements on the subject. He seemed competent but neither of us had time for a good talk. Saw several people at the Club & then came to the Hotel to rest for the morrow.
	26 Feb, Thu	At 10.15 A.M. I addressed members of both Houses & parties in a big Committee Room in the Parliament House for an hour. I repeated the Paarl speech except that I stressed the political aspects of agric'l Coop'n. I ended with a variant on Roosevelt's advice to Britain in Egypt – "Cooperate or get out". There were 45 present – the attention was good & the questioning relevant. Temperature in the 90s, but they stuck it for 1½ hours. I have now done most of the work I can accomplish. I have given to the politicians & the business men a definite piece of advice. Its practical carrying out depends upon agricultural organisers & these will have to be provided somehow. My 1894 invention of the Agric'l Organ'n Society – a voluntary propagandist, educational and <u>organising</u> body, still holds good. The English A.O.S. failed by not training the organisers. The Dorset experiment will probably show how this can best be done.
	27 Feb, Fri	Dr. Viljoen, chief official of Cape Province Education Department lunched with us at the Club & added to our knowledge of S.A. Pickstone advised us to go by the steamer which is to take us home to East London, Port Elizabeth & Durban so as to see more agriculturists during the ship's delays in port, before we return. It is hard to know what to do. To see only Cape Town & the surrounding country would be inadequate. But we have seen representative people from everywhere & can see many more. We are getting "Cooperasie" even through the thick Boer skull.
	28 Feb, Sat	To town to work for half the day – back to hotel to rest other half. Gave up the trip along East Coast. Found I must leave Gerald in Cape Town to reap where I have sown for the Foundation & I dare not travel alone in the heat.
Fr Young, Conrad	1 Mar, Sun	Very unwell, though nothing definite – only pains all over – thought it was influenza. Moped all day.
[Herbst]	2 Mar, Mon	Much better & did light work. Discussed experimental Raiffeisenism in the Transkei – a purely native Territory up North – with Major Erbst [<i>sic</i>] & Dr. Loram of the Native Affairs Dept. of which the Premier is Minister. They were grateful to me. Mail day. Daisy sent letter from Oliver whose love affair with Jessica Hughes seems likely to be ended by the father's refusal to give her a pittance.
	3 Mar, Tue	To a good agricultural show at Rosebank. Gerald unwell. Du Toit drove me there & Smuts back. A luncheon at which Athlone, Kemp & Smuts were the chief speakers – I was promised not to be called upon. The crowd insisted & I spoke for 2 to 3 minutes – on nothing – & was well-received. Talked on way back to Smuts – who drove his own car & had no other passengers – very intimately. Told him he should prevent his followers being captious or otherwise than constructively critical of the Pact (S.A. party + Labour). Said it would be far better for the pact to have a

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		full & fair trial. I praised S's speech upon treatment of the non-Europeans & said I regarded this as the problem which would test white statesmanship. I sketched my solution – the creation of an agric'l economy which would not only establish the European minority, but would be best for the colored majority into the bargain. He begged me to give my views to the public! I may.
	4 Mar, Wed	Tiring day of interviewing people & preparing speech for Rotary Club tomorrow.
	5 Mar, Thu	Addressed 50 Rotarians in their newly formed Club in Cape Town, in a Restaurant opening on to the noisiest street in Cape Town. Spoke badly but was well received. Told my hearers I was not happy about future of Whites in S.A. Edward Strutt & his daughter-in-law called for tea. They had been to his son who is farming 20 hours by rail in the Karroo 100,000 acres, 17,000 sheep, £100,000 spent on irrigation works – and everything rosy – outwardly.
	6 Mar, Fri	Very tired & unwell. The Van der Byls, the Willie Jamesons' friends, asked us to visit them at their farm. But it is 6 hours by train, followed by 1½ hours motor. (It is only 4 hours by motor from Cape Town!) I think the journey would be too much for a short visit.
[Imperial Secretary – B.E.H. Clifford]	7 Mar, Sat	To Abe Bailey's. Thought it was a bachelor party, but the Archbishop & wife, Sir Drummond Chaplin & wife, Sir David Graaf, the Imperial Secretary etc. etc. All, my secretary included, with ?squila tailcoats & white waistcoats & self with dining coat & button boots! I felt very unwell & had great difficulty getting through the dinner – some dozen guests! Got some talk with Abe – a hard, uncultured adventurer I should say in early life. He has amassed millions they say. Abe Bailey had gone to see Paul Kruger when there had been a bad slump in the Rand. "You remind me of a baboon with whom I was sitting before the fire" said the old man. "He burned his tail in the fire & turned round & bit me."
[Creswell]	8 Mar, Sun	Sheridan turned up & took me to call on a Dockrell of Dublin while Abe & the Imperial Secretary golfed. Then a big luncheon party (where I was better dressed!) The interesting man at it Col. Creswell [<i>sic</i>], Minister of Defence. Very able and cultured. Much talk over my ideas on agriculture etc. In afternoon borrowed a car & went to Admiral Fitzmaurice for tea at Simonstown. On return found a Professor Freemantle who had farmed out here & is now doing some governmental work. The temperature was down to 64° which after what we have been having in Cape Town & at Seapoint chilled me.
[C. W. Cousins]	9 Mar, Mon	Back to Queen's Hotel where we shall rest till we sail 20th barring a week-end. En route lunched with Col. Creswell – a really able cultured man, Minister of Defence and Labour. Also present to meet us Cummins [<i>sic</i>] who produced the 1921 Census. He too was able. Both pessimistic – or rather very anxious – for the future of Europeans in S.A. Both agree that I am fundamentally right in basing solution on reorganised agriculture.
	10 Mar, Tue	Gerald was unwell & kept his bed. I had to go & see Grobler (Minister of Lands) in Cape Town. It was 93°! I could do no

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		work, but I had an interesting talk with Grobler on Cooperation.
	11 Mar, Wed	General Kemp got me to lunch with the advisory Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture. They were the governing body of the Central Farmers Union. I had a talk with them on Cooperation at the Ministry after lunch & I think helped them in some matters.
To Campbell, Richard (IRS)	12 Mar, Thu	Tried ineffectively to do some work, Gerald being ill. Had another talk with Creswell. Poor day.
	13 Mar, Fri	Worked at the Memorandum on the S.A. situation – stressing agric’l development – and got ahead with it. Donovan, Editor of The Cape called with his Dutch wife, and a very nice Irish Mrs. Berlyn(?) took us for a drive – a luxurious motor car. But oh how sick of it all I am! I want to get home & end my days in rest & quiet – if I may.
	14 Mar, Sat	Spent the morning writing my final review of the agric’l situation for the Cabinet. Then took train for Klapmuts where we were to week-end with Pickstone. He is the keenest cooperator in S.A. & he & his wife are perfect in their hospitality. The house charming in its simplicity – and the menage the same – <u>but</u> one misses electric light. With the thermometer at 80° & a wind making the candles gutter when a window is opened ever so little – well that is a little discomfort to all but good sleepers.
	15 Mar, Sun	Lunched with Sir Thomas Smartt – otherwise spent whole day with Pickstone. His life story came out. His father was rich – Lancastrian – iron & steel – sugar plantations – knew Lincoln. The son was a prospector in the widest sense – Mexico, California & S.A. where Rhodes took to him &, I think, financed him. In his mature life he has settled down to fruit growing which he does in a large way in the Cape Province and the O.F.S. A public spirited cooperator of the very best kind, he will back the Foundation. He was worth all the other South Africans we have met put together – for the purpose of our mission.
	16 Mar, Mon	Left at 6.45 A.M. for a station 29 miles from Capetown. (At one stage of the journey we were 35 miles from it). Arrived via Stellenbosch in time for a late breakfast. Walter Carmichael from Transkei had arrived at Seapoint & was occupying my rooms. He was an earnest good fellow & really interested in native “uplift”. But oh the boredom. He had just <u>not</u> the imagination to prevent him discussing details of his work which I could not possibly advise on! I was tired & unwell & I was I fear nearly rude. I tried to work at the memorandum I am to leave behind but failed.
	17 Mar, Tue	Sir Thomas Smartt (a Meath man) presided at a lunch to me at the Civil Service Club, Cape Town, on this St. Paddy’s Day. Good discourse & the shortest of speeches. A little work on the Memorandum.
	18 Mar, Wed	As my visit ends people are more glad to listen to me. Today had talks with JW Jagger – merchant prince – Smartt, General Byron & many others whose help will be needed. Also visited the Windsor Castle.
	19 Mar, Thu	Half an hour with Hertzog, a good talk with Harold & with Lamont the manager of the Land Bank & writing the

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		Memorandum made a very full & hard day.
	20 Mar, Fri	Innumerable goodbyes to people I did not know. But I left the Memorandum finished and hope it may bear fruit. The ship was crowded but its deck space is ample. Byron & Smartt saw me off. Smuts sent a message to regret that he could not come to the ship.
	21 Mar, Sat	327 Marconigram from John X Merriman wishing me bon voyage. We shant meet again in this world & if there is another I should like to be with him in it.
	22 Mar, Sun	383 The lung trouble returned last night. Spat up much phlegm & not a little blood in it at first.
	23 Mar, Mon	379 Got inside Capricorn in afternoon.
	24 Mar, Tue	382 Another bad night. Cloudy 80°.
	25 Mar, Wed	389
	26 Mar, Thu	383. 86° about & (to me) very oppressive and weakening.
	27 Mar, Fri	381
	28 Mar, Sat	371
	29 Mar, Sun	379 Woke up to find it cool – in the upper 70s. After the equatorial heat it was wonderfully refreshing.
Fr Young, Conrad	30 Mar, Mon	362
	31 Mar, Tue	350 North wind & (for the tropics!) very cold.
	1 Apr, Wed	359 Passed Teneriffe, the mountain snow clad & looking its best.
[<i>Actum est de</i> – it is all over with]	2 Apr, Thu	279. Went ashore at Madeira. Warm there but cold at sea and my throat & lungs giving signs of coming trouble. <i>Actum est de</i> H.P. that played his small part in the world which looks gloomier & gloomier the more I have time to reflect on the ghastly suffering it contains.
	3 Apr, Fri	[No entry]
[LRCP - Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians] [Jeffries]	4 Apr, Sat	383. Influenza! The ‘Surgeon’ a L.R.C.P. & obviously useless had to be consulted, but an Irishman, Dr. J.F. Jefferies [<i>sic</i>], who had invited me to his house at Pretoria and who sat at our table intervened between the old dug out & me & got him to make up the best medicine the restricted supplies of the ship allowed. Temp 100.5°.
	5 Apr, Sun	373 Up half the day so as to be ready for the ordeal of the dock, Customs & journey of the morrow. Temp subnormal – so was the ship’s. Many old people have bad colds from the unwarmed ship coming into an English Spring out of the Tropics.
	6 Apr, Mon	Rose at 5 AM! Very weak & depressed. At Waterloo Karl Walter, looking sick met us. His dear & promising boy Grey was still in bed with pleurisy. The parents are terribly anxious. I think the boy will get right. But there’s a bad family history, his father & mother having died of consumption. Looked in at the office & Mount St & came straight out to the Crest House with a mountain of correspondence to be dealt with. Temperature up again to

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		101.5°. My dear old doctor Wingfield is dead. I shall miss him badly. The news of the Collieries is as bad as can be – I do not know what will happen to my estate. However, if I die soon, as I shall the American property should help.
	7 Apr, Tue	S.S. Beare, who will now be my personal physician came to see me. The lungs were not as bad as I expected. The pains from lack of adequate morphia are very hard to bear. Sometimes I think they will drive me out of my mind at night.
	8 Apr, Wed	Temperature jumping about. Very sickly. But happily a perfect spring day.
[M/S – morphine sulfate]	9 Apr, Thu	Gerald – little blame to him – spent the day in town. I was very depressed. The doctor tells me I must not fight the M/S so hard when I have bronchitis and influenza.
	10 Apr, Fri	Real penance. Very <u>sub</u> normal temperature which did not relieve the influenza depression. Dan Lane called & was gloomy enough to send me down another point. I am still choked with phlegm. My 24 hours' work is to get it up. God – what a life for a man who could still do some of the work that is really needed.
	11 Apr, Sat	Weaker. Temp jumped once to 100° & then went subnormal again.
[8 stone 4 lbs = 116 lbs]	12 Apr, Sun	Glorious weather. Got up & sat out. Have lost 1 stone from my best last year. Naked weight 8st. 4lbs! But I had less malaise through the day. I felt I might get back into a fairly comfortable state but cannot yet confidently hope for the subactive career for an old man I had thought I might map out. The chronic bronchitis cannot be cured and my restricted breathing is a terrible handicap.
	13 Apr, Mon	Got out for a walk. Weak & miserable. Wrote some letters. Sir George Barnes called with Sir Thomas Holland who presided over the Indian Industrial Commission I was to have served on when I was burned with X rays.
	14 Apr, Tue	Very unwell with indigestion added to my sufferings. Some drastic cure will be necessary if I am to stop my rapid downward tendency. Every night is a simple Hell. Karl Walter cheered us by coming to dine & sleep. His boy is better but not quite “out of the wood”.
To Young, Conrad	15 Apr, Wed	Pain all over off & on all day. My active life is over I realise.
	16 Apr, Thu	At night Bryan came to talk coal. The prospect was so bad that I sent for my will and shall have to leave cash instead of shares to those whom I want to help to a definite amount.
	17 Apr, Fri	I told Bryan of my unsatisfactory state of health. (My temperature rose to 101° from no apparent cause) and why I was anxious to put my affairs in order & insure the family interests & my public work not suffering from my early demise. He is going to be the standby of the family and they are lucky to have so fine a guide philosopher & friend!
	18 Apr, Sat	More talks with Gerald about the best ordering of my life. His clear brain is a great help. I doubt whether I can ever shake off the invalidism which has settled down on me in the last year. My

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		resistance, as is inevitable, gets weaker month by month. I have made up my mind to settle my affairs & be ready to pass.
Fr Young, Conrad	19 Apr, Sun	Called on George Barnes & took a short walk. My chest trouble persists.
(To Campbell, Richard fr Cullinan, J.S.; IRS)	20 Apr, Mon	To London. Temperature up to 100.2°. Too sick to do any business. Supped with Tom & May who are very unhappy about Ireland. They think all of their class will be driven out.
	21 Apr, Tue	Business with lawyers & Memorandum for S[outh].A[frica].
	22 Apr, Wed	Back to Crest House with high temp & a good deal of pain in the chest, this time on the left upper section.
	23 Apr, Thu	My good friend Adams, just back from lecturing at Harvard, came over for lunch & tea, driven by his wife. I got Karl Walter to meet him & we had a good Foundation talk.
(To Cullinan, J.S. fr Campbell, Richard; IRS)	24 Apr, Fri	In house all day. Temperature ranged from 95° to 101°. Beare (my doctor) was away at a Zebrugger celebration. He was on The Warwick as a Naval doctor in that heroic exploit.
	25 Apr, Sat	Dr. Beare came. He kept me in bed & can do nothing. My health has declined in a mysterious way. There is poison somewhere which is playing tricks with my body warmth. I am simply worn out. It would have been better for me if pneumonia had taken me peacefully before my life ceased to be the inspiration (in some fellow-workers eyes only) I want it to be. I can add little to the poor scheme of things I have thought out and handed over with a large slice of my means to my "Foundation".
	26 Apr, Sun	Again my temperature sank to the low 95's. (The chart begins at 96!) Preston came & had a gloomy talk upon Pelton & Stella Gill & Dan Lane came on a Good Samaritan call. I kept my bed.
	27 Apr, Mon	Temperature getting back to normal. Still very depressed.
	28 Apr, Tue	Karl came to see me & talk Foundation. I was feeling better.
	29 Apr, Wed	Rested. Gerald's parents called.
	30 Apr, Thu	To town for a Bowes meeting where I found Bryan had played the devil with Gardiner & Walsh from misunderstanding them. Saw A.D. Hall and bucked him up about the Foundation. Lennox Robinson lunched with G.H. & me.
	1 May, Fri	Prewett came up & reported his Dorsetshire investigations. They were highly satisfactory. Bryan came also & I attended a weary Pelton meeting with him. The situation there is simply desperate. Brought him back with me to The Crest House.
	2 May, Sat	Talking coal with Bryan.
	3 May, Sun	Took Bryan to London and saw Daisy who had arrived in the morning from Ireland. Mamie had come from Newmarket to fetch her charming daughter (aet 4½). A pleasant gathering. I told D. of my physical condition, financial position & general plans for the few years which may remain. Then back to The Crest House where Lennox Robinson was about to leave. Lane called & talked on a future life. Individual survival he does not

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[<i>Hamlet</i> , act 3, scene 1]		believe in. Nor I fear do I. It makes it hard to hold on beyond the possession of full mental faculties. Certainly to “bear the fardels” incidental to such a miserable state as mine takes some courage.
	4 May, Mon	Gerald announced that he was not well & must have a holiday in Italy.
	5 May, Tue	Went to town to work at the office. Meant to come back tomorrow but came back tonight feeling unwell.
	6 May, Wed	To town again & fetched Daisy, Gerald stayed for a dinner party with his literary friends. Beach Thomas came for a dine & sleep.
	7 May, Thu	Beach Thomas left after I had interested him in the Foundation.
	8 May, Fri	To town to meet Adams & Hall at Foundation office. Not very satisfactory meeting as Hall came late.
<i>Fr Young, Conrad</i>	9 May, Sat	Daisy left & the Mitchisons came. My secretary is enjoying himself.
	10 May, Sun	Very drowsy. But the guests enjoyed themselves.
	11 May, Mon	Up early to meet Smith Gordon, Oliver, & Eddie all in town today. With the first conferred upon Irish things – I.A.O.S., Irish Statesman, Kilteragh Development Co & H.P. Foundation. Gave Oliver fatherly advice re his marriage and tried to get Eddie to talk sensibly over his business affairs. Very tiring day.
To Campbell, Richard (IRS)	12 May, Tue	G.H. left for Italy. I had a good deal to do & fear I shall soon collapse if I don’t get more help. If he comes back in health & spirits he may take over my Foundation work. Then I could rest.
	13 May, Wed	Worked at the office for a couple of hours & then motored to Powder Hill, Boars Hill, Oxford. En route saw Beatrice Byrne in a costly suite at Hans Crescent Hotel. Very tired & have 3 tiring days before me.
[blank in original]	14 May, Thu	Stayed at home in the Adams cottage except for a call on the Poet Laureate who was as friendly as ever. Spent the morning with Prewett & Skilbeck (understudy to P. in Dorsetshire & a first rate boy) and indoctrinated the latter with the “Three Betters”. Miss Hadow came to supper. Rest but_____.
	15 May, Fri	Called on Orwin & I think educated him on the Foundation. There called on me Hart Synnot, Julian Huxley, Leys & Lindsay, Master of Balliol. A heavy day’s talk.
	16 May, Sat	After an hour with Col. Peel & talks with Hart Synnot & Miss Hadow, motored home, there to entertain Bryan & Dorothy.
	17 May, Sun	Dorothy insisted in going to Eton to see her boy, whom she has already visited once in the ten days he has been there! The boy was in my house. On its walls I saw my name Hon. H C Plunkett in the list of those who left in 1872. I saw my room – Little changed! But the street outside was noisy with motor traffic & one boy had a wireless set, there was a bath with hot & cold water. Then after tea called on Sir G Barnes & had a talk with his farming son-in-law Capt. Fitzroy.
	18 May, Mon	Daisy came.

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Fr Young, Conrad	19 May, Tue	A sick day. But what a blessing to have a quiet healthy house!
To Young, Conrad	20 May, Wed	Went to Hampton Court. K Walter came at dinner.
	21 May, Thu	To town to confer with the organisers of the Women's Institutes. There seemed to be a hundred of them at least. Hart Synnot read them an excellent paper on agriculture & women. I had to say a few words – lost my way & broke down badly. They were very kind & sympathetic to the H.P. that had been. Lady Dorothy Meynell presided & struck me as very able. Miss Hadow was as competent and to the point as ever.
	22 May, Fri	Bullock & his son came over to lunch & spend the afternoon.
	23 May, Sat	Went to see my goddaughter Marjorie Goschen (née Blacker) with Bryan & Dorothy. Colonel Goschen is a gunner & did well in the war & since. Eva Blacker (née Beaumont) was there also. I had not seen her for 28 years.
	24 May, Sun	Called (Daisy & I, Bryan & Dorothy having left) on “Georgie Blgrave”, now widow of Cecil Keith Falconer, first to be killed in Boer War, in her flat 3 storeys up in Hampton Court. She must be near my age and lives all alone, feeding on the memory of a very lively social life and newly embraced Roman Catholicism. She has made herself a chapel in a small room which suggests a bath etc – modern conveniences not yet introduced into that historic edifice! Poor thing – waiting for the call with arthritis creeping over her body. Sometimes she is months without leaving her rooms! Yet she is cheery and gets pleasure out of the daily paper and their politics!!
Fr Campbell, Richard (IRS) [sister-in-law]	25 May, Mon	To town for a Stella Gill Meeting & business at the office for which I was too tired. Went to tea with Mrs. Gifford Pinchot (chez her sister [<i>sic</i>] Lady Johnstone 19 Seymour St., looking a nervous wreck) and heard a lot of my dear friend Gifford. Left Daisy with Ada Watson. She heard discouraging news of Jessica Hughes' (Oliver's fiancée) father from Dalziel. It was an undesirable match from the family point of view, for if Oliver does not marry money Killeen must be auctioned! It would be a sad ending to a family which had done its duty to its god & its neighbours (as far as we know) for 7 Centuries!
	26 May, Tue	Tried to work at the office but got through very little. Had a bet on the Derby and lost my money! However, it was a 14 to 1 choice. A Jew had owned the horse and after running it in Paris had spent £1000 in bringing it safely to London. Daisy met him & he said the chances were 4 to 1 against him. He was “nowhere”.
	27 May, Wed	Had a talk with Aspland upon Stella Gill. Brought Bullock to Crest House.
	28 May, Thu	Went to see a Cooperative Poultry organisation at Virginia Water. It seemed very efficient but the Manager was asleep having been up to 3 AM attending to a rush caused by Derby week.
	29 May, Fri	Had Miss Lee to help in the morning. Then Wisley & a walk with Bullock. That was all!
	30 May, Sat	Daisy & T McGreevy came – the latter for a dine & sleep only to talk over his relations with the Carnegie people.

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	31 May, Sun	McGreevy left. I drove Daisy to The Malt House, Hurley (near Henley) a delightful house near also to Hurley Lock which was a sight with all the petrol launches passing through. Beatrice Byrne had taken it & was entertaining her mother, Sheila & Phyllis!
	1 Jun, Mon	Killeen lunched en route to his camp. Then Daisy & I drove to The Far Corner, K. Walter's cottage. It pleased him. In the evening I fell heavily onto the fender in a sort of fainting fit. I had a bad night after the shock – some fever. But nothing broken.
	2 Jun, Tue	To town to meet Adams & Walter in the office of the Foundation. Not well enough to help much myself. At midnight Gerald turned up at 105 unable to get a room in a Hotel. He slept in Walter's bed – with him! I could not let him share mine. In other days I have slept between two cowboys.
	3 Jun, Wed	Did a little work at the office, attended a dreary Pelton SS Co meeting & went back to The Crest House with Gerald.
	4 Jun, Thu	[No entry]
To Cullinan, J.S. (IRS)	5 Jun, Fri	To London Town for the day. Walter was very unwell but leaves for Italy for a month's holiday tomorrow morning (if doctor allows). Heard & I tried to get information together to enable us to run the Foundation office while W. is away. Major Orme of the A.O.S. deceased & now of the Ministry of Agriculture called on me at my request. I asked him whether he would go & organise South African Agriculture if the money were put up by wealthy South Africans. He was recommended to me by Hart Synnot and I liked him. He would take the job & I wrote Hall whether he could get him seconded.
<i>Fr Young, Conrad</i>	6 Jun, Sat	G.H. went to Cambridge to deliver a lecture. I was going with him but had such a bad night that I dared not face the journey. A day alone.
	7 Jun, Sun	Slept most of the day – or rather dozed. I sometimes fear my mind is going. It is only in working order a very small part of the day. Alone all day. Called on the Lock[e] Kings. She (Dame Ethel) is a most capable woman who worked splendidly in the War. Turned her house into a hospital <u>and ran it</u> .
	8 Jun, Mon	G.H. came back. It is very hot at Crest House & quite cold at Cambridge.
	9 Jun, Tue	Went to see Kew Gardens & worked.
	10 Jun, Wed	To London for work at office. 82° in shade!
	11 Jun, Thu	After a bad night I had a temperature of 103°. Sent for Beare. The old spot on the right lung made the trouble.
	12 Jun, Fri	Weak. But temperature normal. Sat out all day & felt better than I expected.
	13 Jun, Sat	Daisy came to lunch & I took her to Betty Balfour. Gerald & Mrs. Sidgwick there & less frigid under D's influence. On our return Lennox Robinson came.

Correspondence [Notes]	1925	Diary Entry
	14 Jun, Sun	Norman Hapgood came for lunch. So did Oliver & Jessica Hughes to whom he is not engaged, she very honourably not wishing to tie him if her father may (as he says he will) leave them none of his money. He is very rich & has only one other child – a daughter. It was the first time I had talked to Jessica. I could get nothing interesting out of her, probably because I had nothing interesting to give in exchange. But she seemed nice minded from all she said to Daisy.
	15 Jun, Mon	To London for the day for work at office (including a meeting with Major Orme when I came to terms with him about going to South Africa if I can get the money put up for my agricultural organisation scheme) and a Pelton Steamship Annual General Meeting which no shareholder other than directors attended.
	16 Jun, Tue	Major Orme came for an afternoons talk about my South African scheme. Gough of the Overseas Farmers Coop Federations Ltd. whom I had long wished to meet came later. Two fine cooperators. How I wish I could work with such men.
[Smyth] <i>Fr Cullinan, J.S. (IRS)</i>	17 Jun, Wed	Went to see Edith Somerville chez Dame Ethel Smythe [<i>sic</i>]. She was as courageous as ever about Ireland. Conan Doyle & Sir Arthur Keith are having a “joint debate” this week in the Morning Post on Spiritualism. This brought up the cooperation with Violet Martin in which she still believes.
	18 Jun, Thu	Daisy left & Bryan & Dorothy came. Spent day in London writing a long letter to J.W. Jagger & a short one to Pickstone proposing an elaborate scheme for organising the Boer farmers, the Foundation sending out an expert (Major Orme) to superintend. A very hard day’s work.
	19 Jun, Fri	Naomi Mitchison, Mrs. Dominic[k] Spring Rice & a Prof’r. Beresford of Belfast University (Pol[itical]. Econ[om]y) came to lunch & tea. I was dead tired after yesterday.
	20 Jun, Sat	Called on George Price.
	21 Jun, Sun	Called on the Barnes’s. He is gloomy about the economic state of the country. Unemployment is mounting up, the exports of manufactured articles & imports of raw material decreasing. Last week was Ascot and its ostentatious extravagance loomed bigger in the papers than the sorrows of the unemployed & their families. England <u>is</u> going down fast I fear.
	22 Jun, Mon	Dr. Jeffries, who most kindly offered to house me at Pretoria had I gone there brought his wife to The Crest House for the day. Heard took them to Alton to see the heliotherapy I am subsidising. I stayed at home & made plans for going to Ireland – a duty I must discharge at whatever risk to health. I feel sure I can do a little good there.
[Gen. Boulanger – French reactionary, anti- German Minister of War, backed by Clemenceau.	23 Jun, Tue	To town for work. Saw Col. House. He had just returned from Paris where he said to Clemenceau & others in effect, “Have I rightly ‘sensed’ the situation? If the franc falls badly France will be unable to maintain her military establishment – air force etc. She may then get desperate, despair of security or solvency, and make a dash at Germany.” To which Clemenceau replied “You are right. A man with a horse might appear”. Presumably a Boulanger. I told the Colonel many people have some such

Correspondence [Notes]	1925	Diary Entry
(Known for his black horse.)]		nightmare, but the unemployment at one end & pleasure at the other occupy the popular mind.
	24 Jun, Wed	Had to lunch Dr. Taylor, head of Bureau of Agricultural Economics in the Department of Agriculture at Washington. He tried hard to get me to attend Holman's conference upon agricultural education & organisation at Philadelphia in July. Perhaps I should but for my health. Philadelphia in July is much like Hell.
Fr Young, Conrad	25 Jun, Thu	Adams & wife motored to Crest Ho[use] & we had a great talk on many subjects. The chief subject was the state of Europe in its probable effect on the economic situation in England. He was very pessimistic.
	26 Jun, Fri	To town for work in office and lunch with Lady Lavery to meet Pirandello an Italian impresario & playwright who has taken London by storm, so I am told. G.B.S. & wife, John McCormack, Lytton Strachey & Daisy among the guests 13 in all. Home via Beaconsfield near where Mrs. W L Courtney has a delightful cottage. I wanted to talk Ireland & the Carnegie Trust over with her.
	27 Jun, Sat	The Bernard Shaws came to lunch & in the afternoon Ralph Stuart Wortley, wife & daughter (Anne, a nice girl). G.B.S. was at his best & apparently in good health. He told me that he had discussed the economic situation with Sidney Webb who refuses to admit that there is anything alarming in it! Meanwhile the unemployed are increasing from 40,000 to 50,000 <u>per week</u> , the export of manufactures is decreasing alarmingly & so is the import of raw materials, showing that the manufacturers do not look for improved trade in the near future. Ralph Stuart Wortley is looking very well in spite of having had some kind of "siezure" [<i>sic</i>] described by his doctor as "not serious but a warning".
	28 Jun, Sun	A peaceful Sunday. The Stuart Wortleys enjoyed it. Bryan came in the afternoon to talk coal. He was not as depressing as his subject.
	29 Jun, Mon	To town for 2 nights – coal & Foundation. Went to a Checkow [<i>sic</i>] play, The Cherry Orchard, by the Oxford Players. It depicts Russian life. There is no plot – only a chapter in the life of a feckless bourgeois family whose house in the country is sold over their heads – the oddest lot of people in utterly unknown surroundings – that's all. "Mary Grey" was what the reporters call "superb". But as G.B.S. said of her she plays all the others off the stage. Pelton & Stella Gill meetings were a dreary function. No hope for either. Gerald is getting really interested in the Foundation.
To Cullinan, J.S.	30 Jun, Tue	Carnegie UK Trust in morning. Foundation in afternoon and quiet supper with the Percevals at night.
[Mrs. Willard Dickerman Straight]	1 Jul, Wed	Irish sub-Committee & exec C'tee of C.U.K.T. took most of day. Had Leonard Elmhirst, who has married Mrs. Douglas [<i>sic</i>] Straight (multimillionairess) lunched with G.H. & me. I think he

Correspondence [Notes]	1925	Diary Entry
		will help my "causes". Brought Daisy, who is going to Carlsbad with James Byrne back to The Crest House. She is very low in spirits, looks upon life as a dismal failure and keeps arguing that "nothing matters". She has done her best for Ireland and perhaps there at any rate she is right.
	2 Jul, Thu	[No entry]
To Young, Conrad	3 Jul, Fri	<p>To town, Karl having returned with his wife & boy both enormously benefited by their stay by the Mediterranean at Bordighera.</p> <p>Had a most interesting talk with House. He told me (for the first time) that agriculture was one of the few subjects he really cared for in his public life. That he said was the bond between us from our first meeting in 1912 when I got him to introduce me to Wilson & the leading men in the new administration. He had hoped that Houston (whom Wilson made Secretary of Agriculture on his advice without seeing him) he and I would work out together a great agricultural policy. Houston was utterly unresponsive. He was a hard, capable, self opinionated man. When Bryan resigned the Secretaryship of State (which House had been urged to take) Houston would probably have got the post. But "there would have been a head on collision" and House recommended Lansing – a mere clerk. House said that all through the war years only five men really helped him with their opinions – or words to that effect. I was one of them!</p> <p>We discussed prohibition. He is strongly for it but thinks concessions might be made for "very light wines & beers".</p> <p>Elmhurst [<i>sic</i>] and his wife came to tea at my flat. She is very charming and I greatly like him. I think they will help the Foundation.</p>
["Co-operation in Agriculture – South African Farmers at Wembley", <i>The Times</i> , 6 Jul, p. 22]	4 Jul, Sat	Gerald, Elmhurst, Karl & I attended a luncheon to 70 South African Farmers & some 30 others. I had to make the chief speech – a very dreary job – on cooperation. Then left for Dublin at 5.55 by a new route – the British & Irish S.S. Co from L'river]pool. It is over two & a half years since I saw the Ireland I worked for for over 30 years!
[Salthill Hotel, Monkstown]	5 Jul, Sun	<p>RAA met me at the boat, breakfasted Curtain & me & had Smith Gordon to meet me. Lennox Robinson called on me & lunched. I took him back to his gloriously situated cottage at Dalkey. Then to Douglas in Brennanstown House & back to the Salt Hill Hotel where I have a sitting room & bedroom. George O'Brien called. Brittain from whom I had bought cars lent me a Morris Cowley. I see I shall have to be careful not to get into the whirl.</p> <p>On the whole the first impression was favourable. But it was perfect weather – and Sunday!</p>
	6 Jul, Mon	To the Plunkett House where Riddall, Gregan, Fant, Misses Skipworth, Purtill, Philpot & Clark, Joseph, Tipping & his good wife, Æ and Susan [Mitchell]. All genuinely glad to see me & much talk we had. Then lunch at the Stephens Green Club with R.A. Met Harrison & others also glad. To the National Land Bank where I presided over the Annual General Meeting of the Kilteragh Development Co, S[mith].G[ordon]., Beckett being the rest of the company, the secretary (a brother of Douglas) an architect & lawyer also attended. Next to Kilteragh. The ruin was

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[Little Gooseberry Bush prob. HP's nickname for Lady Fingall; see also 24 Oct 1931.]		transformed into a vulgar conversion into 5 combined "Maisonettes". Saw Ogilvie, called on the Little Gooseberry Bush who almost shed tears over me & perhaps would have done had not the Gooseberry Fool been present. Back to the Hotel whither Norman & later Monteagle came.
	7 Jul, Tue	<p>"Business took me early to the city" and Norman, Riddall, McAuliffe of the Ministry of Ag took much of my time. Presided over a Board meeting of the Irish Statesman. Untangled some things. Called on poor old William Field & his sister. He is a pathetic figure – out of the public life he so easily entered in the days of the Parliamentary party & so easily held on to until the young men came in for what for the rest of his life is to be their own.</p> <p>In the evening Karl Walter came & reported that Gerald was too unwell to come over for the Foundation meeting tomorrow. His health is of real importance – vastly more than mine – even to my work. But for personal reasons I am unhappy at his sudden indisposition and fear it may be worse than he lets anyone know.</p>
	8 Jul, Wed	Hall, Adams, D O'Brien & Smith Gordon with Walter "in attendance" held a Foundation meeting. I kept out of it but had two interviews of importance – Blythe & McAuliffe, the Minister of Finance & the Adviser of Hogan (who is absent for a holiday) on cooperation. I think I am working the situation the best way that is possible in the circumstances. I shall have to get the whole F[ree]. S[tate]. Cabinet to understand my agric'l policy. Hall & Adams went back by night mail. I am writing in bed utterly worn out & hardly able to remember what I did. I took Hall & Adams out to President Cosgrave's house at Templeogue for an At Home & dined them at the Hotel.
To Cullinan, J.S. (IRS)	9 Jul, Thu	<p>Very tired. A big aftermath from yesterday. Karl stayed on & was very helpful. RAA & Norman both pleased at what they imagine to be the Foundation's intentions.</p> <p>Fletcher came to see me at the Hotel & told me of the hard times education was having under the uneducated regime. He has no active official chief. John MacNeill is Minister of Education & knows no more about technical instruction than I do of Gaelic literature.</p> <p>Everyone I meet seems sorry I have had to leave Ireland & glad to see me. The feeling is most kind on all hands. The Senate has to be reelected as to half its members & many wish I had not resigned even if I could not attend. I believe I should be easily elected if I were to stand! But I can do more good to Ireland in other ways.</p>
	10 Jul, Fri	<p>Another hard day at my old desk at The Plunkett House. Wrote a letter to Mitchell which I hope will have the effect of getting the Cooperative Reference Library moved to London – to the Abbey House. Wrote to Holman a letter to be read at the meeting of the summer session of the Institute of Cooperation in Philadelphia.</p> <p>Had a meeting of the literary advisers of the Irish Statesman. W.B. Yeats was oracular, Edmund Curtis constructively suggestive & two young T.C.D. fellows listened. I brought Æ to supper at Salthill Hotel & found him as fresh and marvellously interesting as ever.</p>

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[Local Gov't. & Public Health – James Aloysius Burke]	11 Jul, Sat	<p>Worked at the Plunkett Ho[use] ½ day. Then went to Lennox Robinson's to see Iphigeneia in Tauris acted admirably out of doors. Lastly to dinner with Gogarty to meet O'Higgins & McGilligan, the two Cabinet Ministers I asked him to get me in touch with. Neither turned up: but a not very interesting Minister for Local Gov't was there.</p> <p>In today's Irish Statesman "Observer" makes a damaging attack on the I.A.O.S. and the Cooperative (Irish agric'l) movement generally. In the next issue I must pulverise him and use his attack as a peg for big propaganda. It is pathetic that the anonymous enemy is C.C. Riddall, the oldest organiser of the I.A.O.S. whom I am struggling with the Government to get continued in office!!</p>
	12 Jul, Sun	<p>A day of poignant recollection. Fingall all alone at Killeen where we talked over past times, discussed his philosophy of life, motored (strange mode of locomotion!) to Dunsany & saw old Reid dying of cancer at 86. He told me he came to Dunsany 57 years ago & I remember it as if it was yesterday. Poor, valiant, Orange soul.</p> <p>The Dispensary Doctor, who knows the local political situation intimately dined. The L[ocal]. G[overnment]. Elections have just returned "gentlemen" at the head of the poll. (When will they be equally sane in National Elections – or allow the democracy to be educated?) Fingall snored as of yore and I had to prop open my eyes. But as we sat in the dark when darkness came I just managed not to offend the good Dr. Murnane.</p>
	13 Jul, Mon	<p>Left Fingall and his sole companions, some dozen cats, for work in Dublin. Fr. Finlay had returned & we had a most cordial meeting. I have yet to see Tim Healy, Cosgrave & McGilligan. Lunched with Minnie Fitzgerald. Lennox Robinson dined with me en route to London.</p>
<i>Fr Young, Conrad</i> ["Ireland's Contribution to Agricultural Thought and Development", <i>IS</i> , IV:19 (18 Jul), 2nd series, pp. 590-1]	14 Jul, Tue	<p>Back to Dublin. Finished letter to Irish Statesman which will be helpful to both the Agric'l Cooperative Movement & the Government who have to coordinate their agricultural policy with it. Endless letters which the typists at the Plunkett House made easy. Called on many including John Dillon, with whom a most interesting talk. In his district, where he conducts a large general trade and so knows the people intimately, he tells me there is a general desire for "The English to come back"! He is less pessimistic than he was, but the state of education is a terrible handicap. The teaching of Irish to the exclusion of other subjects he regards as a cruel & wanton tragedy.</p>
	15 Jul, Wed	<p>Long conference betw'n Meyrick Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture and I.A.O.S. Fr. F[inlay], R.A.A., H[arry] F N[orman], Riddall, S[mith].G[ordon]. & self made an unanswerable case to an unintelligent official. Lunched with Tim Healy & had a delightful talk about many topics. He is greatly softened and was most sympathetic. On the Irish language question his opinion is that of all sensible people. Then a talk with O'Higgins. I have to take the Cabinet in detail. Saw McGilligan for a few minutes & was to have had a full interview. But he was so tired when his long day's work was done – I was also utterly worn out – I thought it better to promise to write to him.</p> <p>Back by the Liverpool boat. I leave Ireland happier than I</p>

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		expected.
	16 Jul, Thu	4½ hours in train from Liverpool to Euston where Gerald met me. After a fruitless attempt to work at the Foundation office I came back with G. to The Crest House dead tired. Rest for 3 or 4 days necessary. The British & Irish S.S. Co give an excellent service. I had a cabin de luxe with a <u>bed</u> ! Slept well.
	17 Jul, Fri	Wrote a long letter to McGilligan about the Shannon scheme and did a lot of other work besides. I hope to get a restful week end. But ___?
<i>Fr Young, Conrad</i> [query in original]	18 Jul, Sat	T.P. Gill's son, Donaght(?), came to lunch. He seemed intelligent and I believe has studied some form of civil engineering. He condemned the Shannon scheme root & branch, the Gov't for proposing & the Dail for accepting it. Clearly, now that the country is committed to it, the right line is to educate & organise the people, urban & rural, who may use it. Went to see Lane. On way back had a horrible accident. A girl on a bicycle crossed in front of my car out of a side road too late to avoid knocking her down & going over the bicycle – happily not over her. A slight scalp wound was all the harm that was done. Took her to a nearby doctor and sent the car to take her home. Told Heath to find out her station in life as I mean to give her a new bicycle as well as pay the doctor.
	19 Jul, Sun	James McNeill & John Keane came with their wives, making a restful Sunday more restful. Of few could this be said.
Fr Campbell, Richard (IRS) Fr Cullinan, J.S. (sec'y)	20 Jul, Mon	Ella Simeon came to tea. She was kindly and her talk of old times extremely interesting.
	21 Jul, Tue	To town for work at the office & a garden party at Buckingham Palace. Tired to death – and bored by the function. A few people remembered me – very few.
	22 Jul, Wed	Another strenuous day. Nearly finished my S[outh].A[African]. Memorandum, had long Conference with Assistant Manager of S.A. Land Bank (and introduced him to K.W. & G.H.) and took G.H. to Mrs. Courtney who agreed with the coming application of the Foundation for the transfer of the Coop Ref Library from Dublin to the Foundation's office in London. By night to Newcastle.
	23 Jul, Thu	Found Gardiner, Walsh, Godfrey Palmer, Bowes Lyon, Western (aet 86) and Aspland at the Station Hotel for breakfast. At the meeting Alfred Palmer & Henry Armstrong, with whom a confidential talk. He alone had any grasp of the very serious industrial situation and was most gloomy. I returned to London by a fast train, very tired. But I was glad I went. I learned a lot about the business I was immediately & responsibly concerned with.
	24 Jul, Fri	Up at 5.30 AM to finish the South African Memorandum. It had to be posted at Waterloo at noon to catch the Mail. I had to keep half of it back for a week as I was too fagged to finish it. Did a lot of letters and left for The Crest House where I must <u>rest</u> or I shall collapse.
	25 Jul, Sat	Very, very tired. Dr. Schlesinger & his wife, the nicest of our

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		fellow passengers on the way out to S.A. came for the week end.
	26 Jul, Sun	Raymond Mortimer spent most of the day with his friend Gerald & was delightful company. Glad to get his friends as they are always nice as well as interesting. I had to lunch with John MacCormack [<i>sic</i>] who is living <u>en prince</u> at Esher Place, Lord D'Abernon's abode.
Fr Young, Conrad	27 Jul, Mon	Worked. Sent the Schlesingers to see friends near Hindhead. Ralph Wortley came to dine & sleep.
To Young, Conrad	28 Jul, Tue	Brought the Schlesingers to town, worked at the office and brought Bryan back to The Crest House where we discussed coal for the A.G.M. of Pelton Colliery tomorrow.
	29 Jul, Wed	To town early for Pelton meeting. Walsh did not turn up. Mrs. Bainbridge presided. Eddie, Tom & Lionel Parr as well as Bryan & self represented the Plunkett interest. Tom asked shrewd questions. Bryan, Tom & I lunched at St. James Club. Then to the office where I had a most interesting talk with R.R. Richardson of the S.A. Land Bank. Daisy came back from Carlsbad at night and went to the hospitable Ada. She seemed decidedly better for her rest & 'cure'.
To Young, Conrad	30 Jul, Thu	More very hard South African work. Called on House to meet Professor Seymour (History) of Yale University. He is working up House's correspondence & wants to meet me. Asked him to The Crest House. The coal situation looks desperate.
[Leopold Everett, an acquaintance of Byrne's]	31 Jul, Fri	Up at 5.30 AM to finish the Memorandum for South African Mail. It was done just in time – in what shape God knows. Lunched with James Byrne at Ritz, Leo Emmet (or Everett?) Daisy & the widow of Col. Monroe the rest of the party. Another talk with House. Again I impressed upon him the urgency of getting the Democratic party to study Labour if they want to get back into power. He told me his immediate problem is Governor Smith of New York, who made the Democratic convention in 1924 a sight for gods & men! He fought on the religious issue. The Colonel means to propose to him that two men agreed to by Smith & House (with whatever associates he can get to join him) should tour the country & report whether Smith would have a chance of the nomination. If yes the Colonel & his friends to back him for all they are worth – if no Smith to stand down. I said Smith ought to stand or fall by the further issue – If nominated could he be elected? The machine might nominate him for reasons of their own, knowing he had no chance. The Colonel said this was so. I shant see him again this year unless I go to America & I am sorry.
	1 Aug, Sat	Dr. Charles Seymour, who is working over the House papers (see above 30th) spent 6 hours with me getting out of me all I could remember about Col. House. I got more out of him. In 1916 the Colonel had a plan for getting America into the War. Wilson would call a Peace Conference. Entente was to accept & if Germany refused "U.S.A. <u>would probably come in on the side of the Allies</u> ". If Conference broke up because Germany refused

Correspondence [Notes]	1925	Diary Entry
		<p>reasonable terms (which she certainly would) “U.S.A. would probably etc”. The chief terms were complete restoration of Belgium, Alsace & Lorraine to go back to France, Germany to get some territorial concession <u>outside of Europe</u> – probably in Asia Minor. It was practically certain that in either of these contingencies U.S.A. would have done what she did a year later. It is now known that France had commitments which would have prevented her agreeing; but Grey turned it down because the ostensible object (peace) was not the real object (getting U.S.A. in). It wasn’t cricket! Later, Wilson was considering calling a conference on its own. If both sides refused, U.S.A. would call a Conference of Neutrals to decide questions of contraband etc. They were in the war before this proposal matured. This unwritten history is interesting!!</p> <p>Seymour’s estimate of men seemed clear & consistent.</p>
Fr Young, Conrad	2 Aug, , Sun	<p>Frank Prewett had come last night. I had no strength left after my talk with Dr. Seymour. Today I worked a bit early, & the rest of the day I spent with Prewett, taking him to Bateson’s where I played chess. P. left unexpectedly when we got back for his farm near Abingdon. But Gerald had got out of him all we wanted to know about British farming.</p>
<p>[Ral – likely Balfour’s son, Robert Arthur Lytton Balfour] [<i>Sic transit gloria mundi</i> – thus passes the glory of the world] [<i>de trop</i> – superfluous]</p>	3 Aug, Mon	<p>Dame Ethel [Locke-King] persuaded me to go to the races at Brooklands where I saw cars going at over 100 m.p.h.! Folly! On to Fisher’s Hill where Betty, looking worn with the <u>cares</u> of all the family, <u>and</u> Gerald’s gentleman companion Piddington, was as charming as ever. Ral too was there with his nice little school girl of a wife. He won’t play <u>any</u> part in the times ahead. Sic transit! Gerald as stiff & self-centred as ever. The greater Dame Ethel (Smythe) [<i>sic</i>] of my acquaintance romped in & was as vigorous as Gerald & Mrs. Sidgwick were slack. A funny mixture it was. I was in it with Betty & Dame Ethel – but otherwise de tropish.</p>
	4 Aug, Tue	<p>To town to work at letter for Meeting of IAOS Committee on Friday. Miss Lee being on holiday I was baffled by her assistant who in copying my m[anu]s[cript] invented a new word to serve <u>both</u> for practical and protracted i.e. protractical.</p>
	5 Aug, Wed	<p>Worked hard at the I.A.O.S. letter. Too tired to get it off, so sent 4/5ths of it & brought K Walter back to The Crest Ho[use] where later came Moritz Bonn. He is more brilliant than ever.</p>
<p><i>Fr Young, Conrad</i> <i>(Fr Cullinan, J.S. to Campbell, Richard; IRS)</i></p>	6 Aug, Thu	<p>Worked from 5.30 AM till 4.30 PM with intervals for meals on my letter to Fr. Finlay for tomorrow’s meeting of the IAOS committee. That I hope is the last really hard work I shall have to do for some time. I <u>must rest</u>.</p>
	7 Aug, Fri	<p>To town with Bonn & Gerald. I to be with B. & both to get our hair cut. A little work on the office & wires between Norman & me upon today’s meeting of IAOS Committee. Urged appointment of drafting subc’tee as I had suggested a wholly different method of approach to the Department to that Norman had proposed in a draft letter accepting the Dept’s control of our administration. Got a wire when I returned in the evening to The Crest House to effect that the subc’tee was approved & my points were considered. N. probably might have added “but not understood”.</p>

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		Beare came & had a talk on my health which he considers satisfactory considering the work I am doing.
	8 Aug, Sat	Bonn left for the week end & I was glad. I like him in every way but he is so learned & so interesting that I simply cannot rest while with him. It would be dangerous not to rest now as I am terribly over strained by the South Africa & I.A.O.S. Cooperative jobs.
	9 Aug, Sun	Wrote a few letters. Otherwise rested.
	10 Aug, Mon	An almost complete rest. In the evening Bonn returned and my education in the critical politics & economics of these perilous times was continued.
	11 Aug, Tue	Went to the Sidney Webbs at Passfield, Liphook, Hants – Bonn, Gerald & I. I was not well & had to lie down after lunch, hearing none of the converse. James Byrne came to tea (with Phyllis) from their place on the Thames near Maidenhead. He had just been to Ireland for the Horse Show & brought news – on the whole cheery.
	12 Aug, Wed	To town. Had a bit of a fever and was wretched. Failed to get off a long letter to R.A.A. about I.A.O.S. which he wants to boss absolutely. Norman he wants to put on a shelf. Elmhirst came into the office & will I think help us.
	13 Aug, Thu	Worked at letter to RAA but R Richardson of South African Land Bank blew in to the Abbey House and took all my time. Had to go home, but sent RAA about 4/5ths of the letter.
To Young, Conrad	14 Aug, Fri	After a bad night a real day of rest, although I had ten letters to write. But I wrote no straining ones.
	15 Aug, Sat	The dentist – A nerve to be killed. Wrote many letters but on that account did poor work. Weather glorious.
	16 Aug, Sun	Worked all the morning. Then motored to E M Forster's at Abinger Hammer & Karl Walter --- --- --ell. A few miles each way on the Portsmouth Road made me wonder what the traffic will be like 10 years hence!
	17 Aug, Mon	Hard work getting off my letter to R.A.A. on his proposal to be director of the I.A.O.S. with complete control of all but “matters of High Policy” (which would mean nothing[]), and with Norman put on an honourable shelf. In afternoon took Dr. Beare to the Ld Mayor Treloar Cripples Home at Alton, where I am ending some research work. Hart Synnot to dine and sleep. A good friend to my work.
	18 Aug, Tue	More hard work on a letter to the I.A.O.S. Sub-Committee which is to answer the Department's letter offering final terms for an inadequate grant.
	19 Aug, Wed	The day spent in town to help Walter to draft an application to the Carnegie UK Trust for £2000 to run the Cooperative Reference Library at the office of the Foundation for 3 years. It would, I think, greatly help the work to have that institution under Walter.
	20 Aug, Thu	Had Miss Lee from town. In evening Bryan came. I had to do the dentist in the morning & was comatose.

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	21 Aug, Fri	Worked – worked – worked at Foundation & IAOS matters. Walter is trying to rush the Trustees into buying a house in London for £5500. He wants to house his family in it. The house is in a most inaccessible position for all kinds of approach – by tube, bus, motor or taxi. It is remote from the Gov't & High Commissioners' offices.
	22 Aug, Sat	Walter got Hall to bless his place of abode for the family, the Coop Reference Library and the Foundation. He is writing and wiring to Trustees & wants Gerald & me to accept it, mentally determined to override us I fear if we don't.
	23 Aug, Sun	Worked in the morning & evening at the Irish situation – a Memorandum for Hogan Minister of Lands & Agriculture which I shall ask him to show to the Cabinet. Called on the MacCormacks [<i>sic</i>] in their palatial 'take' – Esher Place.
	24 Aug, Mon	The Dentist at his damnedest! For a week he has been digging into the roots of a lower wisdom tooth, still he found more to dig & the pain became intolerable. "If it were mine I should have it out" he remarked. So I got him to telephone for Beare to give me gas. Then he pulled one half the tooth! Fortunately the nerve had been killed. But I had a week's discomfort for nothing!
[10 Doughty St.]	25 Aug, Tue	To town with Gerald to see the new house in Doughty St., back of Gray's Inn. Most inaccessible but a good house. The valuer has yet to report.
	26 Aug, Wed	Hard at work at home. Miss Lee came from the office & took my dictation.
Fr Young, Conrad	27 Aug, Thu	To town again and hard work at the office.
	28 Aug, Fri	Same as yesterday. But Adams came up and we decided to leave our offices in Abbey House Westminster & go to Doughty Street Bloomsbury. It was a rushed – and probably unwise – decision. Ken[n]eth Leys looked in with his wife at the office. I took <u>him</u> to The Crest House.
[Jekyll's]	29 Aug, Sat	Finished the Memorandum, sent two letters to Hogan, with Norman & Riddall. Many other letters. Went to Fishers Hill & took G.H[eard], G[erald]B[alfour] & Betty to lunch with the Jekyls [<i>sic</i>] at Munstead House, Godalming. He, Colonel Sir Herbert was born in 1846 and I came across him when Houghton – afterwards Crewe – brought him to Ireland as his private secretary.
	30 Aug, Sun	Rested. Saw not a soul except old Sir Arthur Lyttelton Annesley who is 87 in a few days & near his end. It was a charity call. He is the same age as old Coventry. Each is waiting the call.
Fr Young, Conrad [External] [Crest House]	31 Aug, Mon	Lady Lavery brought O'Higgins, Minister of Justice & Fitzgerald Minister for Foreign [<i>sic</i>] Affairs to Kilteragh [<i>sic</i>] for lunch. I had them for 2¼ hours & kept hard at it explaining my ("their" I called it!) agric'l policy & I think made converts. Fitzgerald is a light weight, but O'Higgins has a high order of intelligence. G.H. had to look for servants in town. I also wrote a long letter to Smith Gordon on the whole situation of the I.A.O.S.
	1 Sep, Tue	To town to see the Sec'y of Consultative C'tee of Educ'n upon a Memorandum they want me to write upon the changes needed in

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		the curriculum of rural schools in order to give it “a slight rural bias”. He gave me some useless stuff but promises more which I hope may be helpful. Stayed to do some work at the Foundation office and to have a talk with Mrs. Jim Byrne who was leaving for Paris in the morning. A talk with her upon the gloomy impressions of the Western world – she was very interesting upon the American impressions of England – and upon her domestic affairs (4 girls to be steered in a whirl of things extravagant and a nice boy, Jimmy junior, approaching Harvard) was not cheering. At night, on way home took in a remarkable play – Hamlet with the characters in modern dress – even the ghost – cigarettes, pince-nez revolvers & all. A bold but successful venture.
	2 Sep, Wed	Meant to rest but worked very hard at a confidential letter to Hogan & another to Smith Gordon. Meanwhile Gerald enjoyed himself with EM Forster though he too had some domestic affairs to worry over.
	3 Sep, Thu	Meant to rest but had to work. Karl Walter dined & slept. We played chess (two games) & I gave him a Queen & it seemed to make no difference. Can’t understand it as he is highly intelligent & can do problems!
To Young, Conrad	4 Sep, Fri	To town for work at office and to meet Fingall. He had seen his doctor who told him that his blood pressure was high & warned him that he must live a careful – semi-invalid life.
[Dickinson]	5 Sep, Sat	½ holiday. The thermometer was 47° at 10 A.M. & I sat by the fire most of the day being fagged out. In the evening Lowes Dickenson [<i>sic</i>] came for a quiet week end.
	6 Sep, Sun	Lowes Dickenson [<i>sic</i>] is the most charming of guests. He is a brilliant writer and a delightful talker. Sympathy to the nth. He has pursued psychical research but got no nearer to the goal of survival. No evidence suffices. Two reflections of mine I put on the table. (1) What right to assume that we arrive “on the other side” at the height of our powers and not in our second childhood (if we have attained it) or indeed in our first? (2) Is not the vast proportion of the “evidence” which does not stand against the criticism applied to it by the S[ociety for].P[sychical].R[esearch]. a strong presumption that some missing link in the chain of inquiry has been missed or that coincidence accounts for the probability held to amount to certainty.
	7 Sep, Mon	More hard work, but good intervals of rest. My bronchial tubes are beginning to croak at the foretaste of winter we are having.
	8 Sep, Tue	To London chiefly to meet Smith Gordon with whom I planned a campaign for getting my agricultural policy adopted by the Free State Gov’t. It will be very hard to force the pace and yet it must be done if the country is to be economically sound.
	9 Sep, Wed	Promised myself a rest & took a ½ day off. Fingall came at night.
Fr Young, Conrad	10 Sep, Thu	Quiet work. Fingall in town with Minnie. Began a letter to McGilligan, probably the best constructive mind – and as the Shannon scheme shows, by far the finest constructive imagination – in the Free State Government.
To Young, Conrad	11 Sep, Fri	Took Fingall to town to see Minnie Murphy off to Madeira,

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		worked at the Foundation office & in the evening Fingall & I settled down to a quiet restful week end.
	12 Sep, Sat	Fingall and I put in the day doing nothing which is normal with him when he is not at Killeen and is indicated in my condition. Towards nightfall a wire was telephoned through from Bournemouth "Oliver has had a nasty fall Concussion will week end Nursing Home Bournemouth". No signature. Nothing more. While I was trying to find out from the Bournemouth exchange whether the Nursing Home had telephoned his wire a second wire came "Nursing Home is Bournemouth 178". Then I got on to the Nursing Home & learned nothing more than the first wire told. But the doctor was to come later & would phone. Meanwhile a brother officer from Tidworth, who had seen the fall phoned about it & I thought it was the doctor. Later the doctor called up an we decided not to start off in the motor for which we were all ready. It seems to be a bad shake. Nothing more. Bulletin in the morning. But it would be sad if aught happened.
	13 Sep, Sun	Oliver, the doctor telephoned early, has had a good night, has no temperature and, while badly bruised about the head, is not seriously injured. Better left quiet. Major Rudolph Burney, J Clerc Sheridan and his sister Mrs. Atkinson & daughter lunched & tea'd. Burney very interesting. About 55, with a good educ'n, leisure & means, he wants to <u>do</u> something. Heard being away I told him to come again when he will probably be put on to research.
	14 Sep, Mon	Fingall went to Bournemouth & was able to wire that Oliver was only badly shaken.
To Young, Conrad	15 Sep, Tue	To town to lunch with Edward Strutt (who became life member of the Horace Plunkett Foundation) at my Club. Walter present. Had talk too with Miss Ferguson ass't Sec'y of Womens Institutes, a very bright young lady. On return found letter from Smith Gordon & R.A.A. telling me Hogan was converted to my plans. They did not put it this way but said he was prepared to finance the IAOS liberally.
	16 Sep, Wed	Rested. Went to George Price's for tea. He is losing his memory – otherwise better.
	17 Sep, Thu	Rested again barring 3 or 4 serious letters. Feeling much the better for going slow.
	18 Sep, Fri	Fingall brought Oliver from Bournemouth to convalesce after his fall & concussion. He was badly bruised about the head but no permanent injury.
	19 Sep, Sat	Harold Barbour and wife came to lunch. He seemed to me to be more alive to world happenings & she is always bright & interesting. I told Oliver I thought he ought to give up steeple chasing on account of his mother's anxiety. He said he would if she really made a point of it, but rather non-plussed me by citing a case where he refused to ride a horse of "old Covey's" which was a really dangerous mount.
	20 Sep, Sun	Oliver left, Fingall spent the afternoon in town, Gerald & I lunched with Lady de Vesci. We had a good Irish talk.

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	21 Sep, Mon	Worked at Memorandum on Cooperative Reference Library to be read at a conference of the Librarians of Special Libraries at Oxford on 25th.
(To "Irish Statesman" fr Wm. McC; IRS)	22 Sep, Tue	Had Miss Lee from town & worked hard at Coop Reference Library paper which I finished. Wrote endless letters. Went to tea with Betty B. to meet a Mrs. Tennant who wanted to see me. She had nothing to tell or ask me!
	23 Sep, Wed	To London to see Alice about her affairs. The Free State Government demand payment of arrears of Inc[ome] tax, Schedule A (Property tax). They have remitted Schedule B (farming profits!). Alice cannot possibly pay & they will have to sieze [<i>sic</i>] what they can get. I hope they will drive her to such a cottage in England where she would be at peace. Brought Bryan back to the Crest House for the night to discuss coal affairs.
Fr Young, Conrad [Ryland]	24 Sep, Thu	To the Pelton meeting. Present Walsh in chair, Mrs. Bainbridge, Bryan, Gardiner, Preston who has resigned for a better post with Rio Tinto Mines & self. Two hours discussion upon hopeless situation. In afternoon Strutt took me to talk Cooperation with Robbins President & Rylands [<i>sic</i>] ex President of Nat Farmers Union. I spoke very frankly & I think impressed them. Then by car to Oxford where I supped with Adams & put up at The Randolph.
	25 Sep, Fri	Long conferences with Adams, Orwin & Miss Hadow. Walter arrived in the afternoon and I dined in Balliol with the Association of Special Libraries & Information Bureaux to whom I read a paper on the Cooperative Reference Library. They will pass a resolution in favour of its removal to London. It was a dreary affair. Steel Maitland came from London to attend it – not bad for a Cabinet Minister who had every excuse to remain at home. Indeed, with the coal situation so grave, I felt doubtful whether the Minister for Labour should be at such a function.
[A. M. Carr-Saunders] [Third partner prob. ecologist Charles Elton. By 1927 the farm had failed.]	26 Sep, Sat	More Conference. I spoke a few words of thanks for the resolution I hope the conference will pass in favour of the Library. More talk with Adams & Orwin. Then by car to Prewett's farm where Car Sanders [<i>sic</i>] the anthropologist(?), Prewett & a third whole time partner are making cattle, sheep & poultry farming pay on poor land. We had a good talk on rural economy. Then home by road. Less than two hours brought Walter & me from 4 miles beyond Abingdon to The Crest House. At one point I drove up to 63 miles an hour, just to show what the car could do! It was a stretch of road absolutely straight with no roads, lanes or gates for possible entry of other vehicles or animals. A Mr. & Mrs. Inge had replaced Ware and "George".
	27 Sep, Sun	Slight vertigo. Real rest made me nearly well by night.
	28 Sep, Mon	At Oxford I did too much and am suffering for it. I <u>must ration my effort</u> .
	29 Sep, Tue	Worked.
	30 Sep, Wed	Worked at speech for Stafford Friday.

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	1 Oct, Thu	Up early. To the office to dictate the speech for the morrow. Then to Stafford where ?John Hall put me up 12 miles off (Charnes Hall, Eccleshall) his wife being a terrifically energetic lady. At dinner there were a lot of similar ladies “uplifters” but of the genuine kind. They are all working very hard under the auspices of the Women’s Institutes to remould the Country side. Hall believes that the country can be made prosperous by generating Electric power at the pits mouth and perhaps he is right. 1 ^d per unit for light 1½ ^d for power is the figure he relies upon being realised!
	2 Oct, Fri	A large crowd at the ceremony. I held them for 25 minutes. They were mostly women, but earnest. I got up early & learned my speech by heart. Very glad to get away by the 4:5 train.
	3 Oct, Sat	Dictated letters at office & back very tired to The Crest House.
	4 Oct, Sun	Lunched with the Barnes’. He is always a delight to me. Wide information and a fine judgment and a remarkable spirit of fairness. Dr. Beare called & after talking over Curtain’s swollen hand, I asked him to vet the dear old man & tell me what should be done for him. He drank too much of my cellar, it is true, but the temptation was irresistible. I regret now that I did not keep the key. I wrote asking him to come tomorrow & see Beare at my expense.
	5 Oct, Mon	Had Curtain vetted, Beare gave him letter to surgeon at his London Hospital (Middlesex). Visited a good “Central” elementary school at Walton & learned a lot about education divorced from red-tape. It is under the Surrey Co Council.
	6 Oct, Tue	To Eton intending to lunch with E L Vaughan who was to include my grandnephew Eddie Stapylton in the party. No reply to my letter coming I phoned & found V. was away. Could not disappoint the boy, so we went there. Did the State Apartments, a tea at a “sock” shop & of course the tip! Back home to entertain my gloomy friend Shan Bullock.
	7 Oct, Wed	Took Bullock to town. Little work at office.
	8 Oct, Thu	After a bad night a restful day, except for one important letter. I wrote (very informally) to Sir Wm. Beveridge about cooperation as a possible reconciliation betw’n Labour & Capital in the coal business.
	9 Oct, Fri	Motored to Charborough where Reggie & K[athleen] with a fourth daughter added, and Blanche Dutton made a real family party – Gerald being now of the family. First stop Romsey, where G. did the Abbey for me. His knowledge of architecture is simply amazing. Then to Horton Vicarage where in a very old house Rev. R de Bary & wife lunched us and added to the knowledge we have gathered of the rural education problem. He took us to a school where we had a talk with the mistress who was teaching some two dozen children (9 to 12 I should guess) in Grade III IV, V & VI, whatever that means. She & her pupils were veritably dug in in the rural swamp. She had thought out nothing but was conscious that things were wrong. The tendency of the life was to dullness all round & she did not see how to stir it up in her sphere of usefulness. One thing she said was significant. “Here they inter marry so much that one never dares talk about anybody – they all

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		<p>seem to be relations". The in and in breeding of "these few ideas" was much on her mind.</p> <p>Next to John Harding, a big farmer on Shaftesbury's estate – St Giles was a few miles away. He was on the Education Committee of the County Council but had no ideas. On agricultural cooperation he was very interesting. He is a strong N[ational].F[armers].U[nion]. man and had its mentality. He agreed with all my theories and said that some day cooperation might be necessary to his economic salvation. But "it can't be now – the movement would have to go ahead rapidly or die. Once it got into big business it would have to be joint stock".</p>
<i>Fr Cannon, T.C.</i>	10 Oct, Sat	A quiet, restful day. Went with G.H. to see the watercress farm at Bere Regis. A neighbourly dinner party in the evening – suffered bad aches & pains in the morning before I administered the drug.
	11 Oct, Sun	Much talk with Blanche Dutton, as fine a woman as I know. She is full of knowledge, manages her rather lethargic octogenarian (nearly) husband & a large family & estate with extraordinary efficiency and at the same time is full of public spirit. She drove her car (a Rover which had done thousands of miles of war work) with no chauffeur to Hinton where we stayed for tea on our way back to Crest Ho[use]. I was none the better for the journey of some 4 hours & we went too fast. The weather is getting very cold and I fear being driven away for the winter.
	12 Oct, Mon	<p>General Sir Hubert Gough came to lunch today. He seems anxious to be "neighbourly". He has bought a farm at Gomshall (on which he has lost £5000 in five years) and itches for public life. Poor man – he has no brains for it whatsoever. Indeed, one wonders how he came to be commanding an Army on the Western Front!! He drew me on Ireland, especially the Ulster question, which he thinks he understands.</p> <p>He talked a bit upon the earlier stages of the war – I avoided the later stages! – and his account of the chaos at G.H.Q. in Flanders during the retreat from Mons was lurid. But it was all personalities. French was a fool and Wilson a knave.</p>
To Campbell, Richard (IRS)	13 Oct, Tue	<p>Worked on a letter to the New York Committee for the Irish Statesman.</p> <p>At night Heard having taken the Morris Oxford car to visit E M Forster at Gomshall, I took my doctor (Beare) & his wife to see the Torchlight Tattoo at Wembley. It is enormously praised and I think rightly as a show (See Daily Papers of the time!) The crowd was large, orderly and enthusiastic. But I wondered, Is Rome burning?</p>
	14 Oct, Wed	Worked at home.
<i>Fr Gillespie, P.J. (IRS)</i>	15 Oct, Thu	<p>Got the Foundation's application for the removal of the Coop Ref[erence] Library to London through the Library and Irish sub committees. That is a great step forward in the delegation of my life work.</p> <p>Brought Mitchell and Karl Walter for the night to Crest House, Gerald having had to sleep in London, Elizabeth Perceval needing his help about something. If I am not to come first there is no one I would sooner defer to than her. She is the kindest woman I know and has been kinder to G. than I have been, though I have</p>

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		tried to help him along. I rather wanted his help this evening. But I am glad he gave it to her.
	16 Oct, Fri	<p>Another full day. Carnegie Executive and Special General meeting. The new offices of the Foundation are within ½ mile of the Carnegie meeting place which enables me to work between meetings.</p> <p>On the way to town Mitchell told me the tragedy of his married life. It was hopeless incompatibility, she having no comprehension of and an aversion from all his work. It reminded me of R.A.A. & his wife. To him the IAOS was what the C[arnegie]UKT[rust] is to Mitchell. In the latter case too it must lead to separation. Better so as he would work & drink himself to death if the status quo had much longer to be endured.</p> <p>Dorothy & Bryan to The Crest House.</p>
	17 Oct, Sat	Mrs. ?Berleine, who was kind to us at The Cape, called for tea. Poor sad woman – unhappily married to a rich husband & her children all giving trouble.
Fr Young, Conrad	18 Oct, Sun	Got inoculated against colds & hope it will obviate the necessity of running away South to avoid bronchitis and pneumo-coccus. Kept quiet with the Stapyltons.
[Half a page (opposite either October 19 and 20 or 22 and 23) cut out.]	19 Oct, Mon	Quiet work. A fit of giddiness in the morning which is not I hope a threatening of an old trouble.
[Ch:Ch:Oxon: a – Christ Church Oxford]	20 Oct, Tue	<p>To London. Worked at office a little. Lunched with Eddie & Beatrice. Talked over the future of Randal who has failed twice to get into Ch:Ch:Oxon: He is to try some other college.</p> <p>In evening looked in (after dinner) at a chess circle gathering at Reform club.</p>
	21 Oct, Wed	<p>Capablanca lunched with me & we had an interesting chess talk. He is going to Moscow for an Internat'l Tournament. Eddie & I each played a game with him at the Imperial Chess Club. He sacrifice[d] his Q. & mated Eddie in 15 moves, I held out much longer and he treated me seriously. We talked about the game as a training for soldiers & sailors, as education for boys & girls etc. We were agreed on all points. He never knew a good woman player. He doesn't explain this but simply says "they do nothing as well as men[?]"!</p> <p>Called on Malcolm Seton who is laid up with a swollen foot which was thought to be tuberculous but is now diagnosed not T.B. He was cheery but I fear his health is precarious.</p>
[Speech reported in <i>The Times</i> , 23 Oct., p. 7]	22 Oct, Thu	Went to Conference of Agric'l Cooperative Societies at Caxton Hall under auspices of National Farmers Union, taking Gerald & Karl with me. Spoke briefly & was well received. Looks as if Cooperation was going to be taken up in earnest.
	23 Oct, Fri	Attended a Stella Gill meeting and looked in again at Farmers Union Cooperative Conference. All went well for the Foundation. Back to Crest House.
	24 Oct, Sat	<p>The Seventy-first milestone! When I passed the fiftieth I never expected to do another majority!</p> <p>The Mitchisons came to week end and gave me a little present.</p>

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	25 Oct, Sun	Quiet Sunday. But I was very sleepy – almost comatose. We took a drive to Newlands Corner and found some 200 (at a press) motor vehicles enjoying the view. Mostly I think from London and the owners or occupiers seemed to be of the class one rejoices to see getting away from working surroundings.
	26 Oct, Mon	No work. After a bad night moped & kept warm all day.
	27 Oct, Tue	Temperature over 100°. Cold all over. Kept warm indoors all day. Gerald in town. I begin to feel I shall have to have a nurse when I am miserable & left alone. I have had vertigo symptoms occasionally of late and I dread falling & breaking my thigh. It would not mend now.
To Hogan, P.J.	28 Oct, Wed	Temperature up again. Went to London to be on the spot for a Bowes meeting tomorrow at 11 A.M. Wrote to Hogan, Minister of Agriculture, Irish Free State asking him <u>when</u> he was going to declare the policy I have worked out for him.
	29 Oct, Thu	Gerald told me they had a great talk with “Bill” Beveridge over the Coal Commission & the economic situation in general last night. My temperature made it impossible for me to go. I presided over Bowes meeting, but had to leave it before the business was done. Gerald stayed for some Foundation business & I motored home where Beare threatens to keep me in the house for a while.
	30 Oct, Fri	The bad spot in my right lung gave me a temperature. The doctor dosed me and I drank water & eat next to nothing – only a little fruit etc. Very miserable & had to give up a week end at Cambridge to which I had looked forward.
	31 Oct, Sat	Very low – except the temperature which went to 101.5 about 4° above my normal.
	1 Nov, Sun	Bought a diary to be kept when the diarist’s temperature is jumping about from 96° to 101°! What is the good of leaving a record of such ups & downs in one’s outlook to life?
	2 Nov, Mon	101.6° at 3.30 P.M. Wired for a nice nurse, who probably won’t be free, to help me through the nights, the cold sweats & horrors. Beare wants me to have a nurse.
	3 Nov, Tue	Nurse Margaret Caven – quite the pick of the many I have had – came. She & the doctor kept me in bed & the temperature did not rise as high. So I suppose I am on the mend. But it is going to be difficult to keep off the enemy through the winter – that is plain. Meanwhile the Foundation progresses.
	4 Nov, Wed	Only once touched 100° today. Felt better, but very weak. Karl Walter came for a dine & sleep.
	5 Nov, Thu	A kindly letter from Mrs. JR Green who had protested against the removal of the Cooperative Reference Library to London but fully understood & accepted my explanation of the necessity. She told me, or let me gather, that the inadequacy of the Minister of Finance (Blythe) is the real trouble. Gerald to bed with violent diarrhoea. I fear he will always be delicate.

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<i>Fr Hogan, P.J.</i> <i>Fr Young, Conrad</i>	6 Nov, Fri	Allowed downstairs. But Gerald kept to his bed. Great luck having the nurse here to look after him. Temperature normal.
	7 Nov, Sat	Not allowed out. HEV Pickstone came for the week end. Temp subnormal with slight rise in afternoon. The Adams' & Ralph Dutton (rather inconveniently in domestic circumstances, but most agreeably to me) announced themselves for lunch tomorrow.
[<i>de trop</i> – superfluous; excessive]	8 Nov, Sun	Ralph Dutton was <i>de trop</i> , but Adams a most opportune visitor. In the morning – poor Gerald still being in bed – I agreed with Pickstone a scheme for “putting over” my agricultural policy in South Africa. The Gov't there have published my memorandum thereon in the Journal of the Agricultural Department. He made a suggestion which gets over the difficulty of supervising the scheme. Lamont of the Elsenburg Agric'l College is to be guaranteed a salary which will make it worth while to give up his pensionable job. Adams greatly approved.
	9 Nov, Mon	Pickstone and the nurse went. The Doctor paid a final call. I confess to being utterly miserable. I cannot keep my mind steadily at anything & fear that it is getting <u>rapidly</u> weaker.
To Cannon, T.C.	10 Nov, Tue	Worked quietly.
	11 Nov, Wed	Armistice Day. Did good I felt. Set everybody thinking. Went to Walter Page Memorial Lecture. Sat immediately behind Chairman (L.G.) & lecturer HAL Fisher but heard both badly. They spoke into microphone & did not seem to care for the audience.
	12 Nov, Thu	Worked at office. Adams looked in. In afternoon played chess for Athenaeum against Constitutional. Won my game but did not play well though at no point could my opponent have won. They always put me at top board which makes it hard.
To Hogan, P.J.	13 Nov, Fri	After mornings work at office brought Dorothy for week end to Crest House. Bryan following by train.
To Hogan, P.J.	14 Nov, Sat	Went to Eton to lunch with EL Vaughan & wife who most kindly asked Eddie Stapylton to come too. Dorothy insisted on coming to her “County Club” & leaving Eddie part of the time.
	15 Nov, Sun	Rest. Bryan & Dorothy went before dinner.
[“The Co-operative Reference Library”, <i>IS</i> , V:11, 21 Nov, pp. 331-2]	16 Nov, Mon	Work at home. Wrote the Irish Statesman a letter on the removal of the Coop Ref[erence] Library.
	17 Nov, Tue	Worked moderately at home.
	18 Nov, Wed	Went to Juno & the Peacock, one of Fagan's Irish productions. Brilliantly written & acted, this grim, squalid, story of Dublin slums in the bad times of 1922.
To Young, Conrad	19 Nov, Thu	Played the Athenaeum against Junior Constitutional Chess Match. I was the only winner on our side. I played their best man.
To Young, Conrad	20 Nov, Fri	Queen Alexandra died. A thoroughly good woman. Beautiful in her day, but alas when her charms declined there is no suggestion that fidelity survived in the breast of her spouse. She was loved by the whole people – and never did sovereign deserve it better. I had one talk with her on board the Royal Yacht some 22 years ago in Cork Harbour. She seemed to have no home at all. But that

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		she genuinely loved the people among whom she married and sympathised with them in their afflictions, cannot be doubted.
	21 Nov, Sat	Quiet day. Little work.
	22 Nov, Sun	Went to Twizzletwig! (means I was told “the two valleys[?]”) Hindhead, my grand niece Mary Holroyd Smyth’s school. Lunched her & took her a drive to the Sidney Webbs where she met the Bernard Shaws. I tried to make her see she had had an interesting & memorable experience. “Doesn’t he (G.B.S.) write plays & things” the very nice unsophisticated child asked. She was enthusiastic over her games (Hare & Hounds etc). What a salutary variant on existence at Ballynatray. G.B.S. seemed to me to be a bit aged & she more so. He is writing an immensely long political book – an exploration of Fabian Socialism for the “supermen” (who alone count) I gathered.
	23 Nov, Mon	Quiet day at home.
	24 Nov, Tue	To town. Supped with Tom & May & had sad Irish talk.
Fr Young, Conrad	25 Nov, Wed	Pickstone came to the Foundation & I took him to lunch at Reform with Sir Wm. Mitchell Cotts a South African financier who, I think, may help the Foundation. Played for Athenaeum vs House of Commons, Major Barnes M.P. is their best man. I played vilely & he beat me – or rather I committed suicide in 13 moves!
	26 Nov, Thu	Stella Gill meeting. Took Walsh to lunch after. He is a wretched invalid and won’t last long in a state of efficiency (which must be used in the comparative or relative sense).
	27 Nov, Fri	Long conference with Grinling who has devoted his life to Woolwich as I have to Ireland, but on far sounder lines. He too was pro-Irish. It was stimulating to hear the story of such a man! A Pelton meeting.
	28 Nov, Sat	Tom & May came for 24 hours. She is determined to stick to Ireland. Tom wants to pull up stakes & end his days in England. I am again passing through a horrible depression – combined with great nervous irritation.
	29 Nov, Sun	The guests left early so as to get home by daylight.
	30 Nov, Mon	Depression etc so bad that I sent for Beare. He strongly urged me to increase the morphia enough to give me physical comfort. He says that having kept the dosage down to 2¼ gr[ains] after 9 years is a feat. He is convinced that I must now increase slowly. I hate doing so but the alternative seems to be utter uselessness & miserable depression of spirits.
	1 Dec, Tue	To Oxford for a little Foundation work & to attend a meeting of the “Oxford Players” who are qualifying for grants from Carnegie U.K. Trust. Arrived in evening & had long talk with Adams where I supped. Stayed at Randolph on account of cold weather. Gerald was put up by the Hart Synnots. Had a night of real suffering from nightmares. I never knew before what a horror shattered nerves

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		could inflict upon a man in this way.
	2 Dec, Wed	Spent the morning with Philip Morrell at Garsington Manor 6 miles from Oxford along the Cowley Road. We talked agric'l cooperation, I trying to get him to rely upon the Foundation for help in the fine public work he is doing along my lines. Back for a well attended meeting to support The Oxford Players who are trying to maintain a Repertory Theatre with financial assistance from the Carnegie U.K.T. Lennox Robinson was there & spoke very well. Then a conference with Adams, a call upon the Fagans where I met Lennox & discussed the Irish Statesman. In evening saw his new play The White Blackbird. It is not going to make money for him.
	3 Dec, Thu	Long Conference with Orwin & Prewett. We agreed that the National Farmers Union was no use at all for our purpose of organising farmers cooperatively as their leaders were bitterly opposed to any but political action in the matter. This leads to the conclusion that there must be some body to take the place of the defunct A.O.S. and obviously that body should be The Horace Plunkett Foundation. Lunched with the Fagans where Lennox Robinson and back by road to London. The cold is bitter and searching. I do not remember a winter setting in so early.
Fr Young, Conrad	4 Dec, Fri	Very unwell but no temperature – only nerves. Had to remain in Mount St most of the day. Could do no work.
	5 Dec, Sat	The Foundation held its semi-annual meeting. As usual Orwin & Barbour were absent. I was very unwell & felt it was probably <u>my</u> last or penultimate attendance. My health is rapidly giving down. Not heart or lungs (though these will probably be the final cause!) but nerves. It was a satisfaction to feel that in Hall & Adams for Britain & Smith Gordon for Ireland I had real trustees for my idea of agric'l development & rural reconstruction. Then Gerald Heard will be true to <u>his</u> trust. I have paid him a salary which has immensely relieved his financial position & have remembered him in my will. Back to The Crest House by train. My chauffeur, gassed in the War, being hors de combat.
	6 Dec, Sun	Smith Gordon came for the lunch – tea period. We talked Kilteragh Development Co & Irish Statesman business. He was very interesting upon his scheme of life. He will try to use his financial experience to raise a permanent income & then consider what to do. He would try for the Dail if he had any chance of getting in as he would like to be Minister of Finance in the Free State. But another side of him came out. He has dabbled in psychical research and is a medium. He writes automatically. This he illustrated. With a pad on his knee & holding the pen in an impossible position he scribbled away at a tremendous pace. It was connected stuff always signed L.R. who is his “control”. Personally I have no doubt that he was abnormally perceptive of Gerald's & my thoughts (unconscious as well as conscious) and was writing them as well as his own. As <u>evidence</u> of another existence (L.R. is a lady long dead) it leaves me unconverted.
	7 Dec, Mon	Still very unwell & depressed. My working life is over. A year or

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		two of invalidism seems the best I can hope for. Why stay? If I had only myself to consider I should resort to euthanasia as every 24 hours now has suffering which far outweighs any satisfaction I may derive from useful retirement. What I fear is my mind going in a stroke, when I should wish to be dead & might not be able to die!!
	8 Dec, Tue	At home – poorly.
	9 Dec, Wed	<p>To town to attend a meeting of the C[arnegie].U.K.T[rust]., Development Commissioners & Nat Council of Social Service at the last named's office to discuss joint action in rural development. Gerald stayed in town for the night & I brought Adams back. He told me he came to consult me about an offer he had had from the Indian Government to preside over a Civil Service Commission for 5 years at £4000 p.a. The pros & cons were many & cogent. We agreed that reasons of health precluded more than acceptance for the first year – if the offer should be open in that form. He is 20 years my junior, but has a blood pressure. If he went for one year he would be seconded – could get the farm off his hands – & resume all his work on his return. Personally, I hope the offer won't be made, but I could not deny that it was a great opportunity of service.</p> <p>For the first time we discussed frankly our religious beliefs. I knew he was a devout Christian; but his admissions upon the limitations of Christ's <u>knowledge</u> of the universe astounded me. The wish (with a tremendous inherited urge) seemed to father all the thought.</p>
To Young, Conrad	10 Dec, Thu	At home still sadly depressed. Poor Heath will get over <u>this</u> attack. But the gassing in that criminal War has made him an invalid for life I fear.
	11 Dec, Fri	<p>At 4 A.M. a weird sound of a woman "keening" under my window. Poor Heath had died in his wife's arms of heart failure. Gerald & I at once got up & did all we could – telephoned for the doctor, who came at once & then sent a nurse for the first of the obsequies. The unfortunate widow had prevented the doctor taking Heath to the Hospital where they might have saved him. But he would have died of a later attack. He was a good honest fellow, a Low-land Scot with all the qualities thereof. How gladly would I have been taken if he could have been left. He was happily married. The widow's relatives came in force – 2 sisters & a brother who stayed.</p> <p>I had to put off a dinner with Sir Abe Bailey (which I was too unwell for at any rate) and a lunch of the New Heath Society which I have joined.</p>
	12 Dec, Sat	Obsequies. Heath's brother, very like him, arrived from Scotland. On Monday the funeral procession will start. I gave the poor widow a present of £30 after a not illiberal settlement of accounts by Gerald. The Scotch brother tried to get me to pay for the silly funeral which will waste some £70!
	13 Dec, Sun	Fagan came; his wife was sick or they would both be week-ended. He cheered me as I like him & he interests me greatly in his dramatic experiences. His conversation made it easier to bear my growing discomfort.

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	14 Dec, Mon	At last poor Heath started by motor for his home 30 miles from Edinburgh. The hearse was followed by a mourning carriage in which his brother, the widow & her brother & sister travelled to Kings Cross. I spoke a few words to them all – or rather to the widow. I wanted her to know what Heath had told me about his married life. It had cost him a good ‘place’, but it was well worth it! The only other little comfort I tried to give – and it did seem to help – was to go over the illness & prove to her that the opposition to his going to the hospital was after all right. He would not have survived in any case & the moving <u>against his will</u> would have been a serious risk. She had worried over the matter but now she is satisfied.
	15 Dec, Tue	Came to town to do a little work at the Foundation and to see Sheila Taylor (née Byrne) & her young man. It seems a happy marriage. But they are too rich. They had taken a huge house in Bryanston Square for some 5 months!
	16 Dec, Wed	Very unwell in the night. But attended a Pelton SS Co meeting & brought Mitchell for the night to Crest Ho[use] to talk over Carnegie business.
	17 Dec, Thu	Had to stay at Crest House, having had another wretched night.
	18 Dec, Fri	Managed to do the Carnegie meetings today. Bryan came for the week end.
	19 Dec, Sat	Very unwell. George Barnes most kindly came over and discussed our coal affairs.
	20 Dec, Sun	After a “terrible” night half a day in bed. EM Forster & an Indian official came in afternoon the latter to talk over agric’l coop’n. So I had to do my best to be alive. I had too to talk family coal situation with Bryan.
[Allonal – analgesic sedative and hypnotic]	21 Dec, Mon	To town to attend Pelton & Stella Gill meetings. Bryan & Walsh only attended. Mrs. Bainbridge’s absence was fortunate as she always backs up Gardiner who was coolly asking us to give him a preposterous pension. G.H. had a talk with Beckett Overy, an old medical friend of his, about my case. I am to see him tomorrow! Last [night] with the help of two allonal tablets I had a good sleep & felt a new man today.
	22 Dec, Tue	To town again. Saw the new medicine man, Beckett Overy. He told me (1) that the quantity of morphia I was taking was remarkably small considering the circumstances (2) that it would be madness at my age to attempt to give it up & that it should not shorten my life by a day supposing I did not increase say more than ½ gr[ain] per ann[um]. I told him I was going on the basis of 3 gr. the 24 hours & keeping it a bit lower; (3) that I should not use the drug as a soporific but only as a sedative & stimulant – the insomnia must be met with adalin or allonal. Nothing I did not know. Called on Sheila Taylor (who was ill in bed) & saw Beatrice Byrne who looked very frail.
	23 Dec, Wed	Kept my bed till tea which I had with the Lock[e] Kings to meet one de Brath a spiritualist of sorts. He was quite interesting but, as I always find, those who go deepest find out least!! Like most old folk he was chiefly interested in survival and apparitions on

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		photographic plates had been convincing to him.
	24 Dec, Thu	Adams brought his wife & boy to cheer my gloomy Xmas. They had never seen Hampton Court which gave us a great opportunity to amuse them.
	25 Dec, Fri	<p>I neither give nor receive Xmas presents – of course I gave them to my three guests, a tip to Billy – and think it a mistake as the practice is so universal. Xmas cannot be other than drear for me, but I ought to do nothing which makes it so to others. If I am alive next Xmas I will take trouble to send small reminders to my friends.</p> <p>A quiet day in which I talked a good deal to Adams about the Memorandum I want to write for the Foundation in order to explain it to the moral & financial supporters it must get if it is to achieve anything considerable.</p>
	26 Dec, Sat	Long morning's talk with Adams. After lunch they left us having helped me over Xmas.
	27 Dec, Sun	Depression.
	28 Dec, Mon	<p>More depression.</p> <p>Entered the list of meetings of the Gardiner Companies in my 1926 pocket diary. Noted that Pelton Colliery is omitted!!</p>
	29 Dec, Tue	<p>Two allonal tablets last night gave me 4½ hours good sleep & I was able to do a little work.</p> <p>Called on George Barnes, who is most kindly going to help Bryan (his cousin) with colliery difficulties.</p>
	30 Dec, Wed	To town for a talk about the Foundation with Sir Daniel Hall.
	31 Dec, Thu	Again to town & stayed night. Met Bryan & Henry Armstrong & had a talk about the Pelton situation. It emerged that H.A. had an impression that Pelton had unlimited cash reserves! He told me that we were wholly exceptional in having offices in London as well as Newcastle. The dual offices lead to loss of opportunity to enable quick sales. We had a long and intimate talk.
	Year-end Summary	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>1925</u></p> <p>The visit to South Africa and my Memorandum upon its agricultural situation was I suppose the most important event of my year. For the rest I was struggling with ill health – trying to avoid the acceptance of invalidism.</p> <p>The Foundation held a meeting in Ireland in July which I attended. I did my best to get my Trustees to understand my agricultural development & rural reconstruction idea. By the end of the year I had not succeeded in writing a Memorandum badly needed to explain, first to some of the Trustees & then to the public the real aims of the Horace Plunkett Foundation which will soon be all that is left of me!</p> <p>I have suffered greatly from insomnia and depression throughout the year. Medical advice of which I have had a good deal is unanimous in its insistence upon continuing relatively small doses of morphia. The alternative would, I am now convinced, be nervous collapse.</p>