

# 1928 Diary of Sir Horace Curzon Plunkett (1854–1932)

Transcribed, annotated and indexed by Kate Targett. December 2012

## NOTES

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

Horace Plunkett, *Irish Homestead*, 30 July 1910

### Conventions

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

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

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

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

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

5) Punctuation (or lack of)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### ***Correspondence***

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

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

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

### ***Abbreviations***

1) Frequently occurring abbreviations and contractions:

#### **Names**

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

#### **Organisations**

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

## General

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

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

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

## 1928

### Events:

27 Aug – Kellogg Briand Pact; international treaty renouncing war as instrument of national policy  
 December - Free State repeals controversial 1927 Public Safety Act

### Publications:

- “The Farmer’s Plight – Cooperation and the N.F.U.” (letter), *The Times*, 6 Feb, pp. 13-14
- Address at AGM of Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society, Edinburgh, *Report of the Scottish Agricultural Organisation*, pp. 39-40
- “The Purpose of a Rural Life Organisation” (conference address, Wadham College, Oxford, 6-9 July) in *Proceedings of the Agricultural Economic Society*, pp. 48-54
- “Co-operation as a Factor in the Economic, Social and Political Development of Rural India”, supp. to *Bombay Co-operative Community Quarterly*, September, 33 pp
- Introduction to *Problems of Rural India; being a Collection of Addresses Delivered on Various Occasions in India and in England*, Gangulee, Nagandra Nath (Calcutta)
- Letter on Dublin hospitals, *IS*, 2nd series, XI:7 (20 Oct), p. 130
- “Irish Dairy Crisis – I: Need for Wise Action”, *Irish Times*, 24 Oct, pp. 7-8
- “Future of Chess – Is Any Change Necessary?” (letter), *The Times*, 28 Nov, p. 12

### Government:

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

*Governor-General:* Timothy M. Healy to 31 Jan, James McNeill

*British Prime Minister:* Stanley Baldwin (Conservative)

*Prime Minister of Northern Ireland:* Viscount Craigavon

**Approximate monetary equivalents (2010):** £1= £51; \$1 = \$11

Correspondence [Notes]	1928	Diary Entry
	1 Jan, Sun	At Kilcooley. Hubert Gough & his daughter Myrtle, Harry & Beatrice, Charles Talbot Ponsonby (husband of Violet Parr), Tommy, May & the 3 children and self the party. Wintry weather, warm house & good cheer. Kindness to my old self very touching. I try not to damp the youthful high spirits of the two preceding generations. But not being able to play with either, it is hard to be a social asset.  If I am spared for another three years, which I can hardly expect, I hope to leave my Foundation in a position to exercise a most beneficial influence on rural civilisation throughout the English-speaking world and India. That is the one service I can hopefully attempt to render to my day & generation in my present state of health.
	2 Jan, Mon	The party shot. I went to Thurles to fetch an English cheese expert (female) from the Department. She was very intelligent and told me a lot I wanted to know.
	3 Jan, Tue	Another shoot – pheasants hares & rabbits, as the Cock have left, the lake is a sanctuary for ducks and snipe do not satisfy the social requirements. The pheasants & the few hares damn the whole business. Tom & May argue that it will keep Chum & George from women at the dangerous age. When I pointed out that the cruelty of pheasant drives (i.e. the necessary wounding & slow deaths) have stirred a strong feeling against the sport, which mechanical substitutes (electric hares etc) have made the occasion for expressing it, even Tom defends the sport as one of the few means available for re-establishing a <u>S</u> ocial life in one of the few surviving oases of civilisation (English) in this benighted island!

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		<p>But only Hubert Gough can be said to represent the exiled regime! He is a fine specimen of the product of the "Playing fields of Eton". (He probably wasn't there but that matters not). The answer, however, is that you cannot restore what May clings to, bringing Tom partly with her: it is gone because it failed.</p>
	4 Jan, Wed	<p>Loafed after getting off a letter to Linlithgow on my Indian Memorandum.</p> <p>Sent pre-paid wire to Bryan, telling him I wanted rest and had work to do in Dublin. I asked when I <u>must</u> go over – of course on colliery business. He replied that he would be delighted to have me after next Sunday!</p>
	5 Jan, Thu	<p>Left Kilcooley, where I should have immensely benefited my health but for work I had to do. It was not what I should have called work in my best days and even five years ago it would have done me no harm. Came first to the Plunkett House, where I found a letter from Bryan telling me I need not go to Newcastle at all.</p> <p>I put up at the Salthill Hotel. Normans came to supper with me and told me a lot about the movement. It makes me very anxious.</p>
	6 Jan, Fri	<p>Kennedy, Hogan, Norman &amp; a look at the Kilteragh estate took the whole day. I was very tired at its end.</p>
	7 Jan, Sat	<p>To Dunsany, (where only the family) taking Killeen (where Mamie) on the way. The regime is passing – at Killeen it has almost passed. If Oliver had married money, it might have lasted another generation. But he contributes nothing &amp; draws £300 p.a. to supplement his military revenue.</p> <p>At Dunsany the situation is absurd. Eddie tells everybody that he is a pauper. He has 4 (or 5) men servants in the house &amp; the rest to scale. Randal is in – or attached to – an extravagant regiment. Dunstall, a house in Cadogan Square, shooting big game – in fact luxurious living all round.</p>
	8 Jan, Sun	<p>A day with Eddie, Beatrice &amp; Randal. Not encouraging, except for the development of the boy into a man which is going fairly well. He has none of his father's &amp; but little of his mother's brains. At the same time he is sowing his wild oats innocently so far as I can judge. He is manly, simple and fairly sensible.</p> <p>Went to Killeen for tea and found Murnane the local G.P. He wants to have a creamery started at Kilmessan &amp; I promised to help. It won't be a creamery as the cows are not. But it may be other cooperative efforts.</p>
<p><i>Fr Hogan, P.J.</i></p> <p>[Magistrate Alan Bell, March 1920]</p>	9 Jan, Mon	<p>To Dublin before the family had risen to its 9.30 breakfast. One must get up then if the other three meals – tea is such – are to be enjoyed. Found Hammond in Dublin &amp; talked over Dunsany business. Fr. Finlay came for a pow-wow and I had more talks with Norman, Kennedy &amp; Riddall.</p> <p>T.P. Gill came to supper. He told me the story of the taking over of the Irish Government by the gunmen (or gun boys) from Lord Fitzalan, the last Viceroy. It was a melancholy story. He also told the story of the shooting of old Bell in the train-car near Balls Bridge in 19 (?). A trained nurse who was in the train saw two young fellow passengers pull the old civil servant out on to the pavement &amp; shoot him dead. She had an automatic pressed to her</p>

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		ribs when she attempted to go & help the dying man. Gill followed on the next train & saw the victim lying in a pool of blood.
To Cosgrave, W.T. (HOGA)	10 Jan, Tue	Worked all day. Two events of importance may be noted. I had another long conference with Hogan and a letter to Cosgrave on his departure to U.S.A. recommending him to declare the Free State's Agricultural Policy.
	11 Jan, Wed	Worked all day. No rest in Ireland for me.
	12 Jan, Thu	Another Conference with Hogan. He now has my whole mind & I have his – we agree.
	13 Jan, Fri	Moorhead had a talk with me on his political future & my health. He thinks I worry too much over the Morphia.  Spent most of the day indoctrinating Norman with the Foundation's idea. His mind is weaker than mine.  Also saw Twomey of the D.A.T.I. a first rate man on live stock.  Left by night boat for L'[iver]pool & Shrewsbury (Bryan) & London.
	14 Jan, Sat	The same trouble all over again about the car on the Liverpool Docks. But I had had 4 hours consecutive sleep in a Cabin de Luxe.  Got to Atcham House for lunch & saw there the Roman remains nearby. Lord Berwick & wife (Italian, speaking perfect English) came to tea. He seemed interested in the Foundation & should join.
	15 Jan, Sun	Motored to London via Birmingham the chauffeur driving nearly all the way. At 105 Mount St. the faithful Curtain. Not a word of or from Gerald. But he has, I fear, left me though he attends to my domestic affairs – a very real service. If he gave that up I should have to consider whether to die at Crest House or get rid of it to save my ex[ecut]ors trouble. He is, like all real geniuses, incalculable. He has determined no longer to be what he feels to be in the position of an inferior to one whose intellect – and character he would rightly add – is on a lower plane than his. His father's state is his justification. I am sorry that he picked a quarrel with me just before the natural separation came. I honour him & shall do my best for him in my will – but I may not be able to do anything commensurate with my regard for him.
[ <i>cri de coeur</i> – heartfelt cry; 7th Earl of Mayo had died 31 Dec 1927]	16 Jan, Mon	Too unwell to do anything. I hastened to post a letter in the Late Fee Box and got a heart warning. My heart is tired & will soon stop.  Got Metcalf to come & see me. He had his mother's motor to take us both to lunch with her. She had cold Pork and Plum Duff. So glad they live so – another good sign.  A charming letter from Lady Mayo. "He understands now" was the final <i>cri de coeur</i> .
	17 Jan, Tue	An utterly miserable day from physical depression. The drug is failing – but it has to be fought.
To Helme, Mr. [?Herbert Spencer]	18 Jan, Wed	Again sick, especially at heart. Life ebbs rapidly.

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To House, E.M. [“Tomorrow”, <i>Macbeth</i> , Act V, v.19-28]	19 Jan, Thu	And again. Tomorrow & Tomorrow & Tomorrow. Poor Shakespeare – he felt it all.
	20 Jan, Fri	Heard gave me a few hours & wrote a few domestic letters.
	21 Jan, Sat	I had got Bullock to share my loneliness at Crest House for the week-end. Gerald had given me the key of the cellar. It was not the key but probably one of his father’s keys. So I had to go to Weybridge & buy all the drinks the Hannays & James McNeills, who might come to lunch Sunday might want! Gerald neither turned up nor gave me an address which would find him.
	22 Jan, Sun	Shan Bullock more gloomy than ever, nevertheless helped me through the day but the chief help was the tea party. The Hannays & James MacNeill came. I had a chance of talking to the new Viceroy about the Irish Dairying Scheme.
	23 Jan, Mon	To Town. No Secretary. Hall, my Chairman ill. Metcalf slightly indisposed. I had to attend & make the first speech at a dinner to James McNeill, G.B.S. & Garvin being the only two other arranged speakers. I was able to be brief as everyone wanted to hear the other two. G.B.S. was <u>brilliant</u> . McNeill made us (some two dozen hosts) like him the more. Lynd was in the Chair. I sat betw’n him and Garvin whose vitality exhausted me!
	24 Jan, Tue	Worked all day & got next to nothing done. But things are going well with the Foundation.  Saw Beare in town. He gave me quinine for my heart weakness.
	25 Jan, Wed	Worked at Foundation and attended a meeting of the Pelton Steamship Society Company in the afternoon. Gardiner, his son, Hargrove (in the Chair), Helme & I present. We got Gardiner to retire on a pension of £2500, made Helme Managing Director in his stead.  On my return to the Foundation I found Gerald Heard who came to tea. He agreed that I must have a helper & is going to try & get me one.
	26 Jan, Thu	Formal meeting of Bowes to make it a public company.
	27 Jan, Fri	Worked hard at the Foundation & came to Crest Ho. for week end.
(To Pickstone, H.E.V. fr Smuts, J.C.)	28 Jan, Sat	Gerald came with me for week-end. In it I must try to get off a letter for Monday’s Times. No rest, which I badly need.
	29 Jan, Sun	A day of suicidal depression. If Gerald had not been with me I don’t know what I should have done.
	30 Jan, Mon	Gerald back to Bath & I shall probably see his face no more for a long time (as it will seem). The work I shall have to do will be killing.
<i>Fr Pickstone, H.E.V.</i>	31 Jan, Tue	Called on Guinness, Tom Jones and Lord Meston an able ex-Indian civilian. He resented my criticisms of their cooperative “Movement” but asked to see my Memorandum which I hope will bring him round.
	1 Feb, Wed	Worked at Office. Got Geoffrey Dawson to agree to publish a letter on agriculture in Eng’d in which I shall boost the

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		Foundation.
	2 Feb, Thu	Motored, via Crest House (and Reading because floods blocked the Windsor-Maidenhead-Henley route) to Oxford, where I was the guest of the perfect host & hostess the Hart Synnotts. I took Miss Digby with me to do some research work for the Foundation at Banbury & gave her the car after Oxford. I felt much better for the change.
	3 Feb, Fri	Prewett, Orwin, Adams, Hart Synnott [ <i>sic</i> ], Walter and Leys occupied my day.
	4 Feb, Sat	Hard at work for the Times, Geoffrey Dawson, who was at All Souls, asking me to write.
	5 Feb, Sun	Up early and wrote fairly good letter to The Times. Miss Hadow came to tea & I had a very interesting talk with that most competent rural social worker. Went to bed tired out after my "rest" at Oxford.
[The Farmer's Plight – Cooperation and the N.F.U., <i>The Times</i> , pp. 13-14]	6 Feb, Mon	My letter was given the first place – a column on the leader page and $\frac{3}{4}$ column over to next page. It read quite well but a better one will follow if the N.F.U. come back at me.  I left Oxford after a morning's work.
	7 Feb, Tue	Couchman, a neighbour & retired I[ndian].C[ivil].S[ervant]. to whom I had shown my Memorandum let me take him & his wife to town, they wanting to see the King open Parl't. He was pessimistic.  When I got to the office 12 Canadian farmers visiting Europe were expected every minute. They came, saw and whether I conquered remains to be seen. I spoke to them for about $\frac{3}{4}$ hour.  Gerald was in town yesterday but left no word or address. He came to Mount St. but did not call me up at Weybridge. Finding that this neglect of all my work, other than the management of the house & garden (by correspondence) would soon break me down, I asked Gerald O'Donovan to take me on. I offer him £5 a week for a while.
	8 Feb, Wed	Hard work till 4 PM when I brought O'Donovan to Crest Ho. He would not do permanently as I have not and never shall have enough of his confidence. I don't know him.
To Stevenson, Mr. [Ernest]	9 Feb, Thu	Had the nearest approach to a rest I have had for many weeks. The doctor said my heart was very tired.
To Stamer, W.E.	10 Feb, Fri	To town. Called on Londonderry & told him (& his wife which was more important) about the Foundation, my controversy with the N.F.U. and my ideas of the agricultural policy the Government should declare. I promised him that if he would act in the Lords the Foundation would brief him. If legislation is required J.G. Butcher (Danesfort) would draft the bills, etc. He seemed taken with the idea.
	11 Feb, Sat	Gerald came up & saw me for an hour. I had a long talk with Danesfort who agreed to act with Londonderry on the agricultural question.
<i>Fr Hollingworth, H.S.</i>	12 Feb, Sun	I worked hard at a further letter to the Times. But my strength failed. I hope to get it out tomorrow.



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		The Doctor & his wife (the Beares) came to tea.
To Healy, John Edward	13 Feb, Mon	To London & again failed to finish letter to Times.
	14 Feb, Tue	Back to Crest House, very tired.
To McNeill, James <i>Fr Mcdougall, A.P.</i>	15 Feb, Wed	Better but failing. A very kind letter from Geoffrey Dawson Editor of The Times telling me to send in my continuation letter at any time – to think only of my health.  To Newcastle by night. Dash came in the morning and told me the latest news from Newcastle.
	16 Feb, Thu	Presided over Bowes Board. Most important business event long conference Walsh & I had with Cooper the solicitor of owners of Pelton Colliery (deceased) and King the Receiver. We went into all the possibilities and came to the conclusion that there was no hope of saving anything for the shareholders of Pelton Colliery or Stella Gill.  Very, very tired. Went back again by night.
	17 Feb, Fri	A full day and far too tiring. Had Hart Synnot & Colonel French to lunch at the St James Club & took the latter over the Foundation to which he will subscribe.  Called at the quondam offices of the A.O.S., a basement room of which is kept by the Allotments Organisation Society and Small Holders Ltd.
	18 Feb, Sat	Got a lady typist from a factory. But she had a young man in Guildford whose attractions were superior to mine and she flitted but promised to come in the morning.
	19 Feb, Sun	Another warning. I broke down. My letter to The Times must wait for another Monday. Dr. Beare put me to bed, ordered a double dose of my “allonal” and forbade work. O’Donovan is most helpful.  A.V. Alexander M.P. came to lunch.
	20 Feb, Mon	Two allonal tablets gave me a glorious night and I am to have the same tonight.
	21 Feb, Tue	Beare kept me in Crest House but not in bed. All sorts of ideas came. Inter alia, through O’Donovan who knew a lady friend of Ramsay MacDonald’s political private secretary & confidant (Miss Rosenberg – oh House of Israel & Hun-dom how you are getting back at so called civilisation!) I arranged to meet the ex premier tomorrow at H of C 10.30 AM. All details significant. Directly I arranged to meet Tom Jones on the way.  <u>The Idea.</u> Get a Baldwin-Lloyd George-Ramsay MacD agreement to a non-party agric’l policy on imperial grounds!  And so to bed!
<i>Fr Londonderry, Ld.</i> <i>(7th Marquess)</i> [Mins. of Agric. – WE Guinness & EFL Wood] [“put in the cart” – embarrass or put in an awkward position]	22 Feb, Wed	A hectic half hour with Ramsay MacDonald. Emotional, shrewd not profound, intensely human. Quick in up-take. He got the whole of the Plunkettian rural creed. When I came to the definite proposal, viz. that as his Minister of Ag. and Baldwin’s had both put the Gov’t in the cart by grovelling to the N.F.U, I suggested it would be a good plan to take agriculture out of party politics & adopt <u>my scheme</u> – of course I said the Foundation’s!! Alas, there was the Labour white pamphlet and the Liberal Year Book on

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		which the rural community had been wooed!! I shall propose it to the Times!!!  Then to Tom Jones the ever faithful confidant of Cabinets and me.
[Buccleuch]	23 Feb, Thu	It was like the old Irish days. The Chairman and Secretary of the Scottish A.O.S. came to confer with the Foundation on the future of the work of the movement – not only in Scotland but in the other component parts of the once U.K. A good squire & a hard headed business man were Major Sprot & Henderson. I promised to attend their A.G.M. on March 8th in Edinburgh (A DUKE, Buccleugh [ <i>sic</i> ], in the Chair) and do my poor best.
[Matthew 22:1-14]	24 Feb, Fri	Went to Assoc'n of Technical Inst[itutio]n[s] of which I was first president (1907!) at the Stationers Hall, intending to speak for the National Association of Scientific Workers. Evidently my acceptance of the invitation had not reached the Assoc'n. I was not even at the "High Table", not even listed among the guests. How reminiscent of the Parable of the Wedding Feast.
	25 Feb, Sat	Home for the week-end, having again promised Geoffrey Dawson my Letter II to The Times. Reichel, Major Church & O'Donovan to help! The lady typist (Miss Marshall) was on tap – but again a young man! So to bed & no letter done.
	26 Feb, Sun	Work, Work, Work. The friend of the lady typist (Miss Marshall) who had an assignation with her young man today & could not come, was hopeless. Again no chance of getting the work done. Reichel was so dull & useless that I had only Church to help me. He was very helpful – but he had much to learn before he could help all round.
	27 Feb, Mon	To town to work at letter II.
	28 Feb, Tue	Stayed up – the letter won't come.
<i>Fr McNeill, James</i>	29 Feb, Wed	Another hard but abortive effort.
<i>Fr Alexander, A.V.</i>	1 Mar, Thu	Another all day struggle, which failed, to finish the task. But ideas make a new beginning necessary.
	2 Mar, Fri	Worked as long as Miss Lee could stay. Then to Tom Jones who agreed to week-end at Crest House. To bed early, having engaged a typist for Sat. & Sunday.
	3 Mar, Sat	Again tried in vain to finish. But I shall tomorrow. Miss King, Secretary to Tom Jones got me an A1 typist who will get up at 6 AM tomorrow – my habit of ¼ century ago.
	4 Mar, Sun	Tom Jones helped & hindered me. I had so much to explain to him before he could advise. I did not get the letter off. But the typewriter was excellent. She rose at 9 [ <i>sic</i> ] AM.
	5 Mar, Mon	To town & sent Geoffrey Dawson an enormously long letter! I don't suppose he will put it in but he ought. The last letter must go tomorrow & if all fails I must fight with a pamphlet – I have done it before & <u>won</u> .  Miss <del>Joyce</del> Walsh got up again at 6 A.M. We all went to town. O'Donovan & I returned alone. He is an Excellent

Correspondence [Notes]	1928	Diary Entry
		Companion & helper.
	6 Mar, Tue	To town. A conference with A V Alexander MP & two Cooperative Union friends. Very tiring.  O'Donovan told Gerald, who came to the conference, that he wanted to leave me! He is very nervy and is used to being King of his Company.
[Hugh]	7 Mar, Wed	Saw a young man, Hubert [ <i>sic</i> ] Bradford, who might do for an assistant to Gerald Heard. He is the son of a clergyman, a professional musician, not optimistic about his <del>professional</del> prospects. Academic qualifications good – knowledge of my work nil. Nice & anxious to come. Free in April.  Saw Tom Ponsonby before leaving for Scotland by night.
[query in original] [Address in <i>Report of the Scottish Agricultural Organisation Society</i> , pp. 39-40]	8 Mar, Thu	After ? years addressed the Annual General meeting of the Scottish A.O.S. A poor gathering (numerically) but a live Duke – sensible, in a hurry to get away & bored – in the chair and consequently a good press probably. There <del>was</del> had been no advertisement of the meeting. I spoke to the Press and after the meeting had a long talk with the whole male staff (secretary & 5 organisers) all good in their very different ways. Then to the Hotel and bed very, very tired.
	9 Mar, Fri	AGM of C[arnegie].U.K.T[rust]. Wasted most of day but was too tired to work. Had long talk with Henderson & I think smoothed him down a bit. Back night train.
	10 Mar, Sat	After a night of thought came down to Crest House with O'Donovan, Hugh Bradford prospective ass't private secretary – of whom more anon – and another Irish typist whom I met at the Xmas children's party at Kilcooley!! Went to bed – slept 1½ hours and to work on the two remaining letters to the Times.
	11 Mar, Sun	Got off Letter II to the Times by the typist. It was not accompanied by letter III, was shortened & made better, but probably won't be put in till letter III goes. It was a desperate effort. After making it, I went to Betty B[alfour] where I found Eve, just leaving, "Pidd"[ington], Mrs. Sidgwick & Gerald.  Hugh Bradford will do. But he knows nothing of my work & the effort of teaching him will be great. But he is willing and will probably find ways of helping me I do not suspect. He left and will return April 2.  As far as I can make out, he has adopted the profession of a musician (piano) at which he would have a struggle for a living. He is now teaching. My only doubt is whether I ought to allow him to take on a job which must soon end with my life. Well, I must <del>either</del> put that view frankly to him and then, if he takes on with me, not forget to think of his future. I may get him a better job.
	12 Mar, Mon	Very cold. A dull day and wasted at a meeting of The Men of the Trees. An old, garrulous engineer in the Chair, a Professor of Forestry from Cambridge, who occupied an hour of my precious time & drove away all the Reporters.  My letter was not in the Times. I got it back & will send the two tomorrow or Wednesday.

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	13 Mar, Tue	Got off a long letter to Karl Walter to catch him in British Columbia. Rewrote half letter II. Hope – silly optimism – to get both II & III ready tomorrow!!
To Shaw, Charlotte F.	14 Mar, Wed	A good bit of the two Times letters done & to Crest House for the night.
	15 Mar, Thu	To town early & more work.
	16 Mar, Fri	The typist turned up on 7 AM. Yet another failure. The task grows & grows – but God willing – I shall finish it this week-end. At night a huge St Paddy Banquet. I was down to respond for Ireland. But when I was called the audience had been thoroughly bored by previous speakers – all of whom talked the usual “all parties & creeds” stuff and wanted to begin the dance which was to be sustained to 4 AM. I left at 10.30 having at last been allowed to speak.
	17 Mar, Sat	Came down yesterday with Miss M.M.A. Walshe [ <i>sic</i> ] to try and finish the Times letters. I am too tired.
To Londonderry, Ld. (7th Marquess)	18 Mar, Sun	Got through the second letter & sent it up. It won't appear till after the third is sent. B. Walsh & wife lunched.
	19 Mar, Mon	<del>Finished first</del> Scrapped second letter! after hard day's struggle to re write it.
	20 Mar, Tue	Finished second letter. Shan Bullock came to Crest House & “would scrap most of it”! So shall I.
<i>Fr Londonderry, Ld. (7th Marquess)</i>	21 Mar, Wed	Tore up second letter. Lunched with the Bernard Shaws. He is younger than ever – she much older looking, I hope only for the moment, she has been ill. But I have no idea of her age!
	22 Mar, Thu	Got Miss Walsh in town, brought her back to Crest House for the night. She has to be at work North of London early tomorrow!
	23 Mar, Fri	To town. G.B.S. went over my Times letter & scrapped the whole letter.
	24 Mar, Sat	To town for work. Tea with Haldane (Richard) whom I tried to educate on my rural policy. Fletcher came for a dine & sleep. He dined, I slept & while he slept I worked! Miss Walsh came for week end.
	25 Mar, Sun	Fletcher left. I worked hard on my Times correspondence. It gets more & more difficult. I sent up a long letter to The Times but Geoffrey Dawson was away.
	26 Mar, Mon	Came to town for Foundation work, Bullock, whom I had hardly seen, left. Gloomy & morose, yet fond of me. A strange creature. Got Geoffrey Dawson to make an appointment to meet me on Wednesday.
	27 Mar, Tue	Another desperate day. The real work was interrupted by Hall's coming in to beg me not to tilt against the N.F.U. (letter from Adams to same effect), two American up-lifters and a turbaned, dreamy Indian who was “much grateful” and took 1¼ hours to say so. The other two an hour each.
	28 Mar, Wed	Long conference with Geoffrey Dawson who advised me to try three short articles in lieu of the letters. This I shall attempt.
[Wileman – women's		A Miss E. St. John Wileman is trying to use my name for some

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agricultural labour organiser]		scheme with an avowed quite good object. Her conduct suggests fraud so plainly that I had to hand the correspondence to Raymond-Barker – an annoying business!
	29 Mar, Thu	Hard work in town and to Crest House for the night with Miss Walsh who does my work for me in the small hours in the morning. I began the first article for the Times quite well.
[Barclay's chairman at the time was F. C. Goodenough, though this may have been a relative.]	30 Mar, Fri	Yet another trying day. Adams came up early and I spent much time and hard work explaining my position as regards the Foundation. I arranged to meet two of the Big Five of the Bank's – S. [sic] C. Goodenough of Barclays and McKenna of the Midland on Monday. Also to meet Robbins of the N.F.U. tomorrow with Hall.  At night I called on Seton. His foot has been discharging for six weeks and his doctor tells him that is splendid. Charlatan!!
	31 Mar, Sat	Some shopping & to Crest House with Miss Walsh.
	1 Apr, Sun	Up at 4 AM and worked all day.
To Webb, Sidney	2 Apr, Mon	The same. But had to go to London and see the two big bankers (see Friday last). Barclay's man, Goodenough, was pompous and useless for my purposes. McKenna excellent.  Hugh Bradford came to me in town but not to Crest House as he had a dinner in town.
<i>Fr Webb, Beatrice</i>	3 Apr, Tue	Worn out & sleeping badly, I must be doing a lot of unconscious work on the <u>national &amp; imperial</u> rural problem.
	4 Apr, Wed	Worked with little help. Eddie came from Eton & Bryan back from France. A pleasant Easter party.
	5 Apr, Thu	Walter Callan called & gave me a not very cheering account of Ireland. Otherwise work from 4 A.M.
	6 Apr, Fri	Very unwell – got no good work done. <u>Must rest.</u>
	7 Apr, Sat	Work. Hugh Bradford learning quickly. Delightful manners – a trump.
	8 Apr, Sun	Work, Work, Work. Miss Walshe came to tea & the final draft began.
To Fletcher, George	9 Apr, Mon	Harder than ever I worked on this Bank Holiday. Bradford will soon be able to relieve me for which I shall be profoundly grateful.
To Finlay, Fr. Thomas	10 Apr, Tue	Had to send for Beare to treat a very bad sore throat – an epidemic. My chauffeur & Beare himself being the victims. Had to keep my bed.
	11 Apr, Wed	Up and to town. Very weak in the knees. Thought it better to be at the Flat where doctors are on tap. I want to hold on till I have quite done the job I was sent to do. At night over 100°.
To Pickstone, H.E.V.	12 Apr, Thu	Temperature flew up to 102.4 & I rushed home & to bed. Beare took me in hand & doubtless will cure me quick.
	13 Apr, Fri	101° Fahr & very weak. Kept rigidly in bed.
	14 Apr, Sat	103.5° (Rectal) at 10 AM. Doctor arranged to have a night nurse.

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		I have Miss Walshe coming down for week-end to take any dictation I may be equal to.
To Dawson, Geoffrey	15 Apr, Sun	Much looser but 103°9 Fahr (Rectal) or 102.9 mouth.
	16 Apr, Mon	Kept round 100° until night when dropped to normal. But chest very sore and great care to prevent relapses – ground covered with snow – will be needed.
<i>Fr Dawson, Geoffrey (by M. Brumwell)</i>	17 Apr, Tue	George W. Giles, my only guest, came and we had a heart to heart talk about the great scheme I have in mind as my final effort to put into practice the Three Beters. He seemed to understand. Bradford had to go to town but Giles was able to stay the night. The temperature fell to normal but the pain & shortness of breath remained.
	18 Apr, Wed	A morning with Giles was largely wasted, so comatose was I!! The attack has been very severe but is going off.
	19 Apr, Thu	Temp normal. Gerald came for some hours.
	20 Apr, Fri	Normal; but did not get down stairs.
	21 Apr, Sat	The Cuckoo cucked at 7.15 A.M. and must have had as good a night as I to be so cheerful in a heavy white frost! Doctor & nurse allowed me downstairs. Had a bath – all over.
	22 Apr, Sun	Moritz Bonn came and greatly improved my mental state. Still deplorably weak.
	23 Apr, Mon	Bonn went to 105 for 2 nights. I am desperately weak. The dentist came to take out a loose tooth but found the roots were tight. A cap & superstructure needed to be removed & will be replaced.
	24 Apr, Tue	Rested & got better every way. But strength comes slowly.
	25 Apr, Wed	Wrote some letters. Very weak.
	26 Apr, Thu	To town for a Bowes Board meeting. Tea with Lady Lavery who told me some amusing “state secrets” from the Irish Free State Court where she had been staying. It seems that Kevin O’Higgins had favoured Londonderry, Sir John Lavery & Granard in the order named to succeed Tim Healy as Viceroy! James McNeill was a horrid surprise to her. Mrs. James she had dressed and socially bear-led in London! De Valera has promised Granard the post when he comes in at the next election.  She gave me a drab, dreary account of the shoddy court. Surely, surely it should be ended – it cannot be mended without another revolution & England won’t play that game!  Back at night to find Bonn returned & I hope we shall have an old-time rest together for the week end.
To Byrne, James	27 Apr, Fri	A Quiet day with Bonn. He advised me to give up work and write my reminiscences. He certainly made me think they might be of use to those who come after me.
	28 Apr, Sat	The Nurse went & Miss Walsh came. Tell not the doctor.  Oliver & Jessica called. Mrs. Willie had died. T.P. Gill looked in, still after his pension, poor fellow.
	29 Apr, Sun	Some work. Delightful talks with Bonn. Much better in health owing chiefly to the weather. Killeens & Barnes came. Also TP

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		Gill!
<i>Fr "Tom" (?Gill, T.P.)</i>	30 Apr, Mon	To town & back. Decided to see Walter on his return tomorrow & then go to the sea as the doctor strongly advises.
To "Tom" (Gill, T.P.)	1 May, Tue	To town where not only Karl Walter but Æ turned up from America! Still I got before dark to Birchington where the Setons are nursing his terrible, tuberculous lower leg. Alas for the optimism of consumptives!  I had no time to get both Karl's & Æ's story. But I see that both are loaded for the campaign I want to inaugurate before I die.
	2 May, Wed	A too cool, foggy but often bright day. Did me great good. So did the companionship of the Setons.
To Alexander, A.V.	3 May, Thu	Last night took 10 gr[ains] allonal & got 5 hours deep sleep. But all day today I was drowsy.
	4 May, Fri	Fine weather. Worked too hard.
	5 May, Sat	Miss Walshe came for tea & set to work at once on a borrowed typewriter. I cleared off necessary letters & went at once to the articles.
	6 May, Sun	Glorious weather. But it was not a day of rest. Up at 4 AM and work, work, work all day. At night I went wearily to bed with my task further than ever from its end. The problem I seek to solve gets harder & harder as I think deeper & deeper.
	7 May, Mon	Home. Motored to town after work from 4 AM to 8 A.M. Went to Foundation, had three hours with Gerald and then motored to Crest House with Bradford to receive the Hannays.
	8 May, Tue	To town & hard work.
	9 May, Wed	To town and the same hard grind. The incident of the day was a long talk with A.V. Alexander about the speech he is to make in the afternoon on the government's Credit Bill.
	10 May, Thu	No one but Gerald, Adams & I turned up at the meeting of the H.P.F. to greet Karl on his return. I was up at 4 AM, worked till 10 when I went to town and after a brief sleep, recovered. After the meeting I returned to my guests, the Hannays at Crest House, but had to meet Dash at 10.30 PM in town!! The idea grows and if I survive this effort it will win out.
	11 May, Fri	Carnegie Meetings. Nothing of interest.
<i>[coûte que coûte – come what may; at all costs]</i>	12 May, Sat	Today I enjoyed the luxury of the times. Two large rotten roots had to be got out of my jaw. They broke and took a long time to get out completely. But oh the blessing of the local anaesthetic!! It was losing its effect before the dentist got through and I had a taste of the torture I should have endured had I been born not so much earlier. Miss Walsh came for the week-end. Leys, Daisy & possible others for tomorrow! But I must get my big job done, coûte que coûte.
	13 May, Sun	Daisy came from Ada's for a few hours. Brave & cheery as ever, with her Gerald & Betty [Balfour], Fingall failing, financial ruin staring them in the face – still cheerful and as altruistic as ever.  Kenneth Leys also came and greatly helped me with my Times

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		Articles. A good deal of pain in the jaw handicapped their production.
	14 May, Mon	The dentist found he had left a sharp pointed bone buried. He excavated it & I expect comfort in the jaw till the next excavation. K. Leys left after a delightful 24 hours.
	15 May, Tue	Came to town & stayed there being wretchedly unwell with toothache. The excavation was badly done. Looked in at the Garton Foundation & was warmly welcomed.
	16 May, Wed	Had long talk with A V Alexander in the Commons & then with Tom Jones at the offices of the Cabinet. Very unwell.
	17 May, Thu	Adams, Gerald [Heard] & Dermod O'Brien (good soul) met at Foundation, chiefly to hear Hall on the outcome of Karl Walter's tour. Again our Chairman [Hall] failed to materialise. Had to rush home and get the dentist to deal with an intolerable toothache at the site of his excavations last Saturday.
	18 May, Fri	Dentist kept me at home & I tried to work.
To Kennedy, Henry	19 May, Sat	Found the condensation of my first article an almost impossible task. But it is coming along.
	20 May, Sun	Daisy came for a 24 hour visit. I took her to see Betty & Gerald at Fishers Hill. She was wonderfully cheery & courageous.
	21 May, Mon	Daisy left and I did some work at the Foundation.
	22 May, Tue	[No entry]
	23 May, Wed	Long talk with James of W.A.O.S. and George W. Giles the Smallholder organiser & my hopes of the future of ag[ricultural] cooperation in England.
	24 May, Thu	Came to town – too unwell to work.
<i>Fr Pickstone, H.E.V.</i>	25 May, Fri	Made another beginning to the Articles. Until my health mends I shall get no further.
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	26 May, Sat	Worked in London and left at night for West Hartlepool. At midnight I was in the streets of that unattractive (at night I have still to see it by day) burg; all the taxis & cabs having been exhausted carrying cooperators to the one Hotel (The Grand! where I had a room engaged) and the pubs, for the Congress I came to attend – or rather to meet cooperators at & talk agriculture to the urbans.
<i>[magister elegantum – master of taste]</i>	27 May, Sun	Whitehead, the not intelligent secretary of the Co-op Union, Horrock the magister elegantum and some awfully dull dogs beset me. But J J Dent, A.V. Alexander, the two chief men on the agricultural committee of the Union were worth talking to. One more day will suffice for all I want.
	28 May, Mon	A long talk with Riddall about the Irish situation – especially, of course, on co-operation. Kennedy the new forceful Secretary of the I.A.O.S. has materialised the movement still further instead of spiritualising it. I shall have a hard job to get him to undo the mischief.  The interesting work of the conference was not reached; but I got the atmosphere in regard to agriculture. It was one of abysmal



Correspondence [Notes]	1928	Diary Entry
		ignorance.
	29 May, Tue	The day began at Darlington at 12.3 A.M. when the sleeper took me to London. After a morning at the Foundation, Bradford & I came to Crest House where dead tired I went early to bed.
	30 May, Wed	Worked at home and had a warning. I sent for a typist from a Weybridge Factory, thinking I could dictate the thoughts of the day in the evening. My mind utterly failed to respond. I could not dictate a consequent sentence.
To House, E.M.  [Second time - see 14 Dec 1888.]	31 May, Thu	To town for work. I must get the articles written now or never. But the theme is too ambitious for my years & strength. I <u>might</u> get into The Times letters which would make history in rural-social-economic thought. But all depends upon an almost impossible compression combined with an A.B.C-ish simplicity. Once I could have achieved this!  Went to Toynbee Hall for first time in my life. A wonderful atmosphere. Miss K Mayo lectured (atrociously) on her book Mother India. Nevinson & S.K. Ratcliff[e] questioned her & she was simply rude. She is a wonderfully brave woman if all she told us was true. "Got no money out of it" "Just had to do it" & so forth.
	1 Jun, Fri	Home at night after a busy day, ending with a meeting at 6.15 of the Assoc'n of Scientific Workers on whose Exec C'tee I have been placed because of £100 donation!
	2 Jun, Sat	Bryan & Dorothy & the dog came for a week. He will help me with my work and I am very glad to be hospitable to her. Miss Walshe came at night.
	3 Jun, Sun	Worked hard and still am thinking out the best treatment of the huge subject.
	4 Jun, Mon	Old associations revived by a look in at the Fourth of June at Eton, where Dorothy & Bryan spent the whole day.
	5 Jun, Tue	To town for work. At last I have the first paragraph of the first article, which means a lot.
	6 Jun, Wed	Work at home.
	7 Jun, Thu	Work in town.
[?Speaker of the House, John Henry Whitley]	8 Jun, Fri	To town again for work and to attend the opening of the new premises (26 Bedford Square) of the National Council of Social Service, Mr. Speaker in the Chair. He read a letter of the P[rince] of Wales, who becomes <del>President</del> Patron and gives to the Council a position which makes it the more urgent to assert the position of the Foundation.
	9 Jun, Sat	In the evening Tom Jones came for the week-end. I wanted to discuss my rural life policy with him. I also got a very good typist from the --yal Body Works in Weybridge to week-end with us.
	10 Jun, Sun	Worked all day. Tom Jones was deeply interested & most helpful. Jim Byrne came to tea & supper & we had a very pleasant time though I was worn out.
	11 Jun, Mon	Spent most of the day in town. Gerald was there & George W. Giles (to whom I gave another £100 & who will, I believe, restart

Correspondence [Notes]	1928	Diary Entry
		the Agricultural Cooperative Movement in England by beginning with the small men, now left out of account) gave me a lot of useful information. Schlesinger was to have called but had not time before I left by the 5.55 P.M. for Liverpool and the British & Irish Boat.
	12 Jun, Tue	A beautiful passage, but a sleepless (almost) night left me unfit for the day's work. I simply had to "let it rip" & go to sleep, after I had told Norman, Riddall & Kennedy (who had promised me to send suggestions for my important pronouncement tomorrow weeks ago & had not sent me a line) to brief me. Norman came & spent the late afternoon & evening – eat my table d'hôte dinner for me, and gave me enough to make notes in the early hours of the hectic tomorrow. After all, an unprepared speech has merits. It comes from notes & the heart and goes to the heart & mind of those who have eyes to see & ears to hear.
	13 Jun, Wed	<p>Took 10 gr[ains] allonal last night. Had unconscious sleep till 4 AM &amp; then began to make headings. But I did not make them well &amp; when I spoke at the meeting I practically spoke on one of the subjects I had intended to develop. However this I did well &amp; held my audience. They – or some of them – will be started thinking along my lines. I attended two Committee meetings &amp; was pleased with some of the new members. Baxter of the Dail is quite good &amp; Fr. Phelan is getting civilised. His nativity (cooperative) is most commendable. The fly in the ointment is Courtenay, the least reputable of the organisers who has complete control of Kennedy.</p> <p>In the evening, tho dead tired, I had Fr. Finlay out to the Hotel &amp; had a talk with him which will do good.</p> <p>I took my siesta betw'n the A[nnual].G[eneral]. meeting &amp; the Committees at R.A.A.'s House. He gave me lunch, after which we discussed his troubles. Poor fellow, he is unhappy at his prospects which are gloomy indeed.</p>
<i>Fr Finlay, Fr. Thomas</i>	14 Jun, Thu	<p>Very tired. The reaction to yesterday's meeting – and my speech! – seems to have been good. I strove not in vain.</p> <p>Lunched with the McNeills – Their Excellencies!! He is a dying man, I fear. He has had cancers removed from his throat! Poor wife. Poor Ireland. He is a fine fellow every way. He does not show the slightest anxiety about himself. I wish I had his courage. I would commit suicide tomorrow if it would save his life for another five years. He <u>may</u>, of course, have been cured by the surgeons – but he looked ghastly!</p> <p>A Presbyterian clergyman called on me from Goshen Hole, Wyoming. What memories it recalled.</p>
	15 Jun, Fri	Worked all day at Plunkett House. Saw George O'Brien, Lennox Robinson & Good about Irish Statesman. Discussed I.A.O.S. future with Norman & Riddall, had long talk with R.A.A. about his financial affairs & promised help. It is evident that I shall need every day – every waking hour – for Irish work between tomorrow when I go with a typist to Killeen for 6 days work and the 28th when I leave by night for home.
	16 Jun, Sat	Motored, with a very nice typist Miss Richardson, to Killeen. F[ingall] & D[aisy] alone. The house was more appallingly oppressive than ever. It stands as the monument of an order which

Correspondence [Notes]	1928	Diary Entry
		has passed and awaits the passing to a religious order which will continue its chill, its evacuation & quick ruin or – most unlikely – the sporting multimillionaire from America.  I came to try & combine some rest with the terrific task of the Times Articles.
To Finlay, Fr. Thomas	17 Jun, Sun	Worked & got no forrader. The Everards & Dr. Murnane came for the afternoon & took all my time & attention.
	18 Jun, Mon	Worked. But nothing comes. I am worn out!
	19 Jun, Tue	To Dublin & back in the morning. Started at beginning of “business hours”. Went 8 miles before meeting a single setback – even an asino-mobile!
	20 Jun, Wed	Went to Dunsany, saw over the property, the new schools, saw the Browne family & had long talk with Cruikshank the steward.
	21 Jun, Thu	Worked & am still struggling with an apparently impossible task. Cold and wet all day.
	22 Jun, Fri	Friday back to Dublin with the big task no nearer completion – only many more false starts!  [News item pasted in: “Plunkett Sends Word of Greeting – Message to Delegates Gathered at World Pool Meet Enthusiastically Received”.]  This from some Canadian newspaper on the <del>Report World</del> International Wheat Pools Conference at Regina, Sask[atchewan] about June 6th to 10th.
	23 Jun, Sat	Worked all day & dined with Smith Gordon at Kilteragh. The memories were unhappy. I have, however, little doubt that if my house had not been burned, I should now be dead – or worse, useless. The work would have been far beyond my strength.
	24 Jun, Sun	At last a day of rest and on Sunday too. Went to Killeen for lunch tea & dinner. The F’s alone! I think I helped.
	25 Jun, Mon	I got ahead in my thinking out the problem of rural neglect & the difficulty of getting it felt and counteracted. But at night I was definitely down & out. I must end my big efforts if I survive this ordeal.
	26 Jun, Tue	1¼ hour talk with Hogan on whole case of Commonwealth (mustn’t say Empire!) agriculture & Free State’s part therein. Very satisfactory. Later ¾ hour with McNeill. I fear the man is doomed and it is a sad blow for Ireland if my diagnosis is right. He has had radium tubes in the throat. His glands under the left ear were slightly swollen. He looked anaemic & his voice was weak. He & his poor wife are genuinely patriots of the best kind. I pray I may be wrong in my alarm.
	27 Jun, Wed	Gerald Heard & K Walter came by day Mail.  I lunched with John Healy. He was very pessimistic about Ireland – Northern Ireland as well as Free State. Low standard of Education was his chief criticism. He is right.  Dermod O’Brien, Norman, KW & I had an evening on the future of the Foundation. It is bright – if K.W. does not lead us into political paths.

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	28 Jun, Thu	Gerald, Hall & Adams came over for the meeting of the Foundation & all went well. I left by the Liverpool night boat and was glad to get away. The strain of trying to save Ireland from herself is terrible. Saw many people, including Senator Mrs. J.R. Green who is melancholy over her approaching departure – poor soul.
	29 Jun, Fri	After a night in a gale abeam, the little boat's berths athwart making it possible not to roll out, a hectic ½ day in town & then to Crest House with Gerald (who came by day Mail & also suffered) & Hugh B[radford]. to Crest House. The former will give me 48 hours, a rare concession of the Fates & the latter, dear boy, asking all the time "What can I do now?" And so to bed.
	30 Jun, Sat	Very tired; but it was refreshing to have Gerald with me.
	1 Jul, Sun	Called on Hall en route to town where I thought it better to stay half my nights until my articles are written.
[editor – Seymour]	2 Jul, Mon	Called early on Col. House who gave me the draft of the last chapter of his last volume. There were many errors I pointed out & fear he may again be let down by his editor. He was as charming & interesting as ever.
	3 Jul, Tue	More of House & some work. But back to Crest House fagged out. The Irish trip was too much for me.
	4 Jul, Wed	Rested Crest House.
	5 Jul, Thu	To town to meet Gerald & work all day. Too tired to remember what I did – presumably not much. Col. House was interviewed.
	6 Jul, Fri	A long letter to Dr. Charles Seymour about Vols III & IV of House's Intimate Papers. Work at Foundation and 3 meetings of Carnegie Committees, failure to get a sleep in betw'n morning & afternoon work & then by motor to Oxford where the splendid hospitality of the Hart Synnots made it possible to endure the final effort to remain conscious through the Annual General Meeting of the Agric'l Economic Society which I am to address on Sunday night. I failed in this effort – and so to bed. Brought Karl with me.
	7 Jul, Sat	Conferences seem all the same. Those who attend must be allowed to inflict their efforts on each other. Sir Henry Rew began with his Presidential address. I couldn't have done worse. One man, Enfield, really did enlighten us. He is statistical & economic adviser of the Ministry of Agriculture.  Had talks with MacGregor, Dallas (Labour Party's agricultural organiser) Karl, Orwin, Hart Synnot who arrived at night only & many others. Dead tired.
["The Purpose of a Rural Life Organisation", <i>Proceedings of the Agricultural Economics Society</i> , pp. 48-54]	8 Jul, Sun	Enfield, economic researcher at the Ministry of Agriculture, came to break-fast. I was then to have gone to have a talk with Orwin, but of course he put it off. I spent my time much better with Professor D.H. Macgregor (pol[itical] econ[omy], All Souls) at his house (172 Banbury Rd). He will send me notes. Then lunch, Siesta & a call on Adams at Boars Hill & back to tea at the Hart Synnots'. Decided to speak tonight from notes – still to make at 7 PM! . . . . .

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[W.E.A. – Workers' Educational Association]		Spoke for an hour! Never did better. The W.E.A. and the pick of Agricultural Economic Society attended. When I sat down, the bouquets were most embarrassing! I told my story and left the audience to draw their own conclusions.
	9 Jul, Mon	Dead tired but happy in the belief that my visit was fruitful, I left Oxford & after a few hours London returned to Crest House with Hugh Bradford also delighted at the acceptance of his music by the BBC & others!
	10 Jul, Tue	To town for the day, chiefly to have a good talk with Prewett who came to the Foundation for the purpose.
	11 Jul, Wed	At 2 A.M. had a violent pain in my right lung. Woke Bradford who phoned Beare. It turned out to be the healing of an adhesion. Temp 100.2°. Beare got a nurse (Wilkie, who had helped nurse Rhoades in my prostatectomy operation). Temp got subnormal but the pain was not ended in the day. Kept in bed. Glorious weather.
	12 Jul, Thu	Another day in bed. Weather very hot. Gerald who was to have met me in town came here.
	13 Jul, Fri	No temperature but pain in the night kept me in bed.
	14 Jul, Sat	Up. Daisy came for 24 hour visit.
	15 Jul, Sun	James Byrne to lunch & took Daisy back.
	16 Jul, Mon	Called on Betty Balfour who had been 4 weeks in bed with duodenal ulcer! The noblest woman I know!! What has she done to deserve this?
	17 Jul, Tue	The nurse left and I missed her! My helplessness is dreadful & at least five years of work badly wanted by people I could help.
	18 Jul, Wed	To town to do a little work. Slept. The heat (87°) was hard to bear.
	19 Jul, Thu	Back after a talk with House to Weybridge where I had a big back tooth out. Left me very weak.
	20 Jul, Fri	To the Hart Synnotts for a Conference of Rural Community Councils at Queen's Coll. I can only attend a small part of it; but I may learn a good deal. There was a dinner I did not face which seems to have exhausted the conference; for the evening session was dull.
	21 Jul, Sat	Very tired I attended & spoke briefly at the Conference. Had a long talk with Watson with whom I see eye to eye on the rural problem. He is the man for Oxford, but his difficulties are enormous. He has not a free hand or adequate financial aid. The wrong kind of pupils are coming to him. I hope he will "stick it", as my experience is that, though the progress is slower on the country side of things, the right wins out in the end. And things will have to move quicker in town & country alike in the immediate future.  Long talk too with Adams on the Foundation. He is the best man in it morally and his influence will grow. He should have been a bishop as Gerald is never tired of saying. It was a chance missed.  I am going so rapidly down hill physically that I shall have to rely on my few remaining intimates to save my life endeavour from

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[ <i>nunc dimittis</i> – departure]		failure. To so bed. Rest is my one chance of a decent <i>nunc dimittis</i> .
	22 Jul, Sun	Talks with Miss Hadow, Professor MacGregor & Watson, Leys, Hall & Adams, a short goodbye to the Conference & back by night to Crest House.
	23 Jul, Mon	Again in the early hours a high temperature, pain in the pleura, the doctor & bed. I must have got a chill in the car while asleep. Hugh Bradford came from town to look after me, although his music was to be broadcasted at night. I was to have gone to Newcastle tonight. Must try to do so tomorrow.
	24 Jul, Tue	Through town to Newcastle by night. Dangerous, but I must look after the family coal interest.
	25 Jul, Wed	Inspected Dipton, Burnopfield, Byer Moor & Marley Hill Collieries. Walsh was very sick and will I fear end his days in hopeless between Science & Christianity as he conceives them on the one hand and the truth as it was taught to him.
	26 Jul, Thu	The meeting of the [Bowes] Board. Had confidential talks with Godfrey Palmer, took Walsh to Cooper, and generally looked over the chaos Gardiner has made. I fear the Coal industry has another crisis coming. Left by night.
	27 Jul, Fri	Back to Crest House, worn, disgusted with the mess I have made of business affairs which might have been turned to good account & feeling depressed & helpless. Yet God knows I have had every blessing except health & have lived far longer than I could have expected.
	28 Jul, Sat	I did not let the dentist do more than fill one hole in the front tooth because Leys came today & the Normans come tomorrow. I shall want to get the articles done.
	29 Jul, Sun	A red letter day. Leys took from me, as we walked in the glorious sunshine, my hazy ideas upon my last public effort and put them in order, in plain words and in a true & manageable perspective. I sorely need this help and I think the task can now be accomplished.  Norman & wife turned up for supper. Commander [Francis] Spring Rice called. Dear man, how tiring it is to talk to him. A typical S.R. in gentleness, culture & lack of force & point.
[ <i>solvitus ambulando</i> – It is solved by walking.]	30 Jul, Mon	Norman & Leys helped a lot. The problem became more complicated as we walked & talked on the lawn. <i>Solvitus ambulando!</i> We shall see.
To Noel Buxton, N.E.  <i>Fr Terpenning, Walter</i>	31 Jul, Tue	Leys left. Karl Walter & wife came to tea. Worked & rather broke down. But I feel the work will succeed at last.
	1 Aug, Wed	Mrs. Norman is an admirable wife for my saintly friend & she is kind & helpful to me as a guest. But she is as hard as he is gentle in judgments of others & gets on my nerves. Her brother, a doctor who has had Harry Norman thoroughly examined called. He tells me he is organically sound. That is good news as he is one of the best men in Ireland and understands my ideas better than any other.

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	2 Aug, Thu	Took Normans to town & brought back Hart Synnot.
	3 Aug, Fri	Hart Synnot took me to lunch with Lady Cathcart at Sunninghill. The old lady migrated a lot of crofters to Canada. She talked of the rural problem. She is about 85 years old & interesting.
	4 Aug, Sat	Another digging out of roots (left upper wisdom) put me to bed with a slight temperature & some pain.
	5 Aug, Sun	Major Burney, from Chertsey, & Metcalf with new wife lunched. The Major left after and the rest visited Karl Walter & wife for tea. That was the days doings.
	6 Aug, Mon	Bank Holiday but not for me. I struggled with the opening of my Times Articles. I am convinced that a completely new approach to the rural problem is the one hope of stirring enough new thought to get a majority opinion in favour of my moral policy. The first 3 or 4 paragraphs of the first article will decide whether the four shall be published by the Times. If they are they will do their work – in time.
	7 Aug, Tue	Tried to write. A long rest is indicated. But where is the time & place for such a cure? Not here & now!
	8 Aug, Wed	To town for an hour at the office. No real work as Godfrey Palmer came in to consult me on important Bowes affairs.
[See 14 Jun 1925, 17 Jun 1926]	9 Aug, Thu	Bonn passed through town & I slept there to meet him. I had two hours stimulating talk & took him to sup with Ada, where Mamie was staying. I told the two latter of old Hughes' will.
	10 Aug, Fri	Gerald gave me a couple of hours though what betw'n the house books & psychology, on which he is the most interesting man I have known, I could get little of the help I most wanted. I stayed in town because I got nothing done & must try to dictate a little tomorrow at the office.
To Terpenning, Walter [“ccc” – 300. Built in 1181, Killeen Castle became the seat of the Fingalls in 1628.]	11 Aug, Sat	Back to Crest House with Hugh Bradford. Better in health & spirits. Daisy writes that they have decided to leave Killeen. After ccc years!!
	12 Aug, Sun	To tea with ?Hall at ?-a-t-.
<i>Fr Lowell, A. Lawrence</i>	13 Aug, Mon	Motored to Eden Lodge, Tilford – about 5 miles S.E. from Farnham & had a delightful talk with Philip Snowden & his wife. They have bought a <del>very nice</del> charming home out of her lectures in America! I wanted to discuss my articles with him. Here was a Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer. He listened and gave me the kindest encouragement to go ahead.
	14 Aug, Tue	[No entry]
	15 Aug, Wed	To town for my weekly talk with Gerald. Also saw the Setons at the India Office. His foot is much better, but I still fear that no complete cure is assured. Poor fellow – his courage is marvellous & he deserves all Providence can do.
	16 Aug, Thu	Quiet day. Giles came late after an allotment-holders meeting at Merrow which I did not attend because it was not for any co-operative purpose. I was too tired to talk to him but hope to tomorrow.

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	17 Aug, Fri	Went to town to meet Harold Peterson who came with a letter of introduction from Josiah Galpin. He is working for the Y.M.C.A. in India. During the morning I had a long talk with Giles & brought Peterson home with me. He was extraordinarily interesting. He is a Chicagoan who has a real "world view-point" and who feels that his spiritual home is in the East. But his knowledge is profound on many lines of social & economic inquiry in which he specialises. His diagnosis of the British Empire's situation is most gloomy. England cannot carry the load of its social commitments he is (not unsympathetically) assured. I must keep track of him.
	18 Aug, Sat	Peterson & I talked the whole day. He is 35 & I am 74. I never had <del>known</del> a more exhausting experience. But it was worth while. He will be able to put to good account all I told him of my life work.
	19 Aug, Sun	Peterson left early and I had to rest from the effort of yesterday.
	20 Aug, Mon	Quiet day at Crest House.
	21 Aug, Tue	They day in town with Peterson who will try with me to get the Y.M.C.A. to do what the Royal Commission refused to do in India.
<i>Fr Shaw, Charlotte F.</i>	22 Aug, Wed	[No entry]
	23 Aug, Thu	Met Gerald & Peterson in town and worked hard at the letter to the Y.M.C.A. proposing that it should do what the Royal Commission refused to do for Co-operation.
	24 Aug, Fri	Worked at home at letter to Peterson.
	25 Aug, Sat	[No entry]
	26 Aug, Sun	Bruce Ashby & wife (very dull) to lunch. He <del>was</del> is grandson of "Uncle Henry" Wallace of Des Moines, Iowa and although in Big Business told me a lot about the agricultural economy of the U.S.
	27 Aug, Mon	To work in town.
	28 Aug, Tue	The same & unable to do it.  East Anglian Daily Times [newspaper item about golf, ending:]  . . . As for those golfers in the habit of patting or pressing the turf, it is recalled that Sir Horace Plunkett once dealt very happily with an opponent. He watched with humorous patience an operation that resulted in a ball with an unsatisfactory lie being elevated to a teed-up position, pulled a book of rules out of his pocket, and read aloud – "Rule, first and last, 'you may ground the club, but you must not club the ground.'"
	29 Aug, Wed	Another warning night. Great pain in chest. Doctor said it was the same old complaint. Some adhesion broken, lung filled with poison from the discharge. Temp 101.4. Day in bed.
	30 Aug, Thu	Came to town feeling very ill to see the lawyers & also to do Foundation work. I fear my life is near a wretched end in intolerable depression. It may be caused by over work from having no clerical assistance. If Gerald knew my suffering he would help me to solve this problem.
	31 Aug, Fri	Eight days have elapsed since I have seen Gerald & today he gave me some hours. I told him the present regime cannot go on in my little affairs. Hugh Bradford is nothing but a charming lady companion – good as gold but quite useless for <u>work</u> and all I live



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		for now is the work that must be done if my life is not to be wasted.  The Setons are trying to find me a secretary & I interviewed one who may do – H.D. McKay. Scot Irish, Connaught Rangers in the war, <del>studied</del> T.C.D. (military course only), no literary gifts or tastes though he has written (on tennis & golf, I think?). Can run a house. He is the type of A.D.C.
["in the cart" – in an awkward situation]	1 Sep, Sat	Sick in mind & body. Hugh thinks he can get a position as musical programme director (assistant, of course) & that gets over our difficulty. Nothing would let me put him "in the cart". I fear he has no means.
	2 Sep, Sun	In despair went to call on Karl Walter & found him out. On the way Hugh & I lunched al fresco at Newland's Corner. Glorious cloudless day. Felt better.
	3 Sep, Mon	To town and did a little good dictation – the result of the glorious weather yesterday & today.
	4 Sep, Tue	Shan Bullock came for 6 hours which we spent mostly picnicking at Newlands Corner as it was another real summer day. He could throw no light on my secretarial difficulty. I was glad to discuss his affairs & I think cheered him up a little.
	5 Sep, Wed	My weekly meeting with Gerald. He saw a Capt. Bolland – a possible successor to Hugh Bradford. I did not much like his account of him. He seemed satisfactory in every way – except that I doubt his being able to do my work. Who can?  Giles came to sup & sleep. He supped & I slept!
	6 Sep, Thu	A long & full conference with Giles. I think he will restart the A.O.S. if I can only get him the necessary support.
	7 Sep, Fri	Poor Hugh told me he had only £3.10/- a week allowance & had to make the rest. With me he gets – I don't know what but much more than that. Gerald ought not to have made me engage the poor boy <u>with hope of permanence</u> . It puts me in a delicate position & is cruel to Hugh.
	8 Sep, Sat	Tried to work but was too tired.
	9 Sep, Sun	Hanson came to lunch tea supper & sleep. He told me a lot of Free State news. Not too bad.
	10 Sep, Mon	In the morning Hanson left after a good confidential talk which was most helpful. I saw Capt. McKay after Gerald had had a <del>good</del> long conference with him & almost decided to give him a trial as private sec'y. He will week end with me.  Karl Walter is neglecting the Foundation and I fear the staff know it. Metcalf and Miss Digby are both restless & will leave if the Foundation does not do more work.
	11 Sep, Tue	[No entry]
	12 Sep, Wed	Took McKay to Foundation & decided to give him a trial. Bonn spent some hours with me. Delightful and informing as ever. He is anxious about England, but has not yet made up his mind whether she will recover (economically). He rejoices in the higher standard of living in the masses but questions whether it can be

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		sustained.
[Speech reported in <i>Times</i> , 15 Sep.]	13 Sep, Thu	Came to Liverpool for a “Rally” of the thousands of small holders the Municipality runs. A huge Hall was taken – a dull respectable platform assembled & a vast chill vacancy in body of Hall and galleries! But tomorrow the Lord Mayor (Miss Beavan!) will receive the body with an awful title: – Allotments Organisation Society and Small Holders Limited or for short (if you can remember it[]) A.O.S. and S.H.L. I had to speak to the desert air & hope for the best tomorrow when the <u>Press</u> will be present to see the Lady Mayoress take an interest in the A.O.S. & S.H.L.!!
	14 Sep, Fri	Attended a private meeting of the AOS C’tee and the public meeting Miss Beavan (Lord Mayor presiding at opening). Metcalf came from the H.P.F. & we returned together in a 3¾ hour train. It was a big effort – but, I think, worth while.
	15 Sep, Sat	To <del>town</del> H.P.F. and <del>met</del> then took McKay & Hugh Bradford to Crest House, the former to let him see whether my job would suit him.
	16 Sep, Sun	Tried to write a letter for the Times but was too tired. McKay will do.
	17 Sep, Mon	Left poor Hugh in town and McKay came to the Foundation & generally prepared to help me with my work. I hope soon to be able to rest.
	18 Sep, Tue	A quiet day with McKay at Crest House. He drives my car as well as I do. We went to Guildford (to get my hair cut) and worked quietly the rest of the day. It is a joy at last to have a secretary who will & can work. I think he will become a great help to the Foundation.
[Cullinan]	19 Sep, Wed	Went to town with McKay who arranged with Gerald to take my job on for a month on trial. Hall, Metcalf, Gerald & I had a talk on Foundation affairs. Then I called on Cullinane [ <i>sic</i> ] & Judge Campbell at the Park Lane Hotel. A busy day after 103° temp last night.
<i>Fr Columba, Sister</i>	20 Sep, Thu	Long talks with McKay. In evening Hugh came down & I told him I would get him to relieve McK when the latter was on leave. But I think the BBC will find a job for my lady companion.
To Columba, Sister <i>Fr Terpenning, Walter</i>	21 Sep, Fri	To town for work at Foundation. Tried to get off letter to Daily Express but failed. I, however, wrote a long letter to Hall in substitution of one I had written before our meeting on Wednesday, to prepare him for his meeting with Karl Walter on Sunday.
	22 Sep, Sat	Wrote to Barbour asking him to resign his Trusteeship of the Foundation as he never attends its meetings. I tried to deal tactfully with him as he had been <u>most</u> generous and helpful in his support of the movement in Ireland. So too had his wife. Returned tired out to Crest House. The work of handing over to McKay his share of my labours in a way which will be as helpful to him as it will be to me is exhausting. But when it is done my

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		life will be easier.  I definitely hope to write reminiscences which will have the purpose of handing on my work & ideas. The only effective method will be interesting narrative. This is the crux.
	23 Sep, Sun	Karl Walter called after an interview with Hall.
To Lowell, A. Lawrence	24 Sep, Mon	Took McKay to the Sidney Webbs. To both of us they were most forthcoming & interesting.  Sent my letter to Daily Express. The Webbs highly approved it, but the D.E. sent it back & asked me to reduce it by 1/3rd.
	25 Sep, Tue	Sent a shorter letter to the Daily Express. They could not tell Metcalf whether they could publish it.
	26 Sep, Wed	Gerald came to town & we had great Foundation talk. He tried to get Karl to see our view, without success, I fear. But <u>one</u> Trustee really understanding will suffice to get the function of the Foundation formulated.  The Daily Express has not published my article and I have started my pamphlet – The Farmer and the Flapper.
<i>Fr Columba, Sister</i>	27 Sep, Thu	A meeting of the Pelton SS Co. Much work on the pamphlet & correspondence on Foundation work.
	28 Sep, Fri	More Foundation & then home too tired to attend an important meeting of the Association of Scientific Workers.
	29 Sep, Sat	A day of thought and talk with my new Secretary. I have to think of his career – after I am gone. I want to have him in the Foundation. But it must be a career. Then my Pamphlet which I finally decided to call <p style="text-align: center;">The Farmer &amp; the Flapper</p> because the title came in a dream in which at a spiritualistic seance a jesting ghost rapped out <p style="text-align: center;">Go seek a Country on the Map Where Flappers farm and Farmers flap.</p>
	30 Sep, Sun	Continued the education of McKay by taking him to Fisher's Hill. There the Gerald Bs, Mrs. Sidgwick & some Lyttons. A severe trial but he stood it well!!
	1 Oct, Mon	To town for work. Slept there & did a play with McKay! Gerald came up & I arranged with him to hand over all the business to McKay. Triangular financial <del>accounts</del> relations would be costly as well as confusing. Slept in town.
	2 Oct, Tue	Just as I was starting for a function at the Middlesex Hospital came a telephone from the colliery office that Walsh had died on Sunday!  What a life. Started very poor & was suddenly enriched. No mind only a negative character and great wealth, of which Gardiner considerably relieved him, and in his later years happiness in the creed of the idle rich – Christian Science. No obituary notice in The Times except the following – paid for as an ad!  [Five-line newspaper notice pasted in.]  To the poor widow I had to lie a bit. But I shall be forgiven. He

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		was a kindly soul according to his lights.
	3 Oct, Wed	Worked at Crest House. But too tired.
	4 Oct, Thu	A day in town & by night to Edinburgh. The Walsh funeral was put off till tomorrow – so I could not go. I had asked Eddie to go & he writes:- “I should hate to go to a funeral for politic reasons, and if I were to do so it would take any meaning out of my attendance at funerals I had gone to.” I hope he will find a better reason for not being at my obsequies if snipe, deer or other delights are in season.
	5 Oct, Fri	Writched [ <i>sic</i> ] night in train. Chill temp 101°. Then the dreary Carnegie meeting at which I was dead-alive. Put in hours with the hospitable but rather tiring Mrs. Mitchell. Night train back to London.
	6 Oct, Sat	Met Gerald in town after a night as good as the former night was bad. No such hypnotic as a previous night awake. After dealing with a big mail went to Crest House. There I learned that Hammond, who had arrived Thursday & was talking over old Connaught Ranger days with McKay, as like poor Walsh (whose funeral Eddie had attended yesterday) is suffering from nervous depression & is putting himself under a “qualified” mental healer. Being a R.C. he cannot go to a Christian Scientist. I think I shall tell him what I think. He has another 15 possible years to live & ought not to be fooled.  After a siesta, dictated a chunk of the pamphlet.
	7 Oct, Sun	Tried to get Hammond to be sensible about his nerves. He has banked upon an ignorant, but honest, faith healer. The best I could do was to beg him not to lose heart if he is not bettered by the ridiculous charlatanry.
	8 Oct, Mon	An awful day in town. First rose at 5 AM & worked till 9 when we left for town, depositing Hammond with Beatrice, & did a furious day at Foundation & 105. Then McKay took me ½ dead to the Merseyside Express which for the first time, ran straight through to the Dublin boat. The competition betw’n rail road & air – where will it end??
	9 Oct, Tue	Got to Salthill Hotel. McKay was almost motherly in looking after me. At Plunkett House say [ <i>sic</i> ] Norman, Kennedy, Riddall, Courtney, Æ & the typist staff. Had 1¼ hour talk with Hogan: I found he was still entirely with me on the whole agricultural policy. Father Finlay I called on. Tomorrow he will collaborate with me at I.A.O.S. meetings. Had a talk with Moorhead, now nearly blind, on Hospital finance etc. Daisy rushed in, but I had no time to talk to her. A siesta in middle of day at [incomplete]
	10 Oct, Wed	Two meetings – very fatiguing. The C’tee meeting ¾ hours. I had to say I should resign the Presidency if compulsory Co-operation is advocated by the I.A.O.S. R.A.A., Fr. Finlay, Fr Manly, Moloney & Leen were anti-compulsion; the rest (7 including Canon Phelan) for. Courtney & Kennedy have engineered the whole business.
	11 Oct, Thu	Dead tired mentally. In afternoon went with McKay to see R.A.A.’s new house near Dollymount. We had a few holes with him & Dudley White K.C. over the fine course. My performance was awful! I stayed the night with RAA & was most comfortable.

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	12 Oct, Fri	Another long talk with Hogan, at the Dail this time. We are entirely agreed. Worked at an article for the Monday papers (Independent, Irish Times & Cork Examiner), had George O'Brien to dinner and met the elite at <u>Lady</u> Hanson's at tea. Sally Purser – 80 & still working at stained glass!!
<i>Fr Burney, Rudolph</i>	13 Oct, Sat	A talk with Moorhead, 2 hrs at the I.A.O.S. & to Killeen with Miss Richardson (typist) & McKay. There the two F's. He, I think, a bit better. She nervy but reasonable. They will have to sell out and leave – if a buyer can be found then, if no buyer then a bit later. His trouble is the impossibility of life (& love?) in a cottage with her. I found the chill of the house & the darkness made work futile. But I tried.
	14 Oct, Sun	Hammond turned up & reported his faith healing treatment by Leahy, R.A.A.s nephew. As I hoped, it is working.  I struggled with my letter to the Irish Press, but it would not come.
	15 Oct, Mon	Early to town & worked very hard at I.A.O.S. Attended, at Hogan's request, a deputation to him of Irish Associated Creameries Ltd. I stood 2 hrs of the talk & left. Learned a little of the psychology of that end of the cooperative movement. But the facts were lamentable to seek. The waste of my time held up my letter to the Press for another day! Riddall & Norman came to the Hotel in the evening. Both sound but too slow for Irish work.
["Saorstát Éireann" – the Irish Free State]	16 Oct, Tue	Another long talk with Hogan. Some straight talk to Kennedy and pumping oxygen into Norman occupied so much time that I could not finish my letter to the Press on the crisis in the movement in "Saorstát Éireann". I lunched with John E Healy, but our talk was on the last flicker of the R.C. Church, the Censorship Bill & compulsory Irish. I ought to be in the fight.  McKay, Norman & I left by the 3 PM train for Belfast where I have to try & save the U.A.O.S. In spite of a long delay at Goragwood to examine our baggage 2 hrs 35 minutes were enough to get us from the light hearted squalor of Dublin to the grim squalor of Belfast. Met at the Midland Hotel the Sec of the U.A.O.S. & J C Adams, the best organiser of the IAOS & now in the Northern Ministry of Agriculture. I went to sleep in their arms – and so to bed.
	17 Oct, Wed	Wrote a memorandum for the U.A.O.S., lunched with Archdale at the Ulster Club, Craigavon & Andrews (Minister of Labour being of the company) and left by the Liverpool boat. I called on Gordon & Coyle at the Ministry of Agriculture. A real hard day. After I had done all the work I had strength for I went and listened to the Northern Ireland House of Commons. The bewigged & begaitered Speaker, & bewigged clerk at the table lent the dignity. But oh what a dull chill farce!! Big Business, with the Pope as an ever present helper in time of trouble, has a secure majority. Some few Labour members were talking upon details of poor law administration to a bored & unheeding little group of "Ministers". Irish unity will come because Big Business is really in a minority and a Jim Larkin or his like will expose the realities. Then B.B. will look to a rural majority to depress the urban workers for a price, which won't be excessive.  Took the Liverpool Boat & was never carried at sea with such

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		comfort.
	18 Oct, Thu	A ½ day in town. Gerald, Karl & Godfrey Palmer all took their toll of me. Returned to Crest House thoroughly worn out.
	19 Oct, Fri	Went to town but w[as] too tired to work. Returned to find Bryan (& the dog) in consultation with McKay whom I want B to vet, though I have no doubt he will like him as much as I do.  Got a letter from Jim Byrne about Alice's boy Bryan who is a[t] loose ends in New York. Wrote Alice to get him home at once. The boy has fetched up in the Bowery & is evidently going to the dogs – not viciously but weakly.
	20 Oct, Sat	Over-work should lower, but it raised my temperature today to near 100° with some lung trouble. I nevertheless dictated 5 pages of f[ool]scap on the Irish dairying situation.
	21 Oct, Sun	100.8 Fahr temp. Had to write 2 articles for Independent & Irish Times.  Hamilton Fish Armstrong & wife came to tea which prevented my getting off the second article. Spent the day in the House. Bryan's company was delightful to me.
To Burney, Rudolph	22 Oct, Mon	Unable to work in town. Worked at home. Got a good deal done.
	23 Oct, Tue	Came to town for four days. Was not fit to face the Foundation where Karl is feverishly anxious to get me out of the way. He advised me to support compulsion in Ireland before I went & listens with impatience to the reason why I opposed it. I wrote a long letter to Kennedy telling him what I thought of his action in trying to bulldoze the Committee into coming out (as a body) on such a highly controversial political issue. I sent a copy to Father Finlay.
["Irish Dairy Crisis – I: Need for Wise Action", <i>Irish Times</i> , pp. 7-8]	24 Oct, Wed	I enter my 75th year. Thank God, McKay is enabling me to make a fight for my life work, such as I have not made since the I.A.O.S.-D.A.T.I. days.  At the Foundation K.W. presided (and kept me out to enable him to do so) over a meeting of the A.O.S.s – the Scottish, Welsh, Irish. Kennedy (whom I did not see – but I did see Riddall & Norman), Giles representing England, the N.F.U. having refused to join. I was invited to join lunch at Hotel Russell where I should not have had a chance of saying a word.  The Irish Times and Independent published the first of my two articles & committed themselves to the second. That much gained.
<i>Fr Campbell, Richard</i> <i>(IRS)</i>	25 Oct, Thu	In the morning I had to preside over Bowes and got the Board to leave its reorganisation to Godfrey Palmer & me. Too big a job, but I get £600 a year for it & must do my bit. Board agreed to Edward Shortt K.C. vice Walsh as director.  The H.P.F. met for 3 hrs in afternoon. Hall, G[erald].H[eard]., S[mith].G[ordon]., Dermod O'Brien, Norman & McKay present.
	26 Oct, Fri	Work all day and in the evening a meeting at Albert Hall to hear Grey, Baldwin (he sent me to sleep & I left) Clynes & Robert Cecil. Huge audience – never enthusiastic and the whole atmosphere was unreal and "we-have-heard-all-this-till-we-are-sick of it". I was in Lord Queenborough's Box where Lady

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[query in original]		<p>Cowdray and a Suffolk Peeress* with name I did not catch, an Indian Maharani(?) &amp; all sorts of Society people were lounging on sofas &amp; in chairs.</p> <p>The first reaction for my Irish articles seems good – except among my intimates who are afraid of my independent action.</p> <p>*Huntingfield</p>
	27 Oct, Sat	Back to Crest House for a week end of (1) Rest and (2) writing the Pamphlet “the last public effort of my life”. I hope I shall get the one & do the other.
	28 Oct, Sun	<p>Another surprise of the McKay regime. He has found, living close by (at Sunbury) an ideal typist, a lady, travelled cultured and most obliging! I did too much work with such help – of course.</p> <p>Anyhow enter Mrs. Wynne Williams who will take my Reminiscences to dictation! It makes me happy to feel that McK now has a chance of a career out of his association with me.</p>
<p><i>Fr Balfour, Lady Betty</i></p> <p><i>Fr Bullock, Shan</i></p>	29 Oct, Mon	<p>Up at 4.30 &amp; worked till 11.30. Then to town &amp; on to Leicester. There met by Giles who has made all arrangements for tomorrow’s meeting at Midland Agricultural Coll (Sutton Bonington, 20 miles distant) and put McKay &amp; me into the Grand Hotel.</p> <p>After a walk in the mud &amp; rain went to bed determined to try “the speech of my life” tomorrow to educate McKay.</p>
To House, E.M.	30 Oct, Tue	<p>Giles drove us in his little 8 H.P. car to the meeting. I spoke for over an hour to the staff &amp; students with, I think effect. The meeting was smaller than I expected but it was representative of much. I think, if the Press is helpful good should be done.</p> <p>To tired to write more.</p>
<p>[Turnor] [house - Stoke Rochford Hall]</p>	31 Oct, Wed	<p>Began work on Pamphlet at 5 AM. When the household got up for 9 breakfast I had finished all I could do &amp; spent some hours with Kit Turner <i>[sic]</i> going over his farms &amp; his beautiful house &amp; Park. The house dates back only to 1840: but the estate had been for centuries in the hands of the family. His Danish manager (&amp; agricultural partner) lunched. I decided to dedicate the pamphlet to Kit. It will please him &amp; I hope commit him to my views!</p> <p>By afternoon train to London.</p> <p>Daisy had come to town. She is in a dreadfully unhappy state. She &amp; F are anti-sympathetic (I forget ?the/her word) by temperament. The problem facing the family, towards the solution of which Oliver gives no help, is too heavy a load on top of Hetty’s pitiable physical &amp; mental &amp; Gerald’s moral condition. I must think how best to help.</p> <p>Peterson was in town &amp; wants to discuss fully with me the enormous Indian rural social, economic problem before he goes back to India a fortnight hence. And there’s the Pamphlet!!</p>
<p>[Wynne] [<i>nunc dimittis</i> – readiness for departure]</p>	1 Nov, Thu	Getting on with the Pamphlet – all that matters now. Mrs. Gwynn <i>[sic]</i> Williams & my new secretary are an ideal combination! The <i>nunc dimittis</i> is in sight.

<b>Correspondence [Notes]</b>	<b>1928</b>	<b>Diary Entry</b>
	2 Nov, Fri	To town for 24 hours. Long conference with G.B.S. about Pamphlet which he was kind enough to discuss at length. Gerald was with me and spent a good deal of the day. We had a serious talk about the future ordering of my life.  Tom Ponsonby & May had been in town “unbeknownst” to me for 10 days! I took McKay to sup with him.
To Bullock, Shan	3 Nov, Sat	Back to Crest House with the hope of finishing the Pamphlet on Monday! Mrs. Williams I picked up en route & hard we worked. I nearly but not quite finished Part I.
	4 Nov, Sun	Work, work, work from 5 AM to 9 PM but with a delightful interruption – Julian Huxley & his charming wife came to tea & supper. Still Part I was got into fine shape & the Preface greatly improved. A good deal of Part I can be use[d] for II as the introductory chapter is very long.
<i>Fr Noel Buxton, N.E.</i>	5 Nov, Mon	Worked all day. Mrs Wynne Williams had to go home to cook her husband’s supper – so I got her to bring him here (Crest Ho.).
	6 Nov, Tue	Most of day at it again. Had to rush up to town to see Daisy before leaving tonight for Ireland. In the morning Hammond turned up, having to attend the funeral of his sister-in-law at Molesey tomorrow! She died suddenly there on Sat. night.
<i>Fr Ld. Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst)</i>	7 Nov, Wed	Hammond left. McKay took my car to town and did not come back. Mrs. Wynne Williams & I worked hard together all day.
<i>To Ld Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst) To Noel Buxton, N.E. Fr Ld. Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst)</i>	8 Nov, Thu	Rose at 4 A.M. & Mrs. Wynne Williams at 6 A.M. We got ahead: but all the time I polish & improve. It is a big effort & worth doing well. I shall never attempt another of the kind.  Came to town and, en route, opened an “Olde Fayre in Fair East Molesey” – a triumph of E.M. wit & humour – in aid of a R.C. church. The speech was not prepare[d] and as it was a dreary affair, the sellers in fancy dress largely outnumbering the buyers, I am glad I did it. I did the job for General Hammond, whose brother seems to be the chief man in the dreary semi-suburban burg.  In town telephoned to Eddie to suggest his buying the little wood outside the Tower Lodge which is in the part of the Killeen lands to be sold. He roared that he was beggared – hadn’t money to pay his daily bills household bills. The man’s mad!
	9 Nov, Fri	Took Mrs. Williams to town, worked at 105 till 4.30 & then took Tom Jones to his cottage near Birchington, McKay & I going to the Beresford Hotel there, the Setons being well on with his cure.
<i>To Ld. Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst) Fr Ld. Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst) cable</i>	10 Nov, Sat	Worked. Tom Jones & wife to tea and H H Peterson came betw’n tea & dinner for week-end talk on India. Another hard day!  Hotel full of the noisiest schoolboys. Mid term exeat! A Pandemonium.
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	11 Nov, Sun	Armistice Day. At Tom Jones, Peterson & I had a great talk. At 10.55 Mrs. J & the boy came in & Peterson read the Sermon on the Mount the moment the silence was over. Got no work done



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		but corrected many of Peterson's co-operative views.
<i>Fr Ld. Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst) Fr Bullock, Shan</i>	12 Nov, Mon	Day spent trying to get a typist in Margate. There were 3 possibilities (1) a Lady who runs a typing school. To her I came by appointment at 9 A.M. She had no carbons – so I got them in the town. When I returned she was not at home but her husband came to say she was not well today but would be tomorrow. So I found after several inquiries at offices another officer (No. 2) in a basement with an advertisement embracing shorthand, translations etc. etc. But the door was locked & had a notice, "Back shortly". I sat in my car reading for an hour, returned to the Hotel & got McKay to forage. He found No. 3 – a lady who had to serve in a Library shop. But "Margate people don't read much" so she could do my work. So after I siesta & lunch to No. 3 I hied. I had to work in the shop, dictating to an anaemic counterhand with an out of date Corona. She managed to do 2 paragraphs in an hour!  At night a lady friend of McKay's came from Canterbury where, she said typists could be got. Tomorrow she is to get one.
<i>[An English Wife in Berlin, 1920]</i>	13 Nov, Tue	Went early to Canterbury & got a typist from a Commercial College. Got ahead: but the work grows with the thought devoted to it.  A charming Prince & Princess Blucher introduced by the Setons. She (English) was in Berlin during the war & wrote a charming book which I ought to have read.
	14 Nov, Wed	Worked all day.
To Bullock, Shan	15 Nov, Thu	Again worked. Decided to go home tomorrow and finish the job in the week-end.  Went to Quex Park Museum to fetch back Prince Blucher & McKay who had gone ahead. It is the finest display of still life in the wilds of Africa & India – the dead animals – their vegetable & mineral surroundings being marvellously displayed by Major Powell Cotton the great naturalist hunter.
	16 Nov, Fri	Up at 4 AM. Left after early breakfast for London (where Gerald had his weekly talk with me) and Crest House bringing Mrs. Wynne Williams from Sunbury en route. Dead tired.
<i>["Oh, woman! in our hours of ease, uncertain, coy and hard to please" (Sir Walter Scott, Marmion, 1908)]</i>	17 Nov, Sat	"Country Life" of today devotes its leading article and (immediately thereafter) its first "Country Note" to my speech on Oct 30, agrees with it and emphasises my difference with the N.F.U. So the issue is raised with a vengeance. <u>I shall win because my friends are right.</u>  Mrs. Williams (in an abominable temper "Oh woman in my hours of ease" etc. – especially the etc) and I worked hard & shall do so till Monday as I have taken in her husband.
	18 Nov, Sun	Worked all day. Mr. Williams had a temperature & Mrs. a temper. But got a good deal done.
	19 Nov, Mon	To town in afternoon. Had a long talk with Peterson & wife. I was Comatose. He left me a draft letter to Tom Jones which I shall have to correct tomorrow.
	20 Nov, Tue	Bad night. My sight is wrong today. I can't see what I am writing.  Saw Peterson again at Foundation. He will be 4½ years in India &

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		I shant see him again in this life is the probability.
	21 Nov, Wed	Better today. But oh how I long for rest. I cannot rest with my work undone. That's my whole trouble.  Today was typical. Up long before dawn, to Miss Lee to type what I had sketched out – then to Miss King, Tom Jones star typist. To bed for ¾ hour & to <del>Weybridge</del> Crest House picking up Mrs. Williams en route. Before starting had to visit Greenham in his "heart" hospital. Dead tired after 1 hour's dictation & Mrs. W. could not stay longer or come again for a fortnight as her husband is very sick.
	22 Nov, Thu	Played in a chess match 32 boards vs Capablanca. I sat next Eddie, played French Defence (McCutcheon variation) & drew. Eddie lost though he played hard & slow. I was sorry. Chess should be a good diversion for him & if he was encouraged to play serious chess, when he got beaten by better players, it would be a good lesson.  Daily News 23/11/28 [newspaper item pasted in:]  CAPABLANCA'S SUCCESS  Capablanca gave a successful simultaneous performance yesterday at the Imperial Chess Club, Brook-street, being opposed by 32 opponents, among whom were Sir Richard Barnett, M.P., Mr. F. G. Hamilton Russell, Lord Dunsany, Mr. Leif Jones, Sir Horace Plunkett and other distinguished players.  The result was: 29 wins for the world's ex-champion, one loss to Mr. C. H. Reed, and two draws to Mr. G.M. Edwards and Sir Horace Plunkett.
	23 Nov, Fri	Gerald came up and I did a bit of work at the book. Not much – my tussle with Capablanca yesterday needed a rest.  Rev. Whitfield & Giles came at night & we discussed the new A.O.S. that is to be.
	24 Nov, Sat	Attended a meeting of the A.O.S. etc (Acland in the chair). Underwrote anonymously a £300 appropriation for new & vigorous work.  Then with a new typist, Margaret Wilson, who like the Canterbury lady had never worked outside her school. I think she will do as a permanence.
	25 Nov, Sun	Worked all day at the Book.
	26 Nov, Mon	Was to have gone to town but was too tired and so worked!
	27 Nov, Tue	Worked with Miss Wilson. She is excellent.
["The Future of Chess – Is Any Change Necessary?", <i>The Times</i> , p.12]	28 Nov, Wed	The Times had a long letter of mine on chess at the head of its letters on the correspondence page (p. 12).  The news of the King gets mysterious & alarming.  Pelton & Stella Gill met at 105 [Mount St.] to seal documents relating to their obsequies. Bryan, Mrs. Bainbridge & Cooper attended.  Walsh who left £260,000, with grim humour, appointed his widow to succeed him on the Pelton Board! So the proceedings were illegal – if it was worth anyone's while to object.
	29 Nov, Thu	At 5.30 AM the excellent maid Jessie came to do my fire. I had been lying breathless & unable to move without horrible pain at

Correspondence [Notes]	1928	Diary Entry
		the top of right lung. I had to play invalid the whole day, but to preside over a Bowes meeting where it was absolutely necessary to get (1) Edward Shortt into the Walsh vacancy & (2) the critical business left to Godfrey Palmer, Geoffrey Bowes Lyon (dud) & myself. This took only ½ hour & I got home none the worse. My temperature was high early but down later. Meanwhile, the book is held up – and this worries me.
<i>Fr Ld. Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst)</i>	30 Nov, Fri	Came home & saw Beare. He said that I cannot hope to cure the adhesion at the top of right lung which will give me trouble, and that I must <del>leave</del> have easy communication at night. As regards the blocking at the kinks in the intestinal tract, due to nervous tension he advises agar & agarol. Someone to be within call for night attacks is necessary he says.  My letter to Times on chess is getting me a notoriety, which may help the book. Such is fame.
[British Association for the Advancement of Science]  [inter alia secretissima – among other things, most confidential]	1 Dec, Sat	The Christmas month! Decided to Christmas in Ireland. Cordially invited to go to South Africa with the British Association next summer, their winter. Can I, might I, shall I?  At about 9.45 P.M. Godfrey Palmer phoned from his Yorkshire home that my most confidential letter, dealing inter alia secretissima (it was written on Friday[,] had been addressed to J Bowes & Partners & not to him[,] and opened by Robinson) with the discharge of Robinson & Armstrong!! Robinson said that he had not read more than “My dear Godfrey Palmer”, but from the temper he was in (according to G.P.’s priv. Sec’y at Milburn House) must have read every word. Never was such an awkward situation in my business experience.
	2 Dec, Sun	Beare & his wife came to tea. Otherwise work all day on the Book and the Bowes situation. I wrote to Armstrong & Godfrey Palmer letters I think will put things right. But no good worrying. I must wait & see.
To Ld. Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst)  <i>Fr Ld. Bledisloe (Sir Charles Bathurst)</i>	3 Dec, Mon	Not well & had to do a lot of work.
[line in original]	4 Dec, Tue	Came to town for 3 days. Better news of the King in bulletins, but _____. The signs are ominous. American journalists are flying across the Atlantic. Moore has a friend in a huge millinery establishment who tells him they are ordering tons of black stuff – a soldier who is in the upper W[ar].O[ffice]. circles says the military preparations for a funeral are on a huge scale. Gerald Heard has written to Mary at Crest House for his black tie! It all looks bad.
	5 Dec, wed	The bulletins more cheerful, but there is a gathering gloom in the public mental atmosphere which shows they are not believed. I worked away.
	6 Dec, Thu	Had hasty talk with Mitchell & Ellis & the former agreed to attend to the printing, proof-reading & publishing of the book! I must boost them both!

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		<p>Attended at request of Julian Huxley a dreary reading of a big speech on the <del>work</del> ?inspired work of the <u>Colonial</u> branch of the Colonial office, under Ormsby Gore who read the lengthy typescript, at London University. A dull audience which melted away luckily for me before my speech (which came before Julian Huxley's on the programme!) was reached.</p> <p>The book grows in wisdom and stature.</p>
	7 Dec, Fri	Carnegie U.K.T[rust]. But it was the Book the whole Book & nothing but the Book.
To Prewett, F.J.	8 Dec, Sat	Began early with Miss Wilson at 105. Came to Crest House with a Miss Acres of Co Tipperary, found for me by McKay and dictated nearly all day!
	9 Dec, Sun	A day of disappointment. I wrestled hard between resting & working today & decided to get up early and take advantage of what I thought was a star typist. She was worse than I am both at shorthand and typing!!
<i>Fr Hadow, Grace E. (PRE) Fr Prewett, F.J.</i>	10 Dec, Mon	To town to attend a meeting & work. The meeting was of some "uplift" society & a paper was read on Indian uplift which was the worst rubbish I ever listened to. Took no part.
	11 Dec, Tue	Back with Miss Wilson to Crest House for 24 hours.
	12 Dec, Wed	Returned to town to attend meeting of Agricultural Economic Soc'y. Orwin is the retiring President, Sir H Rew is installed and Thompson of the Ministry of Agriculture is the Pres. Elect. That is enough to kill any Society worth killing.
	13 Dec, Thu	At night ?four ?came ?by Gerald[,] Adams[,] McKay & Miss Wilson. We all worked & talked about the book.
	14 Dec, Fri	102°. I was to have seen GBS but had to rush off to Crest House by lunch time. I was to have seen Giles & one Dennett a possible alter ego. <del>Now</del> They pursued me to Crest House where I saw them in bed. Dennett will do. I told him the whole scheme & he decided to take the risk & throw in his lot. They have no committee or governing body only the two – Giles & Dennett to carry out my scheme!
	15 Dec, Sat	Another bad night. But at 6.45 A.M. the pain & dyspnoea suddenly stopped & the temperature rapidly became subnormal.
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	16 Dec, Sun	At long last the Dr. diagnosed my trouble – <u>Dry Pleurisy</u> . He put the tube of his stethoscope to my chest and then asked me to "listen-in". On the left side not a sound in the lungs – on the right a grating of the surfaces of the inner & outer bag in which the lungs are enclosed. The temperature was normal; so I may hope it will heal quick. But it looks bad for Xmas holidays!!
	17 Dec, Mon	Pain great and must be so until the rubbing of the sore surfaces stops. Whenever I cough – or hiccough – it's horrid. Temperature moderate.
	18 Dec, Tue	Another day of pain. McKay not only left me, taking a car without leave, last night, but kept out of call all day. At 7.30 P.M. I have no idea whether he sleeps here or in town tonight. Touched 100° but quickly got to the normal sub-normal. Beare came twice. At second visit told me the Irish trip this week was impossible.

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	19 Dec, Wed	McKay was away all day & kept out of telephone communication. I am the last person in the world to to [sic] keep him when he has any personal wish to be free & it was not right. He says he sent me a message that he could not come back. This was not given to me. Was it sent?? Another day of rather bad pain.
	20 Dec, Thu	<p>Gerald Heard spent 4 hours with me. I told him the whole situation as I saw it. My attack had been serious – Beare and the nurse (Margaret Cousins) had dealt skilfully with it. The pain was great, but the lung was gradually clearing up and but for the shock, I shall be where I was.</p> <p>McKay had left me at the crisis, without any excuse, or feeling that it was due. Gerald is satisfied he won't do for me except when I am in health. I have done my best to get him to understand my work; it is beyond his scope altogether. He is a thoroughly good A.D.C. – but I am not a general.</p>
	21 Dec, Fri	In bed all day after a painful night. McKay looked in occasionally. But my business I shall have to do myself. That is certain. Miss Wilson won't see me again before <del>Xmas</del> the New Year. I am sick & stranded; but the doctor says all is going on well from a medical point of view.
	22 Dec, Sat	A charming cheery letter from my best of friends, Tom Jones, who gave me the title of my "Safeguarding Agriculture". He mentioned that his daughter Eirene had won a scholarship at Somerville. The doctor was pleased, said the progress was steady and the pain quite "normal". At night came Miss Tarmon for the week end. She is niece of the Rector of Chertsey and an admirable typist. A good day when last thing McKay found in the Daily Express a ghastly tragedy. Tom Jones' boy Elphin – the fine little chap who joined us at the Silence on Armistice Day in the cottage at St. Nicholas at Wade near Birchington, had been killed in the street by a motor car. Cruel and crushing – it gave me a terrible shock. I shall write to the mother and send her the crumbs of comfort I tried to cherish for myself. Will the deep sincerity of the sympathy help at all – I wonder?
	23 Dec, Sun	The doctor told me frankly I was no better & that like the King – now happily out of danger – <del>he talks of a</del> it may be a long illness <del>being possible</del> . The pleurisy, which struck me first half a century or more ago, is harder to <del>put aside</del> shake now – that is inevitable. But I want to get the book – my legacy to the rural community of the English speaking world – to the printers. McKay has found me another typist – also just out of the shorthand & typing school. He is a great help when he has no pleasure or business of his own to interfere with his responsibilities as my private secretary. I shall have to have someone who will be faithful unto death – not a hard task for a young man in the best of health.
	24 Dec, Mon	<p>The pain is horrid. Thank God I have not a wracking cough. A slight egurgitation stabs me badly.</p> <p>I had to tell McKay that his behaviour won't do. He takes it smilingly and evidently is incapable of realising what his job is. He is so nice, so clubbable &amp; cheery that it cuts me to the quick having to get rid of so splendid an A.D.C. But I cannot, with any regard to my responsibility during the short time that remains, keep him wasting my substance more on himself than on me. But</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1928	Diary Entry
		Heards are not to be had and while there are probably a thousand who would fill the post, it is almost impossible to find one.
[solatium—compensation for hurt feelings]	25 Dec, Tue	A dull Christmas. The servants were to have had a holiday while I was in Ireland. I gave them £2 a piece present and a small solatium.  Karl & Grey Walter came over from Far Corner. Karl had no voice & looked sickly. He is taking his wife – I knew he would and had made up my mind to pay for the ticket – to the W. Indies on Jan 10th. His extravagance is reckless.  The pain persists, but the Dr. reports slight progress.
	26 Dec, Wed	Gerald came. He had less to say than usual & I too was so tired out that I gleaned little. But I told him of the secretarial situation. The danger is the pleurisy becoming chronic.
[Prob. Prewett's experimental farm at Tubney, Oxfordshire.]	27 Dec, Thu	Prewett, Bullock & Karl Walter all called. A deluge of letters came & the doctor prescribed rest!  Prewett was ill with lung trouble due to being “gassed” in the war! I begged him to be careful. I know no more enlightened critic of the English farmer.  Prewett made the remarkable admission that the big farm was doomed. It is not the acres but the men I am interested in and my views may prevail.
	28 Dec, Fri	Too many callers yesterday & too tired for any work today. The Book must be done somehow – but how? My Secretary cannot help at all. When it is done he will I am sure support it against foolish attack. But help at the creation I don't know where to look for.
	29 Dec, Sat	For the first time the doctor could definitely say that the right lung was clearing up. The chest heard on both sides & only when I breathed deeply did the pain on the right side become acute – a great improvement.
[ <i>quod superest</i> – allusion to “the end of the play” in the old Roman theatre]	30 Dec, Sun	A further improvement but pain at the bottom of the lung or in top of liver. A Miss McKleary, recommended by Mrs. Wynne Williams came and did some typing. She is 18 only but having been born & brought up in India seems much older. She may do as a permanent typist, but I fear she has not the knowledge or education for help in handling material – an important matter as it seems impossible to get the kind of private secretary who can see me through the small “ <i>quod superest</i> ”.
	31 Dec, Mon	Shan Bullock called to wish me – sincerely, dear friend that he is – all sorts of good things for 1929. I ended the year in bed. I see that on Jan. 1st I wrote that my hopes of an [ <i>sic</i> ] useful end to my life were in the Foundation's progress. It has made none to speak of and I have had to turn my clock back 40 years and try to give the English speaking world in a little book the thoughts which have most assuredly had their influence in Ireland, U.S.A. & the overseas dominions of the British Commonwealth. Another typist on trial failed me badly today. It is too hard work trying to make machines into intelligent beings at my age. It is heartbreaking – or rather back-breaking.
	Year-end Summary	<u>1928.</u>  Nothing to record but advancing age. My best work was done in

Correspondence [Notes]	1928	Diary Entry
		<p>India through my Memorandum to the Linlithgow Commission on Agriculture (India) which the Commission put politely into the wastepaper basket. I am in hopes that the Y.M.C.A. (American) will take it up and quietly found a Co-operative movement alongside the Co-operative policy of the Indian Government.</p> <p>In England my effort – the last public effort of my life – will be to get sympathy for the neglected majority of the neglected but basic industry.</p> <p>In Ireland the Irish Statesman ought to be saved. But how on earth it can be done, I cannot at present see. The movement depends upon Hogan, the best agricultural Minister in Europe.</p>