



THE LATE SIR JOHN DOWNER'S HOME. PURCHASED FOR UNIVERSITY RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE.

The finalising of the whole scheme took place this week. A payment has been made towards the purchase, but lack of funds will be the chief obstacle. To remedy this it is proposed to make an appeal to the public shortly by instituting a subscription campaign. So far a few donations have been made, but not nearly enough to commence.

The advantages that will accrue for students by a college of this kind are many. In every way it is a worthy institution, and as such should be welcomed heartily, both financially and otherwise, by the public.

It is over 12 months since the scheme was first considered. Since then a committee of eighteen, which includes 12 laymen and six ministers, has given every consideration to making the proposed college a success. Students at the University, besides being provided with a residence, will be able to gain extra tutoring at the new establishment. It will be under the direction of the Church of England, but that will not necessarily debar students of other denominations joining.

For a while the college will be on a small scale. Enough accommodation will be provided for about 20 students, the college growing later according to demand and the funds available.



PROFESSOR H. DARNLEY NAYLOR.

The eyes of all the world were on that scene, its heart beating with the one hope, its voice shouting from far and near its single will and purpose. And then the cheering died, and with three others the American entered a room to give effect and realisation to the people's will. Only to find antagonism, scheming, mutual distrust, the immovable insistence that territory, cash payments, the perpetuation of national jealousies and enmities were of far greater importance than the suffering and death of millions who had sacrificed themselves in the war that was to end war, glorying that through their response to statesman's and church's call their sons should grow into a warless world well worth the agony of their fathers' death.

must be unanimous. This weakness is inevitable so long as international jealousies are rampant, and it would be a fatal weakness but for the fact that this association exists not to accentuate differences but to encourage co-operation. The essence of the League is the spirit of goodwill, and of that atmosphere in which men reach just and reasonable compromises. It is the very antithesis of Parliamentary government under the party system. There an Opposition seeks to yield as little as possible, whereas at Geneva all are ready to yield as much as possible. In the Assembly itself, however, majorities may add to the numbers of the Council and Assembly, may elect committees, decide procedure, and modify the Constitution itself.

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

WHAT IT IS AND HOW IT WORKS:

PROFESSOR DARNLEY NAYLOR'S STRAIGHT TALK

Professor Darnley Naylor's activities include presidency of the Amateur Football League, the Adelaide Glee Club, and the South Australian Committee of the Save the Children Fund. His central position is that of Hughes Professor of Classics at the Adelaide University.

That his concern is with the present as well as the past is shown by his vigorous championship of the League of Nations, of which he gives a clear-cut description and explanation for the benefit of "Mail" readers.

Five years ago at the armistice-conclusion of the war of all the nations the then President of the United States, Woodrow Wilson, leaving the New World that he might help the Old World not so much put its house in order as build a different and a better one, sailed the separating and connecting ocean on board a vessel bearing the name of the man who first gave America liberty, union, and her Constitution. For cargo the vessel carried 14 Points, pronouncements at that time of greater significance to human need than any charter since the Ten Commandments.

TRUSTEE OF HUMANITY'S HOPE.

The President's progress through the streets of London and of Paris was to the deafening roar of acclamation from the masses of the people, confident that liberty, union, and a Constitution similar in spirit to that which America had achieved for herself were to be given to the eager millions of a world set free.

Union on the ground that the League was the cheapest and most promising form of insurance against war.

THE CONSTITUTION—ITS STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS.

"How does the Constitution work?—The Constitution of the League consists of four parts—the Council, the Assembly, the International Civil Service, and the International Court of Justice. The Council has ten members, representing England, France, Italy, and Japan (the so-called 'Big Four'), with Belgium, Brazil, Spain, China, Uruguay, and Sweden. The first four are permanent members, while the others are eligible for re-election every year by the Assembly. The Council may be called together at any time on the request of one or more members of the League. The Assembly meets once a year, in September, at Geneva, and consists of representatives from the 32 States, inclusive of the members of the Council. It has the power of the purse, criticises the work done by the Council, and formulates new schemes for its consideration.

"The weakness of the Constitution lies in the fact that nearly all final decisions

THE GREAT FRUSTRATION.

No man can carry on his own shoulders unaided the burden of the world's necessity. Admittedly Woodrow Wilson required the balancing co-operation of his Big Three companions more intimately acquainted than he with the intricacies of European history and adjustment. With their whole-hearted co-operation in arriving at such desirable modifications as would not affect the nature and consequence of the promised new international basis of settlement and relationship everything hoped for could have been lastingly accomplished.

The young men die, the old men make the peace. The old men listened to all that Wilson had to say, smiled knowingly at each other behind his back, concerned much more with old possessions and acquisitiveness than with new ideas. And the American, outmanoeuvred and outvoted in an atmosphere unfriendly to his personal representation of the world's youth and the youthful spirit of his own land, sailed back, a broken, disillusioned man, across the sea. The world slumped back, presented with a peaceless military peace, and Wilson, landing, found his own countrymen unwilling to be bound to European statesmanship so mentally unchanging and obsessed with national aggrandisement.

THE LEAGUE SECURED.

One thing he clung to with the tenacity of one who stood not for competitive national interest, but for the human race. By reason of its supreme urgency to him historians of the future will explain his consenting to what after events have proved to be a wretched and inconclusive compromise. The League of Nations was the one thing his skilled outwitters gave him, and to that he trusted men of goodwill in all the world would ultimately rally. In the movement of intellectual and democratic opinion throughout the world towards its support he is at last being amply justified.

With such considerations in mind the "Mad" man approached Professor Darnley Naylor, whose consistent advocacy of the League has been a marked feature of his University and civic undertakings, and requested a straight-out statement as to the present position and prospect of the League for the benefit of "Mail" readers throughout the State. The Professor readily consented and declared in reply to the first question asked of him as follows:—

WHAT IS THE LEAGUE?

"What is the League? The League of Nations is a voluntary association of 32 nations or recognised groupings to which, for convenience' sake, the term 'States' is best applied. The aim of each and all of these is to encourage international co-operation and restrict the possibility of war. Of these States Australia is one, and her vote has exactly the same value as the vote of England, France, Japan, or China. If any State wishes to retire from the association it can do so on giving two years' notice. This fact is sufficient reply to those who say that the League is a sort of super-State, which will interfere with the sovereign rights of those who are its members. The League, which represents more than three-quarters of the world's population, costs £1,000,000 annually, a sum equivalent to no more than that necessary to the upkeep of a single battleship. It is not to be wondered at that Lord Cowdray gave £50,000 to the funds of the London League of Nations

WHICH STATES STAND OUT?

"What countries stand out at present from inclusion in the League?—The only civilised nations not in the League are Germany, Russia, Turkey, and the United States of America. There is no reason why all should not in time become members. Indeed, it was hoped that Germany would enter last year. Even if the United States stands out for a decade her coming in can be counted on as an eventual development. The business of Europe is to put her own house in order; and this she can do without the assistance of America; but the task is being made much more difficult, especially on the economic side. The condition of Russia at present makes it almost impossible for her to give the necessary guarantees which are required from States applying for membership.

THE LEAGUE AND THE TREATY OF VERSAILLES.

"The Treaty of Versailles was thought to have effected a settlement bringing a lasting peace to Europe. It has done nothing of the sort, unfortunately; but, supposing it had achieved its object, then the League of Nations would have functioned unhampered. As things are all matters dealt with in the articles of the treaty are the concern of the Big Four only. The League cannot interfere with the terms unless invited by the Big Four to do so. This, at any rate, is certainly the view of the French President. Thus the League has no power to intervene in such matters as German reparations or the Near East disputes unless the 'Big Four' invites the League to do so.

"It is not surprising, then, that the Labour Party in England desires to free the Covenant of the League from the shackles which the Versailles Treaty has imposed upon it. Something may even now be done if the citizens of each State make clear their wishes and bring to bear upon certain Governments the powerful force of public opinion.

WHEN THE BIG FOUR FAILED.

"In 1921 the attitude of France in Upper Silesia had become the European breaking point. There was talk of something far more serious than disagreement. In despair Mr. Lloyd George appealed to the League, and France agreed to submit the complete and delicate task to the Council. On the motion of Earl Balfour the preliminary investigations were entrusted to Belgium, Brazil, Spain, and China, four of the States which had no direct interest in the decision. Ultimately a solution was reached fairly satisfactory to all parties, and, what is more important, the terms of this solution have been loyally observed. Thus England and France accepted from the League what England could not have imposed on France nor France on England. A State is ready to submit to the finding of a Court, but not to what it would call the dictation of another State, even though the finding might be exactly the same.

THE LEAGUE SUCCEEDS.

"The recent story of Austria also illustrates this fact. The 'Big Four' in 1922 could no longer assist Austria with a loan unless they had some effective control of Austria's finances. But England could not allow France nor France England to exercise such a control. Still less would either of them see Italy doing this.