

Illinois, in 1866, and graduated in 1888 from the University of Illinois. His development was of that steady character possible only where high purpose is coupled with creative genius.

Though he had to do with the design of many notable monuments, it is as the designer of the Lincoln Memorial that he attained his greatest reputation. "Everything that Bacon did," said Royal Cortissoz, "had quality, dignity, beauty, but nothing has the extraordinary significance of the Lincoln Memorial. He stood for the purest and most scholarly ideals of classic architecture."

The Showmen Quarrel

A MOST unusual case of sustained interest is that which has been held by the amazing revelations and findings at Luxor. From the first finding of the hidden entrance to the tomb of Tutankhamen universal interest has seldom been allowed to die. Discovery, after an interval, has been followed by a more remarkable discovery, climax has led up to climax.

The finding of the massive granite sarcophagus, with the remains of a once magnificent linen pall about it, the slow and painstaking removal of the surrounding structure, itself a revelation of ancient art, and finally on February 12, the raising of the massive granite lid—all these events aroused extraordinary curiosity, not unmingled with some criticism, for many feel that the whole proceeding is almost a desecration.

And then within the sarcophagus was found the magnificent golden mummy case, untouched by time or by the rude hands of human despoilers, one of the greatest, if not the greatest find in Egyptology or in archaeology! Here was indeed a culmination of Howard Carter's thirty-four years of archaeological labor. And then came the anti-climax. The lid was lowered, the sarcophagus closed, the iron doors locked. The Egyptian Government and Howard Carter were quarreling over press rights, over the ownership of the finds, and even over sightseers' permits.

Perhaps there will be a truce, and Howard Carter will complete his work. Or, which is rather more likely at this writing, perhaps the Egyptian Government, through its Antiquity Department, will do the work itself, and the world learn all there is to be learned concerning this minor king who died 1,350 years before the Christian era.

However it may end, one thought presents itself to many. Despite all their

care, their images of protecting deities, and their secret hidden entrance, the priests of ancient Egypt have failed again. Tutankhamen and his treasure are in the hands of the despoilers.

A Better Spirit in Europe

CONCILIATION seems to be the order of the day in Europe. The attitude of the Labor Government in England as evinced by Mr. MacDonald's speech before the House of Commons indicates a desire on the part of the British to come to a better understanding with the French. The cordial and frank interchange of views at the reception of the new German Ambassador to France by the French President indicates the beginning of better relations between France and Germany.

The evident progress which the two expert committees are making in Germany gives some reason for believing that facts which the Germans have hitherto concealed will come to light, and that

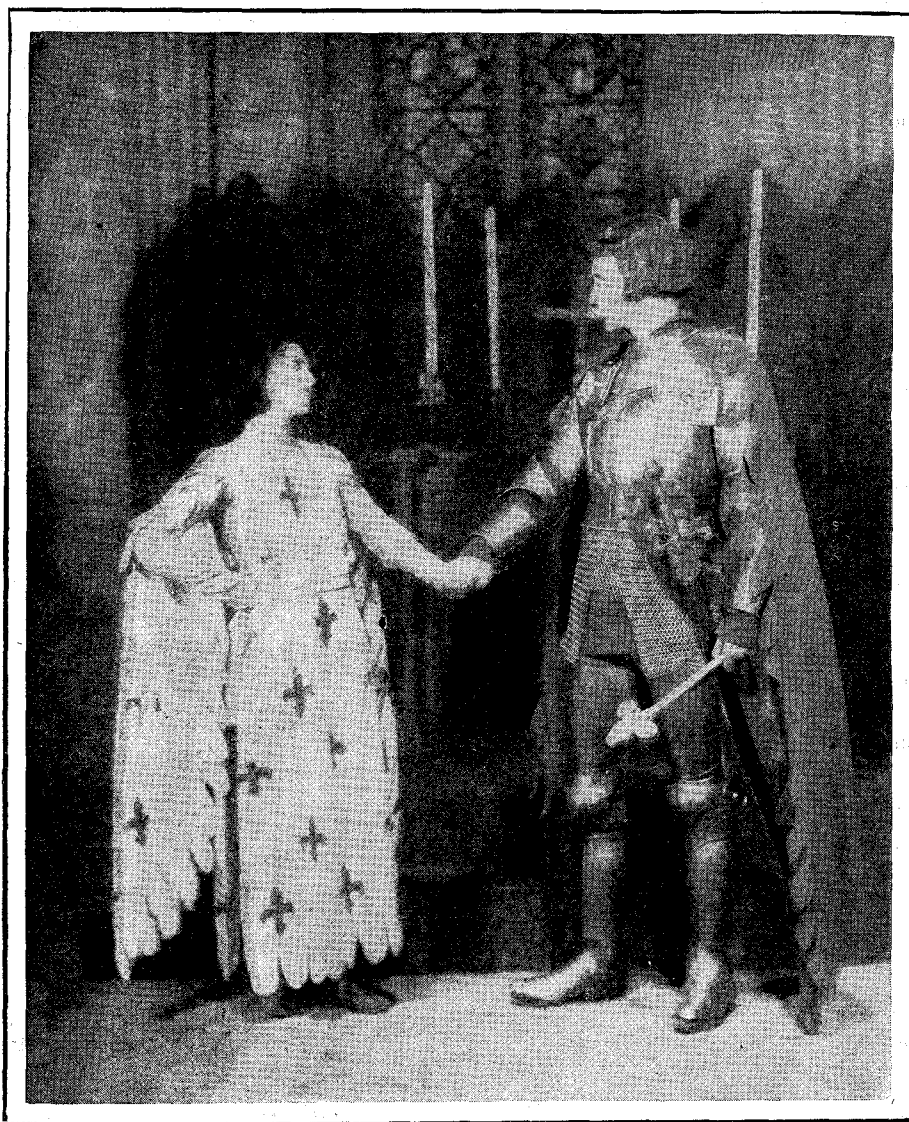
when these facts are known there certainly will be a better disposition on the part of Germans to change their ways. At the same time there is still hope that French public sentiment will support the Government's plan to reconstruct French finances by the levying of more nearly adequate taxes.

If the tide has turned toward understanding it is because the Germans have begun to see that their policy of evasion has been fruitless and has harmed no one so much as themselves.

Shaw Plus

ONE of the current plays which ought to be well worth reading in book form is Bernard Shaw's "Saint Joan."¹ This time Shaw has succeeded in creating a play of tremendous dramatic power—one which depends for its success upon the action and movement as well as upon intellectual pyrotechnics. The epilogue is Shavian in the old manner; the rest of

¹It is to be published in book form in the spring by Brentano, New York City.



Winifred Lenihan as Joan and Maurice Colbourne as Dunois in Bernard Shaw's "Saint Joan"

the play is Shaw plus a dramatic forcefulness which he has seldom attained.

Those who have seen Winifred Lenihan as Joan in the Theater Guild production in New York City will not soon forget Shaw's portrayal of that flame-spirit who was at one and the same time child, warrior, and saint, nor will they forget the vividness with which Miss Lenihan made Shaw's conception live before their eyes.

Four Issues

FOUR distinct issues have come out of the oil investigation at Washington. If out of these revelations justice is to come, public opinion must keep these four issues distinct.

Nothing is to be gained and much will be lost if any one of these issues is confused with any other.

First, there is the issue of corruption. Those who have offered and those who have received money or other valuable consideration for action or influence which ought to be determined solely by public interest have corrupted government at its source. Whether such corruption can be definitely branded as illegal or not, it is nevertheless corruption. It is the revelation of such a corrupt attitude of mind on the part of people who are generally trusted that has shocked the public and has roused the people to wrath. It is for the purpose of ascertaining to what extent the corruption has taken the form of the violation of law that the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, has appointed special counsel for legal proceedings. The President has promised the people that there will be no holding back of anything, no matter what the consequences may be. Mere wrath accomplishes nothing. Its value lies in compelling action. It is therefore important that the wrath of the people be directed toward the right objects. If there is confusion in mind on this subject, that wrath will be dissipated where it ought to be concentrated.

Second, there is the issue of incompetence. Have the rights of the people in their property been sacrificed through the negligence or stupidity or wrong-headedness of those charged with the care of them? That is a very different question from the question of corruption. It is true that the fool may cause more injury on certain occasions than the knave; but that is no reason for treating the fool as if he were a knave. Some of the confusion in the minds of the people is due to

the fact that it has not always been clear how much the present oil lease scandal is due to knavery and how much to folly. Some of the confusion has been doubtless due to the fact that there was folly in Congress which Congress has only been too glad to attempt to conceal by a smoke screen of general accusation. Not all the incompetence necessarily is to be found in the executive offices. Many of the legislators who have denounced incompetence in the administration of the oil lease were themselves obviously incompetent in permitting an ambiguous or lax provision in the oil leasing law to pass their scrutiny.

Third, there is the issue of Conservation. What was once an almost dead issue has been raised to life. There are honest and capable anti-Conservationists as well as honest and capable Conservationists. It is idle to identify all honesty and ability with those who are in one group or with those in the other. Nevertheless it has become clear that with the loss of interest in Conservation there have appeared corruption and incompetence on a greater scale than before. The corruptionists may be punished. The incompetents may be put out of office. There will remain, however, the issue between those who honestly believe that Conservation is a burden upon the country and those who believe that it is a great safeguard. Probably the public wrath against the corrupt and the public demand for competence in office will aid the cause of Conservation temporarily; but this issue will not be settled right until it is freed from consideration of corruption and incompetence and made the object of intelligent decision by the people as a matter of policy.

Fourth, there is the issue of encroachment of Congress upon the rights of the Executive. This issue is one that we must expect in this country to appear from time to time. It has repeatedly appeared ever since the establishment of the Constitution. It is not surprising that it should have reappeared at this time. Congress is not only jealous of its own prerogatives; it is likely to be indifferent to the prerogatives of others, and particularly of the President. It would like to be Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States. It would like to select and dismiss the President's Cabinet. It would like to administer the details of various departments. It would like to do a number of things which it is utterly incapable of doing properly. In this case it has raised the issue of en-

croachment by endeavoring to get rid of an executive officer without the Constitutional means of impeachment and trial.

If there is confusion in the minds of the people about this oil lease scandal, it is Congress itself that is largely responsible by bringing in an issue which need not have been brought in at all.

This is a time for clear thinking. It is easy to rouse passion; it is not easy to stimulate thought. Fortunately, there is in the White House a man who can be trusted to keep his head and to make issues clear.

Forestalling a Helium Scandal

WHATEVER may be the outcome of the investigations and legal battles caused by the leases of the naval oil reserves to the Sinclair and Doheny interests, we are assured that Government property from now on will be watched with an eagle eye by Congress. Never again, in the language of a certain Senator, will the "property of this Nation be exploited by any private interests." Well and good; but there are priceless National assets being wasted through neglect by Congress, and every day we see the waste continue without a murmur from Capitol Hill.

For instance, nature, in a prodigal mood, gave to this country practically all of the helium in the world. We have it in quantity. No one else has. Only very small quantities of helium have been found outside of the United States. Canada has some. It is found in the craters of active volcanoes, but, under such circumstances, is not recoverable. In this country it is found in the mixture of gases known as "natural gas." As we use up our supply of natural gas or allow it to escape into the air, we lose its helium content. It is estimated by authorities in the Bureau of Mines at Washington that 500,000,000 cubic feet of this precious gas is lost every year by this means—enough to fill the balloonets of 220 Shenandoahs.

Congress has been apprized of this waste time and time again. It is a matter of public knowledge, thanks to the press. But we see nothing done to conserve this essential to lighter-than-air development and to the National defense. Public servants in the Army and Navy and the Bureau of Mines have even begged for legislation to enable the Government to take the proper steps to make our helium supply available for military,