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EDITORIAL

HOWEVER wide as measured by its subject, the world of philosophy, as measured by the number of those who are interested in it and by events other than the publication of new books, is a comparatively small one. Yet other things do happen which may be of interest to the readers of this Journal, and it is proposed from time to time to open numbers with a few paragraphs devoted to the record of them.

The outstanding event of the past year in England has been the Conference between the members of the old established *Mind Association* and the *Aristotelian Society*, which was held at Edgbaston in July under the Presidency of Leonard J. Russell, the Professor of Philosophy in the University of Birmingham. Beginning some twenty years ago with small attendances, these Conferences have grown steadily in size and importance, and form a valuable clearing house for the exchange of thought on the questions that are uppermost in current discussion. The papers themselves of the leaders are now published in an annual volume by the Aristotelian Society; and the present year includes discussions of "Substance and Process," "The Reality of Imaginary Objects," "What Philosophy can Contribute to Politics," "Whether Philosophers must Disagree," and "The Place of the *A Priori* in Knowledge." But the printed record gives a very inadequate idea of the scope and issue of these discussions, and many of the most interesting contributions came as usual in the course of debate.

In the ensuing year the main event in the philosophical world will be the International Congress, which after the usual interval of four years is to take place this year in the city of Prague, and will be of exceptional interest as an opportunity of exhibiting the solidarity of interest and the fraternity of mankind in the effort to

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promote the progress of genuine philosophical thought. The main subjects of discussion will be: "The Philosophy of Nature and its Relation to other Departments of Philosophy"; "The Difference between Descriptive and Normative in the Social Sciences"; "Religion and Philosophy"; "The Crisis of Democracy"; "The Problem of Value"; "The Message of Philosophy." The Congress will meet on the second and continue till the seventh of September, and will be open to all without distinction of nationality. Any readers of PHILOSOPHY who desire to attend are asked to send their names to the Editor, who will forward them to the proper quarter.

Events on the Continent have a special interest for philosophers, as the more unfortunate side of them has had unsettling results in the lives of scholars in the department of Philosophy as in that of others. If this result has brought some of the most distinguished of them to reside at least temporarily in this country, these events are not, for us at any rate, without their bright side; and we venture to take this occasion to welcome them to England.

It was, however, felt that many would be unable to attend the International Congress at such a distance. Arrangements have accordingly been made to hold the Conference of the British Societies as usual this year in July, and the Committee has accepted the kind invitation of Professor Scott of the University of Wales in Cardiff for that occasion.

The Editor would like to remind readers of the Journal that its articles do not claim to be anything more than *discussions* of philosophical topics. There is nothing, therefore, to prevent such discussions being continued in the form of letters to the Editor, when occasion suggests further exploration of the topics dealt with.