

*The Canadian Theosophist*, Vol. XIX No. 5, July 1938, pp.159-160

The Boston Convention Committee had evidently overlooked Mrs. Beatrice Hastings' "Friends of Madame Blavatsky" campaign for no place was found for it on the programme, though there is no subject over which Fraternization might more readily arise, and there was no time in the scant Open Forum period to bring it up. The Pratyeka Theosophists who think because they have absorbed the Secret Doctrine and are amiably disposed towards Madame Blavatsky that nothing more is necessary, may find themselves in a miserable minority one of these days, and those who have come in to the feast from the highways and hedges less selfish and more generous in sharing with their neighbours the treasures of the Masters. It all marks the sectarian character which the Theosophical Society has assumed, less interested in letting others know the truth than in enjoying the self-satisfaction of having become an F. T. S. There are responsibilities and obligations attached to such membership as well as privileges, and in fact the only privileges are the opportunities offered to discharge these obligations. One of the chief of these is to protect the Teacher, and beyond that the ideal of the Masters which is implicit in the acceptance of their message. Mrs. Hastings' work goes on apace.

The London office and social rooms are now settled at 94 Ladbrooke Grove, W. 11. There is a drawing-room on the entrance floor and a semi-basement, light, quiet and comfortable for non-smokers. For the present until the volunteer staff has been organized the place can be open from 3 p.m. till 10.30 p.m. Tuesdays and 10 a.m. till 10.30 p.m. Wednesdays when Mrs. Hastings will attend. A group will be formed of serious and disciplined: students only to deal with the documentation of *The Mahatma Letters* and *Letters of H. P. B. to A. P. Sinnett*, these directly affecting the Defence. Copies of these books will be received with especial gratitude. Donors of books should write their names inside. Outside work for the next six months will be the circulation of a new explanatory leaflet, to be sent to Clergy, Editors, M.P.'s, Teachers and other professional people. *The seed will bear its own fruit.* It is aimed to send out 100,000 this summer. Those who can spare a quarter, 25c or One Shilling (or more, of course) can send it to Mrs. Hastings, 4 Bedford Row, Worthing, Sussex, England, and receive a card as a "Friend of Madame Blavatsky."

A word to those who have not read either *The Defence of Madame Blavatsky* (two volumes) or the four issues of *New Universe*. These are not merely clever arguments about Madame Blavatsky or expositions of her doctrine, but confutations with documents and evidence showing up the lies and misrepresentations of the Indian missionaries and their assistants Dr. Hodgson, Messrs. Sidgwick, Leaf and other members of the Society for Psychic Research of fifty years ago. Clear away these lies and the people will listen to the Truth.

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*The Canadian Theosophist*, Vol. XIX No. 6, August 1938, pp.194-195

### **FRIENDS OF BLAVATSKY**

One of the reasons for the failures of the Theosophical Society is the lack of Kshatriyas in it. Most of the members are either-lamb-like Bhakti Brahmins or mercantile Vaishyas who like to see the value of what they do and the saleable character of all they handle. The Society does not appeal to the Sudras because they are unable to contribute anything but faith. Faith is at a discount when all the other casts are overflowing with it. The true Kshatriya is not strong on faith; he wants knowledge. He is a fighter and is willing to give his blood and energy to get what he wants. The Bhakti would not give his soul, however pitifully miserable and petty it may be. The Vaishya would rather give his soul than his money. The

Brahmin knows he has got everything already. When these conditions are dwelt upon, even if we escape the charge of misrepresentation, it will be found that it is only upon the handful of Kshattriyas that any reliance can be placed. We have a notable instance of this in the way that the official Theosophists hang back in connection with the wide appeal that has been made to support Mrs. Beatrice Hastings' campaign to clear the name and fame of Madame Blavatsky from the foul accusations that were heaped upon it in the 'eighties' by the Society for Psychic Research and its myrmidons. Those slanders have lain unanswered for fifty years and now a champion has arisen who is no longer to be deceived by the false fronts and the cozening deceptions of Anglo-Indian missionaries and London pseudo-psychics. What Mrs. Hastings has already published in refutation of these slanders has left those critics who relied upon the S. P. R. reports in shameful disgust to find that they had so little warrant for their fulminations. Of course they still attempt to put a brave face upon it and insist that the truth is not so and cannot be otherwise than they see it. But in their hearts they know their game is up and that the public is aware of their folly. Those who desire to assist this movement should send 25c or as much more as they please for a card of membership to Mrs. Hastings, 4 Bedford Row, Worthing, Sussex, England.

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The Canadian Theosophist, Vol. XIX No. 7, September 1938, pp.222-223

### **FRIENDS OF MADAME BLAVATSKY**

Mrs. Beatrice Hastings is at the moment doing more for Madame Blavatsky than anyone else I know of in the Theosophical Movement. She has undertaken to oppose and refute all H.P.B.'s traducers and slanderers, and this is no light task, considering who they are, for these are not the ordinary kind of sneaks who creep behind backs and have no reputation or authority to sustain their attacks. H.P.B. is attacked by the Church, to begin with; then by the Society for Psychic Research, and after that by all the reactionaries and materialists and others who find their interest in condemning and if possible destroying what makes for the great foundations of Life.

It is not H.P.B. who is attacked but her message, her mission, her Masters, all that represents Truth and Brotherhood and the duty of man to man the world over. No wonder an outsider like Mrs. Hastings, when she realized the issues, took hold of her sword and spear, like Blake—

Bring me my bow of burning gold!  
Bring me my arrows of desire!  
Bring me my spear! O clouds unfold!  
Bring me my chariot of fire!

and set out to unfold those dark clouds that settled down on the name of Blavatsky, and pierce her enemies with the arrows of vision.

If ever there were a conflict between truth and falsehood this is it, and even the champions of deceit are proven to be capable of resorting to deceit in themselves to an incredible extent. The Fifth number of *New Universe*, is just to hand, and in it Mrs. Hastings has revealed a personal secret that one feels would have remained unsolved but for the attack on Madame Blavatsky made by Rebecca West, one of the myrmidons of mammon and falsehood who delight in overthrowing as far as they are able all that stands for the everlasting things of truth and beauty.

Rebecca West, we feel confident, never read a word of *The Voice of the Silence*, *The Key to Theosophy*, *The Secret Doctrine*, but she was keen to repeat ancient and oft-refuted slanders of one now being hailed as the "greatest literary genius of the Nineteenth Century." What Miss West did was to accept tacitly the reputation of the authorship of the brilliant series of criticisms and pose as "one of the critics of the *New*

*Age* in its most brilliant days!” This distinction was awarded her by no less a personage than H. G. Wells, who thereby indicates that he like John. P. Robinson, didn’t know everything down in Judee. Miss West accepted the honour however, nothing loath, though she well knew she was not entitled to it.

Then, in this pseudo-glory, she attacked Madame Blavatsky, and that stirred Mrs. Hastings to tell the story, which she does in this *New Universe* issue. Mrs. Hastings herself was the brilliant but anonymous critic of the *New Age*; Rebecca West “*is one of a ring of reviewers* who will talk you anything from Milton to—Madame Blavatsky, and with equal critical impotence, the band of powerful log-rollers who are known in publishing circles as Humph, Grumph and Blumph and whose strangle-hold on literature has been a tragedy this twenty years. In vain, young writers try to break the ring; it will not be broken till these people die off. The ring is largely Catholic, openly or secretly, and is clever at copying the Jesuit method of feigning sympathy with liberty and of permeating and assimilating (like your python) any movement that threatens the future establishment of Catholic temporal power.”

Space forbids further quotation, but those who fail to support Mrs. Hastings in her campaign for the establishment of Madame Blavatsky for what she herself claims to be, a pioneer of religious, philosophic and scientific truth to the Twentieth Century, are no true Theosophists. The Theosophical Society by its lukewarmness to all Blavatsky literature shows what side it is on, and the “Theosophical” study course recently prepared by Mrs. Adelaide Gardner and her Liberal Catholic assistants clearly indicates where their sympathies lie. Not one Blavatsky book is cited for students in this Course. Do they support Mrs. Hastings? A list of “The Friends of Blavatsky” is given in this issue of *New Universe* and we fear odious comparisons are only too possible.

Meanwhile Mrs. Hastings is making as good a fight as she can in London, and rooms have been taken till December at 94 Ladbroke Grove, London, W. 11., where visitors will be welcome on Tuesdays from 3 p.m. till 10.30 p.m., and on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. till 10.30 p.m. Correspondence should be directed to Mrs. Hastings at 4 Bedford Row, Worthing, Sussex, England, and subscriptions may be sent to The Friends of Blavatsky for cards of membership from Twenty-five Cents (One Shilling) and upwards or for subscriptions to *New Universe*, seven issues for a Dollar; and the volumes of *Defence of Madame Blavatsky*, two of which have been issued at 75 cents each, with volumes Three and Four in preparation, the third on Solovyoffs “*A Modern Priestess of Isis*” to be ready shortly.

This campaign is no picnic, and involves an expenditure of time and money and brains which few who have not been working in the Theosophical Movement for the last fifty years can estimate. But Mrs. Hastings has resolved, with Blake, that she “will not cease from mental fight” until this goal of Shamballah has been reached. Who will join the Brothers?

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*The Canadian Theosophist*, Vol. XIX No. 9, November 1938, p.289

Mrs. Beatrice Hastings has been having a lecture in London in connection with her work for the “Friend’s of Madame Blavatsky.” The result was most encouraging, the hall being packed to the doors, and the speaker, Mr. Melikoff made an excellent impression. The audience were mostly non-Theosophists. After Mr. Melikoff’s address, Mr. Christmas Humphrey spoke for ten minutes. The political situation in London has occupied much attention recently, but the Friends of Blavatsky movement is not being neglected. No. 6 of the *New Universe* is nearly ready, and the volume in which Mr. Solovyoff will be disintegrated is also in its final stages.

Friends of Blavatsky are enrolled on payment of 25 cents or upwards. The subscription for the *New Universe* is a dollar for seven numbers. The *Defence* issues are 60 cents each. Address: Mrs. Hastings, 4 Bedford Row, Worthing, Sussex, England.

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*The Canadian Theosophist*, Vol. XIX No. 10, December 1938, p.320

Mrs. Beatrice Hastings has enlisted in a political movement in Britain represented by a journal called *The Democrat*, and is evidently wholly engrossed for the moment in an anti-Fascist agitation in London. We have not heard from her about the Friends of Blavatsky for some weeks.

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*The Canadian Theosophist*, Vol. XIX No. 11, January 1939, p.355

Mrs. Beatrice Hastings has been dividing her attention between the Friends of Madame Blavatsky and the new political situation in England with the latter receiving rather more attention than the former for the time being. In her view a new election and change of government would mean the end of Hitler and the peace of Europe. She thinks it is rubbish to suppose that the British Empire is going down, but sees that a knowledge of the facts on the part of the people is necessary to bring about any alteration in the situation. I understand that she expected to get out Volume Three of the *Defence* of Madame Blavatsky dealing with Solovioff's villainous and treacherous book early in the year. She has not been much encouraged in this work by members of the Theosophical Societies, but they, apathetic in these matters, lack energy in the main issue and their patrimony may pass away from their hands.

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*The Canadian Theosophist*, Vol. XIX No. 12, February 1939, p.386-387

We remarked recently that Mrs. Beatrice Hastings was "for the moment" evidently wholly engrossed in an anti-Fascist movement in London. Some nervous friends, we hear, construed this to mean that she had abandoned the "Friends of Blavatsky" movement, unable, perhaps, to realize that Madame Blavatsky was the greatest anti-Fascist of us all. We believe some faint-hearted ones were glad to seize on the excuse to abandon the cause on their own part, but we hope that this course will not be pursued very far. Those who put their hands to the plough in Theosophy should beware of turning back. They break their own will-power and destroy the initiative that follows the gleam. We in Canada take the Friends of Blavatsky movement quite seriously and see possibilities in it for humanity. It contrasts well with the idolatry with which other so-called leaders are followed, for Blavatsky stands for a principle and nothing else. A group of Canadians recently sent Mrs. Hastings a bank order for \$15.50 (£3. 4/), and just to encourage the others we append their names—Dr. Bruce Hill, Mrs. Bernard Read, Mrs. G. Robertson, Mrs. M. Murray, Mrs. H. J. Cable, Miss O. Olive, Miss Ruby Welbourne, Mrs. R. Illingworth, Dr. Stella Cunningham, Miss Maud E. Crafter, Miss Mary Henderson, Mrs. Emily Brunton. Dr. Kuhn and Mr. E. Norman joined the ranks some time ago and many others have been enrolled. Those who are interested may send 25c or more as they please to Mrs. Hastings, 4 Bedford Row, Worthing, Sussex, England.

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