

Catholic Citizen

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Daughter of the ancient Eve,
We know the gifts ye gave and give;
Who knows the gifts which you shall give,
Daughter of the Newer Eve?

Francis Thompson.

Cardinal Manning.

By V. M. CRAWFORD.

To have talked to anyone who could clearly remember the battle of Waterloo is an experience that can have befallen few who are alive to-day, and it would seem to be sufficient excuse—just fifty years after his death—for re-calling a few memories of Cardinal Manning whose friendship I had the privilege of enjoying during the last years of his long life. And there is the further excuse that with all his popularity in democratic circles, both at home and abroad, the Cardinal was largely misunderstood in others, both Catholic and Anglican, and has had scant justice done to him by his biographers. Only the other day Dr. Inge referred to him in print as an "ambitious prelate," of whom the Church of England had been happily rid, a singularly prejudiced summing-up of one of the truly great Englishmen of the last century.

To those who knew him personally, Cardinal Manning was unquestionably an inspiring personality, enhanced by fine features, an extreme austerity and a perfect courtesy of manner. And setting aside the controversies of only contemporary importance and turning to the main results of his archiepiscopate, one may sum them up under two heads: the final lifting of the Catholic body in England out of the catacombs from which, in 1865, it was barely emerging, and the great work of charity he accomplished for the poor children of the diocese, caring at once for their souls and their bodies. And if the former came about as the natural result of twenty-five years of wise social action, the latter was the outcome

of a sustained effort that lay very close to his heart. "Schools before Churches," and the Christianising of the homes of the very poor was the deliberate policy adopted by the Cardinal at his consecration in the light of which many of his activities should be judged. Thus his extreme temperance policy—so unpopular with the well-to-do portion of his flock—was largely inspired by his personal knowledge of the misery suffered by children in drunken homes. So too his friendship with the Wesleyan Minister, Benjamin Waugh, the founder of the N.S.P.C.C., whose efforts to protect children from the often gross cruelty of their parents, had brought on him much obliquy and press denunciations as a mischievous busybody, showed the Cardinal's readiness to work with all and sundry where children were concerned.

It is true we cannot claim Cardinal Manning as a supporter of votes for women, but happily that is not to say that he was anti-feminist in general. The suffrage controversy had scarcely entered on its acute stage during his lifetime and all his mature years had been spent in the mid-Victorian atmosphere, so uncongenial to women's emancipation. Yet he was strongly in favour of all women's activities as long as they did not take married women away from their home duties to husband and children—on that point he was adamant. He could hardly have been friends with Florence Nightingale had he not sympathised with her acute restless longings for an active career, or written her a letter of blessing and encouragement on her departure for the

Crimea. In my case he certainly encouraged every sort of activity I was keen to embark on, and he was constantly consulted in these last years by Nonconformist women leaders, such as Mrs. Sheldon Amos and Mrs. Bunting in their social purity work so much criticised in many quarters. By his open support of W. T. Stead at the time of the so-called Maiden Tribute, action which so shocked many of his own flock, he clearly demonstrated that he had no sympathy with the then accepted ostrich policy of ignoring all social evils, thus permitting them to flourish in darkness. It was this imposed ignorance of all the moral dangers to which women might be exposed, which, as Josephine Butler knew only too well, was the root cause of much of the misery from which young women often had no protection. Manning, however, belonged to a generation that also felt quite genuinely that women must be "protected" and shielded from hardship, and he was really distressed when I travelled abroad alone and would beg me to take a maid. Suppose you fell ill, he would urge. And in many other ways he would show a tenderness of heart that his critics, judging only from his somewhat stern exterior and his occasional severity of speech, failed to give him credit for.

Apart from his determined exclusion of Catholics from the universities, which indeed has proved to be the one noteworthy mistake in his social policy, Manning's fearless democratic attitude—as in the famous dock strike—showing himself at once a great Churchman and a patriotic Englishman, accomplished wonders in lifting the Catholic minority from the obscurity into which for centuries the penal laws had condemned it. He did far more than build a cathedral in the influence he exerted, apart from his archiepiscopal duties, on English public life, by sitting on Royal Commissions, by advising politicians and by bringing Catholic principles to bear where for three centuries they had been conspicuously absent. And it is for this, over and above the devotion of those who knew him well, that his memory should be held in veneration by all English Catholics.

We are grateful to Mrs. Isabel Heath, M.B., C.H.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., for representing us at the recent Conference at Nottingham on The Position of Catholics in Public and Social Work, organised by the University Catholic Federation of Great Britain. Members will have seen full accounts of it in the "Catholic Herald."

Florence Underwood.

The woman's movement has suffered a severe loss in the death, on January 20th, of Miss Florence A. Underwood after a long and painful illness borne with infinite courage and patience. For thirty years, says the Women's Freedom League, Miss Underwood was General Secretary of the League, providing the steady, unchanging and practical background to the League's work. She was so self-effacing that perhaps only her fellow-workers really knew how much the cause of women's emancipation owed to her devotion. She saw always the one inflexible principle of the equality of the sexes in every question that arose, and nothing was too much trouble if that cause was to be served. Successive Presidents and Executive Members learnt to rely upon her absolutely, and as an organiser and as Editor of the League's official organ, she showed a wonderful flair for the points that would make a popular appeal. But the appeal of "news value" could never cause the slightest deviation from the pursuit of women's real freedom and dignity.

St. Joan's Alliance mourns the loss of a very gallant colleague with whom we have worked on the happiest terms since 1912. Miss Underwood was an example and an inspiration to us all, eternally vigilant, persistent in constancy, firm as a rock where feminist principles were concerned, yet always gentle, courteous and self-effacing. "Keep on" were her last words to our hon. secretary when she visited her just before Christmas. May she rest in peace and may the younger women carry on till "the cause" is won.

Annual Meeting.

The 31st Annual Meeting of St. Joan's Alliance will be held on Saturday, March 14th, at St. Patrick's Club Room at 2.30 p.m. Tea (9d.) will be served afterwards. We ask all who can possibly do so to attend, as at present opportunities of gathering together are few and far between, and the Annual Meeting is the most important function of the year.

Members will have the pleasure of meeting colleagues from Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Greece, Poland and Yugoslavia, who will make brief speeches. Other speakers will be Lieut.-Colonel Letitia Fairfield, C.B.E., M.B., M.D., D.P.H., Chief Medical Officer of the A.T.S., Miss P. Artis, Mrs. McFadyen and Mrs. Mills, B.A.

Notes and Comments.

The following reply has been received from Mr. Eden to the representations made to him with regard to the admission of Women to the Diplomatic and Consular Services by the deputation organised by the Woman Power Committee and received by Mr. Eden on September 17th last:

As the Woman Power Committee are no doubt aware, all regular entry into the Civil Service of either men or women has been suspended for the duration of the war. There can therefore be no question of admitting women into the Diplomatic or Consular Services now. The question is thus not actual and cannot become so until entry is resumed after the war. It is impossible for me now to give an undertaking that the decision to exclude women from the Diplomatic and Consular Services will then be reversed. I am, however, ready to agree to regard the Report of the 1934 Committee as no longer necessarily being the last word, and to consider, after the war, the appointment of a committee, which would not be restricted to the Civil Service, to consider the question again in the light of the existing conditions.

In the meanwhile, as a war-time measure, I am prepared to consider applications, through the normal channels, from women as well as from men for temporary posts of the administrative grade in the Foreign Office when any vacancies arise.

The Woman Power Committee has thanked Mr. Eden and stated that it welcomes the conclusions he has reached and is satisfied that he has met the representations made as far as is possible during the war.

St. Joan's Alliance wonders why it should be necessary to set up yet another Committee after the war to consider this question. Surely it is already self-evident that women are fit to be members of the Diplomatic Service.

In view of the farm labour shortage the Government has been considering the advisability of allowing school children to help the farmers in such agricultural work as getting in the corn, fruit-picking, etc., during their summer holidays. An excellent scheme, but why are the rates of pay to be fixed with an eye to sex inequality—already? Thus hourly minimum wage rates for boys and girls under 18 organised in camps will be: for boys aged 16 and over, 8d. an hour, and boys under 16, 6d. Corresponding rates for girls are 7d. and 5½d. Even knowing the Government's policy of always paying a woman less than a man, it comes as rather a shock to realise that the Government in this case is doing what no parent would dare to do. Little Billy given 6d. a week pocket-money and Mary 5½d.? No, no, there *would* be a scene, a regular

outcry of: "It isn't fair"! And to pay Billy 2d. for running an errand and Mary a 1d. for precisely the same errand would equally raise a storm. However, our brave Government apparently dares anything and is deaf to protests.

* * *

Under a recent saluting code women of the National Fire Service were to be compelled to salute the men officers, but men were not to be required to salute women—only women were to be required to do this. Mrs. Tate and Dr. Summerskill made a strong public protest about this state of affairs, so obviously calculated to put women's backs up, and probably owing to their attitude, shortly after the order came out Mr. Herbert Morrison announced that women in the Fire Service are not after all to be compelled to salute men officers. On duty men officers will be saluted by men and women officers by women. Mr. Morrison went on to say that the regulation was introduced under a misapprehension.

* * *

Efforts are being made to attract recruits to the nursing profession, which, it seems, it badly needs. Suitable candidates are not likely to respond unless conditions are much improved. The following letter from a member tells in few words the hardships attached to a calling of vital importance to the nation:

"You will be surprised to hear I am giving up nursing for the duration of the war, as I cannot do the long hours and heavy lifting required, for such a low salary. I start on January 26th in a factory, shell-filling. The hours are shorter and the work is clean and done sitting down, and the pay is better in proportion. I shall live in a nice new hostel near the factory, especially for the workers, and we have every comfort for 22s. 6d. weekly. It is in . . . and I know you will be pleased to hear there is a church there. The hours are 47 to 60 at the most weekly, and apparently no Sunday work. I shall not know myself; I shall even have time to mend my clothes. I have never worked less than 72 hours in nursing, day duty, 84 hours when on night duty. What a difference. Wishing you every success with the petition."

* * *

As we go to Press, we learn with indignation that the Government has set up a committee of FOUR MEN to look into the conditions in the three women's services and report on them. Women M.P.s of all parties met immediately after the announcement and decided to send a deputation to the Lord Privy Seal to protest. Needless to say, St. Joan's Alliance has also taken up the matter.

ST: JOAN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL ALLIANCE

AND

Editorial Office of "Catholic Citizen"

55 BERNERS STREET, LONDON, W.I. Tel. Museum 4181

Signed articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society.

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The Obstacle Race.

It is now an axiom that the Government wants all the woman power it can get for the Services (and this means mainly the A.T.S.) and for industry (which means munitions). Yet this same Government pushes away women even while it grasps them with the iron hand of conscription. Why this is so is a puzzle to the ordinary civilian who does not particularly want to be conscripted, yet sees its necessity. Single women, it seems, are to go mainly into the A.T.S., which means that a large part of the burden of industry must fall on the married woman. If the burden is only to fall on the women with no domestic responsibilities there will not be enough workers. From the Government's point of view (and for the moment I am identifying myself with the Government) the young married woman who has not long left the factory to get married is a valuable source of labour. She is a trained worker and not so likely to fall down on the job as the girl who never intended to go into a factory. Therefore the Government (and rightly from this point of view) is exerting a good deal of pressure on the young married woman to go into the factories, whether she has dependent children or not. By pressure I do not mean force—the position is perfectly clear. The Government says: "I want you, you are a trained person, put yourself out to win the war." Public opinion takes up the cry, interviewers suggest the same course, the girl herself, on short army allowance, needs the extra money, moreover she is often sad and bewildered with her husband serving far away from her; she feels she would like to do some-

thing definite to hasten the end of the war and to make time pass swiftly. Perhaps in the fuss and pother of discussion we have forgotten the soothing effect regular routine work with fixed hours has on the puzzled and bewildered person. When we wonder why Mrs. Smith who seems to have so much to do at home wants to take on a full-time job, we should remember this may be one of the factors which makes her decide.

The Governmental obstacles to married women's work are several. Firstly, most married women think twice about taking a job nowadays because by the time their earnings are taxed together with their husbands, unless the wage is considerable very little may be left to put beside long shifts and the extra expenses incidental to work undertaken outside the home. One of the main expenses for the woman will be the care of her children, another will be food. She has to ask herself—can I get my children adequately cared for while I am at work—if they are at school will they get a good midday meal—can I depend on having one good meal a day at my factory canteen, and that cheaply—will I have sufficient time in which to get my shopping done in the most economical manner? The answers to these problems immediately spring to the mind of the onlooker. They are firstly separate taxation for the married woman. The second group of problems demands the provision of an adequate supply of day nurseries and nursery schools, and in some cases residential nurseries. The regular provision of a good nourishing school dinner, the working of part-time shifts

or of shifts which are of reasonable length, these too would help the married woman to give of her best to her country. Women who did not feel called upon to go into the factories could be imbued by some such body as the W.V.S. with a sense of responsibility towards their busy neighbours. Enrolled with appropriate badge into some sort of band they could play their active and apparent part in winning the war by assisting their neighbours with their shopping and housekeeping. All these solutions could be supplied and in some cases they are supplied but, alas, not in all.

At two recent Conferences attended by delegates from St. Joan's Alliance, these problems of the married woman worker were discussed. One Conference was organised by the Married Women's Association, with the rather long title—"The Effect of the Economic Status of the Housewife on Sex Equality." Mrs. Naftel, speaking on the "Compatibility of Family Life and a Vocation," pointed out how the State is begging the married woman to go into industry at the present time yet entirely omitting to provide the services essential to her if she is to do her work efficiently and with a quiet, contented mind, unwearied by household cares. But women seem to have no right in this country to be freed from domestic drudgery and care. A dual burden is laid on the woman, who often has no choice but to undertake this burden in order to earn the extra money required to rear a family. Dr. Summerskill pointed out the submerged longing of every woman to have a little money of her very own. It raised her status to earn a little, both in her own eyes and those of her family—and both speakers emphasised the widening effect of work undertaken outside the home. Dr. Summerskill, however, realised that running a home is a full-time job and work of inestimable value which should be recognised as such; when women, as is now the case, are required to work outside the home everything should be done to help them—the provision of day nurseries, school meals, communal restaurants, the inauguration of part-time work.

The second Conference was organised by the London Women's Parliament and the subject under discussion was purely and simply "WAR-TIME NURSERIES." When the main speakers had made their points the meeting was thrown open to speakers from the floor. Woman after woman then got up telling of a distressing state of affairs. The joint income tax weighed

heavily on the monetary gains, children were shoved from pillar to post in an effort to find adequate minders, who did not suddenly change their minds and decide they could not take the child. These same minders so warmly advocated by the Government were charging exorbitant fees per week for the care of a child. If the child was ill, harassed mothers on night-shift were obliged to spend their sleeping time finding some adequate solution for a state of affairs which could have been taken in their stride if sufficient forethought had been exercised by Government Departments. Resource and super-human courage were shown by every one of these women and they seemed to tackle their difficulties with cheerfulness, but the cumulative effect on parent and child cannot be good for the national effort. There seems no real reason why these mothers should be penalised and the children made to suffer, as they obviously have been made to do. Speaker after speaker complained of the minders and one speaker summing up this particular aspect said that minders had undoubtedly proved unsatisfactory, and if the Government wished to make them a permanent factor they should be registered and supervised by the Health Authorities which would give them a status and sense of responsibility. Not that some speakers had not found neighbourly kindness but put into the position of looking after other people's children neighbours were inclined to exploit its possibilities. Absenteeism among married women workers, said one speaker, had made one particular factory say that married women were not worth while—they were continually being suspended for absenteeism and the management would not realise that in each case it was the woman's preoccupation with her children that had made her miss her work and that the solution was to provide a day nursery. A night-shift steward said that in her factory lack of women labour for the night shift was holding up production. But the women were perfectly willing to work on night-shift if nurseries were provided. Some women demanded residential nurseries as the solution to their particular problem, so that their minds could be entirely at rest as to the welfare of their children. But on the whole, young children definitely need their mothers and the fulfilment of this need probably does much to extenuate other bad circumstances.

What strikes one chiefly in considering this problem is the toll of anxiety taken from the married woman worker with any sense of respon-

sibility, and the carelessness of the nation for the welfare of its children—the future generation. If the Government really does want to conscript woman power why is every possible obstacle put in the way of this willing, yet harassed army of women workers? All honour to them that they do not shirk the multiple responsibilities of home and work. A little forethought, a little expenditure and most of their difficulties would melt into thin air and the reward would be happy and efficient workers, happy and contented children.

CHRISTINE SPENDER.

Women at Work.

Extract from the "Labour Woman" (Editor's December Letter).

"I must return again to the question of the care of young children of women at work outside their homes. We have been continuously concerned in this question since war began. We urged that adequate provision should be made for the children through nursery schools and day nurseries; we protested against the decision of the Board of Education not to extend nursery schools for the duration of the war; we accepted as a second best solution the war-time nurseries to be set up under the joint circular of the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education last May; we urged that local Welfare Authorities should make schemes under this circular as speedily as possible; we criticised the Ministry of Health for the delays in sanctioning plans submitted by Authorities as well as the unwillingness of certain Authorities to take any action at all. We insisted that where it is necessary to rely on private minders, the minders should be registered and supervised by the Welfare Authorities.

But we had accepted promises made by Ministers that the children of women who volunteered for war work would be properly cared for. We had believed that war-time nurseries was the Government's policy. A new circular dated 5th December suggests that we were wrong. This circular takes the view that it is the business of the woman who volunteers for war work to make her own private arrangements for her children; and the business of the Local Authority to make provision through day nurseries or through registered minders *only* for a small residue of children whose mothers can-

not make the necessary private arrangements. The new circular appears to throw overboard the promises previously made.

One good thing that came out of the last war was the Maternity and Child Welfare Act, which has been the foundation of the tremendous progress made in the last quarter of a century in improving the nation's health. If the hard realities of war make it necessary to urge more and more women with young children to leave their homes, the Government has a primary duty to see that their children are properly cared for. Private minding on the extensive scale contemplated by the circular is going to be bad for the children, for it opens the door to the worst kind of baby farming which we had almost stamped out; and it is going to be bad for production since the private arrangement is the arrangement that will break down frequently and suddenly and unexpectedly so that mothers will be absent from work. We admit the difficulties in many areas of getting suitable premises and equipment but these things should come high on the list of priorities if the mothers are really needed in the factories."—*Mary Sutherland.*

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO.

Leonora de Alberti in the "Catholic Suffragist," February 15th, 1917.

We know that the Saxons regarded woman as a chattel, and that fathers sold their daughters to prospective husbands, and Judge Parry tells us that nearly everywhere in the Saxon Laws woman is mentioned as a thing, rather than as a person. So ingrained in the English mind is this idea of woman as property, that even in the last hundred years there have been many authentic instances of wives being sold to other men by their husbands. The latest case which Judge Parry has come across occurred as recently as 1881, where a woman gave evidence that she had been married to another man, but added: "He sold me for twenty-five shillings, and I have it to show in black and white with a receipt stamp on it, as I did not want people to say I was living in adultery."

Till a late date the law allowed a man to beat his wife, and we are reminded in these pages of the various medieval punishments invented by men for the special benefit of women. The scold's bridle, the ducking stool, the whipping of prostitutes (one wonders whether their clients lent a hand in this most moral performance), the burning alive on the charge of petit treason, of a wife accused of the murder of her husband, so the tale goes on.—*Law and the Woman.*

International Notes.

On December 31st Mrs. Corbett Ashby was able to broadcast a message of greeting to the All India Women's Conference, when she spoke for eighteen representative women's organisations, including St. Joan's Alliance, besides the Liaison Group and the Women's Advisory Council on Indian affairs.

Mrs. Corbett Ashby said how delighted we were at the opportunity to greet the Conference and that it compensated a little "for our disappointment in not being with you in person."

The Conference took place at Cocanada, Bay of Bengal. The most important resolution dealt with peace, declaring that a permanent peace cannot be achieved except through the principles of freedom and justice being made equally applicable to all races and nations. The Conference sanctioned a women's volunteer corps to look after women and children in case of war necessity. Regarding civil liberties it adopted a resolution demanding the preservation of the essential human liberties, including the rights of association, freedom of speech and religious worship, security for the Press and the individual, and protested against the curtailment of such liberties. The Conference had been responsible for the setting up of a Hindu law Committee and endorsed its main recommendation, which was that the whole of Hindu law should be codified on the basis of the principle of equal rights and liabilities for men and women. Another noteworthy proposal was for the training of women social workers at some suitable centre like Allahabad.

Mrs. Pandit in her presidential address declared that the Indian people were in full sympathy with the progressive forces of the world but there could not be any real co-operation except on terms of equality, and among the constructive suggestions she threw out were a drive against illiteracy, the construction of model villages, and the starting of co-operative societies to stimulate rural industries. She appealed finally for sustained efforts to remove the hatred and suspicion which have embittered Hindu-Moslem relations.

* * *

On January 27th the Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the Alliance had the pleasure of entertaining at an informal luncheon our former Chairman, Mrs. Laughton Mathews, C.B.E., and colleagues from Belgium, Czechoslovakia,

France, Greece and Poland. Our officers were pleased to have the opportunity of keeping up contacts with friends from other countries.

Equal Compensation.

We should be grateful if members to whom petition sheets have been sent would return these (filled up of course) to the office as soon as possible. On the whole the response has been good, but if this is to be the monster petition aimed at by Mrs. Tate, M.P., and the Equal Compensation Campaign Committee, we urge members and friends to increase their efforts. We suggest that Convents and Institutions might be canvassed. We have already had good results from several of these. The closing date for sending in signatures has been postponed to February 28th. We would remind readers that the present rates of compensation for civilians injured by enemy action are:—

	In Hospital		Not in Hospital		100% Disablement	
Gainfully Occupied	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Married Man	35	0	35	0	34	2
Single Man	24	6	35	0	34	2
Woman	17	6	28	0	24	2
<i>Non-Gainfully Occupied</i>						
Married Man	10	6	21	0	20	0
Single Man	10	6	21	0	20	0
Woman	9	4	16	4	15	0

Other injuries in similar proportion.

We feel that this is an occasion when St. Joan's Alliance must pull its weight.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

Hon. Secretary: Miss A. McNeish, 61, Rosedale Avenue, Crosby, Liverpool 23.

The 30th Annual Meeting was held at Sissons Cafe, Liverpool, on February 2nd. The existing committee was re-elected and Mrs. Graham and Miss Helen Douglas Irvine were added. We were very pleased to welcome Mrs. Graham after months of illness and we appreciate the help to the committee of Miss Douglas Irvine.

It is vital that the fight for Equal Compensation for Civilian War Injuries should continue. Will each member collect as many signatures as quickly as possible as the Petition must be ready for presentation to Parliament by February 28th. A great opportunity for service.

Employed women receive 7/- less per week than an employed man. Your wife or your mother (classified as non-gainfully employed) gets—for total incapacity—less than her 16-year-old son and 19/2 less than a gainfully employed man.

HON. TREASURER'S NOTE.

Subscriptions to the Alliance and to the "Catholic Citizen" are now due. We beg all our friends to send their subscriptions without delay, and thus save extra work and expense (not to speak of paper) at the Office. We remind subscribers that the minimum subscription to the "Catholic Citizen" is now 3s. Minimum annual subscription to the Alliance is 1s. at the same time we remind members that 1s. does not cover even the expense of sending notices especially nowadays and we suggest to them that they should make 5s. the minimum subscription to include the "Catholic Citizen."

TOWARDS CITIZENSHIP

A Handbook of Women's Emancipation

Compiled by

PHYLLIS C. CHALLONER, M.A.

and

VERA LAUGHTON MATHEWS, C.B.E.

Forewords by Millicent Garrett Fawcett, G.B.E.

LL.D. and the Rt. Rev. W. F. Brown,
Bishop of Pella.

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To band together Catholics of both sexes, in order to secure the political, social and economic equality between men and women, and to further the work and usefulness of Catholic women as citizens.

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THANKSGIVING.—Thanks to the Sacred Heart, Our Lady, St. Francis and St. Jude for intentions answered, and not.—Fiat. M.B.

ART NOTES

St. Michael's Workshop, 28a Cornmarket St.,
Oxford

Spring, 1942—1/3.

Poverty and Beauty, by Laurence Dale, F.R.I., B.A.

A Poet in Line, by R. M. Nadal.

Ministry of Art, by Ernest Newland Smith.

Teaching of Art to Children, by V. Chambers.

The Society of Education in Art, by M. Dudley Short.

Book Reviews, by C. Desmond Ford, S.J.

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