

been a vital factor making the difference between failure and success. Mr. Walters suggests that an expenditure of from two to two and a half times the average expenditure of the last twenty years might have meant an increase in prestige and activity which would have meant success and not disaster. He considers that the sectional organization of the League secretariat has proved its value, as well as the planning of that secretariat on international rather than on national lines. Its morale has come creditably through a heavy test, and it has proved surprisingly easy to get people to undertake work for the League. The official attitude adopted by members of the secretariat has been fully justified. Apart from Mr. H. R. G. Greaves's study of the League committees, the administrative side of the League's work has received comparatively little attention, and the concentrated wisdom of this lecture should be sure of attention from all those who are giving close study to problems of international organization.

Mass Psychology and the 'New Order'

IN a paper in the *Journal of Social Psychology* (11, 59-77; 1940), Prof. Vyscheslevzeff, of the University of Geneva, maintains that modern sociology cannot function, nor contemporary upheavals be understood and 'new orders' firmly established without the application of collective psychology, notably that of Jung, and especially his "collective" ("common to all men") Unconscious. Dürkheim's view that the good lies in collective forms and division of labour is refuted by quoting Jung on the deformation of personality by specialization, which is held to be not really civilization but barbarism. The antinomy in classical German sociology of *Gemeinschaft* (community) and *Gesellschaft* (society) is particularly stressed. The former has the inner solidarity of, for example, the family or clan, and is characterized by a "collective unconscious", that is, the inherited propensities and archetypes of Jung; the latter is more like a constructed machine, that is, is artificial, and characterized by "collective conscious" (rationality). But they conflict (cf. Engels in the more limited economic sense), like the unconscious and conscious (including the 'personal' unconscious) in the mind of the individual. The problem is to harmonize this sociological conflict by a kind of fusion.

Prof. Vyscheslevzeff indicates that the conflict does not appear on the surface in Soviet communism because the *Gemeinschaft* has been eliminated or rather repressed (by the State), communism being solely rational, unreligious, non-traditional and non-mythical. But the paper under review was written before the outbreak of war and it might be suggested that the invasion of Russia has resulted in a re-emergence of *Gemeinschaft* and may possibly modify Soviet communism, spiritually at least, in the future. In Germany it seems to be implied that the two sociological group-categories exist side by side, in spite of leadership, for example, "racial superiority", "back to Wotan", etc., and "German organization". In looking for a nation which has

succeeded in harmonizing the conflict, Prof. Vyscheslevzeff instances England, the Anglo-Saxon culture. "Only thus is it possible to understand the unusual adherence to tradition, to patriarch forms, to ancient symbols, to religion, to habit, together with a belief in progress, the striving for maximum rationalisation and ordering of all realms of life, everywhere bringing in the element of conscious purposefulness. . . . England presents an astonishing synthesis of 'community' and 'society': the collective unconscious with the collectively-apprehended and organised freedom." This view would seem to merit the attention of those who may desire to see a radically new order in Great Britain after the War.

Health of New Zealand

ACCORDING to Dr. M. H. Watt, director-general of health for New Zealand, the year 1940-41 was on the whole the most favourable for health that the Dominion has had. Infantile mortality of the European population fell to 30.21, of which 22.03 is accounted for by 722 deaths in the first month of life. Of these, 606 occurred in the first week and another 72 in the second week. In 330 deaths among the new-borns prematurity was the only cause of fatality. The death-rate from tuberculosis among the Europeans was only 0.388, which is a low record for New Zealand and probably for any country, but this disease came next to cardio-vascular disorders, cancer and violence among the causes of European mortality. Among the Maoris the mortality from tuberculosis was 4.132 out of a total mortality of 17.51. Although syphilis has always shown a low incidence among both Europeans and Maoris, it is increasing in both, especially among the latter. Hydatid disease is more prevalent in New Zealand than in any other country, 120 new cases with 16 deaths being expected every year. The low incidence of endemic disease during 1940 was shown by the fact that there was only one death from measles, and 11 deaths from Flexner dysentery among 161 cases. There was a fall in maternal mortality from 3.64 in 1939 to 2.93 in 1940 due mainly to decline in fatality of puerperal sepsis and septic abortion. The total European births shrank from 27,881 in 1927 to 23,935 in 1935, when the birth-rate reached the low level of 16.17. Among the Maoris, on the other hand, the number of births increased from 1,495 in 1927 to 4,265 in 1940, and the rate from 23.22 to 46.87, while the infantile mortality in 1940 was 87.22 and the general death-rate 17.51.

Smallpox in the United States

ACCORDING to the June issue of the *Statistical Bulletin*, the organ of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, of New York, there were fewer cases of smallpox in the United States in 1940 than in any previous year on record. The 2,839 cases reported represented a drop of more than 70 per cent from the previous year, and were little more than half the total reported in 1934, the previous record low year for smallpox. In an area containing one quarter of the population, namely, the New England States and

the Middle Atlantic States plus Delaware, Maryland and the District of Columbia of the South Atlantic Division, not a single case of smallpox occurred in 1940. In that year, as in every year, the majority of cases were reported in the north central area and in some of the western States. In most of these States large numbers of people disregard the danger of contracting smallpox, and minimize or ignore the efficacy of vaccination. On the other hand, in the neighbouring country of Canada, smallpox has been practically eliminated, as is shown by the fact that in 1940 there were only eleven cases and no deaths, while in eighty-seven cities there was not a single case.

Psychiatry in Sweden

IN a recent address (*Nordisk Med.*, 10, 1921; 1941) at the opening of the new Psychiatric Clinic at the Caroline Hospital, Stockholm, Dr. Viktor Wigert gave a retrospect of clinical psychiatry in Sweden during the last hundred years. In 1844 it was stated by the authorities in charge of the hospitals in Sweden that no expert knowledge was required for the treatment of insanity, which was therefore no concern of public health. This pronouncement had been occasioned by a demand made by a Royal Commission headed by Dr. Carl Ulrik Sondén that all institutions to be built for the care of the insane should provide for the treatment as well as for the confinement of the patients. Sondén, who was a pioneer in Swedish psychiatry, was the first to emphasize the importance of instruction in this branch of medicine, which was introduced in Sweden by Dr. Nils Gustaf Kjellberg, at the Uppsala Asylum in 1859. Kjellberg was an eminent man of science, who as early as 1863 expressed his conviction of a causal connexion between syphilis and general paralysis. In 1861 psychiatry was made a compulsory subject for the medical student in Sweden. In the 'nineties demands were made, particularly by Prof. Frey Svenson of Uppsala and Dr. Bror Gadelius of Stockholm, that special clinics for instruction in psychiatry should be created and that professors of psychiatry should be relieved of their duties as senior physicians to large asylums. Opposition to this demand, however, was not overcome until 1928, when it was decided to open a psychiatric clinic at the Lund University Hospital. The establishment of a similar clinic at the Uppsala University Hospital has since been decided upon, but this has not yet been completed. The psychiatric clinic recently established at the Caroline Institute of Stockholm finally realizes Sondén's desire for an institution for the cure of mental diseases.

War and Birds

ONE of the most noticeable effects of the war-time conditions upon British bird-life has been the rapid increase of magpies, judging from reports in many parts of the country. Much larger flocks than usual have been seen in many counties, like Cheshire, but there is no evidence of any harmful effect. The cessation of game preservation and 'vermin' shooting is the chief cause, and the jay, carrion-crow and sparrow-

hawk have shown increases from a similar cause. The felling of woods on a large scale is, however, affecting the distribution of the long-eared owl, woodcock, heron, rook, hawfinch as well as some of the woodland mammals and rarer birds of prey. Efforts to locate hobbies breeding in Wiltshire in 1941 failed.

The Night Sky in January

THE moon is full on January 2d. 15h. 42m. U.T. and new on January 16d. 21h. 32m. Lunar conjunctions with the planets occur on the following dates: Mercury on January 18d. 5h., Mercury 4° S.; Venus on January 18d. 13h., Venus 2° N.; Mars on January 24d. 8h., Mars 5° N.; Saturn on January 25d. 17h., Saturn 3° N.; Jupiter on January 27d. 10h., Jupiter 5° N. On January 21d. 1h. Mercury is in conjunction with Venus, Mercury being 6.2° S. Mars, Jupiter and Saturn are well placed for observation during the night, and Saturn's ring system is well presented for observation. Venus can be seen in the evening hours in the west and does not set until 19h. in the middle of the month. The earth makes its closest approach to the sun on January 2. The Quadrantid meteor shower is active on the first few days of January: the radiant is at R.A. 5h. 24m., Dec. 51° N., but this shower is not usually very conspicuous. On January 26d. 22h. 17m. there will be an occultation of γ Tauri, mag. 3.9. During the month the interval from sunset to sunrise in the latitude of London shortens by 1h. 12m.

Announcements

THE following officers of the Iron and Steel Institute have recently been elected: *President*, Mr. James Henderson; *Vice-president*, Dr. Andrew McCance; *Hon. Treasurer*, The Hon. R. G. Lyttelton; *Members of Council*, Prof. J. H. Andrew and Mr. N. H. Rollason. Mr. Walter S. Tower, president of the American Iron and Steel Institute, has been nominated an honorary member of the Institute, and the presidents of the Sheffield Society of Engineers and Metallurgists and of the Sheffield Metallurgical Association have been appointed honorary members of the Council.

CATALOGUE 27, entitled "Science", has recently been published by Ifan Kyrle Fletcher, late of 26 Old Bond Street, London, W.1, and now of Merridale, Caerleon, Mon. It contains lists of old books on astrology, chemistry, mathematics, medicine and physics, as well as important works on civil and marine engineering from the library of Sir William Cubitt (1785-1861). Among the books of special interest and rarity are William Beaumont's "Experiments and Observations on the Gastric Juice and the Physiology of Digestion" (1833), Thomas Vicary's "The Englishman's Treasure with the True Anatomie of Man's Bodie" (1599), the "Histoire de l'Académie Royale des Sciences avec les Mémoires de Mathématique et de Physique", vols. 1700-1730, lacking the volume for 1728, but containing the rare supplementary volume for 1718, and Robert Boyle's "Paradoxa Hydrostatica" (1670).