

1926 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.

1926

Events:

- 1 May – General Strike declared
- 16 May – De Valera founds Fianna Fáil in Dublin

Publications:

- *The Horace Plunkett Foundation: its Origin, Principles and Programme* (Plunkett Foundation, London) 16 pp.
- “The Agricultural Problem in South Africa”, *Yearbook of Agricultural Co-operation in the British Empire 1927* (George Routledge & Sons, Ltd., London), pp. 32-55
- “Ireland: Agricultural Co-operation”, *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, 13th edition, v.ii, pp. 521-3
- “Co-operative Progress”, *Commonweal*, 17 Nov, pp. 39-41
- “The Decay of Tillage”, *Morning Post*, 18 Jun, p. 8
- “An Appreciation” [to Ld. Monteagle], *The Times*, 28 Dec, p.12
- Memorandum to the staff and employees of Pelton Colliery (Unpublished Ms, Yale University, papers of E.M. House)

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]	1926	Diary Entry
To Young, Conrad	1 Jan, Fri	Worked at office on a Memorandum explanatory of the Horace Plunkett Foundation, wrote Colonel House & other American correspondents that I could not go to America this winter and returned to The Crest House. In town called on Beckett Overy, Gerald’s medical friend, who is advising me upon my insomnia. He urges me to go abroad for the winter. My own feeling is that I would rather live a shorter time in touch with my work than longer away from it.
	2 Jan, Sat	Quiet day. Lowes Dickenson [<i>sic</i>] came for week-end. We talked of survival of the individual. He says he believes in it & then kicks away every prop which supports it! A very common attitude to the mystery.
[Skopolomine (hyoscine)]	3 Jan, Sun	Saw Dr. Beare who had been written to by Beckett Overy. He approves of skopolomaine [<i>sic</i>] injection last thing before going to bed. It stood to me last night when I slept abnormally well. A quiet day with Lowes Dickenson [<i>sic</i>].
	4 Jan, Mon	To office to prepare for Norman visit. He came today from Dublin to collect information the Free State Minister for Agriculture wants about cooperative legislation in other countries etc. I had a long talk with him upon the position of the movement in Ireland. It is very depressing to me to compare what is & what might have been. If I had been well enough to work in Ireland the last 3 years things would have been better.
	5 Jan, Tue	Not well. Norman was looking so tired I would not let him work. We had a very quiet day – just the three of us.
	6 Jan, Wed	To town with Norman & Gerald to work upon the information wanted by the Free State Government re cooperation. Met Bryan

Correspondence [Notes]	1926	Diary Entry
		& George Barnes (whom I motored home) at Raymond Barker's office where we discussed the sad case of Pelton.
	7 Jan, Thu	Yesterday was too much for me. Today I loafed. I motored to Fishers Hill to see Betty & Gerald Balfour. Asked the latter if he could find out about "Hamonite" the "activated carbon" made by a Count Hamon out of Peat. Frank Taylor who married Sheila Byrne is interested in it. Jim Byrne has asked me to find out whether it is a serious proposition. Norman worked at the office.
	8 Jan, Fri	Worked at the office & felt none the better for it. Norman & Walter got on very well together and I think they will really help the movement in Ireland.
	9 Jan, Sat	Unwell. Drove Norman to Hampton Court. Good for all three of us. Beare came in the evening & asked me to go on with the o--sp-- -skopolomaine [<i>sic</i>] treatment for calming my wretched nerves at night. I restarted it.
	10 Jan, Sun	Another day of deep depression. Norman's company was a great comfort.
	11 Jan, Mon	Depression all day. Norman went to town & Gerald also but the latter came back as soon as possible to keep me company.
	12 Jan, Tue	Worked chiefly at a letter to James Byrne who is trying to get the money the American Committee of the Irish Statesman still owe.
	13 Jan, Wed	To town with Norman, but too unwell to help him much at the Foundation.
	14 Jan, Thu	To town again for work at Foundation. Also a séance. Gerald took me to Mrs. Travers[-]Smith, daughter of Edward Dowden, who is a professional medium. She is a marvellously rapid automatic writer. Michael Collins, who spelt his name both in English & Irish was made to ask me to tell the Irish people that he took his own life. He recalled his coming to Kilteragh, the lady (Lady Lavery) who was helpful to him there. I asked him if he had lived would my house have been destroyed. He said he might not have been able to save it. The people might not obey his command etc. I should have been almost convinced it was him had I not learned from the medium that she had talked to him before, with Lennox Robinson present.
	15 Jan, Fri	Worked very little. Bitter weather. Norman had to keep to the house.
	16 Jan, Sat	Heavy snow last night. I could not stand the cold & had to keep in doors! I doubt whether I could safely go to U.S.A. in the winter now!!
	17 Jan, Sun	Bryan came to lunch & stayed to supper. We talked coal all day! At night I had a very back attack of heartburn. Stomach full of bile which would go neither up nor down. At last I was violently sick & got some relief.
	18 Jan, Mon	The doctor called & kept me in bed on water. A miserable day.
	19 Jan, Tue	Cured by starvation. Up in afternoon.

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	20 Jan, Wed	Oliver came from Aldershot en route for Killeen. He is going over to discuss with Fingall the family finances which are pretty desperate. The day of that old castle – built in the twelfth [<i>sic</i>] Century has passed. The pasture lands – some 1100 acres still unsold are worth perhaps 40 to 50 thousand pounds. The Castle is simply a white elephant. I agreed to guarantee an overdraft at the Bank for £2000. His health is declining fast & she is none too well. I want to make them comfortable.
<i>Fr Seymour, Prof. Charles (HOU)</i>	21 Jan, Thu	To London for work at the office, but was too unwell to do good work & came home.
	22 Jan, Fri	Naomi Mitchison & Miss Blakeney-Booth (her friend and a very nice one) came to lunch with Gerald and, incidentally, me.
	23 Jan, Sat	Idle.
	24 Jan, Sun	Bryan came to lunch & supper & we talked coal. He had been to Newcastle and had confidential talks with Armstrong & Dash. He will have to terminate Gardiner's managership which has of late been conducted without any regard for our interests.
	25 Jan, Mon	After a sickly day went in with Gerald to town for a seance at Mrs. Dowden's. A Mrs. Finney was to demonstrate in materialisation, i.e. ectoplasm was to flow from her finger tips. Expectant attention made all the others see some "gooey, sticky stuff" in the air against her black skirt. I saw nothing. There were a Swedish Count & several lady friends of Mrs. D's there. The note was credulity. But Gerald puzzled me by saying he saw the ectoplasm.
	26 Jan, Tue	Oliver came from Aldershot to tea. We agreed that Killeen must be sold – if a purchaser can be found – for reasons of expediency & financial necessity. His parents' health precludes its proper management & his matrimonial prospects are too problematical for hope to lie there.
	27 Jan, Wed	To town. Called on Ada Watson, having heard rumour (false) that Robin was ill. Attended a Pelton S.S. Co meeting. Had coal conference with Bryan. Very feeble. The publisher sent me the "puff preliminary" of "The intimate papers of Colonel House". My name appears three times! People will wonder why and I shant be able to throw any light on the mystery till the book is published. Supped at Percevals. Met Fitzmaurice the Dragoman. Strange, delightful Irishman with wonderful grasp of foreign politics.
	28 Jan, Thu	Went to the office but was unable to work. Met Walsh & Bryan at my flat. We discussed the Pelton & Stella Gill situations and decided that the sooner Gardiner left us the better. Gardiner smelling a rat is going to try & get Lionel Parr to succeed Bryan on the Board. Called on Beatrice Byrne & Sheila Taylor. Rich and happy. Also supped with Malcolm & Lady Seton. He, poor fellow, bravely endures a swollen foot at the base of his great frame. I fear amputation is indicated.
	29 Jan, Fri	Stella Gill & Pelton meetings & back to The Crest House. Very low & depressed.

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		Locke King's death in today's paper.
	30 Jan, Sat	Went to ask when the funeral was & met it. Our mourning clothes were in London! Wrote apologies, regrets & sympathy to Dame Ethel. Bryan came to talk coal again.
	31 Jan, Sun	Spent whole day talking with Bryan about Pelton and public affairs alternately.
	1 Feb, Mon	Rest & quiet.
<i>Fr Gillespie, P.J. (IRS)</i>	2 Feb, Tue	Attended extraordinary general meeting of Cooperative Poultry Products Society at Virginia Water with Karl Walter who came for the night. It reminded me of my early days at organising. But Lord how easy it would have been to succeed in England compared with the Irish effort!!
	3 Feb, Wed	Tried hard to do a letter to the Times on the Government's agricultural policy announced today in a "White Paper". Failed physically.
	4 Feb, Thu	At home, unwell.
	5 Feb, Fri	Drove to Newlands Corner & had a good walk on the high ground. Felt better for it. Am trying to get a good rest.
	6 Feb, Sat	Gerald went to town on Foundation business. I called at Fishers Hill. Had a pleasant talk with Betty. They are all furious with Norman Leys for his book "Kenya" and with Gilbert Murray for writing a laudatory Introduction without verifying the statements. Gerald (Balfour) condescended to discuss survival with me a little. He admits that he had no proof for his psychical researches.
	7 Feb, Sun	Quiet Sunday with Bryan talking over Pelton.
<i>Fr Godkin, Lawrence</i>	8 Feb, Mon	Gerald & I met Bryan at the school for vocational training (of soldiers) at Hounslow where an excellent Major Hardy showed us round. Then back to lunch at Crest House, where Henry Armstrong came from London. We discussed the awful situation of the company & came to the conclusion that Gardiner must be got rid of as soon as possible.
To Byrne, James	9 Feb, Tue	To town for a Pelton meeting. At it I told Gardiner some home truths, e.g. that I had never been consulted about the investments of the company's money in his private ventures; that if we had followed Armstrong's advice we should have been some £150,000 better off than we are, that A had always been blamed for wrong goings but that when he had come to the Board meetings he always defended himself successfully etc. Walsh, Bryan & I afterwards had a conference at which G's generous treatment & retirement were agreed to.
	10 Feb, Wed	Betty B and her mother came to lunch, I doing the transport. Lady Lytton is getting hazy and thought I still lived at Kilteragh which she had visited many years ago.
	11 Feb, Thu	To town for a Stella Gill meeting. Gardiner, Walsh, Major Palmer, Aspland & self. Nothing done or doing. We were called to hear a report of Gardiner who had been to Newcastle to negotiate with God knows whom about God knows what. He had

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		nothing to report! Had a conference with Raymond-Barker about Pelton. He had seen Gardiner & got no satisfaction whatever out of him. The man is a rogue!
	12 Feb, Fri	A talk with Hall on agricultural situation & home. Not well.
	13 Feb, Sat	Quiet day. The 3 Walters came for the week end. All dressed for dinner. Their luggage was easily carried in the hand!!
	14 Feb, Sun	Bryan came to talk coal. He is determined to fight it out with Gardiner, who I fear has robbed us unconscionably. A restful day otherwise with the three Walters.
	15 Feb, Mon	Worked at an article for Encyclopaedia Brit[annica]. on The Cooperative Movement in Ireland, the pay for which Norman is to have.
	16 Feb, Tue	Began to feel better – due I think to comparative rest.
	17 Feb, Wed	Lazed in town & went by night to Newcastle.
	18 Feb, Thu	Bowes meeting. Saw Dash & Armstrong & spoke freely with them upon the iniquities of Sir Robert. Poor Dash has a family entirely dependent upon Pelton & Stella Gill!! I told him we would not allow his claims to be ignored or unfairly dealt with.
<i>Fr Byrne, James</i> (probably misdated as 1924)	19 Feb, Fri	Very tired & bad indigestion. Had interview with Walsh – tried to get him to join Bryan in ousting Gardiner. Wrote to Raymond-Barker on the situation.
	20 Feb, Sat	Painful & depressing “gastric influenza” – so the doctor diagnosed it. Bryan came to see me on coal business, but little of it could I talk. I was put to bed & Gerald caught the complaint, happily not so badly.
	21 Feb, Sun	Doctor’s diagnosis adds jaundice. As I am wretchedly depressed, I daresay he is right. Kept in bed.
	22 Feb, Mon	Doctor kept me in bed. Daisy came to see me. I could not hold my own in conversation – that I never can. But I found it hard to keep my attention alive!
[8 stone = 112 lbs.]	23 Feb, Tue	Better. But reduced to 8 stone. Temp 96°. Pulse 60. Doctor said I was recuperating well. The depression he tells me will be bad.
	24 Feb, Wed	Came down today. Daisy came. Managed some solid food.
	25 Feb, Thu	To town for conference at Raymond-Barker’s with Walsh, Bryan & Walsh’s solicitor, Addison. Inconclusive but on whole helpful as Gardiner’s dishonesty & incompetence were made clear to Walsh who will I hope show a little more back bone than heretofore.
	26 Feb, Fri	Had a lot of work to do. Wrote to E.L. Doheny about Irish Statesman, to Cardinal O’Donnell about a Bishop Doheny wants looked after in his Irish visit!, to Mitchell about Carnegie meetings, to Gardiner about his misdeeds etc etc. Daisy & I called on the Gerald Balfours. He melted as he always does to her.
	27 Feb, Sat	To town for a Stella Gill and a Pelton meeting. Gardiner was frigidly polite to me but told Mrs. Bainbridge (before Walsh who

Correspondence [Notes]	1926	Diary Entry
		told me in confidence) that he was very angry with me. I had written him a letter telling him the awkward position I was in for having trusted him.
	28 Feb, Sun	No guests – no work – restless unwell.
	1 Mar, Mon	Slightly more comfortable but could not work.
To Byrne, James (2)	2 Mar, Tue	To town for A.G.M. of Bowes and to see Dr. Kellogg (at the Carlton Hotel!). He has been touring – spent 6 weeks at Biskra [Algeria], which he recommends for me – and has been to many clinics. In London he seems to have the entree to the big people in the medical world.
	3 Mar, Wed	Worked at the coal situation.
[William I. Myers.] [Novelist Emily Rose Macauley]	4 Mar, Thu	Went to office to meet a very ?mild young agricultural economist from Cornell named Myers. Helped him with his inquiries. Had long conference with Walsh who told me Christian Science (which he took up after going the round of the doctors) had made him happy & well. The Intimate Papers of Colonel House appeared and I was sent a copy. American Senators have damned his egotism – really his candour. I figure a good deal which is intensely annoying as letters never meant for publication are printed. Dined with Dominick Spring Rices. Met Rose Macauley.
<i>Fr Gillespie, P.J.</i> (IRS)	5 Mar, Fri	More miserable coal business with Walsh. I fear the situation is quite hopeless. Back to Crest House.
To Gillespie, P.J. (IRS)	6 Mar, Sat	Bryan & Dorothy came. More coal business. News came that Susan Mitchell had died. Poor Æ is heart broken. They have worked together in the Homestead & Irish Statesman for 20 years as Editor and Ass't. Ed'r. Her literary gifts were remarkable. Good natured satire was her forte. She is a sad, sad loss to the circle at Plunkett House.
	7 Mar, Sun	Took B & D to the George Prices. He is approaching 84 and does not expect to leave his bed. His blood pressure is 60°! I did my best to cheer him & did so a little – apparently. His memory is almost gone & Gertrude told me it would now be a happy release if he passed beyond.
	8 Mar, Mon	Dean Mann & Dr. Myers of the Agricultural College in Cornell came to lunch & tired me not a little. Sir Robert Gardiner resigned the management of Pelton.
<i>Fr Byrne, James</i>	9 Mar, Tue	To town. Lunched with Lady Byles to meet Monteagle & Tom Spring Rice. The last furious at Col. House's references to Cecil Spring Rice.
	10 Mar, Wed	Interview with Price Waterhouse & Co over affairs of Pelton. They will give us a statement of our financial position. Walsh came with me & we met Sir Gilbert Garnsey & Norman Harrison, the former head (I think) of the firm in London, the latter a clerk in the Newcastle office. G. O'Donovan lunched with me at the Club & we talked of old times.

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		By night to Edinburgh for Carnegie UK Trust.
<i>Fr Campbell, Richard to ? (IRS)</i> [congé – dismissal, farewell]	11 Mar, Thu	3 sub committees prior to Annual General Meeting of Carnegie U.K.T. tomorrow. I slept at an old fashioned Railway Hotel – the North British. Too weak for these trips. The Report of the Royal Com'n on Coal came out. It put us (Pelton) on congé I fear. But I had no time to read it beyond the headlines.
Fr Byrne, James (IRS) (Fr Campbell, Richard to Byrne, James; IRS)	12 Mar, Fri	Tiring dull day, but I think it was right to go. By night to London.
	13 Mar, Sat	Home. Saw Walsh en route. Sir John Keane called.
	14 Mar, Sun	Quiet with Gerald.
<i>Fr Hogan, P.J.</i>	15 Mar, Mon	The same.
To Seymour, Charles (HOU)	16 Mar, Tue	Hectic day. Dr. Francis C Kelley, R.C. Bishop of Oklahoma lunched with me at St. James Club. He is an intimate friend of Doheny who is in trouble over his oil deals (or steals his enemies say) in America. He wants me to get his side of the case known over here in the hope that it will make American pub[lic] op[ini]n more fair. I don't know what I can do! Next conference with Walsh about Pelton. Dash the fitter offers to take Gardiner's place & be Secretary as well. I think he is honest and shrewd. He is our best hope.
To Hogan, P.J.	17 Mar, Wed	St. Paddy. Few people wore shamrocks. Ireland is no longer interesting to the outside world. James MacNeill, Free State High Commissioner had a lunch to about 20 strong Irishmen & sympathisers at Carlton restaurant. Lady Gregory I was glad to see – the rest were not very interesting.
To House, E.M.	18 Mar, Thu	100.4° and very low. But went to a poor GBS play at night – “Mrs. Warren's Profession” with the Percevals & Gerald whom I made my guests. Worked hard at Coal business. It haunts me. Our (Pelton's) miners & their dependents are a population of some 5000 men, women & children. It is an awful responsibility so managing our business that these people are not thrown upon the dole.
	19 Mar, Fri	Stella Gill & Pelton. We made Dash General Manager & Secretary, removed the office to Newcastle and kept Gardiner on on his preposterous salary without any functions. He could have robbed us of £6000 if he had stood by his agreement & so if we pay him £1000 to £1500 we shall get off well. Wrote House suggesting he should deprecate American claim for blockade damages prior to their coming into the war.
<i>Fr Byrne, James</i>	20 Mar, Sat	To the office & then home. Monteagle & Myers of Cornell (see March 8th) came for week end. I was very unwell from worry & over work at the coal business.
	21 Mar, Sun	Weak & tired. But the talk was stimulating. Monteagle is marvellously young – Myers extremely able & Gerald at his best. George Barnes called & talked coal.

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To Gillespie, P.J. (IRS) To Hogan, P.J.	22 Mar, Mon	Naomi Mitchison came for lunch. I was unwell & so was Gerald. But he kept her interested & amused.
	23 Mar, Tue	To town, Gerald being too unwell to accompany me. Lunched with Karl Walter's "Bolshevist" friends & had good talk on the coal problem from Labour's point of view.
	24 Mar, Wed	A very hard day at Coal chiefly. Began with a long talk with Londonderry who gave me much useful information. Frank Taylor & Count Hamon butted in with their Peat fuel & "Activated Carbon" proposition which they wanted me to help them to get taken up in Ireland. Supped with Tom Ponsonby after having tea with Eddie.
Fr Young, Conrad Fr Gillespie, P.J. (IRS) Fr Seymour, Prof. Charles (HOU)	25 Mar, Thu	A meeting of Bowes where I wanted to accept the Report of the Coal Commission (as Baldwin yesterday asked the owners and Miners to do[,]) as the Govt meant to give effect to the unanimous recommendations) and undertake to give effect to the passages affecting the owners. But it was obviously hopeless. I lunched Armstrong & had a long discussion of the Pelton situation.
To Gillespie, P.J. (IRS) <i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	26 Mar, Fri	Overtired. Rested.
	27 Mar, Sat	Called on George Price who has just celebrated his 84th birthday. He is just alive & would be as happy dead. Worked a bit at coal, but these two days of rest have done me great good.
	28 Mar, Sun	Walsh & his wife came to tea. We had a good coal talk & I think I got him to understand the situation we are in a little more clearly than he did.
	29 Mar, Mon	Worked at home while Gerald went to town to look for a cook. We lose today the only cook we have had who could give us simple and yet appetising food.
	30 Mar, Tue	Restarted a Memorandum I have long wanted to write for the Foundation showing precisely what that institution is, does & means to do. Very difficult & my thoughts are expressed with great labour if at all. Called on Dame Ethel, first time since her husband died.
	31 Mar, Wed	To town for a Pelton SS Co meeting & to do some work at the office. There met Lewis Palen whom I had to lunch at the Reform. Received a charming letter from Col. House.
[Elmhurst]	1 Apr, Thu	Worked at H.P.F. Memorandum. Leonard Elmhurst [<i>sic</i>] & his brother called for lunch. Bryan, Dorothy & daughter came for two nights.
	2 Apr, Fri	To tea at the Eton Country Club, where Eddie Stapylton came.
	3 Apr, Sat	Bryan wife & daughter left & E.M. Forster came for week end. I went to tea at the Egerton's new house. The Neville Lytteltons, Duchess of St. Albans & a daughter, some others I did not know and Lady Spring Rice whom I did not recognise. She at once tackled me on House's book which I defended. She was, naturally, furious about his references to Cecil S.R. These I

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		excused. Then she let herself go and I found out my horrible mistakes. Never in my life did I feel so angry with myself. She left me to talk to others. I waited till they had all left and then apologised. But there was nothing to be said. She calmed down and was very friendly in the end. But I had hurt her and fear she will never quite forgive me. I shall try to get House to make such amends as is possible. He did go too far in his criticisms of poor Cecil.
	4 Apr, Sun	Easter Day. Rested with Gerald & E M Forster.
	5 Apr, Mon	Quite glorious weather. I worked at the Memorandum for the Foundation. The Bishop of Oklahoma and a Monsignor called in a Rolls Royce car belonging to the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster!
	6 Apr, Tue	Nearly finished my Memorandum for the H.P.F. Karl Walter came for the night to discuss it.
To Spring Rice, Lady Florence (HOU)	7 Apr, Wed	To London to see James Byrne who had come over for 10 days to see his daughters – Sheila & Beatrice. Had first talk. Tried & failed to finish Memorandum.
	8 Apr, Thu	More of Jim Byrne & work at office.
To Seymour, Prof. Charles (HOU) <i>Fr Spring Rice, Lady Florence (HOU)</i>	9 Apr, Fri	After a busy morning at the office went to Walworth Castle, Darlington with the Walshes for coal business on the morrow. Sir Alfred & Lady Palmer were very hospitable. The place belongs to Johnny's old friend Percy Aylmer. In the grounds a favourite dog is buried & he has a tombstone on which his epitaph is writ by Percy Aylmer, JW Plunkett & Ranfurly.
	10 Apr, Sat	Did a lot of business with Armstrong & Dash. Then an awful function at which I spoke badly as I was cold & it was in the open air. The feeling was good. The occasion, laying 15 Foundation stones halfway up six aged Miners houses. 15 speeches and a tea at which for 1/- participants had about 2/6 worth of food.
	11 Apr, Sun	Left for Crest House. The Walshes stayed behind having changed their minds at last moment. Gerald met me & told me that Daisy had come to town suddenly. Spoke to her on phone to Ada's & then home & bed.
	12 Apr, Mon	A bad sore throat. Too tired to work. Went with Gerald to Kew.
	13 Apr, Tue	Very early to town. Gillespie, Manager of Irish Statesman, called & together we went to James Byrne who will do his best with the American Syndicate to make them pay what they promised me. Smith Gordon came to see me & we talked Irish affairs. Lunched with Lady Lavery, Daisy & Jim Byrne being chief guests.
	14 Apr, Wed	Coal and Foundation. Lunched with Ada & tea'd with Sheila meeting Daisy at both & Jim Byrne at latter. Dined with Eddie. My public business & domestic life all lived strenuously.
	15 Apr, Thu	Worked at Memorandum & Coal – my daily round – said goodbye to Jim Byrne & came home where came Adams for a 24 hour visit to my great delight.
	16 Apr, Fri	Had frank talk with Adams about his farm over which he is losing heavily. The bulldog determination not to be beaten in the effort is fine – or would be if I had not financed the experiment! His wife & boy came to lunch & then all three set out for Canterbury

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		& beyond. I was far from well.
	17 Apr, Sat	Quiet at home. Worked at Memorandum. Very difficult. Naomi Mitchison called. She is very near her confinement & ought not to be driving her own motor. But she is wilful & reckless.
Fr Young, Conrad [Chrysler]	18 Apr, Sun	Summer Time – a joy to me. Lunched with the Barnes's. Took Lady B. & 2 fellow guests (ladies) to Kew in Chrysler [<i>sic</i>] car.
<i>Fr Seymour, Prof. Charles (HOU)</i>	19 Apr, Mon	Worked at home.
	20 Apr, Tue	Finished the Memorandum and gave it to Karl Walter to get retyped & printed. Dined with Eddie. Intolerably egotistical.
	21 Apr, Wed	Worked at office, trying to perfect the Memorandum. Went by night train with Bryan to Newcastle.
	22 Apr, Thu	Woke at 4 & slept no more. At 6.20 went to Hotel where I had engaged a bedroom which they did not keep. I locked myself in a bathroom & after a hot bath was ready for the days work. It consisted of a Pelton meeting and a visit to the Colliery where the two Armstrongs explained to Bryan, Walsh & me a scheme for winning coal by mechanical means which Guy A. has invented & which was to revolutionise the industry! I was not convinced. It meant a capital expenditure of over £100,000 which we have not got.
	23 Apr, Fri	A meeting of Stella Gill & an Extraordinary General Meeting of Pelton to make me a Director again. A little work at the Foundation & then home to rest for the week end.
	24 Apr, Sat	Dentist & work at Memorandum. Gerald helped. We both found it very hard to find a fitting termination.
	25 Apr, Sun	At 2.30 A.M. had violent pain in the chest (the weak spot in right lung) & bad aching all over. Gerald kept with me from then on. Got the doctor & a nurse.
(To Young, Conrad fr Cannon, T.C.)	26 Apr, Mon	Wonderful improvement. The nurse (Gladys Brownlie, 115 Walm Lane, Cricklewood N.W.2) recommended by Nurse Caven who was unavailable, was quite excellent.
To James Byrne	27 Apr, Tue	Allowed down in the house.
	28 Apr, Wed	Tried to work. Small results.
	29 Apr, Thu	At 11 AM a Bowes meeting. Very gloomy. We could do nothing to help the situation as the Gov't had failed to find any solution to the crux of the impasse. I suggested meeting on 11th May. Then a meeting of Foundation, Hall, S[mith].G[ordon]., Dermod O'B[rien], Adams & self. Did a lot of formal business. Back home with E.F. Wise who wished to consult me about agric'l policy. He advises Labour Party & is in close touch with cooperation in Russia. S.G. came to supper. Gerald talked to them both, I being hardly fit.

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<i>Fr Wise, E.F.</i>	30 Apr, Fri	Worked quietly at home on the Memorandum which seems never to approach finality. The more I think over the problem with which it deals the more there is to say about it.
	1 May, Sat	Another day at the Memorandum. The General Strike was declared and I fear great misery will result all round. The workers are better organised than ever before. I fear the coal owners are in the wrong. Pelton had no option but to close down. But Bowes! And its Managing Director is a member of the Durham Coal-Owners Association. He has no sympathy at all with the workers. I am powerless.
	2 May, Sun	The news is worse & worse. I tried to rest but I had to write many letters.
<i>Fr Wise, E.F.</i>	3 May, Mon	To London to work at the office upon the Memorandum. Meanwhile the Coal situation has developed into the gravest struggle between labour & capital in English history. Tonight the General Strike begins.
To Young, Conrad	4 May, Tue	Worked at Memorandum. Called on Betty B. Had to cancel engagement with Hall tomorrow on account of congestion of roads in & out of London, no trains running.
	5 May, Wed	Was to have gone to London to meet Hall & discuss the Memorandum. But the roads are so blocked that I was advised not to attempt the journey. So I spent the day working on this difficult task & wish I could unload it on the office. But with the printers on strike & general chaos who knows that it will ever see the light!!
	6 May, Thu	Dentist & work. Bryan & his daughter took the boy to Eton & came to The Crest House for the night.
	7 May, Fri	Bryan & daughter left. All day the B.B.C. gives us the dreary news of the strike.
	8 May, Sat	Called on George Barnes to get his sage advice upon two matters. (1) Mrs. Baldwin is asking for motors to bring working girls to their work from the suburbs to London & back. I could (and did this morning) use both cars for helping old people & women who miss their busses [<i>sic</i>]. He advised me to do this work as London is blocked with cars (2) I asked him whether, against the advice of Henry Armstrong & Dash, I should write a statement for the workers at Pelton putting all the facts before them, and asking them to help to make it possible to work the colliery. This of course only after the general strike. He strongly supported the idea.
	9 May, Sun	Worked on Memorandum. The Government are treating the Strike as if it were a civil war – in all except shooting. They are enrolling an enormous emergency force and will wear down the Trades Union Council, which was to have been a Head Quarters staff for sudden, direct action. The Government's control of B.B.C. was probably under-estimated as to its military value. Last night Baldwin spoke to his millions. Tonight the Archbp. of Canterbury, who wanted to propose peace terms, simply backed the Government.

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	10 May, Mon	Not feeling well but worked on Memorandum.
[query in original]	11 May, Tue	Wanted to go to town but Karl advised me not. The Government are blocking the streets with absurd processions of emergency men (? Black & Tans) in mufti + steel hat and armlet!
	12 May, Wed	To town. Delivered the Memorandum to Karl. Thank God the Strike was called off, unconditionally. I wrote Henry Armstrong about the awful choice which lies before the Pelton Owners. When I got back I telephoned Alfred Palmer at Walworth Castle, begging him to use all his influence to get the notices withdrawn. I told him Pelton would be hit harder than any colliery, but in the public interest we were willing to fall in. As far as I could hear him he said we must act with the other owners. I replied, of course but we are entitled to our say.
	13 May, Thu	To town again. Sent a letter to Thomas Jones, Secretary to the Cabinet, on the cases of Pelton & Bowes, telling him that I have strongly urged the withdrawal of the notices and restarting the collieries in order to give Baldwin a chance of settling the dispute. He is doing splendidly. Took Hugh Butler, K Walter & G.H. to lunch at Carlton. The first is commercial attache to the American Embassy. Wrote letters to be sent to Trustees with the Memorandum & so home & to bed.
To Wise, E.F.	14 May, Fri	G.H.'s clerical brother, who after marriage & the Ministry in Queensland succeeded his father at Caterham came for a 24 hour visit. He is physically much more like his father than Gerald. I liked him much on first impressions. The Railway men capitulated & the Strike may now be said to be over. The Coal Settlement is, I fear, hopeless.
	15 May, Sat	Rested. Gerald's brother left for his week end duties. A strange cleric. He has no faith in the essentials – the fundamentals of the Church he serves. But he is for all that as good a clergyman as I know. That of course is only first impressions. He & Gerald talked psychology most of the time.
	16 May, Sun	Rested, <u>really</u> .
	17 May, Mon	To town to see Walsh about Gardiner's growl at not getting enough loot on resignation. At last the Memorandum was mimeographed & sent to Trustees.
<i>Fr Hall, Sir A.D.</i> [club – the Romney Street Group]	18 May, Tue	To town again. Lunched with Karl's friends, whose club (?) I joined. Greenwood, Labour M.P., Tom Jones, Weld Blundell, Wright of the Nation and Mallon of Toynbee Hall I remember. The talk was on the general strike. Too many felt it still & the discourse was rather restrained. Dined with Eddie. R.A.A. turned up. He has to give evidence before a Board of Trade committee on distribution of agricultural produce tomorrow.
<i>Fr Wise, E.F.</i>	19 May, Wed	R.A.A. lunched with me at Club. We had a good Irish talk. He is marvellously recuperated & rejuvenated. He told Walter the I.A.W.S. is going to take him on at full salary. The Foundation will no longer have to finance him. A.D. Hall has approved my Memorandum.

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		Colonel House turned up late & I shall see him tomorrow. Another talk with Londonderry about coal. He was pessimistic. The economic facts are excluded from the discussion by Labour!
	20 May, Thu	Took Gerald to see House. Lunched him and Londonderry, who wanted to meet the Colonel, at St. James Club. On way home called on Lady Spring Rice and told her of House's (1) regret over insertion of some passages, (2) promise to make the greatest 'amende' the truth will permit and (3) news – for such it was to me – that Wilson & he & the State Department all deplored Sir Cecil's withdrawal after America came into the war. All the trouble had been over the neutrality of U.S.A.
To Spring Rice, Thomas (HOU)	21 May, Fri	Drove with Gerald to Odiham to see Sir D. Hall. He was most kind again and agreed to write a preface to my Memorandum. Bryan & Dorothy came for Whitsuntide. We shall have to talk coal & nothing else. Wrote a letter to Tom Spring Rice, telling him what I yesterday told Lady S.R. and sent copy of letter to House.
	22 May, Sat	Very tired and had complete rest in glorious weather. James MacNeill came to tea.
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	23 May, Sun	To Eton to lunch Dorothy's Eddie at her Country Club on the river. On return we (D, Bryan, Gerald & I) called on the George Prices. He is nearing his end and they will all be happier when it comes. He was, I fear, never faithful to her & she has nursed him for many many years. Began an address to the Pelton Miners.
	24 May, Mon	Worked at Coal with Bryan. After tea went to Chobham Ridge where saw in a Florist and "Sundries man's" garden a wonderful avenue of Wellingtonias.
	25 May, Tue	To town & worked at Foundation. Gave £100 anonymously to Miners Women & Children relief fund.
	26 May, Wed	Worked at an address to the Employees at Pelton. An impossible task!! Called again on Col. House. He is depressed at the criticisms on his book – or rather on the unfortunate inclusions of unnecessary personal items (e.g. the criticisms of Cecil Spring Rice's antics when ill). He told me Baruch, Grayson & Mrs. Wilson were the ones who poisoned Wilson's mind about him. Went with Gerald & the Percevals to Sean O'Casey's Plough & the Stars. Amazing play and marvellously acted. But it brought back the horrors of Easter Week too vividly for enjoyment. It was horribly painful.
	27 May, Thu	Dash & Guy Armstrong turned up at 3 P.M. & I had 4 solid hours discussion of an Address to the Employees of the Colliery which I had drafted in the morning. Bryan came up about 5 o'clock. Lunched with the ?Mildings. Met many fashionable people, whose names I did not catch. It was a disgustingly costly feast, 4 males serving!
	28 May, Fri	A Stella Gill and Pelton meeting. Henry Armstrong does not want my scheme to be sent to the Miners Federation. I am to meet him

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		in London next Wednesday at 9 A.M. Showed the scheme to House & asked him to show it to Reading. Then came back to Crest House.
	29 May, Sat	Worked at Coal business & tried to rest.
	30 May, Sun	By motor to Oxford, lunching with the Frank Taylors at Bray & stopping for tea with the Percevals at Brightwell. Put up with Hart Synnot who keeps as comfortable a house as I ever stayed at. His wife is of the best. Her care for my comfort & convenience made me unhappy that I had never entertained her – though I had been hospitable to him. Resolved to get them both to The Crest House.
[Mells]	31 May, Mon	The sands running out. If Baldwin's offer of £3,000,000 to bridge the economic gulf betw'n Mining Labour & Capital does not bring the parties together to-day, the deadlock will have to unlock itself! But I am at Oxford on other business – working for the three Betters. First a long talk with Orwin. He is satisfactory in talk but not in action. Then a most stimulating talk with Miss Hadow on Better Living. At lunch in St. John's and after in the garden a long talk with Watson, the new head of Agric'l Educ'n at Oxford. He told me he needs another £2800 p.a. and a better farm. Lastly dined with Fisher. Met Lady Horner & talked of Hannay at Mels [<i>sic</i>]. Fresh, bright undergrads came in after dinner. They had all worked in the Strike. A profitable day.
	1 Jun, Tue	Orwin & Prewett, whom I wished particularly to see, vanished. Another talk with Prof'r. J.A.S. Watson. Called on Vice Chancellor, Wells of Wadham, & interested him in getting a £6000 grant for the School of Agric'l Economics. Promised to use all my "wires" to get at the Treasury which finances the School. Another talk with Fisher. Lunched with Adams. On way home called on Gilbert Murray. Talked upon the strike, House's book, & League affairs. Most interesting on the latter. He was hopeful but said the action of too many unaccountables & irresponsibles made forecast impossible. Back to town very tired.
<i>Fr Fisher, H.A.L.</i>	2 Jun, Wed	Hard morning with Henry Armstrong. The more Pelton is examined the more hopeless it seems to save it. Some work at Foundation and a talk with House. He is worrying at the criticisms of his book. I begged him to think of one thing only – how can it be made to educate his people as to their world responsibilities.
	3 Jun, Thu	Meant to rest but had to work on the colliery situation chiefly. Bryan & Dorothy called en route to Slough whence they are to do the 4th.
	4 Jun, Fri	To town for Foundation work. Was too tired to do much. But saw Hall about Watson's needs at Oxford.
	5 Jun, Sat	Bryan & Dorothy, returning from the 4th at Eton, lunched. He & I talked coal of course. Later W. Myers the Cornell agric'l economist came for the week end. Still later Norman, who was to have phoned us from London

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		turned up having walked from the station.
	6 Jun, sun	A delightful day with Professor Myers & Norman. The weather was perfect and we talked agricultural economics and the I.A.O.S. situation which Norman had come to discuss with me.
	7 Jun, Mon	To London & Newcastle which I reached at 12.15 A.M. In town called on Col. House who told me he was meeting everyone he wanted to see & had met with no unkind criticism of his book. He asked me to find out the passages the Spring Rices particularly objected to – he would ask Seymour to omit them in future editions. I wrote to Tom S.R.
	8 Jun, Tue	To Pelton with Armstrong & Dash. Spoke frankly to 6 miners & other unions' leaders on the financial position of the Colliery and explained my plan for saving it. The men were most friendly and asked me to give them a précis of my proposal to put to their lodges. On return to Crest House found Julian Huxley. His wife had gone to bed.
Fr Spring Rice, Tom (HOU) [Matthew 6:29 – “. . . not even Solomon in all his splendour was dressed like one of these.”]	9 Jun, Wed	The wife was quite charming. I was <u>very</u> tired and he was even more delightful than when he was here before. They had to go before noon! We had the pleasure of taking them to the “Camp” which was at the height of its glory. Not even Solomon etc.
	10 Jun, Thu	Came early to town & worked at a letter to the Miners & others who met me at Pelton on Tuesday. Got it off my chest. Lunched House & Gilbert Murray at St. James Club. Former satisfied latter that the object of the Book was to win American support – clever colonel! – for League of Nations & that it had to be rushed before the public because the whole story was being wrongly told by others. Daisy arrived at Ada Watson's.
	11 Jun, Fri	Quite upset by yesterday's work. H. Armstrong telephoned that his nephew[,] Dash & he thought my Memorandum to the Miners good. Had to go to bed at 5 P.M.
	12 Jun, Sat	Dead tired but managed to keep an engagement to drive Col. House & his wife & secretary to Crest House & then send the ladies on to Eastbourne for the day. The Colonel was most interesting about his book & his ideas upon the future of the United States as a world force. I begged him in any pronouncements he may make in answer to his critics to eliminate (as far as possible) personal issues and concentrate upon world ones. He asked me to suggest the lines of an epilogue to the second half of the book or to a new ed[itio]n of the first. I doubt my ability to do so, as I told him, but he urged me to try.
	13 Jun, Sun	Very tired & depressed. Rested.
	14 Jun, Mon	To town for a meeting of the Pelton S.S. Co which is in a desperate plight and for work at the office. The memorandum is at last printed & I shall have endless covering letters to write.
	15 Jun, Tue	Worked at home.
	16 Jun, Wed	To town early to bid adieu to Col. House. Advised him to work for 1928 by looking for progressive Democrats and educating

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["The Decay of Tillage", <i>Morning Post</i> , p. 8]		them on (1) Foreign Affairs – world responsibility of U.S.A. etc (2) Labour and (3) Agriculture. He has established relations with Coolidge which make it difficult for him to work for the opposition now. In 1928 it will be different. Worked at office – wrote many letters and one to Morning Post at their request. Brought Mitchell & Gorrie to Crest House for the night.
	17 Jun, Thu	Killeen & Jessica Hughes were married at the Brompton Oratory at 9 AM. None of the usual trappings. No one asked. Curtain & wife, G.H. & I made about ¼ of the audience. If it had been a runaway match it could not have been less public. All because <u>her</u> father refuses to acknowledge the match – thinks Oliver wants Jessica's share of his wealth, which she jolly well shant get. Then a Carnegie sub'tee – rural development. Worked at office & supped with Tom & May.
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	18 Jun, Fri	Irish Library & Executive C'tees of Carnegie U.K.T[rust]. A new Trustee – Rt. Hon. Hugh O'Neill M.P., Speaker of Northern Ireland H. of C. Took him to the Foundation office. Letters and a/cs from Dash show that Stella Gill must almost certainly go into the hands of a receiver & drag Pelton down with it.
	19 Jun, Sat	The Walters & Bernard Shaws to lunch. Fingall & Daisy to tea. Restful. G.B.S. won't allow that he is not ill. His looks belie him. Fingall is much better than he has been – blood pressure has declined from 180 to 120, chiefly, I think, from lower protein diet.
	20 Jun, Sun	A quiet day with very little real work. Beatrice Byrne came to see Daisy. Sir Daniel Hall has written an admirable note on the H.P.F. In it he points out the small material success I have had and added "Yet nowadays, when any English speaking man in any part of the Empire addresses himself to the consideration of agriculture in its relation to the life of the community, it is Plunkett's principles he puts forward as self-evident truths".
	21 Jun, Mon	To town. With Dash & Walsh for 2 hours in the morning & Stella Gill Board 2 hours in afternoon. The Watsons took me to see a play.
To Hogan, P.J.	22 Jun, Tue	Annual General Meeting of Stella Gill which none but the Directors attended. Discussed possible ways of saving the situation. Lunched with the Laverys & returned home. Sent my Memorandum on the Foundation to Hogan.
	23 Jun, Wed	Gerald and I kept house alone. I rested a good deal but had to write a letter to T. Jones asking him to make Baldwin speak in tomorrow's agric'l Debate. Also wrote to O'Higgins & Æ enclosing pamphlet. At night Gerald told me in effect – he was not well & had written out a memorandum on our relations – that he was not happy in his present position. He had had "a friend" who had parted with him,

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		apparently because his tie to me made the friendship less intimate than could be tolerated by the other party. In the daytime he had been restless in mind and had talked half in joke about marrying. Poor fellow – would that work?
	24 Jun, Thu	After a very bad night went to town to do Foundation work. But Dash wired that the holders of the Stella Gill Debentures due on June 30 would not waive their rights. If we default, Pelton would also fall. Gardiner & Preston between them had so arranged and Walsh who had nothing else to do & who might have safeguarded Pelton simply looked on. He is now prepared to help finance us through the crisis: so no more need be said.
	25 Jun, Fri	Shan Bullock came for lunch & tea. He was much cheerier than usual. His boy is making good in his local garage.
	26 Jun, Sat	Bryan came to work on coal and the Moritz Bonns came later. I have now determined to write personally at least to one possible subscriber to the Foundation.
	27 Jun, Sun	Interesting talk with Bonn who left after lunch. Called on Barnes with Bryan & Mrs. Bonn who stays till tomorrow A.M.
	28 Jun, Mon	To town for Stella Gill & Pelton meeting. Walsh found £15,000 to buy debentures which had to be redeemed July 1st. A terribly tiring day as it was quite hot. Saw Tom & May. He is in despair about Ireland – for his class. I am not sure that he might not lead it to power if a sufficient number of them had remained in the country; but they haven't.
[Joseph Peter Thorp]	29 Jun, Tue	G.H. was taken ill & could not leave Crest House. Not serious but painful rectal trouble. Lunched with Walter's crank friends. Tom Jones, Arthur Greenwood, Wright of the Nation, Thorpe [<i>sic</i>] et al present. Coal was the subject. A five hour train to L'[iver]pool & a most comfortable British & Irish boat to Dublin. R.A. met us (Walter came in lieu of G.H.). Daisy came to Dublin. Saw Lennox, long talk with Norman about his future. Gregan is a wreck. Æ was just back from his holiday. Stayed at Salthill Hotel.
	30 Jun, Wed	I was so tired today that I wrote Tuesday & today's [first and third paragraphs of 29 June entry (in different ink)] entries in the Tuesday space! It is hardly worth while keeping a diary in such conditions.
	1 Jul, Thu	S[mith].G[ordon]. came early to Salthill & took me to Dublin in his car. Adams – the faithful Adams – came. But Barbour, Hall, Orwin & Gerald were all absent. It was a depressing meeting of the Foundation. I think I did good work, however, in an hour's talk with Hogan the Minister of Agriculture. I got him to promise to see that the staff of the I.A.O.S. are fairly treated in the matter of pensions and that he would make a speech on the three Betters policy. I visited Kilteragh: The Development Company have built what look to me unsaleable houses! I fear the Co will fail. I shall die

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		poor if my fortunes don't soon change!
	2 Jul, Fri	A talk with O'Higgins chief event. Followed lines of talk with Hogan. Bought 3 pictures from Æ. Karl returned to London by night Mail. We spent much of the day educating Norman for his post as Irish officer of Foundation.
To House, E.M. (more likely 3 Aug)	3 Jul, Sat	The Fingalls sent the Ford car I had given them to fetch me to Killeen. There came Miss Slattery sec & Mrs. Pilkington to tell me about the U.I. Poor Fingall is breaking up and will I fear suffer great pain in the limbs from rheumatism. It was a glorious day. The great trees were at their most luxuriant stage, no warm wind or hot sun having browned them. Clearly the end is near. The Castle was first built in 12th Century. Its broad acres & rich soil cry out for a population of peasants!
	4 Jul, Sun	The daughter of the late Haslam M.P. who is widow of a son of Dr. Lentaigne dec[ease]d, came to lunch. She is living in Ireland out of a sense of duty to the country into which she married. She wants to work for Ireland and will I think take up the U.I. I gave her some literature. Mrs. Martin, Christian Scientist, came for a day & night. I called to see my old groom's (Browne's) widow at Dunsany. Poor thing she begged me to get Eddie to keep her in her little lodge. I shall try.
	5 Jul, Mon	Drove Mrs. Martin in her Citroen car to town, Daisy's Ford following to do my two remaining days' locomotion for me. The outdoor staff of the I.A.O.S. had a meeting to press me to commit myself to all manner of concessions which the Committee alone can make. A meeting of the Kilteragh Dev Co and the Irish Statesman Co. I was completely tired out & a[m] glad I have to leave tomorrow. I can't stand the work now.
	6 Jul, Tue	A very hard day. Long conference over selection of candidates for Secretaryship. Reduced 80 applicants to 5 (Riddall, Kennedy, brother-in-law of Hogan, Nugent Harris & two unknowns). The C'tee on 14th will have to select. Saw Meyrick, sec. of Ministry of Lands & Agric're, McGilligan, Everard & Dermod O'Brien who has made a really good picture of Cloncurry. Back by L'[iver]pool boat. A 5/- cabin instead of the luxurious 10/- one I came by.
	7 Jul, Wed	Got ashore in time to catch 8 AM train to Euston which I reached at 12.40. Karl had arranged for me to lunch Kenyon L. Butterfield at St. James Club. I felt very unwell. The Lawrence Lowells had arrived & I made a preliminary call on them. Then to Crest House where Gerald was far from well.
	8 Jul, Thu	To town for Bowes & Pelton meetings. Then to Oxford where I again put up with the Hart Synnots – the most comfortable put up in my recollection.
	9 Jul, Fri	Three Carnegie meetings. I steered the Civics Institute with difficulty through the Irish C'tee & then met Karl & B--t--n who had both come for the Rural Community Councils Conference tomorrow.
	10 Jul, Sat	Bledisloe appeared in the Carnegie meetings. He told me he had a

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		<p>family colliery in the Forest of Dean, had discussed with the Miners a scheme for working it of which they approved, but they were not allowed to adopt it because it violated the principle of National settlements. I also had a long talk with Hichens who was hopeless about the industrial situation. I strongly urged upon him more publicity of the facts. I am convinced that the originators of the general strike chose Coal as the peg to hang it on for three reasons (1) Economic conditions made a settlement almost possible (2) the issues involved were incomprehensible to the public so that any “fact” could be made to be the whole truth and (3) the miners could be relied upon to stick it out.</p> <p>The whole day was taken up with Carnegie meetings & a conference on Community Councils which was dull.</p>
	11 Jul, Sun	Back home by road. Had good talk with the Lowells at the Mitre en route.
	12 Jul, Mon	80° in the shade. I was much overtired and felt very depressed.
[Holly Lodge – former home of Baroness Burdett-Coutts.]	13 Jul, Tue	<p>To town, intending to stay, but too unwell to stand the heat – 75° at night. Dined with the Julian Huxleys at a sort of garden city where Holly Lodge was. I recall dining there with the Baroness & her lover!</p> <p>Worked at the office & decided to go to Brussels &, possibly, to Denmark & Sweden next week for the Foundation.</p>
	14 Jul, Wed	<p>Dash has rushed his attack on the Armstrongs resignation. Henry has resigned as I learned by our last post. I phoned Bryan who is to meet me tomorrow in town.</p> <p>Dr. Kenyon L Butterfield – an “uplifter[?]” whom I have known in U.S.A. for many years came for the night (Gerald had left for town) and I had to divide my thinking & talking betw’n the millions of rustics I hope my “idea” will help and the 5000 men, women & children dependent for their livelihood upon the family colliery carrying on.</p>
	15 Jul, Thu	Bryan met Dash & me & we managed to get the immediate colliery trouble settled. But the position is hopeless.
To House, E.M.	16 Jul, Fri	Worn out. Took the day in bed.
	17 Jul, Sat	To town to meet Dash & Bryan. Dash & the Armstrongs were at loggerheads. I made the best of it & at any rate got Henry Armstrong to reconsider resignation.
	18 Jul, Sun	Daisy spent the day with Gerald & me, I bringing her from & returning her to, Mrs. Willie’s. A tiring day, trying to talk to her. Her courage is amazing.
	19 Jul, Mon	To Brussels with GH & K.W. Perfect passage in betw’n storms. Arrived in 8½ hours at Brussels (Hotel Britannique). The country we went through betw’n Ostend & Brussels spoke industry & restricted means.
	20 Jul, Tue	A wretched day. It poured & poured; but the Conference sat & talked & talked in the two languages, getting nowhere. I cannot say that Karl worked much & Gerald was unwell & simply slept. We officially saw the Hotel de Ville which was of course “an experience”. I liked the gaudy outside but not the gaudy interior. But I was sick & sorry (that I had come).

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[King Albert I and son, later Leopold III]	21 Jul, Wed	Only partially wet. Had the silly honour of shaking hands with the King and Crown Prince with the rest of the Conference crowd. The K. and his son were dressed simply in Khaki and were very bright & human. Also they must be popular, as we heard them loudly cheered as they entered a huge hall where some ceremony commemorative of the event which made today a national holiday was going on. In afternoon we went to inspect a domestic economy school on the out-skirts of the city. It was well done, the work being all practical.
	22 Jul, Thu	Went to Ghent to see an Ind[ustria]l Cooperative Society. It was a holiday & there was nobody at work. Day wasted.
	23 Jul, Fri	Left for Cologne, whence by night to Hamburg. See Guide Book re Cathedral at Cologne.
	24 Jul, Sat	By day from Hamburg to Copenhagen. Here too I fear failure as I thought Karl had definite people to see. Gerald was glad to come as E M Forster was at Copenhagen. My two young friends are making a holiday of the trip & enjoying themselves. I can't blame them; but it's not of good augury for the Foundation.
	25 Jul, Sun	Very tired. Wandered about Art Museums. Got very little information & found that K.W. had absolutely none. If only he had prepared for the trip we might have done a big thing for the Foundation.
	26 Jul, Mon	Saw a huge private milk distributing concern. Henry Ford efficiency. At last got some information. One Niels Sigggaard, an organiser of the Royal Danish Agric'l Society was found and talked to us for 1½ hour. Karl left early to keep an assignation with a girl he had picked up! Gerald and I got the story. The peasantry – for the holdings are so small that the agric'l labourer is mostly a land owner – is all we have read of him. Denmark is, I suspect, a peasant democracy with all its limitations but none of its excesses.
	27 Jul, Tue	Drove 60 kilometres to see the Bacon Factory at Fredericksholm [sic] where a Manager who had been in America & spoke English well told me the whole story of his rural district. He killed about 100,000 pigs a year – all the members' pigs. He also sold their eggs. Some 30 Coop Creameries in the district were also strictly cooperative. I only filled in the gaps in my knowledge of Danish agric'l coop'n but it was helpful. Before this I had had a long talk with Professor O.H. Larsen at the agric'l High School in Copenhagen. He was a good economist &, both Karl & Gerald being present, I think when they make a report of the trip we shall have something for the Trustees of the Foundation to chew.
	28 Jul, Wed	Left Copenhagen early for Ebjerg, Harwich & London. Got on board 5 P.M. and had to go to bed as soon as we got out into the North Sea. Heavy roll.
	29 Jul, Thu	All day getting to London.
Fr Spring Rice, Thomas (HOU)	30 Jul, Fri	Eddie & Bryan (who came to Crest House) Walsh & Mrs. Bainbridge attended what will be the last annual general meeting of Pelton colliery. Dash came also & we got him to tell all there was to tell. The situation looks to me to be hopeless.
	31 Jul, Sat	Alone – not good for this man at any rate. Went to see Betty Balfour. Party Gerald, "Nora", Pidd[ington]. not at all glad to be

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		disturbed in their high intellectual life.
	1 Aug, Sun	Alone all day trying to work off arrears of correspondence. Depression rather bad.
	2 Aug, Mon	Another solitary Sunday [Bank Holiday]. But I had to work 10 hours.
To House, E.M. (?misdated 3 July)	3 Aug, Tue	To town to do much. Sent the Coal proposal for Pelton to T. Jones of the Cabinet Secretariat who will send it at once to the Minister of Mines. Struggled with an article for the American "Foreign Affairs" on The Economic future of Ireland. Waited with Margaret Walter at L'iverpool St. Station for 1½ hours for K.W. & G.H. Had a late conference with Tom Ponsonby. By the way James McNeill lunched with me to discuss the article. To bed at Flat.
	4 Aug, Wed	Worked at the Foundation & came home. Gerald was far from well. His frequent indispositions – the best word – are I fear signs of nerve exhaustion. I had hoped my work would have given him every chance of conserving his energies till I am gone. Letter from R.A. telling me that Miss Skipworth's youngest brother had fallen out of a window & would probably die.
	5 Aug, Thu	Wired Miss Skipworth. Her brother died in the night. Poor people. Sorrow upon sorrow. The family is never far from tragedy. Moorhead wrote from a London Nursing Home that his sight is troubling him again.
	6 Aug, Fri	All day at Foundation office getting off a 5000 word article, put together by J.W. Good, Æ's assistant but needing rewriting as it was 25% too long. Called on Moorhead on way home at a private hospital. Poor fellow – he has lost sight of one eye & the other is affected by the same ailment, detachment of the retina. It is the end of a fine medical career.
	7 Aug, Sat	Rested though had to write many letters!
	8 Aug, Sun	Right lung giving trouble.
	9 Aug, Mon	Right lung blocked up. Took it in time & hope to be well in two days. I had engagements in town for tomorrow but I am kept in bed all today & at home tomorrow.
	10 Aug, Tue	The doctor came again & said I was very wise to take to my bed at once when I got my lung attack. He warns me that I am very receptive of germs & ought not to go about much.
	11 Aug, Wed	Woke in great pain at 4.45 AM. Found my temperature 103°. At 10 Beare came. Creosote and starvation reduced the temperature to normal by 7 P.M.
[queries in original]	12 Aug, Thu	George Fletcher & his son – there were 3 before the war – came to see me. The father wants to find work – preferably in Ireland – after the Irish Gov't pays him off, which they will do at the earliest opportunity. The son, 23, graduate of T.C.D. in a mixed school chiefly the modern side, wants work in England. I shall

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		look out – but ?? I wish I could. The doctor simply told me to stay in bed.
	13 Aug, Fri	A miserable day in bed. Temp never below 98.4 (above my normal) and went to 101° – The danger is the pneumo bacillus.
	14 Aug, Sat	Still in bed. Dr. says better, I feel worse. Very short of breath & weaker than if I had had a long fever. I kept about 100.2° Fahr.
	15 Aug, Sun	Again the temp rose to 102°. Getting very sick of it. Tom Spring Rice came to see me & we had much talk of old times. I did not talk of the Sir Cecil difficulty.
	16 Aug, Mon	At last a nurse came at 8.15 P.M. & I hope I may get well quick. She is a nice quiet parson's daughter, trained at the Middlesex. A. Lawrence Lowell called & sat with me for a couple of hours. The only interesting thing he told me was that the whole inter Allied debt trouble arose from calling the advances to our allies debts instead of subsidies as they had always before been called. Gerald & I felt that Lowell was losing his mental vigour.
	17 Aug, Tue	In bed.
	18 Aug, Wed	Tried to get up but failed.
	19 Aug, Thu	K[arl].W[alter]. to dine & sleep. He brought the Editorial part of the Foundation's second Survey of Agric'l Cooperation in the Empire. Not good enough I thought.
	20 Aug, Fri	I find I am harder hit by the present than by any of the preceeding [<i>sic</i>] attacks on my weak (right) lung. The nights are very hard to get through – much pain, dyspnoea & cold sweats. Gerald, who has stayed splendidly with me, went to town.
	21 Aug, Sat	Better today. Gerald returned from town with Julian Huxley and a Paul Hyslop, son of Vicar of Kingston, a friend of his. <u>The Government have decided not to help Pelton.</u> The Minister of Mines, Col. Lane Fox, went with my proposal to the Miners & others & turned it down.
	22 Aug, Sun	Julian Huxley, Paul Hyslop & the Beares to lunch. I very weak but was able to drive our week enders to Chobham Ridge. Did me good. J.H.s brilliant talk and kindly disposition makes it a literal joy to be with him. He helped me in several problems I am struggling with and I am going to do him a humble service in promoting some kind of Union of science workers to get econ[omic] & social fair play. Wrote to Bryan, Walsh & Mrs. Bainbridge the Govt's decision.
	23 Aug, Mon	More talk with Julian Huxley, who will interest himself in my work out of kindly feeling to me on account of my interest in certain aspects of his work.
	24 Aug, Tue	Glorious weather, but weakening I drove to Guildford (taking doctor's wife & child who wanted air & change, the husband being out all day with his car) to get my hair cut! Very weak.
	25 Aug, Wed	Bryan came for some hours to discuss the Pelton situation & Karl dined & slept.
	26 Aug, Thu	[No entry]

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	27 Aug, Fri	Went to a Mrs. Leonard at Kenley near Purley, a noted medium, who for 1½ hour spoke what “Feda” told her. Gerald & I both took notes. It seemed to me to be unconscious ‘fishing’. Mrs. L did not know either of our names. Nothing “evidential” came through. The medium was, I have no doubt, in a hypnotic condition.
	28 Aug, Sat	The nurse left. We called on Gertrude Price. She was all alone. I think we cheered her.
	29 Aug, Sun	Glorious day. We drove over to EM Forster & Karl Walter. Did me good, I think.
	30 Aug, Mon	Rested & called on Dame Ethel whom I like.
<i>Fr Meyrick, F.J.</i>	31 Aug, Tue	To town. Wrote some letters, but was too weak to work.
	1 Sep, Wed	Stayed in bed most of the day & was very depressed.
	2 Sep, Thu	70°. Rained all day. Irish weather. G.H. made noble effort to be cheerful. I felt rather miserable & got through little work.
	3 Sep, Fri	A day in town, but too weak to do much business. However everybody is on holiday.
	4 Sep, Sat	Went to Richmond with Gerald who had an assignation with “Joe” Ackerley – a Bohemian I should say. Left him for the night. Returned, tried to work, no good.
	5 Sep, Sun	Lunched with Frank Taylors at Bray. Brought them back to St. George’s Hill where they might buy a house. Oliver & Jessica called from Farnborough. They had heard from Fingall that some nuns were considering offering a price for Killeen & 100 acres of land! I strongly urged them to sell if a firm offer came. They agreed.
	6 Sep, Mon	Came to town to see JB Fagan’s first night – I never saw him before. It was his Pepysian “And so to bed”. We had read the play. With the exception of Mrs. Pepys, whose acting was superb, the execution was inadequate. I think it could be greatly improved. I met St. J Ervine – he is one of the leading theatrical critics. He said “the thing is dull – it moves too slowly”. The evening papers reported a horror. At Drumcollogher, where I started a Creamery nearly 40 years ago, 47 people had perished in a Cinema fire.
	7 Sep, Tue	A bit of work at the office. Was allowed to have a talk with Moorhead who is, I fear, going to lose his sight. He is being kept absolutely quiet in bed & has had an ineffectual operation. I discussed with him the pros & cons of letting the oculists try experiments on him. If I were him I think I should take the best possible care of my general health & chance the eyes.
	8 Sep, Wed	Called on Betty Balfour with Gerald. Talked psychical research with Piddington & G[erald].B. who were interested in our visit to Mrs. Leonard.
[Maskelyne & Cooke’s – a Victorian magic show]	9 Sep, Thu	To town to lunch with the Elmhirsts & do a little work at the office. Slept at flat & went to Maskelyne & Cooke’s. (See tomorrow).

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		Called again on Moorhead. Gave him some refreshing fruit & promised to give him a considered opinion of a friend as to whether he should have a second operation on his seeing eye – the other is gone.
	10 Sep, Fri	<p>After some work at office called on Moorhead, Gerald going first with my written advice not to undergo another operation. It is admittedly a 20 to 1 chance against success. Further it is not 2 to 1 against its hastening the oncoming of blindness.</p> <p>Went to a seance at 59 Holland Park. Mrs. Cooper the professional medium was an obvious fraud. Gerald & I paid 7/6 each – or rather I paid 15/-. Ten credulous people sat in a small circle, Mrs. Cooper alone having one hand free. I held her other hand. We saw small lights & once the shape of a hand. She was a poor ventriloquist. My “wife” and my father both addressed me. She The medium pawed my face. The poorest attempt I ever saw!</p>
	11 Sep, Sat	Lowes Dickenson [<i>sic</i>] for week end.
	12 Sep, Sun	<p>C.C. Riddall came to lunch. He is deadly dull and of unimpeachable character & industry. I persuaded him that he could not have been appointed Sec’y to the I.A.O.S. and he seems to be working well with Kennedy.</p> <p>After tea we left R. at Walton St. & then went to call on General Charlton & friend of G.H’s. He is in the military air service, will soon retire & go into politics on the labour side. He is interested in rural life & comes next Sat[urda]y to lunch.</p>
	13 Sep, Mon	Beare asked me to take his wife to her lawyer in town in my car. I did so – drove her there & back. I had to rush a bit as Olivier had to be met. Moore was working on the Chrysler [<i>sic</i>]. Gerald came with me but his driving was not quite up to the requirements of the mission, though he drives very well for the practice he has. Olivier was interesting but I was too tired to talk.
	14 Sep, Tue	To town again, to see Moorhead who was too unwell, and Riddall at the Foundation. Took Olivier to his Club & got a chance to talk to him on the Foundation which I hope he will help.
	15 Sep, Wed	<p>Dame Ethel asked me to call & discuss the question of going with her to a “seance”. Her husband expressed a wish that she should. She says she does not believe there is any evidence of survival, but admits this hard to explain on the alleged evidences.</p> <p>Bryan (with D[orothy] & the children) came to discuss the coal situation.</p>
	16 Sep, Thu	Called on the Urban Broughtons at Park House, Englefield Green where Ralph Wortley was with his broken arm.
	17 Sep, Fri	<p>To town for a Stella Gill & Pelton meeting. The former was a farce as the bankrupt concern exists only as long as Pelton can fund it. Walsh, Mrs. Bainbridge, Bryan & I had a good talk over Pelton prospects.</p> <p>Saw Moorhead. He is miserable over the prospect of total blindness. He decided not to have another operation, the first having aggravated his ailment seriously.</p>
	18 Sep, Sat	General Lionel Charlton & his friend Wickerlow came to lunch. “Joe” Ackerley also came uninvited. He is Gerald’s friend & I am

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		always glad to give such hospitality.
	19 Sep, Sun	Lunched at Bray with the Frank Taylors and tea'd with Lady de Vesce & "Gerry" Liddell. Both looked older than last year.
	20 Sep, Mon	A Mr. Bathersby & his wife (Irish, he of the Morning Post formerly) called to talk spiritualism. His tremendous urge towards personal survival destroys his critical faculty. Also called James McNeill who carries a Scotland Yard man round with him. He was so reticent on the reason therefor that I could not press the inquiry as to the existence of danger from assassins. We talked upon the marketing of Irish produce.
	21 Sep, Tue	To town to lunch with the Club (whose name I must learn) and attend the obsequies of the Coop Poultry Products Ltd. At lunch sat next T. Jones & heard a lot about the coal situation. Nothing encouraging. Had to leave early for the meeting. There was nothing to do but liquidate. Gerald's brother (Rev. Aleck) came with his wife. A nice, homely fat creature.
[DSO – Distinguished Service Order]	22 Sep, Wed	Again to town. Took up the Aleck Heards. She sat next me & <u>was dull</u> – & brought back Major Church D.S.O., B.Sc etc, sec'y of Science Workers Union which I am helping to organise. Attended Pelton S.S. Co. meeting. Elizabeth Perceval also came for a dine & sleep.
	23 Sep, Thu	Major Church & I worked at the Appeal on behalf of the National Union of Scientific Workers. Neither of us was in form. Elizabeth & he left & I tried to finish necessary work before leaving tomorrow for Lulworth & (possibly) Dartington etc.
	24 Sep, Fri	Gerald & I motored to the magnificently situated Castle (Lulworth) owned by H. Weld. He was living alone with his daughter, a beautiful girl. They are both R.C. He has travelled & knows a lot about art. Gerald revelled in the architecture & paintings. I had a huge four-poster to sleep in. Very uncomfortable magnificence! Object of visit to discuss the rural problem & get H. Weld to help the Foundation. Probably a wild goose chase.
	25 Sep, Sat	I am hopeless in <u>Society</u> . "What a beautiful girl your daughter is" I said this morning. "She's my wife" was the tart reply. She might be anything from 25 to 33 by her looks. Gerald diagnosed her as of the stage. She was. The day was occupied by a jumble sale for the district nurse. I failed to get Weld interested in the rural problem outside his 20,000 acre estate in the little talk I had with him.
	26 Sep, Sun	Did nothing; but yesterday I had walked up a steep hill to see a view, Gerald pulling me. It was too great a physical strain & I felt it all night & all day! So I rested. I observed host & hostess. He was strangely ill mannered in little ways. Two old ladies called. When they left he said good bye to them by the drawing room fire & did not even ring the bell. He goes to meals & leaves them before his guests etc. His interest in public affairs is only, I fear, from a sense of the danger to great possessions. She plays the game. "Darling" six times betw'n lunch & dinner showed us some short stories she had written. Likes to continue the struggle of her virginity & browse on the contrast. The gods gave her

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		beauty and she bargained well. Gerald told me more about the riddle.
	27 Sep, Mon	Left Lulworth for Bath taking Cannon Hannay at Mells on the way. A delightful call on Sir John Horner at the Manor House. The widow of Raymond Asquith & a niece of H[enry. H[erbert]. A[squith]. were there. See over. [No continuation]
	28 Sep, Tue	<p>Yesterday stopped at Shaftesbury to enjoy one of the finest views of English scenery. The village has testified to its appreciation of its commanding position by reserving for sightseers a Terrace which gives the best view.</p> <p>At Bath I went to the Pult[e]ney Hotel feeling very unwell & Gerald stayed with his father & step-mother. The latter he pities & loves greatly. She seemed to me to be an ideal wife No. 2 for her scatter brained Prebendary. After “doing” the Roman Baths & Abbey, back to Crest House in 3½ hours of actual driving! Horrid arrears of correspondence.</p>
	29 Sep, Wed	Heavy accumulation of letters. Had too hard work on them. Wrote for Major Church (whom I got to lunch tomorrow in town) the Appeal on behalf of the National Union of Scientific Workers which H.G. Wells is to put into final form. Wrote Alfred Palmer about John Bowes, Moorhead on his future career in blindness, Smith Gordon on his losses in Florida & about half a dozen others.
	30 Sep, Thu	<p>To town to arrange for getting a draft appeal on behalf of the National Union of Scientific Workers to H.G. Wells. Got Major Church the excellent Secretary, to lunch with G.H. & me at St. James Club. Stayed in town for night although the lift at 105 was not working & stairs are bad for me.</p> <p>Called with G.H. at the Laboratory for Psychical Research. The apparatus & the secretary – a girl – so perfect (as we thought) that I applied for membership.</p>
	1 Oct, Fri	Dash & the 4 directors of Pelton spent 3 hours upon the almost hopeless affairs of the Company.
	2 Oct, Sat	Thoroughly tired out. Tried to rest.
[competence – income sufficient to live on]	3 Oct, Sun	Henry Gibbons, son of my old friend at Foxrock who died of cancer in the roof of the mouth, came to lunch from a prep[arator]y school at Woking. The father left the boy with a bare competence & I befriended him in his struggle for a living – at which he has succeeded – & had the rare experience of being repaid.
To Hogan, P.J. Manager’s report– Wyo. Dev. Co. (YOUN/C.)	4 Oct, Mon	<p>To town at request of Smith Gordon who gave me no address but said he would get into touch with me. He did – from Dorking at 9 P.M. I declined to go to town again tomorrow & he is to come to me.</p> <p>Did a good bit of work at the Foundation office.</p>
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	5 Oct, Tue	<p>S.G. motored over by a Mrs. Scott (cousin) from Dorking came to discuss his financial affairs. He wanted me to help the Kilteragh Development Co.</p> <p>Dame Ethel Locke King came to tea. Worked hard at Coal</p>

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		business.
	6 Oct, Wed	Steady work with Gerald before going to Scotland.
	7 Oct, Thu	To town en route to Scotland. Did a bit of work – too little – at Foundation. Gerald staying in my lodgings for 2 nights without me will be happy.
<i>Fr Hogan, P.J.</i>	8 Oct, Fri	After comfortable night journey breakfasted at Edinburgh & went on to Dunfermline for the many C[arnegie].U.K.T[rust]. meetings. Elgin & Gorrie were in America & several others did not attend. So I was glad I went. Travelling back by night. It is marvellously comfortable – but tiring. I am not strong enough for it.
[IAOS Secretary – Henry Kennedy]	9 Oct, Sat	Back to Crest House, terribly tired. Best news was that the new Secretary of the I.A.O.S. is going to come over to take counsel with me over the movement.
	10 Oct, Sun	Monteagle came for tea, dinner & breakfast.
	11 Oct, Mon	Shan Bullock came for the day, & E L Vaughan & wife for tea. Meanwhile I had to work hard at coal business.
To Hogan, P.J.	12 Oct, Tue	To town chiefly for work at the Foundation. Full of disappointments. But they need not be recorded.
(To Young, Conrad from Wright, F.A.)	13 Oct, Wed	To town to discuss cooperation in Ceylon with a particularly good civil servant, named Brayne. Also a 1¾ hour talk with Mrs. Bagg an old lady who knows the Balkans intimately, loves the Bulgarians & now lives at Geneva. One of her daughters married an Italian nobleman, the other Arthur Bullard a journalist of Socialist leanings. The old lady told me a lot about Mussolini & the doings at Geneva. She thinks her country (U.S.A.) will have to do its duty by Europe.
	14 Oct, Thu	Again, far from well. The Setons asked G.H. & me to a lunch to meet a Maharajah & his son. Amery & his wife were also there. It was very kind of the host & hostess, but how people can enjoy these functions beats me. We sat for 1 hour & 20 minutes. The party of 12 at a too small table talked so loud that I could hear nobody. Malcolm Seton's foot was much better, but I fear it will never be quite well. He bears his frequent illnesses with splendid courage.
(To Young, Conrad fr Sturgis, F.K.) <i>Fr Hogan, P.J.</i>	15 Oct, Fri	Began day with 2 hours' talk with Henry Armstrong. He admitted that his nephew had robbed us! He was very gloomy about the prospect not only of Pelton & Stella Gill but of the Industry as a whole. Bryan came to town & we had a conference with Raymond Barker about Pelton & the advice he ?will give to Eddie if fresh capital is wanted & Walsh puts up his share. Bryan came to Crest House.
	16 Oct, Sat	Eddie came to discuss Pelton affairs with Bryan & me. His intense egotism – combined conceit and self-indulgence – makes it hard to know how to treat him. His bringing up was a terrible handicap. Reggie was of a strangely different character; and he got away to sea early. Beatrice spoils Eddie – or rather has failed utterly to unspoil him. Gerald's friend Joe Ackerley came to see him and Hubert Butler

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		of Kilkenny also came. Bryan & I talked coal & I was glad Gerald had other interests.
	17 Oct, Sun	Coal talks with Bryan who spent the day with us.
	18 Oct, Mon	To town to meet Dr. Kennedy the new Sec'y of the I.A.O.S. at the Foundation. Good talk with him there, picked him up later at James McNeill's office & brought him to Crest Ho[use] where Sir J & Lady Eleanor Keane had come to lunch. I was delighted with Dr. Kennedy's attitude to the movement and to the staff of the Plunkett House.
	19 Oct, Tue	Came to town to lunch with the Garton Foundation & go to a party to meet the Imperial Premiers, Baldwin & wife being host & hostess. Did not feel up to it 10 P.M. & went to bed. At 8 P.M. went to a lecture on the attitude of Science towards Psych Research by an Austrian scientist. He merely described abortive Séances but urged his fellow savants to persevere.
	20 Oct, Wed	Came to town for Foundation & Coal business. In afternoon picked up Dr. Gertrude Johnson, a Battle Creek friend, & brought her to The Crest House for the night. She was very interesting upon the life of the sick Americans as she sees it in the huge clinic. She has one patient aet 33 with an 11½ years mentality. The woman is immensely rich but can never escape from this curse.
<i>Fr Young, Conrad</i>	21 Oct, Thu	To town. Had Dr. Kennedy to lunch with me at the St. James Club. A rough diamond but a man of immense energy & I should say mental capacity. He is rather too exclusively for Better Business to please me. But if he gets that he will have given the supporters of the threefold policy a foundation on which to build. Stayed in town & saw Eddie.
	22 Oct, Fri	Stella Gill & Pelton all day till 5 PM when Bryan & Dash went North.
[John Neville Keynes, 1852-1949]	23 Oct, Sat	Worked hard at coal business. At noon Gerald & I started for Cambridge in the Chrysler. I put up at the University Arms Hotel – not up to the Randolph & he at his college – Caius. Too tired to do much. I made one call – on J.M [sic]. Keynes against whom I played for Oxford in two the early Inter Varsity Chess matches. He has retired from work & finds Bridge more congenial than chess.
	24 Oct, Sun	Today I begin my 73rd year. I never expected to live so long until the 3 score & 10 came in sight. I <u>may</u> reach 75. Called on Lowes Dickenson [sic] who was to have lunched us but was in bed. Talked on Wilson, coal & democracy! Then to lunch with J.N. Keynes with whom was his brilliant son J.M.K. Most interesting talk on England's economic outlook. He was not cheerful! One thing he told me was worth noting. I had suggested that we could only pay for the immense food imports, essential[,] by sale of products of non agric'l industries & our transport services. He said there was another asset usable for the purpose – England's financial services. London was still the financial centre – not New York. Drove to Kennett to see Mamie & her uninteresting husband at their training establishment. On way back called on W.C. Alston, now managing 5 stud farms for Ld. Derby, one in Lancashire! He

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		is crippled with rheumatism. Dined at Caius.
	25 Oct, Mon	Called on Morris, head of Education in County of Cambridge & had interesting talk on his admirable scheme for amalgamation of schools, conveyance of pupils, associating social movements with education & so forth. He was badly blocked by the Bd. of Education, Eustace Percy probably having to economise in every possible way. Saw F.R. Smith who used to correspond with me when he was in South Africa (du Toit's predecessor) & I at the Irish Department. A talk with Pigou who had helped me at the Convention. Then home.
	26 Oct, Tue	Piles & piles of letters. One from Gillespie resigning his post of manager of the Irish Statesman. Five letters on the Coal business & endless miscellaneous correspondence. Weather bitterly cold.
	27 Oct, Wed	Still hard at Coal. I devoutly hope negotiations for the sale of Pelton will be consummated. I might then give my decreasing powers and closing years to public work. Possibly too I might write another book. Visited the Surrey County Central Library. Miss Powell the Librarian told us she had established contact with 106 institutions – schools, Y.M.C.A., Y.W.C.A., Women's Institutes etc. The rate struck (1/16d!) brings in £1500. The County is too rich to be interesting!
[A.J. Cook and Herbert Smith – Pres. and Sec'y. General of Miners' Federation of Great Britain]	28 Oct, Thu	To town for a Bowes meeting. Gardiner is trying to get back into the management. Henry Armstrong was most penitent about his nephew. He told Bowes Board that the men who are now dribbling back to work are unfit for physical toil owing to under nourishment. Poor fools! Cook & Smith are either fools or knaves – I am inclined to think the former. Saw Raymond Barclay about Pelton sale negotiations. Went with Gerald & the Percevals to see JB Fagan's play which I saw on the first night. The acting is improved out of all recognition. Attended Vocational Guidance C'tee of Nat. Inst[itute of] on [sic] Industrial Psychology. Tried to get a look in for <u>Rural</u> side of things. No success, but shall try again.
	29 Oct, Fri	Coal, Foundation and home. Bryan & Dorothy for week end .
	30 Oct, Sat	Physical rest. Mental labour. Bryan fetched Eddie from Eton for his "exeat".
	31 Oct, Sun	Same as yesterday.
	1 Nov, Mon	Had to go to town to lunch Kevin O'Higgins & Desmond Fitzgerald at the St. James Club. Happily the latter left early & the former came to see the Foundation & Coop Ref[erence] Library. Had a most interesting talk with him. Dorothy & Eddie left, Bryan stayed.
[KCVO – Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order]	2 Nov, Tue	To town again for Foundation & coal. A banquet by League of Nations Union to Dominion Premiers and(!) a reception thereafter to President Cosgrave. There I met Mayo's wife & sister, the Keane's, most of the Executive Council & a fine mixture of the Anglo-Irish & Irish-Irish. Between the two functions I had to strip myself of my British decorations (K.C.V.O.). James McNeill the

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		host, asked me to & I think it was right.
	3 Nov, Wed	Chief event, Capt. Geoffrey Bowes Lyon, Director of Bowes, nephew of Lord Strathmore lunched with me at St. James Club to talk over the affairs of John Bowes & Partners. We talked that business for a while & then I asked him if he was interested in agriculture. He said he was & we got on to the Foundation and he promised to help in getting Associate Members.
	4 Nov, Thu	Met Swallow who is negotiating for the purchase, lock, stock & barrel, of Pelton. Walsh & Bryan came too, but I did most of the talking which was tiring. I liked Swallow & formed the impression that he would not do a dirty deal with us. We decided the terms of the offer. It amounts to our getting back the face value of our shares. Seems too good to be true. But if we had had Dash instead of Gardiner for the last ten years we should have been far better off. Went home to find that our domestics were about to leave. Nothing against us but unable to get on with each other.
	5 Nov, Fri	To Oxford, Gerald remaining to get servants, the household having resigned! The Inge's have been 14 mo with us which is a record for these times. Attended Sir Josiah Stamp's Sidney Ball lecture on the statistical verification of social phenomena!! Utterly unintelligible to Adams, Miss Hadow & me. To Orwin after supper. He was worried, because the Ministry of Agriculture was doing all the work of his institute and getting money therefor.
	6 Nov, Sat	Strenuous day. Began with Miss Hadow, went on to Watson, Orwin & Prewett, called on Lindsay (Master of Balliol) & Wells ex Vice Chancellor & Warden of Wadham) lunched at All Souls & met Geoffrey Dawson (whom I mistook for Lionel Curtis), supped at Powder Hill with the Adams' and on return to hotel found note from Hon. Sec. of the Canning Club who asked me to dine with the Chatham & Canning Clubs, Birkenhead & Winston Churchill being the guests. East spoke brilliantly, no reporters present. I was allowed in the gallery.
[<i>d'un habite</i> – clothed; under wraps]	7 Nov, Sun	To Sherborne for less than 24 hours in order to get Jim to pay £1 a year to the Foundation. My hope is that where he leads (!) many may follow. The house was in <i>d'un habite</i> , the electric wiring having to be insulated. Some 30 big houses have been burned mysteriously – probably from uninsulated elec wires. Jim is more useless than ever. He spends hours playing billiards by himself! He is too lazy to talk on any subject more recondite than sport.
	8 Nov, Mon	Before my somnolent host & hostess rose I was off to Oxford. There I worked at a letter to Bledisloe, Parl'y sec'y to the Ministry of Ag & Fisheries, on behalf of the agric'l institutions of Oxford, Watson's & Orwin's. Conferred much with them & Prewett. Lunched with Adams & motored to Crest Ho[use] in 1¾ hours! Found Gerald had invited two of his friends & was enjoying himself greatly, of which I was glad.
<i>Fr McGilligan, P.</i>	9 Nov, Tue	Worked a[t] Coal & Foundation, but got in some rest. Lionel Parr, the most unattractive of my relatives, spent some 5 hours talking

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		Pelton. In the middle of it the County Librarian came to see what could be done with Whiteley Village as a centre for book distribution. She & I met the Lady Warden, the secretary who was strangled with red tape & 3 villagers supposed to be literary. They had a goodish Library already.
To McGilligan, P.	10 Nov, Wed	A very busy Foundation day. The H.P.F. is making its impression and I see light – far off! I called on Church about the Nat Union of Scientific Workers, on Tommy & Mrs. Bainbridge. Too tired to write what I did – But I worked. P.S. James Byrne & his boy lunched me at Claridge’s.
	11 Nov, Thu	Wrote 17 letters, many of them important for either the family or the Foundation. Very tired but greatly relieved to get the arrears of correspondence mostly dealt with.
	12 Nov, Fri	Daisy arrived at Ada’s having run over for 3 or 4 days to see Jim Byrne about the sale of Killeen. The Coal strike seems “petering out” and Dash reports Swallow forthcoming. Called on Dame Ethel Locke King – a nice neighbour. T.P. Gill – a pathetic widower – spent 4 hours with me. He is trying to get a large pension out of the Treasury. I begged him not to pull too many wires.
	13 Nov, Sat	Worked and in the afternoon Julian Huxley and K Walter came.
	14 Nov, Sun	Took Julian Huxley to Hall at Merton. I got in an appeal for Oxford, & J.H. was satisfied at Hall’s attitude to Bateson’s work.
	15 Nov, Mon	Early to town where I must spend 5 or 6 days. Daisy was over to get Jim Byrne to renew his effort to sell Killeen. I met her at tea with Jim where Esme Howard, British Ambassador at Washington & his wife were calling. He pledged me to visit him at the Embassy. (He is R.C. Hence Jim Byrne’s interest in him). Worked at Foundation.
	16 Nov, Tue	Lunched with Daisy at her Club again & spent rest of day preparing for Chairmanship of meeting at Institute of International Affairs to discuss Ireland & the Empire in a paper thereon by Sir J. Keane. He was very slight and largely irrelevant. O’Higgins followed & spoke for an hour! Then Gwynn & a woman & my 4 minutes on Better Farming etc!!
	17 Nov, Wed	Unwell from yesterday’s overstrain. Had to go to St. James Club to lunch Lord Sinha, an Indian Lord of Appeal. He has an estate in Bengal inhabited by a large population in the most appalling physical, economic and social demoralisation and wants the Foundation to study the problem of their emancipation!! He was a very nice fellow and really feels for his people. We shall help him to the best of our ability.
	18 Nov, Thu	In and out of the Conference of County Librarians under auspices of C[arnegie].U.K.T[rust]. Smith Gordon was over on financial business and lunched with me at Club. Settled many things re Kilteragh Development Co, Irish Statesman, The Plunkett House & the Foundation.
	19 Nov, Fri	A Stella Gill & Pelton meeting. Dash reported a breakdown of the negotiations for the sale. I lunched Walsh & Bryan & had a good

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		talk over the situation. Went to hear Burt lecture in London School of Economics upon "The Juvenile Delinquent". Very good psychological exposition. Back to Crest House, thoroughly tired out.
	20 Nov, Sat	Poured all day. Got some work done and got some rest.
	21 Nov, Sun	Gerald motored over to his friend "Joe" Ackerley & I to James Byrne who is staying with Jimmy at Bray Rise. Leo Everett came also to lunch & we had an interesting American talk. Jim's health greatly improved. He is as good an Irish American as exists. His charity is boundless.
[Victor A.G.R. Lytton (Lady Betty Balfour's brother)]	22 Nov, Mon	A friend of Gerald's, Christopher Wood, came to lunch & stayed for tea & supper. He is rich & serious – interested in spiritualism. Went to see Betty B. She was alone and told me that Galbraith Cole has found another "sure" healer, Hurst, who has a diagnostic establishment in Windsor Park. "Brer Vic" will be back from Bengal in April & "must get directorships". Gerald & Arthur Balfour are struggling with their peat fuel process which they think is going to pay at last. I doubt it.
Fr Kennedy, Henry	23 Nov, Tue	Chief event a brilliant lecture by Julian Huxley, under auspices of British Science Guild, on Biology and Human Life. Gerald, Karl & I greatly enjoyed it, though I was none too well. Lunched Hubert Butler at Club. A nice fellow.
	24 Nov, Wed	Office & Pelton S.S. Co. Then home & thankful for its restful & quiet comfort.
[Lovell & Christmas – wholesale grocers]	25 Nov, Thu	Stayed in the house to rest, except for a call on the doctor for "a bottle" as I had rather bad indigestion. Gerald had to go to town & hunt for servants. A very important letter from Kennedy, the new Sec'y of the I.A.O.S. enclosing a Memorandum of great ability upon the dairying industry. He wants the Free State Govt to lend the I.A.O.S. a huge sum to enable them to buy out Lovell & Christmas. This will give me a lot of new work I fear.
To House, E.M.	26 Nov, Fri	Tried to write a long letter to the I.A.O.S. but failed. Had to rest. Karl came to talk Foundation work.
[query in original; prob. Catholic sociologist Christopher Dawson]]	27 Nov, Sat	Jim Byrne & his son & heir came to lunch. A friend of Gerald's, ? Dawson came for the week end. A nice boy – but a boy. I am being used rather more than I like to amuse Gerald's friends. I bore them but he cannot be expected to understand my wretched state of health which makes it hard to play up to people 30 to 50 years my juniors.
	28 Nov, Sun	Went to a (to me) senseless cinema show with a lot of Gerald's young friends.
	29 Nov, Mon	Worked at Coal & Foundation problems.
	30 Nov, Tue	To town & staying till Friday, having much to do at Foundation and Gerald changing the household staff at Crest House.
	1 Dec, Wed	Coal nearly all day. Began with five letters from Dash! Then conference with Walsh & talk with Mrs. Bainbridge. The former

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		will help to finance Stella Gill, of which he is chairman, the latter will act on my advice. In the evening Dash called me up & told me that the men were making lots of trouble. Guy Armstrong was paying them more than anyone else was paying & they want us to continue, although we were losing 8/- a ton!! Very tired.
	2 Dec, Thu	Coal talk with Bowes Lyon. I have him on my side on the Bowes Board. Lunched Jim Byrne & said goodbye to him, knowing that I might see his good face no more. Supped with Tom & May.
To House, E.M.	3 Dec, Fri	Dash brightened the morning by telephoning that the men were going back to work at Pelton. The Foundation had its ½ yearly meeting, Hall, Orwin, Dermot O'Brien, Gerald & Smith Gordon in the morning & Adams came in the afternoon. Took Smith Gordon home. The Inge's had left us and a young man named Lee was in full evening dress to welcome us. Looks promising.
	4 Dec, Sat	S.G. left & Bryan came for week end to meet Walsh who came for lunch. We had a thorough good talk over Pelton and agreed upon a policy. Thus ended a very hard week. I am too tired to record it here & now.
	5 Dec, Sun	Motored to tea with Philip Snowden & wife. He was Labour's Chancellor of the Exchequer, she a very competent woman suffragist in the days of that movement's fight, war service & ultimate victory. I reminded him of our talk, the only time we met – it was early in the war on the Atlantic – upon the failure of Internat'l Labour to prevent the war, as they declared they would do in 1912 at the time of the Agadir incident. He then had described the hopeless procedure which prevented the Inter'l Lab. Organ[isatio]n implementing the decision. He now said that it was the intense nationalism of the French representatives which blocked that road to world Peace. Bryan left after we had had more coal talk & I had written to Dash & Mrs. Bainbridge.
	6 Dec, Mon	Gerald definitely refused to come to America with me. I am not fit to go alone & no one can help me as he could. He thinks I shall take great risks by going & he is partly right. But, though he does not know it, for he is absolutely straight, his other self wants a holiday from me & the company of his contemporaries.
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	7 Dec, Tue	Gerald told me today that he was only thinking of my risk in going to America & was very unhappy over it. I agreed that if Beare decided that I ought not to go, I would not. If he thought the two sea journeys would do me more good than the stay on land would do me harm, the objection would be met. Came to town on Coal business. George Barnes lunched me at Brooks's [Club] & gave me good advice. (Determined to write no autobiography unless I can make the story of my work interesting under the title An Anglo-American Irishman[]).

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	8 Dec, Wed	1½ hour with Swallow, the mining engineer and promoter, who seeks an option on Pelton. I prepared a Memorandum for Walsh & Bryan who attended, showing that we must either sell out our Pelton shares entirely, or have a new proposal. I advocated going on as we are for a while and hoping for an amalgamation with Bowes.
	9 Dec, Thu	More Coal & more Foundation; but picked up “Tom” Gorrie (my Dunfermline Trustee who has not the Dunfermline outlook – or rather inlook) at Miss Haldane’s & took him to lunch at The Crest House. Gerald had arranged for Naomi Mitchison to lunch too and take him back to London. I had a somnolent afternoon with Gorrie. He liked my American book – so I could sleep after supper! Beare vetted me for my capacity to go to America. Verdict – “better not as I know you will over work there. But you will go in any case.”
	10 Dec, Fri	To town for a whole day of Carnegie meetings. Beare wrote to me strongly advising against my going to America. I might break down any time. I know he is right, but ought I to sacrifice all I am working for in order to live a few more years?
	11 Dec, Sat	Spent the whole day undoing my winter plans. The chief sufferer by the change is likely to be Fingall, as I might have found a purchaser for that white elephant of a Castle. Next, the Irish Statesman, which I fear will collapse.
To House, E.M.	12 Dec, Sun	Wrote long letter to Col. House. At night went to Newcastle for two days Coal. In town called on Tom Ponsonby & Walter. Bryan came with me to the North.
[Pelton manager – W. H. Atkinson]	13 Dec, Mon	Arrived at Newcastle, had interview with Sir Arthur Wood who is to come on to the Bowes Board. He was hopeful about Pelton, anxious about the future of the coal industry & not very intelligent; but undoubtedly straight. Rest of day spent at Pelton where I met the new mine manager & officials. Bryan & Walsh were helpful in their different ways. Also met Bryan’s war soldier friend, Ritson in evening. Got to know a lot & felt mildly optimistic about Pelton.
	14 Dec, Tue	A real hard day at the Bowes business, Pelton Colliery, Pelton S.S. Co & big American correspondence. Back to London at night. Too tired to record days doings.
	15 Dec, Wed	Good talk with Karl Walter about his job. He really is coming round to the realisation of its possibilities which is needed to get him to put his whole heart into it. Then a Pelton S.S. Co meeting at which Gardiner prozed a monologue. To 105 where Gerald’s Parents were waiting to be taken to Crest House. The Prebendary is vacuous beyond words! His talk is the most inconsequent I have known in an educated man.
	16 Dec, Thu	Prebendary Heard proved to be almost imbecile, so inconsequent was his talk. “He can’t keep his mind long enough on one thing to boil an egg” as I heard a cowboy say of “that fellow Plunkett”. In the evening Chum Ponsonby, my grand-nephew, came. He can’t pass exams, & yet he is far more intelligent in many things than I am. We are going to get him “psychologically analyzed” at the Nat Institute of Indus[tria]l Psychology.

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	17 Dec, Fri	To town early for two Colliery meetings. Swallow attended the first & we treated him frankly & friendlily, but refused any formal option. We, however, let him know that if we got £14 for the Pelton £10 shares, and he bought them all, or nearly all, he might count on our letting him have them. Then home to rest for the week end.
[Lowes]	18 Dec, Sat	Horace Holroyd Smyth – a very nice grand nephew – and Bowes [<i>sic</i>] Dickenson [<i>sic</i>] came for week-end. I am so busy with Colliery, Foundation & I.A.O.S. matters that it is hard to entertain.
	19 Dec, Sun	Had to work most of the day at Coal business. Gerald took Lowes Dickenson [<i>sic</i>] back to town & I was left with my grand nephew Horace Holroyd Smyth. I liked him much. He is fresh & ?crude, as he ought to be, & is a quite charming boy. He is just of age & is getting on well in his apprenticeship to the Brush Electric Co. He too left at night.
	20 Dec, Mon	At home struggling with an enormous correspondence. Shall I ever have time to read? Bryan has gone to St. Jean de Luz for a month – I have to keep a close watch on Pelton, Stella Gill & Bowes. The Foundation is only at the beginning of its great work. I shall soon break down & leave the deplorably numerous loose ends.
	21 Dec, Tue	To town to meet Spraggon, the agric'l organiser of the Coop Union & the C.W.S. R.A.A. turned up, his son Neville being expected home from the Argentine to take a job with a Petroleum Co.
	22 Dec, Wed	Letters at Foundation chiefly. R.A.A. "blew in" with this remaining son Neville, who had got a job with one of the great oil combines. I returned to Crest House.
	23 Dec, Thu	Worked steadily before Xmas holidays.
[Ld. Monteagle died]	24 Dec, Fri	Curtain & his wife came to keep the house for Xmas. I went to Charborough to a huge Xmas party all the children & the parents of Reggie & Kathleen and their new agent Fellowes. At Salisbury Gerald went by train to Bath to Xmas with his parents. Reggie's Xmas gifts are so numerous that the children will be blasé.
[Tweeny – between-stairs maid]	25 Dec, Sat	Normal for the mid Victorian period. After Church, which I did not attend, the Christmas tree. The servants – a round dozen marched in, cook, housekeeper, down to the Tweeny, the butler's aid and the butler last. All got presents, including myself who had given 3 suitable ones for the girls.
	26 Dec, Sun	House still intolerably cold. Motored over to Weld at Lulworth Castle. He had a Xmas party including her mother, who told me of her relationship. None of the names were told me. He has the manners of a boor. I wanted to find out whether he had got Prewett to advise him about his farm. He says he prefers to see Prewett on his own farm!
	27 Dec, Mon	Home, where Curtain & his wife had been keeping house for us while the staff made holiday. Found the usual pile of letters.

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["An Appreciation, <i>The Times</i> , p. 12]	28 Dec, Tue	Worked at home. My appreciation of Monteagle appeared in <i>The Times</i> .
	29 Dec, Wed	To town for a Stella Gill meeting. Walsh, Aspland & I were the only directors. Godfrey Palmer has resigned and Gardiner ought to. Slept in town. Had a talk with Oliver about Sale of Killeen – almost impossible.
	30 Dec, Thu	Worked at Foundation, saw an oculist who took great trouble and could not make up his mind as to the glasses I required. Called on Ada and got news about Daisy & Fingall which I badly wanted. I have made up my mind to try and find them a new house.
	31 Dec, Fri	Consulted a good oculist who told me he found my adjustment very difficult & asked me to come again on Monday. I never had more trouble taken with my vile body. Talks with Karl about the future of the Foundation & with Raymond Barker about the family coal business. Then home.
	Year-end Summary	<u>1926</u> The year has seen, as I expected, a decided decline in my physical powers. Had I to work for my living, I should not live much longer. The one thing I fear is not death, but becoming useless and being forced either to go or remain on under the care of others – wasting their lives and money which others could apply to worth while purposes. My wish for 1927, and for any further period I may retain my powers, is to write a short book – my strength would not permit of more – telling what I have learned in my life about the work I tried to do and others are going to carry on. I am very doubtful of its ever seeing the light.