

Austria in 2020.

Published by E. Pierson in Dresden and Leipzig.

Put down your weapons!

A life story of Bertha v. Suttner.

Ninth edition.

Two volumes. Softcover. \_\_M\_\_ 6.--, eleg. bound \_\_M\_\_ 8.--.

Excerpts from the judgements of the press:

"When the beautiful, quiet autumn days came this year, I sat in a forest near Krieglach and read a book: "Lay Down Your Arms" by Bertha von Suttner. I read it for two days and these two days are \_=an event in my life=\_. When I had finished reading it, I had one vivid wish: that this book should be translated into all cultural languages, included in all libraries and introduced into all schools. There are societies for the dissemination of the Bible; \_=may a society also be formed for the dissemination of this remarkable book=\_, which I am inclined to call \_=an epoch-making work=\_"

\_ =P. K. Rosegger =\_ "Heimgarten", November 1891.

... This marvellous work will, I am convinced, become a \_\_standard work\_\_. Not since Mrs von Staël have we had such a powerful female pen.

\_ =Friedrich v. Bodenstedt= \_ (Wiesbaden).

This is a book that ennobles in every direction in the most beautiful sense of the word, in that it makes clear the whole magic, but also the everlasting value of true love.

\_ =From the feature section of the "Neue Freie Presse" entitled "Bertha v. Suttner" and signed by the Imperial Councillor Carneri =\_ 15/3 1890.

... That is why her book is one of the most successful ever written.

\_ =O. Neumann-Hofer in a feature article in the "Berliner Tageblatt" =\_.

I don't want to praise the book, I want to name it. I will pass it from hand to hand! Like a gospel, it shall find disciples who will carry it into the world.

\_ =Hans Land= \_ (in his public lecture held on 13 February 1890 in the hall of Wilhelmstrasse 118 in Berlin).

... In the descriptions of the war, her portrayal takes on a sublimity that is reminiscent of the greatest masters of world literature.

\_ =Balduin Groller=\_, "Neue Illustr. Ztg.", 2 March 1890.

... It is a courageous and clever book that Mrs von Suttner has written.

\_=Max Harden=, "Die Nation", 1890, No. 22, "Ein Kulturroman".

This is not just a book: \_=it is an event=\_. \_=Heinrich Hart=, "Tägliche Rundschau".

Available from all bookshops.

=Austria in 2020.=

Socio-political novel

from

=Dr Josef von Neupauer.

\_\_\_\_=Motto.=\_ It is better to fight for the good, than to rail at the ill.\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

=Dresden= and =Leipzig.=

\_=E. Pierson's publishing house =\_

\_=All rights reserved =\_

Unauthorised reprinting will be prosecuted.

## Contents

### Page

Chapter I. 1

Chapter II. 6

Chapter III. 25

Chapter IV. 29

Chapter V. 42

Chapter VI. 71

Chapter VII. 77

Chapter VIII. 98

Chapter IX. 115

Chapter X. 136

Chapter XI. 153

Chapter XII.	162
Chapter XIII.	170
Chapter XIV.	193
Chapter XV.	203
Chapter XVI.	233
Chapter XVII.	263
Chapter XVIII.	280

\_\_\_It is better to fight for the good, than to rail at the ill.\_\_\_

I.

I have the honour of introducing myself for the third time to an adoring public. I call myself Julian West and, as you know, I slept away 113 years, from 1887 to 2000 AD, woke up in Boston in Dr Leete's house, where I marvelled at the wonderful changes that the renewal of the social order in the 20th century had brought about in my fatherland, and then dreamt myself back to the Boston of 1887 in a desolate night.

A certain Edward Bellamy presented me to his readers with these impressions and let me recount my experiences for a good fee.

Then I woke up again in a rejuvenated Boston, was appointed Professor of History at Shawmut College, was supposed to fill my audience with hatred against the period of competition, which I did not succeed in doing, as everybody was dissatisfied with the present, and after finishing my first lecture I met a Mr. Forest, who was the most dissatisfied of all, because he had been degraded from a professor of history to a pedlar, and by him my eyes were opened to the abominable conditions which Communism had brought about in the United States, and he not only instructed me on the defects of Communism, but he also taught me how we could have remedied the defects of our former social order without undermining it altogether.

I listened to Mr. Forest as faithfully as I had formerly listened to Dr. Leete; and I was then lately employed by a certain Richard Michaelis in Chicago, with a fee, and presented to the same audience whom I had the honour of entertaining for the first time, endeavouring to make clear the utter groundlessness of my former opinion. I ended my report at that time with an account of how Dr Leete was slain, his daughter raped, and Mr Forest slaughtered in defence of his adversary Dr Leete, thus proving conclusively, at the request of Mr Richard Michaelis, that the complaints made by Mr Forest were just; for how would an unjust man have been able to defend his enemy, who was to fall at the hands of a third party! --

I was now as convinced that communism was the most wretched institution as I had previously enthused about it, and I regretted that Mr Forest had fallen in battle, as I would have liked to stand arm in arm with him in challenging the 21st century.

But now the astonishing thing happened that Mr Forest did recover and slowly recovered from his terrible wounds. I nursed him like my brother and read books and letters to him to ease his situation. One of them was a letter from Tulln, an unknown little town in Austria that we couldn't find on any map.

In this letter a certain Zwirner expressed the wish to meet Mr Forest, as he had read in an old newspaper, the "Boston Gazette", a lecture which Mr Forest had given on the culture of the 19th century when he was still a professor, and it would have interested him to talk to the learned man. Although he did not understand his hatred of communism, a form of society that completely satisfied him, because Austria had also long since switched to it, he said that historical research was of great interest and that he himself was concerned with shedding light on the somewhat forgotten culture of the 19th century. He had found much of what related to this from European libraries, but he wished to compare his material with that of Mr Forest and thought that Mr Forest could use his summer holidays to visit Austria. As a professor, the state would have to provide him with the means to travel to Europe for scientific purposes, while he himself, who was only a young countryman and could not make a name for himself among scholars, should neither take such a lukewarm holiday nor claim the means to travel.

The poor man thought Mr Forest still possessed a fat professorship, and had not read that he had long since been deposed.

Meanwhile, the convalescent liked the suggestion, as he had not yet visited Europe and it was not without interest to him to open the eyes of the satisfied Austrian as he had done to me, and he instructed me to intervene with the government to obtain the means to enable him and me, whom he wanted to take with him, to travel to Austria. We had to provide ourselves with travelling money, as there was no reciprocity for travel between America and Europe, as the Continental states in Europe had agreed among themselves. I doubted that the government would give us the travelling money. But our wish was granted, for Mr. Forest was again in favour, because he had defended Dr. Leete, an influential member of the government party, and as for me, it had long been thought to remove me from my post at Shawmut College, because I no longer lectured with the initial partisanship for Communism, but on the other hand the auditorium had largely lost its way. In addition, we had submitted our application for the holiday months and so the state treasury paid us 3000 dollars in travel money and the government granted us leave to travel to Europe for the two months of July and August 2020.

In order to be able to travel in a German country, we tried to acquire some knowledge of the German language beforehand and communicated a lot with immigrant Germans who lived in Boston, and on 1 July 2020 we left Boston and America to cross the Austrian border near Salzburg on 13 July 2020 after a happy crossing.

## II.

I will skip the experiences on the journey to Salzburg, which would be of no interest to the reader, as they only concern our observations in Austria.

We arrived on 13 July 2020 at 6 o'clock in the evening in Salzburg, a charmingly situated district town, which was once quite populous and currently has only about 1500 permanent residents, but is always home to 2500 to 3000 foreigners. Many pensioners have their residence in such towns, but as they are not bound by any professional obligations, they can swap it for another place of residence at any time, so they cannot really be called locals.

Citizens on leave who use their holiday to travel usually stay in these towns for a few days to attend some theatre performances and see the sights. Travelling foreigners who pay the third-class travel tax or are treated as such have the right to stay in the district towns and also provide a large contingent of the changing population of the district towns. The higher-order sanatoriums and the secondary schools for technology, agriculture and trade also bring many sick people and pupils to the district towns, where in earlier times, when standing armies were still necessary, three battalions of soldiers were usually garrisoned. The stable population is engaged in gardening, industry, housekeeping, nursing and teaching. Furthermore, each district town has a state official for the affairs of the municipality, the district and the county, and the county official has a number of assistant officials at his side as required. Each of the three civil servants is assisted by a so-called tribune or civil servant elected by the people to look after the interests of individuals, municipalities, districts and the county. Likewise, each district has a pedagogue and a doctor for the affairs of the municipality, the district and the county, and the counties are divided into twenty districts and each district into about twenty municipalities. -- In addition, there is a fairly numerous teaching staff, some female doctors and many specialists of the medical profession, especially surgeons, who are associated with the district government, but who, in the case of patients who cannot be brought to the district town or cannot be brought quickly enough, must go to the patient's place of residence and for whom the fastest means of transport are always available.

There is a permanent stage at the Kreisort with mostly changing personnel and, when we arrived there, there was an opera company in Salzburg with several famous singers.

In passing, I would like to mention that weddings are celebrated in the district town, that meetings of administrators, doctors and teachers are frequently held there, and that every week some kind of competition is organised in the style of the Olympic Games, in which people compete for the palm in various arts and skills. The district town is home to a permanent exhibition of industrial and agricultural products and a historical museum that illustrates the progress made over the last 50 years.

We were first introduced to the state official for municipal affairs, who checked our papers and enquired as to which class we wanted to travel in. The category of towns in which we were allowed to stay, the accommodation, catering and the means of transport we could use would depend on this. We received a printed brochure for our orientation and decided in favour of the first and richest class, which gave us access everywhere and for which we had

to pay 25 marks in money per day. We paid a total of 1000 marks for 20 days and were asked to leave our other cash in safekeeping, as no one in the whole country was authorised to accept money or sell anything. The residence card issued to us stated that we had paid a travel fee of 1000 marks and had also deposited 9000 marks in gold and were entitled to stay in Austria as first-class travellers until 6 p.m. on 2 August 2020, subject to any extension we might agree with the state administration. -- We then received printed instructions in German and English on how we should behave in Austria in order not to violate the law and customs, as well as the legal consequences that would result from any contraventions, and we were then assigned two splendid rooms in the residential buildings, which offered an enchanting view of the mountains.

After we had cleaned ourselves up and refreshed ourselves with a bath, we received an invitation from the district official to attend his reception after the opera. We fortified ourselves with a snack in the community centre, attended an opera by Mozart, who is still revered in Salzburg in the 21st century as the most famous compatriot, and after the end of the opera, which was performed in front of a packed house, we were directed by the staff of the house to the reception rooms of the district official, which were located in a building near the opera, which could be reached through a covered corridor. -- I will not dwell on the beauty of this building and the reception rooms, nor mention the number of visitors, as I will reserve more details for later, when the sources of aid available to Austria in the 21st century will be discussed. I will only say that we were astonished to see the first female singers appear after the opera with sparkling stones on their breasts and necks at the arms of polite gentlemen at the district official, which we did not know how to reconcile with the communist social order at the time.

When we went to rest, we were told that the trains to Vienna leave Salzburg at 6am and 9am, so we chose the second train.

The next morning we looked out of our windows over the marvellous countryside and saw bustling work in fields and meadows everywhere, songs rang out from the fields and a certain competitive spirit seemed to enliven everyone. We had breakfast in the dining room, where a lovely girl provided us with what we needed, went for a walk in the town's surroundings, famous for their beauty, and left at 9 o'clock, after a friendly housemate, who was in charge of an attendant's business in the foreigners' palace, had sent us a greeting from the district official and the municipal official. One must not think, however, that we should have taken any liberties with this "chambermaid" or treated her with contempt. Our printed instructions threatened us with immediate removal from Austria in such a case, just as we were informed that every girl and woman in Austria is entitled to chivalrous courtesy regardless of their profession.

The station, carriages and uniforms of the railway staff showed noble simplicity and refined taste. After showing our residence card, we were directed by the head conductor to the best coupé, where we found some professors on holiday. The train was full of people of all professions, travelling short and long distances, for which they had the right to travel on a travel permit issued by the official in their home town. Sometimes the rush of travellers was a little too great and then younger people without rank had to be content to stand in the aisles

and between the seats, but there was room again and so the discomfort did not last long. Those who didn't want to comply had the choice of getting off and staying behind, which didn't matter because you live comfortably everywhere and are well provided with everything and you are only travelling for pleasure. However, the few people travelling on business were entitled to every conceivable comfort and uninterrupted transport.

On the way we had two cold snacks with refreshments of our choice, were given English books and newspapers from the travelling library to use at our request, as we were afraid to speak German with the travellers, and arrived at 4 o'clock via the Sct. Pölten branch line to Tulln, where the conductor introduced us as the two Americans to a gentleman present at the station. It was Mr Zwirner who, although he had written to Mr Forest in English, only wanted to speak to us in German and told us for our information that the conductor, who had already asked us in Wels about the next destination of our journey and had learned that we wanted to see Mr Zwirner in Tulln today, had informed the district official in Sct. Pölten by telegraph from Linz and the latter the district official in Tulln of our arrival and the purpose of our visit, as is always the case with foreigners. Accordingly, he, Zwirner, who worked in the nearby mountains, had been informed of our arrival in good time so that the strangers could reach the purpose of their journey without detours.

We made our way to our rooms, which had been hospitably chosen so that we could enjoy the view over the Danube and the Tullnerboden with the neighbouring wooded hills and see that the whole country was cultivated like a garden. Zwirner wanted to familiarise us with the area that lay ahead of us. The area between the Danube on the left and the mountains on the right, which stretched in a gentle curve for miles ahead of us to the east, is called the Tullnerboden. It is flat, like a threshing floor and infinitely fertile. To the left, on the other side of the Danube, you can see expansive meadows and still impressive mountains that seem to intersect with the mountains on this side far to the east. However, the Danube, whose course can no longer be followed, winds its way between the rows of mountains in a south-easterly direction. Our mountain range is closed off by a sharply sloping mountain. "On this mountain," said Zwirner, "stands the old ruin of Greifenstein, two full German miles from here, and to the left of it, a quarter of a mile further on and already beyond the Danube, you can see the mighty building of Kreuzenstein Castle, formerly the property of Count Wilczek and now, like all the old castles and palaces, a civic seat. However, the Emperor has always been represented there by a member of the Wilczek family." -- Zwirner named the villages that lay ahead of us. The road on the right led to Staasdorf, which we saw close ahead of us, and to Ried, which we could not see, in the mountains. At the edge of the mountains, from Staasdorf eastwards in front of us, he named the villages of Chorherrn, Tulbing, Königstetten and closer to us in this direction are Frauenhofen and Nietzing, on the Danube downstream Langlebarn, Muckendorf, Zeiselmauer, then in the far east Wördern and Sct. Andrä, which again leans against the mountains; from there back, halfway to Königstetten, Wolfpassing. -- Tulln was a district suburb and all these villages, a large part of the forest area on the right and many villages to the south and west, which could not be seen from our windows, belonged to this district. The Klosterneuburg district began to the east. We saw no church towers, but the villages, consisting of mighty, castle-like buildings, were well-kept, framed with ornamental gardens, parks and orchards and accompanied by large farm buildings,

which were set off to one side everywhere. There was no real forest to be seen on the Tulln soil, but the mountains were beautifully wooded. Of the hilltops, Zwirner only mentioned the Tulbinger Kogel between Tulbing and Königstetten, which we were to get to know better. In Königstetten we also saw a large castle with extensive gardens and park, which Zwirner told us belonged to the Civilliste and where a Prince Hochberg was holding court this year.

Zwirner left us and we got ready for lunch, plunged into a swimming pool beforehand to cool off after the hot day, and went to table with Zwirner at 5 o'clock. He led us into the mighty dining room of the communal palace, which measured around 1500 square metres and was like one in every community and every neighbourhood. There Zwirner introduced us to the official who presided in this hall, in which the whole community can assemble for meals and is usually two-thirds assembled at the main meal, and he then announced in a loud voice that Messrs Julian West and N. Forest from Boston in America were here on a visit, which did not arouse any great surprise, but was answered by some with a friendly "\_\_\_Cheer\_\_\_".

Zwirner took us to his table, where only unmarried young people were sitting, with whom we soon found ourselves in conversation as we were encouraged to talk about America. After the meal, Zwirner led us into the park surrounding the houses and offered us cigars, which we gladly accepted. We expressed our surprise that Zwirner didn't smoke himself, to which he said: "Austrians don't smoke."

Then Mr Forest nudged me with his elbow: "There you have freedom; the well-meaning government forbids the Austrians to smoke as if they were small children." Zwirner did not understand what Mr Forest was saying to me in English, but he smilingly asked for clarification, as he thought he had heard something about "\_\_\_Austria\_\_\_", and at the same time added that he did not want to assume that we had been talking about something that Mr Forest wished to conceal, as this was considered unsociable in Austria and one might not think otherwise in America. I confessed to him that we were opponents of communism and saw the smoking ban as an outrageous form of paternalism.

"You are mistaken, dear friends!" said Zwirner, "Austria is a free nation, and no one can forbid us to smoke." -- "Then why don't you dare to smoke?" was my question. -- "That may need an explanation," said Zwirner. "Austria was once the blessed land of smokers; the Austrian government had the tobacco monopoly in the country and produced enormous quantities of cigars, smoking tobacco and snuff every year. It favoured smoking because at that time, 150 years ago, the tobacco monopoly yielded large sums of money. When the common economy was gradually introduced, the government had enough funds at its disposal to satisfy all the state's needs, and the question was raised as to whether smoking was a real or imaginary need. The argument went back and forth and there were provinces that were in favour of smoking and others that wanted to abolish it. The government was not in favour of violence and said that only young people could be denied the use of tobacco if it was considered expedient.

Since, as already mentioned, some provinces were in favour of smoking and others against, the government proposed that smoking should be allowed for adults, but that special disease and mortality statistics should be kept for smokers and non-smokers. This is what happened



and non-smokers were compensated for the savings on smoking tobacco with other pleasures. It now became clear that smoking caused a number of specific diseases and that smokers lost 3-8 days of their lives each year, depending on the amount and strength of tobacco consumed and the resistance of the constitution. -- The number of smokers was gradually reduced, young people were denied tobacco altogether, and it was found that the people were not only healthier than before, but that they also saved three times as much annually as the expense of supplying the people with new books and the entire library administration."

"But how is it that we are being served cigars?" I asked.

"We are hospitable and see 400,000 foreigners within our borders every year. We endeavour to offer every foreigner the comforts of home and we only have tobacco for foreigners."

Mr Forest remained silent for this time, hoping for a better opportunity to triumph over the Communist cause.

Zwirner now suggested drawing up a plan for the next few days. "It's Tuesday 14 July 2020," he said, "and as we're in the middle of the harvest, I can't take a leave of absence. I will be at your disposal for next Sunday, but on weekdays I have to devote myself to my job until 4 o'clock. As we have favourable weather, I suggest an excursion to the Kahlenberge for tomorrow and on Thursday there will be a district race in the Prater, which will be held in the afternoon, and a visit to the Rotunda could be combined with this. We can then make further plans for later. I could pick you up at Kahlenberge tomorrow afternoon."

We went along with the plan and Zwirner left us to get what we needed at the municipal palace. We were issued with tickets directing us to the management of the inns on the Kahlenberg and in the Prater for our meals on Wednesday and Thursday, as it was customary for everyone to take their meals where they were being accommodated.

Now Zwirner led us into his living room to exchange thoughts with us in peace about what was mainly on our minds. His parlour was simple, but bright, clean, well ventilated and pleasantly cool for the time of year. The furniture seemed very sparse and simple, but there was nothing missing to make it comfortable. The parlour was on the third floor to one side, where it was particularly quiet, and Zwirner had chosen this position because he was contemplative and liked to spend his leisure time studying. We saw an enormous number of books piled up, many of them in English, as well as many volumes of old newspapers and journals, which provided information about the state of social science in the 19th century, about the statistics of the time and about the movement that was sweeping through all peoples at the time, and which announced the approach of a refreshing thunderstorm like the glow of the weather. Zwirner explained how he had come into possession of the material. He said that nobody had private property and that all the books were kept in public libraries. Vienna had ten large public libraries, each with millions of volumes, as all the private libraries were gradually absorbed there and since the introduction of the public library system, half a million volumes had been added to the central libraries every year.

The Viennese libraries included, among other things, all Unica and for years had been receiving everything published annually in the entire world, regardless of language. The government was exchanging books with all communist states and in this way obtained many thousands of works every year, as Germany alone, for example, published 12,000 works a year compared to around 7,000 works in the 19th century.

Generally, only a sample copy is sent, but if the Imperial Library Administration finds that the people might be interested in something or that the distribution of a work is useful, a large number of copies, even up to a hundred, are ordered so that each district can be supplied with a copy. At the end of the year, they would calculate each other's sales and generally count volume by volume, the volume of 500 pages, the page of 250 words. The intrinsic value of a work was not taken into account, because it was only an imprint and the states observed the principle among themselves that science and art were international.

"And the writers don't receive a fee either?" I interjected.

"Of course, they do not receive a fee in money, since the monetary economy has been abolished, but from ancient times it has been customary to grant special advantages and favours for intellectual work of higher value."

"But how do you measure this and who assesses the value of the work?"

"The value of labour is assessed by the government in the same way as the merits of a civil servant were assessed and rewarded in the 19th century, partly through promotion, partly through awards, but also partly through bonuses!"

"You can imagine the economy of protection," cursed Mr Forest, "and anyone who writes against the government or does not court the ministers will, of course, wait in vain for a reward."

"In Austria one does not write for or against the government, because, after the class state has been transformed into a people's state through the nationalisation of property, all political questions have lost their significance and at most the merit or fault of individuals can come into question, whereby science and art are not involved. However, it is not possible to reach a definite judgement in the evaluation of intellectual work, but it is held as follows. In literature, a distinction is made between science and art. In science it is a question of research and the communication of its results or of mere tradition. The researcher publishes the former in specialised journals or in independent works. If he belongs to the official association of scientific bodies, i.e. an academy, a university or a scientific institute set up by the state, the results of his research are regarded as the intellectual property of the state, which grants him maintenance and provides all research aids. However, this does not exclude the possibility of special rewards being granted for epoch-making discoveries in a munificent manner, as is generally the case with the rewarding of special merits."

"How can this be reconciled with the communist principles and how is it consistent with the demand for equality?" asked Forest.

"We do not regard equality as a demand of communism in the sense that man enjoys the same for man. We understand equality to mean, first of all, the maintenance of equal dignity for every human being. Everyone is a human being and that is the highest title of nobility. Equality also means that everyone receives a perfect education and a perfect training, so that all his mental and physical faculties may be fully developed, no matter who his father or mother may be. We further understand equality to mean that everyone is granted all those facilities in his profession which enable him to achieve the highest. Only through higher achievements can man rise a little above his fellow men. The privileges of birth have been abolished precisely so that everyone can be honoured and rewarded according to merit. That is to say, \_=in order that natural inequality may attain its full development, all artificial inequality arising from servitude has been abolished=\_."

"We are further convinced that if everyone is given the same opportunity to do the utmost that nature has enabled him to do, this alone is the appropriate reward; for if a man who is twice as strong as his neighbour and therefore moves twice as great a load is given twice as much food, this is more equal than if one wanted to give these different people exactly the same amount of food. In no case does this cause social inequality, and as little as one could think of supplying a hundred-horse steam engine with exactly the same amount of coal as a one-horse steam engine, just as little could one mechanically give every worker exactly the same amount of food."

"But if we consider more closely the nature of the goods to which outstanding artists, researchers and inventors will preferably lay claim, they will probably fall under the concept of spiritual nourishment. The people, then, the purchasers of all intellectual and material values created by human labour, have an interest in ensuring that higher merit also finds higher reward. For it presents itself as a productive expenditure."

"Our relative equality follows merit far more closely than the social order of the 19th century, which wasted billions of the annual product on people who did nothing at all. But we think that every labourer, whether he works with his hands or with his head or with his nerves, where, for instance, close attention is necessary, exerts himself to a certain extent, and that he devotes a part of his life, and that in varying degrees, according to the kind and quantity of his work, and according to this proportion the wages must be graduated. As one gives back to the field itself what one takes from it in agriculture, as one feeds the plough horse itself differently, depending on whether it works more or less strenuously."

Then he was interrupted by the bell calling us to dinner, and before we had learnt how art is treated in literature, we made a pilgrimage to the large dining room. Our path led past the swimming pool, where young and old of both sexes were still romping about, and through the flower garden that fills the space between the houses. We found the dining room brightly lit and barely half full. People came and went and the prettiest young girls served as lifters from table to table.

Let us now recall in a few words the next two days, when we were left more to ourselves because Zwirner had to work very hard. The next day we drove up the Kahlenberg, to which the railway and a cog railway, built 150 years ago but much improved since then, lead, and from where we first saw Vienna, with far fewer towers than in the 19th century, decorated and not expanded, as was thought at the time, but rather moved together -- as pictures on the walls of the dining room taught us -- and we were amazed to see greenery everywhere, mixed in between the groups of houses, more than is usually the case in a big city. From a large terrace we looked down on the shimmering city and the surrounding vineyards, on the left the Danube with the fertile Marchfeld and blue mountains in the far distance and on the right, starting from the mountain ridge on which we were standing, probably graded in twenty shades of colour, becoming ever more fragrant and blue, a magnificent tangle of wooded mountains which, rising to ever greater heights, stretch far to the south, where the famous Schneeberg is clearly visible. There are extensive residential buildings and inns on the Kahlenberg; an old church, which is said to have stood there, is no longer preserved and forest paths lead in an arc to a second hilltop, situated between us and the Danube, which is called Leopoldsberg and is also inhabited. The dwellings are used by old people who like to stay there in winter and summer and are often visited by thousands of people who enjoy themselves for a few hours, stay late into the night and often enjoy themselves in the large hall with music and dancing, as well as often listening to men singing for exercise or for their own pleasure or to honour foreign visitors who are in Vienna and accept an invitation to this mountain. It goes without saying that everything is paid for by the state.

The vast forests, interspersed with meadows, offer thousands of enjoyable opportunities to indulge in ball games, cricket or lawn tennis, for which there are plenty of facilities. There is an observation tower here and in about an hour you can reach the Hermannskogel on marvellous paths, on which there is also an ancient tower, the story of whose origins is told by the Castellan. We legitimised ourselves in the inn on the Kahlenberg with the instructions of the Tulln official and were provided with everything we needed. We telephoned Zwirner to inform him that we wanted to go to Payerbach immediately after lunch to spend the marvellous night on the Schneeberg. When we set off, we were provided with a bag in which we took the most necessary travelling requirements and provisions for our mouths, and were asked to hand in our bag and travel requirements in Tulln, from where they would be returned from time to time.

An American we met by chance joined us and via the rack railway, Franz-Josefs-Bahn and Südbahn we reached Payerbach at ten o'clock, hiked in the moonlight to Reichenau and from there to the Schneeberg, where we rested a little and were woken by the rising of the sun. We enjoyed the uplifting natural spectacle with many other visitors, then rested again and arrived in Payerbach around midday to go straight to the Prater. We arrived there towards the end of the race, which was the same as elsewhere and at a different time, except that betting was not allowed and the countless women and girls were not \_\_demi-reputation\_\_.

Now we were glad to get to our late lunch, which we had been instructed to eat, because our food supply was exhausted and we didn't want to go to a random dining room, which we

could have done, as we feared rejection. We arrived in Tulln around nine o'clock, quite tired, and enjoyed our evening meal. Zwirner promised us to arrange for the return of the travelling effects, which was very easy, as hardly a day went by without someone going to Nußdorf at least, and from there the conductors of the cog railway would take them.

We were surprised that order was possible, and Zwirner said that if the things did not arrive in three days, they would certainly be telephoned to Tulln, and where could a traveller take the things that obviously did not belong to him? They would be taken from him and would certainly always return to their place, because the central offices handle all enquiries and communications.

Zwirner explained the telephone system to us. Originally, all towns were connected to the district suburbs, these to the district suburbs and these to the provincial towns by telephone lines. All lines converged in Vienna and the district towns also had telegraphic connections with the provincial towns and these with Vienna. The line ran from office to office everywhere, but could also be used by individuals. It was not necessary to have one's own operating personnel, as the telephones were installed everywhere where someone's call had to be heard.

#### IV.

It was a bright afternoon and a thunderstorm had cooled the air.

I said that I had to visit the American envoy, as I was his compatriot, and Zwirner replied that he wanted to enquire whether the American envoy had an evening reception. He went to the municipal palace and soon returned with the news that the American envoy had announced his visit to Prince Hochberg for the evening and that he would be pleased to meet his fellow citizens Mssrs. West and Forest there. Zwirner had now asked Prince Hochberg, where his sister was a housemate, whether it would be pleasant if he could spend the evening there with Mr West and Mr Forest from Boston, mainly with the intention of welcoming the American envoy. The Prince replied in the affirmative.

Zwirner remarked that we did not understand what a prince had to do in a communist state and how these convivial relations could be explained, and said: "I will explain the position of the nobility to you another time, but it is quite natural that we should visit the American envoy where he is spending his evening, and that we should invite ourselves to Prince Hochberg for this purpose. If one does not have business or, as we say, official meetings with someone, one tries to meet in the evening, because the evening is intended for social gatherings throughout the empire. The burden of organising reception evenings falls everywhere on the administrative official, but in Vienna the Emperor or his representative receives daily, as do the ministers, some tribunes of the people and the nobility. We have 200 aristocratic families whose heads have to fulfil these representational duties and are thus, in a sense, small succursals of the imperial court. Every urban neighbourhood has its own palace where everyone can spend a pleasant evening, but in Vienna famous people from all over the world flock together by the thousands, and if you want to meet celebrities, it

is best to go to court or to these smaller aristocratic circles. At court, the hustle and bustle of visitors is numbing and people like to go once, but are very reluctant to go twice. The receptions of the nobility, on the other hand, are extremely pleasant. Only about two hundred people can gather in the palace of such a magnate. One does not lose oneself, everyone can be noticed, but also, if he pleases, indulge in contemplation, one finds the most beautiful women, of whom we now have a legion, and the most interesting men, many artists and scholars, and no one complains that he has ever lost an evening there. I have to be admitted to Prince Hochberg's house just like any other inhabitant of the realm or foreigner, but you always announce yourself beforehand because the rooms are not particularly large and they want to avoid an unpleasant crowd. Incidentally, Prince Hochberg's house is also my house, the refreshments that are served in his house are paid for by all the people and I am just as much at home with Hochberg as I am in Tulln or anywhere else in the empire. Asking whether my visit would be pleasant is nothing more than an enquiry as to whether the number of registered visitors has not already exceeded a certain limit. In earlier times, however, a negative answer could also be given for other reasons. When the new social order was established and the degraded population of the 19th century had to be reckoned with, the nobility had the right, hardly ever exercised today, to refuse entry to anyone who could not have been an ornament to such a society. In three generations since 1930, however, the character of the people has changed to such an extent that the nobility can probably admit any native to its circles."

"But how do you deal with strangers?"

"If a suspicious stranger were to report to Hochberg for a visit, the prince would seek instructions from the quartermaster beforehand and the man would be put off his guard with an excuse and a theatre ticket. We have long since developed a natural sense of propriety which teaches us to avoid disturbances and to spare sensitivities. For example, there are people who are not allowed to meet anywhere because they dislike each other, as they could all too easily get into arguments or at least not enjoy socialising next to each other. The meeting of such people is always skilfully avoided and the telephone is a real boon for us, because the responsible officials are always aware of any dangers that may arise."

Just then, a handsome boy drove up in a carriage drawn by two horses and we got in to make our way to Hochberg. The young driver had asked for the favour of being entrusted with driving the horses as often as possible, because it gave him particular pleasure. He was the doctor's son and we were told that he would take the horses, which had not been harnessed these days, for a ride after he had brought us to Hochberg and then he would pick us up again, as the reception was over at 11 o'clock.

The journey did not go to the Hochbergs' city palace, as the court and the nobility had already moved into the country houses and castles since the beginning of May, and Prince Hochberg had taken over the representation in the imperial pleasure palace at Königstetten at the request of the imperial Obersthofmeisteramt, where some artists and scholars, former ministers and some famous people from the German Empire were also guests of the emperor. It was a lively place and in the evenings a daily changing company of strangers gathered, who came out from Vienna on a visit, and of officials and doctors from the

neighbourhood, who were able to take an evening off. That's why there were several carriages travelling along the same road, which stopped almost at the same time as us in the entrance hall of the castle at around 7 o'clock.

The castle was owned by Count Bray in the 19th century and was then taken over and rebuilt by the Civil List. At that time it was a miserable house wedged between huts. Now it stands splendid and free and the carpet of flowers at the front is just as marvellous as the extensive park that stretches backwards up the hill. The village was also poor in the 19th century and the community of barely 1200 souls was divided into more than two hundred miserable huts with dirty streets running between them.

In the first reception room, Prince Hochberg rushed up to greet and welcome us after a student, who was spending the holidays at the palace and was running a kind of secretariat to make the Prince's representative duties a little easier, had given him our names and announced the purpose of our visit to Austria, as well as the main purpose of our appearance at this reception evening. "\_\_\_Very glad to see you here; the Ambassador will be here this moment. In the mean while my daughter will keep you company and I shall have a talk with you afterwards.\_\_\_" With this the Prince departed to meet other visitors who had announced their arrival. The Prince's daughter, Lori Hochberg, invited us to join her in a window alcove, where we took our seats, and after the young lady had spoken a few words of English to us, her eyes caught our friend Zwirner's and she asked him: "Are we going to have an English conversation?" Zwirner replied that he did not understand English, but that we could make ourselves understood quite well in German. The princess then said, using the German language: "You must know that we in Austria live in a true Babel. When our country adopted the new social order, four main language tribes were represented in the empire and eight languages were spoken. Under Franz Josef the Steadfast, it was agreed that the German language would be the general means of communication, at least for the educated, which, incidentally, was much disputed at the time. Since then, the whole of Austria has devoted itself to language studies and there is no one in the country who does not speak at least two languages fluently, but many speak five or six living languages, as history tells us that Franz Josef the Steadfast communicated with every citizen of his realm in the language they were familiar with, and when he once answered a Croatian speech with a German speech on an official occasion, there is said to have been a storm in the water glass and the then Prime Minister for the Lands of the Hungarian Crown had to speak."

This polyglotism, which has now become a national virtue, is the main reason why for 40 years foreigners from all parts of the world have favoured Austria and Vienna in particular, and why the 30 universities in Vienna, including several where lectures are held in foreign languages, are attended by students from Australia as well as from China, Japan and Persia, South and North America and even from the colonies in East Africa.

We had not yet had our say, which we were very glad of, for we were showered with explanations and kindnesses everywhere, and feared to say rather awkward things, but now I took the liberty of interjecting that we had been surprised that Zwirner did not understand English, since he had written to us in English. -- That was easily explained, said Zwirner. He certainly had as much linguistic talent as any other Austrian, but as his profession was that

of an agricultural labourer, he had not had to acquire English for his professional training, but his private studies had led him to it. Popular education introduces everyone to all branches of human knowledge to such an extent that he can enrich his knowledge in an autodidactic way as he sees fit. As he was now studying the state of the social question in the nineteenth century for his own pleasure, he had felt the necessity of researching the newspapers, pamphlets and socio-political works of England and America from that period, and for this he had needed a knowledge of the English language, but only to the extent that he had to learn to read and write fluently, which he had succeeded in doing after years of endeavour.

He was familiar with the Romance language stem, as he had chosen Italian as his second national language, and as the English language was a mixture of German and Romance words and forms, he had acquired a complete familiarity with this language with the help of the grammars and dictionaries in the municipal library of Tulln and through years of reading English books. However, as he had never heard anyone speak English, he hardly understood a single English word that was spoken to him.

"That's amazing, Princess!" I turned to her, who then remarked: "You mustn't call me Princess, because the daughters of noble families don't belong to the nobility and never marry noblemen." As she said this, she again gave our friend Zwirner a spirited look, which I had noticed several times before. "So call me Lori Hochberg," the beautiful girl concluded. Lori was an imposing figure; long chestnut-brown tresses hung down her back, her sparkling eyes and swelling mouth betrayed a woman made for love, and as I now let my eyes rest with pleasure on Zwirner, I realised that they would make a splendid couple. Zwirner was a handsome man of true giant stature and noble bearing, and nothing indicated his profession but somewhat strong and large hands, which, by the way, were wearing gauntlets today. His costume was reminiscent of old German paintings and was composed of short-cropped velvet of various colours; his legs were clad up to the knees with gaiters of fine leather and his broad-brimmed hat was adorned with feathers from various game birds.

Zwirner also seemed to enjoy letting his eyes glide over the beautiful figure of Lori, whom he was seeing for the first time. But he was not disturbed by Lori's behaviour; on the contrary, there was always a hint of quiet irony on his lips, but it was nothing hurtful.

"I have not yet had time," he said, "to fully enlighten our American friends about the position of our nobility, the manners in Austria and our concept of human equality. I will do that and complete your remarks. But I would ask you, dear friend, to inform the guests of the visits expected today that might be of interest to them."

We were drawn back into the conversation, and as we applauded Lori for the fact that one could see such varied and tasteful costumes in Austria, which she answered again with a smiling glance at Zwirner's splendid figure, she took a folder from the small table next to which she had taken a seat and said: "Just compare these costumes from the 19th century and the crippled human race of those days with our present-day folk types". -- Zwirner was perfectly familiar with this, as his studies had long since led him to it, and he told her, by the way, that even the costumes of the time were made fun of, and that the rude cylinder-shaped hats were called "stovepipes" and the ridiculously cut skirts "tailcoats". --



In the meantime many visitors had driven up, and although they all passed through our hall, we had not been disturbed because Lori did not encourage anyone to approach us, and the visitors therefore sought out the Prince in the next rooms, where loud conversation could be heard. But when the American envoy, a glum-looking diplomat in a ridiculous uniform, entered with Miss Flower, his pale-faced daughter, in his arms, Lori stood up to introduce us. The encounter was only a fleeting one and ended after a few words with the Flowers continuing their pilgrimage and us resuming our former seats.

The windows were open and a balmy air streamed in from the extensive gardens, over which twilight was beginning to spread. Now the violins sounded in the dance hall and with the words, "The gypsies," Lori stood up, which Zwirner could not understand in any other way than that he could lead her to the dance. As she took his arm, she called to us in a friendly manner: "Take a look in the dance hall or wander through the gardens, we are only going to dance for show, which cannot be taken seriously on a summer evening."

We followed the beautiful couple and admired the dance hall, which, covered in white stucco and unobtrusively decorated with gilding, shone with electric light and was not overly hot, as all the windows overlooking the park were open. We soon left the hustle and bustle to follow Lori's advice and enjoy the gardens, where glowing lights twinkled in the trees and bushes, cascades and fountains splashed and groups of visitors wandered around chatting.

As we turned back towards the castle and stepped under the pillared porch, the floor of which was covered with a beautiful mosaic -- called *terazzo* in Austria -- Lori and Zwirner came towards us, who, a little heated from dancing, seemed to have come a little closer. A passing young friend of the family was asked to see if our carriage had already driven up, and when he came back with the news that young Stirner -- the name of our steed-driver -- was waiting for us impatiently because the horses would not stand still, we said goodbye to Lori with the request that she recommend us to the prince, whose hospitality we enjoyed. "It's not like that," Lori replied with a laugh, "the peoples of Austria are the masters of this house, but I will greet the father on your behalf." She shook Zwirner's hand warmly, not without looking him in the eye with a smile, gave us a friendly wave and disappeared into the garden. We got into the car and on the way home on a delicious summer night we asked Zwirner about his relationship with Lori. He said that he had seen Lori for the first time today and, as they were both unmarried and could marry, a marriage would only be possible if they fell in love. "Lori showed me as much favour as was proper, and without such encouragement no young man would dare to confess his love to a girl. But as delightful as I find Lori, it is the general custom to approach slowly and not to be completely captivated by the first sight. Marriage is taken seriously in our country, as much as one looks through the fingers of unmarried and widowed people. But let's talk about that another time, because we can't exhaust the topic today."

We had just pulled up outside our house and as it was already midnight and we had been given some tea and cold cuts instead of supper at Hochberg's, we went to bed without going into the dining room, where we could still see the light.

V.

The next morning, Saturday, we slept a little longer and as the guest rooms are located in the wing of the residential buildings where the old people live who want to have some peace and quiet, we didn't hear the sound of the gongs, which are used everywhere else to chase young and old out of bed at 5 o'clock every morning at the latest.

The morning was bright and we went for a swim after leaving the house, but arrived in the dining room at 7 o'clock, where a dozen pretty girls were on duty and brought breakfast to those who were late. As we were about to sit down at Zwirner's table, an old gentleman came to us, called himself Dr Kolb and gave us a greeting from his friend Zwirner, who had long since crossed the field and would not be able to see us today, as he was going to Hochberg in the evening and could not expect us to repeat our visit there.

While we were getting ready for breakfast, Dr Kolb said he wanted to keep us company, which was the chief occupation of the old gentlemen towards foreigners, and he asked us to inform ourselves from the *Metropolitananzeiger*, which was only published for Vienna and its environs, what of the evening's pleasures could give us the most pleasure. He had heard that we were historians, and if a semi-scientific lecture could be of interest to us, he recommended that we study the "Scientific Lectures" section. The suggestion appealed to us and we each picked up a booklet and, after some deliberation, chose a lecture by Professor Lueger on Franz Josef the Stalwart and his time in the old university building on Franzensring. Dr Kolb applauded the suggestion and recommended that we travel to Vienna in his company and take a first tour, as we would have to dedicate many days to this city. Furthermore, as the lecture would begin at seven in the evening and would hardly close before half past nine, he wanted to find us accommodation in the city where we could spend the night. He wanted to devote himself entirely to us and bring us back the next morning, Sunday. This was agreeable to us and Dr Kolb left for a short time, only to return soon afterwards with the news that Vienna was overcrowded due to an upcoming regatta and that he had therefore been unable to find us accommodation in the quarters nearest the university, but that he had booked three bedrooms in the third Gumpendorf quarter. Such festivities always attracted many people to Vienna, but there would still be enough room in the summer months, as the court and nobility, students and teachers, and even many pensioners would leave to hurry home or seek cool accommodation in the mountains. This time, however, was used to bring young people from all parts of the empire to Vienna. It was considered educational to familiarise young people with the cosmopolitan city; it was also an opportunity to reward diligence and punish industriousness, as each municipality punitively excluded a part of the age group destined to travel to Vienna, and in many people a real enthusiasm for school was awakened when they saw magnificent Vienna for the first time and heard that the best pupils would go to university and could then spend five years in the capital.

The railway soon took us to the Franz-Josefs-Bahnhof and Dr Kolb advised us to use the tram rather than the Stadtbahn, which had been built at the end of the 19th century but then partially relocated to eliminate the disruption it had caused to the harmonious vistas. We followed his advice and boarded a tram carriage, which travelled from there to the

Schottenring, then in a circle around the entire ring and returned to its starting point. Such carriages started from every outer railway station, because it had become the custom for every newcomer to begin his first visit with this round trip; for it was a legend spread all over the world that one could see nothing more beautiful.

We took a seat on the imperial carriage, which was neither harnessed to horses nor moved by a barbaric, smoking road locomotive, but was operated pneumatically by supplying compressed air from the pneumatic tubes to the wind boiler mounted next to the coachman at each stop.

We noticed that the city was composed of almost identical neighbourhoods; they resembled Tulln and other small communities in their main layout. Four large residential buildings always surrounded a palace, which was intended for administration, reading and dining rooms; between them were gardens with swimming pools and only two or three wings of the outer buildings extended to the streets, which were largely travelled by tramcars. There were no lorries anywhere on the road and only the occasional horse-drawn carriage whizzed past us, just as a few cyclists rode silently by. Only the ring road formed a wide paved surface, as in the old days. Otherwise, there were narrow pavements everywhere and in many streets, which were not allowed to be used by motorised vehicles, there were only uninterrupted gardens to be seen. The tram tracks, which were laid in the meadow squares and crossed the snaking paths, were hardly noticeable. To make this operation possible, rail scrapers ran in front of the wheels, not only throwing out stones, but also pushing aside grasses and stalks. The driver was able to set the switches from his seat while driving, as a bolt was fitted between the rails in front of each switch, which could be moved to the right or left by means of bolts attached to the carriage and adjustable from the seat.

As we turned into the Ringstrasse, we saw opposite us the beautiful former stock exchange building, built by Theophil Hansen, gleaming in an unweathered red colour, and since people had not traded there for more than a hundred years, the building had been converted into a classroom building, just as the former police building to the right now serves as a student hostel. Dr Kolb drew our attention to the balustrade crowning the former stock exchange and said that we had no reason to fear that the columns would break and fall on the heads of passers-by, because in Vienna they build for eternity. He pointed to the former police building opposite and said that there was a green-painted wagon with bars and cell walls in the courtyard from the old days, the purpose of which could not be made clear; one suspected that it had been used to transport animals. A tender had been issued to solve this historical mystery. He also informed us that only a few of the residential buildings that stood on the Ringstrasse in the 19th century still existed, as many of the houses of wealthy citizens had long since been demolished and public buildings erected in their place. One exception was the Sühnhaus, incidentally an endowed house in memory of the terrible fire in a theatre that stood on the same site. The Sühnhaus is a beautiful building designed by Master Schmidt, the 19th century master builder of the cathedral. "Here you can see the Votive Church, designed by the architect Ferstel. This building was founded by the future Emperor Max, whom you will probably hear about in tonight's lecture, to commemorate the rescue of Emperor Franz Josef, who had been attacked with murder weapons by a political fanatic,

and here stands the oldest German university in this city, also designed by the master builder Ferstel, in which, in addition to the real sciences, only the history of theology and the history of jurisprudence are taught, because these supposed sciences were only props of the class state. The ramp clearly proves that the students of the 19th century went to the lecture with furs."

"What do you think about religion now?" Mr Forest wanted to ask, but Dr Kolb asked us not to interrupt him because we had to explain the wall paintings.

"Here on the left is the so-called Burgtheater, built by Master Hasenauer -- in the crazy 19th century these gentlemen were all called barons or barons. The young man sitting high up there on the wall, as if he had climbed over from the neighbour's garden where he stole cherries, is the god Apollo, and since we are passing too close to the theatre, you are missing precious curiosities that are mounted on the roof. There is a lovely little house of pleasure, around which a cheerful bubble angel revolves, always blowing in exuberance wherever the wind blows. Further away, two daredevil genii stand on two roof riders, seemingly offering wreaths for sale, but instead of coming down, they want to lure us up. In the background of the park on the right is the former town hall with the equestrian statue of Franz Josef the Steadfast above the portal and the copper watchman on the spire. Nothing is known of the town council and mayor of that vanished era. The archives, however, tell us marvellous things about the municipal administration and the petty business that had to be dealt with by a myriad of magistrates, secretaries and trainees. The council chamber is still preserved and the castellans show the seat from which Dr Karl Lueger, an ancestor of our professor, thundered against the then mayor, Dr Johann Nepomuk Prix, who is also said to have died a baron, but in vain, for Dr Karl Lueger was always the leader of a minority, which he knew how to drum up under various names. But since he could neither take the mayor's seat in the town hall nor the minister's bench in the House of Representatives, which we see here, he stubbornly rejected all mandates in the old days. -- The House of Representatives was also built by Theophil Hansen, whom I mentioned to you as the builder of the former stock exchange building. Today, the highest tribunes of the people and their secretaries live in the former town hall, and the House of Representatives is sometimes used for parliamentary assemblies when the people do not want to decide on major technical projects by community vote and send three delegates from each district with power of attorney."

"Otherwise, learned assemblies and European congresses constantly meet in this building because the meeting rooms and conference rooms are suitable for this purpose. Incidentally, it is said that the meeting rooms had to be completely rebuilt in the last century because one of the specialities of this building was that one could not understand one's own words in those halls, let alone follow a long speech. The former House of Representatives is also built of excellent material and you need not think that the steps leading up to it or the pedestals could not withstand the weather or that large pieces would fall out and create ugly holes when it freezes. However, most of it is wrapped in warm blankets and covered with planks in winter, which also makes for a charming sight. The building also has a meteorological purpose, as a huge chimney has been installed in the middle of the marble columns that stand around the edge of the roof, from which thick smoke always billows out, blown by the

wind at the back of one column of statues or another. The Viennese can count on their fingers which way the wind is blowing, and if the wind changes direction, the caretakers climb up and clean the statues again. Here on the left, the statue of the poet Grillparzer shimmers through the trees of the Volksgarten, somewhat oddly accompanied by a stove screen, but one is happy to reconcile oneself to it when one looks at the marvellous skin reliefs on it by Master Weyr. And now we come to the Hofburg, where the Emperor resides, with the Forum, the museums, and in the background, on the site of the former court stable building, you can see the Central Government Palace. The museums were designed and partly built by the famous master builder Semper, but the construction was completed after his death by Master Hasenauer. It was probably Hasenauer, whose imagination always knew how to put the best on the roofs, who designed the large domes, each of which is accompanied by four charming children, who probably have the task of growing into large domes and then moving in one after the other when the large ones collapse. Statues can be seen everywhere. Either they are mounted on enormous pedestals as pillar saints and give an impressive demonstration of freedom from vertigo, or they stand just behind the eaves on the edge of the roofs and look down curiously at the little people walking around in the street. In a way, this is economical, because it saves the plaque on which it is customary to write: "Please do not touch the statues and do not push their noses off with your umbrellas." The arrangement of the statues in the 19th century obviously had a military character. On the House of Deputies, they are drawn out in lines and you think you can see the major riding up, waving his sabre, the wingman should take a knee and the third man there should put his right hand in. At the Votive Church the saints and apostles stand pressed together side by side, as if they had to form a square to hold out against a mounted legion of devils. But this, I have no doubt, will be perfectly justified by the laws of beauty."

"By the way, friends," said Dr Kolb with a laugh, "we love our Vienna and if we find fault with some things, we hope that our guests will not overlook the beauties of which we have no right to speak. We may have a bad tongue in Vienna, but we have a good heart, and in bad times the Viennese have often helped themselves out of great misfortune with a joke."

"As you can see, the entire immense forum, which used to be divided by walls and a monumental gate, is covered with equestrian statues and statues of famous men who have defeated their rivals in competitions and won first prizes. This stimulates not a little ambition. Don't miss the marvellous and world-famous mosaics that cover the entire surface of this huge room and which took fifty years to complete."

Now Dr Kolb showed us the illustrations of the mosaics on a polychrome art sheet, which we were to see more closely later on our walk, and we drove past the old opera house, a not very tasteful large building, and many newly erected public buildings, which showed a much grander character than the buildings of the older period, then along the Danube Canal back to the old stock exchange, in order to now get out and have our second breakfast in the nearest quarter, where we legitimised ourselves. Then we made a pilgrimage on foot to the Votivkirche, visited the courtyard of the university with its countless statues and busts of famous teachers, enjoyed the children's games in the Rathausparke, where they used to frolic, entered the old town hall and the conference hall, where Dr Lueger's last speech was

written on the desk. Lueger's last speech, which was pinned to the desk of this man who had gained great renown as a popular orator and through tireless parliamentary activity, and listened to the proceedings of a hygienic congress from the gallery in a conference room of the old House of Representatives, to which, according to a notice, only men were admitted, in order to then take a look at the forum. Dr Kolb led us to a column in the middle of the forum, reflecting the sunlight, and said: "This is the pillar of shame of the buried economic order, which was built on private property and trade." -- This column has a diameter of one metre<sup>1</sup> and a height of 9.23475 metres and is made of pure gold. The inscription reads:

"Austria obtained this worthless lump of gold from France and England in 1893 and in return committed itself to an annual contribution of food for 50,000 people."

"This pillar, the guarding of which would have required an army in the 19th century, has stood unchallenged and unguarded on this spot since 1943. At the foot of this pillar, every regent must take an oath in front of the assembled people when taking office that he will prevent a return to the old economic order and will not strive for any personal property."

We were surprised that gold was not being minted in order to obtain goods from America or China, where gold is still used in international trade, but Dr Kolb informed us that gold, like silver in the past, was now only being minted to a limited extent and that gold therefore no longer had any significant value as a metal. But if the European states were to put their old gold reserves on the market, the metal would also have to fall to one fifth of its value in world trade. They would therefore reserve the right to process the existing gold into jewellery and utensils, but for the time being it would serve better as a tangible demonstration of its worthlessness.

It was nearly 5 o'clock when we had finished this tour, and as we were about to board the tram, a guide, of whom there are many on the street and who are respectable people who are retired and perform minor services in return for permission to settle in Vienna, handed us each a splendid album with the inscription: "Memory of Vienna", containing magnificent pictures of Vienna, especially the polychrome depictions of the mosaics of the Forum. The date of our visit there was inscribed on the album and certified with the signature of the supreme state administration that this album had been handed over to the foreign guest - whose name was free to be inscribed - on the day of his visit to the Forum.

---

<sup>1</sup> According to the specific weight of gold of 19.32 and the Austrian law of 2 August 1892 R. G. Bl. No. 126, a cubic decimetre of pure gold has a value of 63369.60 crowns and the Austrian Minister of Finance was authorised by law of the same date R. G. Bl. No. 130 authorised the Austrian Minister of Finance to contract a gold loan of 183,456,000 old Austrian gold guilders or 4369 million crowns for currency purposes. Fine gold in this quantity makes a circular column one metre in diameter and 9.23475 metres high.

The interest on the above-mentioned loan was estimated at nine million guilders and had to be raised by exporting breadfruit and cattle for slaughter, thus depriving the fatherland of food for 50,000 well-fed or 200,000 poorly fed people.

Even in Peru at the time of its conquest by Pizarro, gold was considered worthless because it was not minted into money. The palaces were covered with gold plates and the soldiers wore gold armour.

We drove to our quarters, where we met many Americans, dined, bathed and then rested a little in our rooms before boarding the carriage again after half past six and travelling to the old university. We passed through the famous columned hall, which was brilliantly illuminated, up the staircase on the right with its broad landings and bronze candelabra, into a corridor, where Prince Hochberg, who had the venia legendi and had travelled in from Königstetten to give a lecture on Buddhism, scurried past us greeting us and directed our steps to Hall XXXIX, where many visitors were streaming in. The seats, about a hundred, filled up quickly and silently, for it was not a lecture for students, but for the general public, and at the stroke of seven o'clock Professor Lueger entered hurriedly and mounted his lectern on the narrow wall, where sharp light fell, while at the same moment the hall darkened.

The professor began:

"Honoured listeners! Today I have to give a lecture on Franz Josef the Steadfast, who ruled for over 70 years, from 1848 until well into the 20th century, and who took over the government of our empire as an 18-year-old youth. He was inspired by the best of wills, had a chivalrous spirit and, as he found the empire in the greatest disorder and had to lead it from an almost medieval constitution into a completely different organisation, he adopted the motto: 'Viribus unitis'. -- As you will see, he kept his eyes fixed on what he had set out to do, but the goal seemed unattainable for a long time, and many despaired of the endeavour to create an empire in the midst of states that were rounding off nationally according to the course of the times, an empire that encompassed a small part of Italy, a part of Germany and a large part of Slavia, and included an Ugrofinnish empire, which, although it could not have a centrifugal tendency, opposed all attempts at amalgamation with a stubborn neck and minorised Germans and Slavs on its territory, as was said ironically at the time, i.e. tyrannically imposed the will of the smaller number on a disunited majority by constitutional means. Today we laugh at the political dodges of that time, since we have learnt to get over national differences; but it is a psychologically strange picture, this tough and equanimous prince in battle with so many nations and nationalities, all striving for hegemony or jealous of escaping the overweight of others, and just as the skipper often has to throw out ballast in order to save the cargo, Emperor Franz Josef I, who was honoured after his death with the historical name "the Steadfast" because of his victory over incredible difficulties, often had to make sacrifices, not without more than once sailing past the edge of cliffs in stormy times, which broke his helm while the masts fell overboard."

After this introduction, the professor developed the history of Austria up to the accession to power of Emperor Franz Ferdinand, who reigned until the second half of the 20th century and was the fourth ancestor of the current Emperor Rudolf Max, who was born in 1980. The speaker described the victory of Franz Josef over the Italian and Hungarian insurrection and the temporary victory over the politics of the Hohenzollerns, then moved on to the marriage of Emperor Franz Josef to the Bavarian Princess Elisabeth, dissected the politics of Minister Bach, who was first idolised and after his fall fell into complete oblivion, showed the octroyation, then abolition of the first general constitution, the resentful resistance of the Hungarian nation, mentioned the assassination of the Hungarian Libeny, which gave

occasion to mention the construction of the nearby Votive Church, which could be seen standing dreamily in the evening light from the lecture theatre, and then said that the government seemed successful until 1859, when Sardinia, in union with France, which was ruled by the mischievous Napoleon III. and Emperor Franz Josef, after believing the campaign lost with the battle of Solferino, made peace with the loss of a province. We then heard a description of the first attempts to move towards constitutional forms, the defiance of the Hungarians, who demanded their old special constitution, the suspension of the constitution, the unfortunate campaign against Italy and Prussia and then the renewed resumption of the hitherto unsuccessful endeavours. This was followed by some highly dramatic episodes from the life of the emperor and from the history of his family: the burning to death of a princess from the family of Archduke Albrecht, the ill-fated endeavour of Archduke Ferdinand Max, who set out to found an empire in America and, condemned as an agitator, paid for his ambition with his life at Queretaro, the figure of Empress Charlotte, who ended her life in madness, the sudden and never fully clarified death of the hopeful Crown Prince Rudolf, which deprived the Emperor of his only direct male heir, and we saw the famous Habsburg persevere unbroken on the tossed ship amidst all these storms, forgetting his duty and his immeasurable personal suffering, until he was struck by new blows of fate, when he, magnanimously offering his not blameless opponents his hand in alliance, became involved in the most terrible war the world has seen, and how he, although victorious in the end, had to stand his ground again, he had to see with a bleeding heart how Russian cavalry hordes were routed in blessed Austria, whole provinces were devastated, smoking ruins covered the whole of Poland and half of Hungary and the population of the empire, which had just begun to flourish again, was decimated, so that it was not until the beginning of the 21st century that Austria's population returned to the level it had been at the beginning of the 20th century. It was not until the beginning of the 21st century that Austria's population reached the level of 1890. During this last storm, which also brought Germany, France and Italy to the edge of the abyss and proved for a second time the folly of the policy hostile to Austria, Austria had been so exhausted that the old social order could no longer be maintained and a new one had to be introduced, which opened up inexhaustible sources of aid to the state, because it gave the states' instinct for self-preservation all the economic power which had previously served in the hands of a mad plutocracy to satisfy childish private whims.

The captivating description of this remarkable period of government was followed by the audience with rapt attention, and after the quite natural change in the social order had been explained in its origin, its progress and its finally victorious realisation, a psychological sketch of the monarch of that epoch followed, which was to be regarded as a philosophical cabinet piece and unleashed frenetic applause. The lecturer showed the reasons why this remarkable prince was misjudged for so long and most of all in Austria, and what strength of character and ancient sense of duty it took to persevere under such circumstances. As great as, according to the judgement of all his contemporaries and the testimony of all those who worked with the emperor, his versatile talents and political gifts were, his character was even more admirable. The unrivalled self-control and conciliatory nature of this monarch, which overcame more than one malicious opponent, as well as the strength and perseverance that



Franz Josef I demonstrated in personal and public affairs, have earned him the epithet of the steadfast.

Finally, Professor Lueger mentioned, as we know from Dr Kolb, a great-grandson of Dr Karl Lueger, whose memory has been preserved in the chronicles and mocking songs of his opponents, a legend about the House of Habsburg. He said that it was claimed that Emperor Joseph II and, after his example, Emperor Franz Joseph I had already written a secret history of their reign and the political events and family experiences connected with it, which was accessible to no one but the respective reigning head of the family. It was documented with the most comprehensive documentary material and in the accompanying memoirs the reigning prince endeavoured to explain to himself in the most conscientious manner and to pass on to his successors the extent to which error, rashness and passion on the part of the ruler had contributed to the misfortunes that befell the empire and the house. Thus the dynasty formed itself and brought itself up to an office that had no equal in difficulty on the whole earth and since the beginning of the human race. However, the monarch's limited contemporaries never took these difficulties into account, but measured success against success, as if every task were equally difficult.

\_\_Take it all in all, he was a man!\_\_

The professor closed and took his leave with a friendly gesture; the hall shone again in radiant light and we were just about to hurry down the ramp to a tram carriage when we were informed by the house staff that a heavy rain was pouring down and that we should take the exit via Staircase VI to Universitätsstraße, where the carriages arrived under a covered vestibule. There were more than fifty of them ready to take all the visitors to the evening lectures, about a thousand passengers, and we divided into groups by neighbourhood according to an ingenious procedure, for which the stewards present gave instructions. When it was the turn of the Gumpendorf neighbourhoods, we took our seats to go home. In the centre of the Gumpendorf quarters we stopped under a covered hall made of iron and glass and came to our quarters through an underground covered connection. We were told that it was possible to get from any house to any house, even to the palaces in the former inner city, now the aristocratic quarter, on dry feet in bad weather, and that although the tramcars did not cross the boundary of the aristocratic quarter, there were enough carriages at the time of the receptions to carry the guests from the alighting halls to the castle or the palaces of the nobles. Although this was no small task, as often 50,000 people had to be transported, there were over 1000 carriages available and they only had to cover short distances. Incidentally, the tramway was to be routed through this neighbourhood, which was just a large park adorned with palaces, as experience had shown that this means of transport could be operated pneumatically and that the tracks could be routed through gardens without disfiguring them.

After supper, we climbed one of the high staircases to the first floor, where we found our way around easily because the layout of all these public buildings is similar, and reached the library hall, which occupies the centre of the first floor and is surrounded by smaller halls, which are largely used as classrooms in the communities, but serve as playrooms, small reading rooms and for lectures in front of a small auditorium in the capital's quarters. The

library room, which is only taken out of its proper use when important political meetings of the whole community or final votes take place, is lined high up with bookcases, in which there are also repositories for maps and engravings, and the file clerk in this room showed us that the library already had 10136 volumes. We took some American newspapers and books, with which we retired to an empty adjoining room to read. It attracted our attention that this small room, to which only one door led, contained a small library, and in the cases were only blue-bound works. Dr Kolb told us that all books containing something that had to be kept secret from children and young people were placed in blue volumes and that such drawings and the like were also made known in the same way. Such books, drawings, models, etc. would be kept in the small library, to which younger people and children would not have access, and only reliable persons would be allowed to borrow from this library. The women, on the other hand, bound their secret literature in red and men had no access to their private reading room. Incidentally, the proposal to be more open to children was under negotiation, as it was expected that the reasonableness of a hardening system would also prove itself there, provided that it came into effect before the onset of puberty.

After a while we got into another conversation with Dr Kolb, who gave us some information about the library system and the book publishing house. He said that the Reich Central Library Administration had 300 permanent officials. But of course they could not read the immense number of works constantly flowing in from abroad and keep themselves up to date in such a way that they could provide information to anyone who wanted to find out about a branch of science or literature. They had enough to do with the cataloguing and annual supplementation of the printed catalogues and their new edition, which took place every ten years, and they were also responsible for the dispatch of books from the central libraries and the supervision of the provincial library administrations, which were again in a similar relationship to the district libraries. The catalogues were printed, comprised many volumes and were placed in every reading room. How municipal, district, county and provincial libraries are to be endowed is a matter of course according to the principles of library technology and books are sent from every library if they can be dispensed with. In Vienna, a pipe system has been set up which makes it possible to transport books from the main libraries to the reading rooms in the neighbourhoods in the shortest possible time. Pneumatics are used for this purpose. Human labour consisted only of placing the books in the trolleys and inserting them into the mouths of the tubes. Each central library had 35 reading rooms to serve. In the buildings of the Central Libraries themselves, numerous work cells are set up in which scholars, artists and other people can have a reference library put together so that they can work undisturbed.

We calculated how many books Austria needed if more than 40,000 reading rooms, which Austria possesses, are endowed with such large quantities of books, and if there are still such significant reserves in large central libraries, but Dr Kolb said that the rural communities had a much smaller number of libraries and that only the district libraries, of which there were 2,000, were richly equipped. -- Zwirner told him that, according to his research, Germany alone printed over 6,000 works a year in the 19th century, often in many volumes and large editions, and that one could therefore conclude that Germany produced 10 million volumes a year in that period. The comparative paucity of books at that time can only be

explained by the fact that the books usually sat idle for years at booksellers, were then hardly ever read and gathered dust on private bookshelves, whereas now every volume from the bookbindery ends up in the library. The annual production in Austria now amounts to 40 million volumes per year, i.e. about four times as much as in the 19th century in Germany, and about 20 million volumes are taken out of circulation every year and returned to the paper mills, so that the annual increase amounts to 20 million volumes, and since this increase has remained constant over the last 20 years, this amounts to 400 million volumes for these years alone, and the diversity of works is astonishingly increased by the international exchange, or international book trade, which usually amounts to 5 million volumes per year. The number of domestic and foreign works published each year totalled 50,000 - the number of copies, however, was extraordinarily different, as 45,000 copies of some works were published, but only one copy of many foreign works was purchased. We disputed the possibility of publishing the annual catalogues in print, but Dr. Kolb assured us that he had seen a 19th century goods catalogue from a certain Rix in Vienna at Zwirner, in which children's toys and other bric-a-brac up to a price of 5 Kreuzers were listed. Much more than that could be done for literature. Incidentally, Chinese, Japanese and other works of the most foreign literatures are usually only mentioned summarily at the end of the catalogue in terms of number and subject matter.

We believed that an annual production of 40 million volumes would have to exhaust the national paper stocks, but Dr Kolb also refuted this by pointing out that paper consumption in Austria was already calculated at 3-1/2 kilograms per capita in 1890 and that it now amounts to 5 kilograms per capita. Since the average paper consumption per volume was not even half a kilogramme, it was easy to calculate one volume per year for each head of the population.

This led us once again to the publishing industry, about which Zwirner had not given us exhaustive information. Dr Kolb said that 3,000 works with 40 million individual volumes per year were predetermined for the public publishing house and that the publishing right was, to a certain extent, divided up according to budget between the Civilliste, Reich, provinces and districts and that each municipality could even have a volume printed in 1,000 copies at the expense of the public publishing house after a 40-year cycle. The author would then submit the manuscript to the central government, which would give the manuscripts to the provincial administrations and so on. But the author could also apply directly to the Civilliste or a district, a municipality, etc. Anyone who has been a member of the literary association for five years can also print 1000 copies of a one-volume work without obtaining anyone's permission.

That is the way it is. As already mentioned, it is impossible for the libraries to manage their work completely. They are supported by professors and students, but even that is not enough and a literary association has therefore been founded, which now has well over 50,000 members in all parts of the empire and is divided into sections and subdivisions according to languages, sciences and branches of literature.

The government provides the association with a central bureau, which is currently located in St. Pölten, a printing and bookbinding shop and a certain amount of printing paper each

year, and the association can select 100 works once a year to be printed at the expense of the public publishing house, but it can also print works itself. The latter works had to be set by the members who had written them, and therefore not many made use of the publishing rights.

The association, on the other hand, had to provide certain services to the government. It sends manuscripts to its members for appraisal and foreign works for processing for library purposes. However, all of the association's activities were free activity and could not be included in the regulated work performance.

It was midnight and we were still enjoying the moonlight in the garden and Dr Kolb, who as an old gentleman can get up when he pleases, was good enough to keep us company, taking us out into the street and showing us that it was just now that the freight service began, bringing goods and supplies from the railway stations to the districts and then clearing away the rubbish, which happened every day. The latter service only involved young people of certain age groups, but most of the services in the capital, as we had already heard, were provided by the old men of the labouring profession. There were about 60-70000 such pensioners living in Vienna, but they usually gave up this kind of sinecure after a few years because the Austrians couldn't stand living in a big city for long. The seventh part of these pensioners were on duty every day of the week, wore certain badges and, in addition to supervising the streets and public buildings, did some housekeeping work, the mail service, etc., especially snow clearing and driving carts and horses. Each older man would choose the position he liked and the younger ones would have to take over the assigned work.

The rubbish bins had just been taken away and the younger men on duty emerged from the underground canals. Dr Kolb suggested that we should have a look at the canals. One of the young men descended again and we followed on an iron ladder. The canals branching through the whole quarter are more than a man's height, completely dry concreted, can be illuminated with light bulbs and, what surprised us, there was hardly any noticeable foul odour. The canals are connected to huge diners, in which a fire is always kept burning, and before descending into the canal, a powerful fan is set in motion.

Dr Kolb now recommended himself and said that he had to go to Tulln early the next day to prepare for the regatta, and that we were free to go with him or be directed to another escort or stroll around on our own. We wanted to do the latter and Mr Forest said quietly to me that he had long wished to be rid of the escort, who was obviously depriving us of any insight into the infirmities of the conditions.

## VI.

It was Sunday morning and we had planned to walk around Vienna to get reliable information and to go to Tulln for lunch, because the interesting regatta was to take place in the evening. We also found everything in motion on Sunday, all public halls and buildings open from the early morning, because Vienna had become the city in which one did not want

to be bored. Although we were quite tired, we made a pilgrimage to the museums. The stewards on the streets gave us precise directions and, seeing that we were strangers and didn't smoke, an old gentleman asked us if we didn't have any cigars. Mr Forest sensed an attempt to get a tip, but bearing in mind the regulations we had printed in our pockets, he didn't dare make a promise and just said that we had no more stock. The old man asked for the residence cards and then said that we could use them to buy cigars in every dining room, as it was known that the strangers smoked. We thought we were regular visitors to Tulln, but we were reassured that they didn't take it so seriously, otherwise it wouldn't be cosy. So we went to the nearest dining room and were given cigars for the day, after the dates on our residence card had been noted down. That was very nice, but now we had to stay outside, because smoking is forbidden in the buildings, except in your own parlour. When we had smoked our cigars, we visited the museums, which were crowded with thousands of people, because on Sundays people from the neighbouring villages also flock to the city, and we admired not only the rich collections, but also the magnificent old grey buildings with their domed halls and ceiling paintings. We asked for a catalogue, which was readily given to us with the request that we put it back when we left, as it was not intended for sale. However, if we wanted to take a catalogue home with us, which would be worth the effort because it also contained interesting illustrations and colour prints, we would have to contact the building management. But we didn't ask for it today, because time was pressing and we wanted to get to Tulln earlier. We were also anaesthetised and hadn't allowed ourselves enough rest. Our enquiries to this and that as to whether they were satisfied here had led to nothing, and although Mr Forest was always afraid of spies and disguised senior officials, I could see from the cheerful faces and the hustle and bustle that there were really no dissatisfied people.

We boarded a tram, arrived at the Franz-Josefs railway station and got to Tulln quite early. After lunch, as we still had two hours before lunch, we went to the Central Rowing Sports Centre, which stood a little downstream from the iron bridge, a beautiful building with reception rooms, consultation rooms and archives, with trophies on the walls bearing the names of the individual winners and the prize-winning villages. We found Zwirner and Dr Kolb there, who had their hands full and could only greet us in passing.

Rowers in all colours, with bare necks and arms, had to run back and forth and countless boats were lowered into the water, oars were soaped, pennants were put up and in the distance you could see the smoke of steamers bringing guests from Vienna who wanted to sail alongside the rowers.

A strong boy, himself a rower, taught us about the colours. Here, as in races, bicycling, etc., every circle, indeed every district, was recognisable. Locals are completely familiar with the colours, foreigners are given a map with provinces and districts, from which the colours are taken. The boy was wearing a dark red cap, a light red doublet and a dark orange sash. He said that the colours were ordered from dark red starting with the prism, namely: dark red, light red, dark orange, light orange, dark yellow and so on, then finally white and black, fourteen colours in all. Then in the same order would come two successive colours, as dark red-light red, light red-dark orange, etc. up to black-red, again 14 colours. Since Lower

Austria is the first province of the empire, the cap is dark red, and since St. Pölten is the second district - Vienna is the first - the crest is light red, and since Tulln is the third district in the district of St. Pölten, the sash is dark orange. So the district is beyond doubt. That is enough for most people, but the last badge even indicates the municipality, namely the ribbon fluttering from the shoulders.

Since everything was ready, Zwirner and Dr Kolb invited the whole crowd of guests to a communal meal on the large lawn in front of the community palace.

Children, girls and women came to greet them, the district official gave a speech, they went to the table with a hurrah and there was no lack of cheers and toasts of all kinds, with Zwirner being celebrated above all, who was believed to be the champion in the individual competition. The rowers present were all masters of the art, well trained and had won prizes in smaller competitions, and only the five most capable clubs had turned up for the start. The club race was to go from the railway bridge to Greifenstein, where the first stands had been erected, and after a rest, three matadors, including Zwirner, were to race from the bend in the Danube at the former and long-defunct village of Höflein to the new Danube bridge at Klosterneuburg. In the club rowing race, it was not a question of which club the first boat belonged to, but which club won on average, which was difficult to determine, so weighted judges were appointed. They also took snapshots, which made the judgement easier.

Optical signals were set up at many points along the Danube, which travelled as far as the municipal palace in Tulln in order to telegraph the progress to St. Pölten and from there via Vienna to the provincial suburbs; the provincial suburbs passed on the incoming messages to the districts and so on, so that the whole empire had news, and soon it was said: "Graz has the lead," then: "Linz is approaching," and "Pest is overtaking everyone," until finally Tulln, as expected, was declared the winner by the referees. Zwirner got out of the boat and hurried up the stairs of the women's stand to bring the women's thanks to his team, which was presented by an archduchess.

But the most interesting thing was ahead of us, for we knew that the winner of the individual fight was to receive the prize from the hand of Lori Hochberg, and we were glad that our steamer was travelling along the right bank, because we were to stop just in front of the grandstand. Zwirner won by two boat lengths and came to the grandstand steps before our eyes to receive a wreath of golden laurel leaves from Lori, for which custom allowed him to kiss the hand of the crowning lady. The victor was celebrated with thunderous cheers from the boats and ships, the bridge, which was packed with people, the banks and the stands. He made his arrangements for the temporary recovery of the boats and then boarded the train that awaited him with his comrades and us companions.

We had no doubt that the laurel wreath, which incidentally went to the trophy room, meant more to Zwirner than just a victory prize.

Zwirner was busy with all sorts of business, because deputies from all the main rowing clubs were there, statutes and competitions were to be discussed and international negotiations were underway about a regatta that would decide the winner among all the European champions for the next three years and which was to take place on the Rhine the following year. We therefore gladly accepted his suggestion to go on trips and excursions on our own.

We visited the seaside resort of Baden and then came to the Semmering, where an old hotel of the former Southern Railway Company still stands. We saw in photographs, which were still preserved, the original complex, which had of course been greatly extended and embellished, just as an imperial pleasure palace now stands in the most beautiful spot, where a Count Coronini held court this year. We could hardly have stayed in this beautiful place, which is usually overcrowded, if many guests had not travelled to Graz for a festival. However, we were asked not to stay longer than the following evening, as the place was intended for people in poor health who would find refreshment here.

We spent the night in Bruck an der Mur, a charming little town. At one o'clock all the gongs sounded. We were startled and only had time to rush down the stairs as our house was in flames. No lives would have been in danger, as night watches are kept everywhere and everyone should be warned in good time. But neglect of duty had aggravated the disaster. Everyone was in good spirits; they helped to localise the fire and a brave, brave volunteer fire brigade, well equipped, saved what could be saved.

But poor us! We had saved only our shirts and socks from all our possessions and were in despair, the admission of which was only met with laughter. Some men took us into their midst to hide us from the women, led us into a secure building, and before we knew it we were provided with new linen and clothes from the stores and the administrator asked us to state what we would otherwise have lost. We had replacements, but not the slightest personal property. How were we to get to America? But we felt safe and realised that communism had its good points. But now we learnt that everything we still lacked would be replaced in Graz, where we would be staying for a few hours.

We were also informed that the travelling fee paid was also valid as insurance against accidents, and that on leaving Austria we could, at our option, keep the things made available to us, which were better and more beautiful than what we had burnt, or ask for a cash replacement, which would be paid according to our estimate.

Finally the local official issued us with an interim travel card. As our cards had been burnt, he promised us that we would receive a duplicate of our travel documents from Salzburg in Graz in two days.

The guilty parties were tried that very night. Three were accused. -- A 15-year-old girl had looked at herself in the mirror late at night after undressing and the light had come too close to the curtain. That's when the fire started. A matron, who was in charge of the dormitories of the underage girls, had come to this room on her rounds and had tried to put out the fire at the request of the little miscreant and had failed to alert the house and the administration,

which should have been done by pressing an electric bell. Finally, the young man who had the night watch on this side had fallen asleep on a bench in the garden.

The accused were called before the administrative officer who had disciplinary powers. No offence had been committed and he therefore had jurisdiction. The facts of the case were established in a few minutes, as many witnesses were present.

The young people, who were only guilty of negligence, were let off lightly. Their Sundays were cancelled for one year and their holidays for three years. The young man was supposed to go to university, as they had wanted to train him as an administrator, but this was no longer possible, as this profession requires attention, a sense of order and loyalty to duty.

But the matron was punished most severely because she was in office and had tried to conceal the guilt of a person under her supervision.

She was initially punished in the same way as the other two, but in addition she lost her office and its benefits and was sentenced to three years' additional service. The office she had held for many years without reproach gave her the legal right to retire after the age of sixty, and her time would have been up in two years. Now she was not only supposed to serve for another five years, like the ordinary labourer, but to serve for another three years, meaning that she would not be free from work until she had reached the age of sixty-eight.

She burst into tears and begged for leniency. The official should remember that her son was a famous doctor in Graz and would soon marry; she had hoped to move in with him and cradle her grandson on her knee. She had only been absent out of the goodness of her heart.

The official replied that an office entrusted to her had to be exercised conscientiously, and she herself must wish for rigour to prevail, because her life also depended on the loyalty of others at all times. She had endangered the lives of more than two hundred people and the damage that could have been prevented was estimated to be at least 300 years of labour.

Then the two young evildoers came forward and offered to work for four years each to free the old woman.

The official laughed at this suggestion and said that they were young blood and thought lightly of a burden they were taking on for their old age. He knew how they would feel differently when they grew old. They also still depended on those in whose power they were, and then it was not in accordance with the law for volunteers to stand in for an offender. Finally, the administration was not indifferent as to when the work was done that was to create a partial replacement.

The matron now declared that she wanted to appeal to the district official and asked the tribune to join her appeal. But as he refused her request, the poor woman had little hope that her appeal would be successful. Many showed their sympathy, but the judgement was found to be just and not excessively harsh.



Those who had become homeless had already been provided for and some had been accommodated in neighbouring villages, and all the workers had already been ordered for the second day to restore the building in the shortest possible time.

In Graz we received everything we had been promised on time.

Nothing of the Adelsberg Grotto, the marvellous Miramare, the warships.

Austria no longer has an army, as a disarmament treaty has long existed in Europe; but it maintains a very important naval defence force. All the Continental states, which in the east are fully protected by Russia in return for subsidies and crews, have agreed on a coastal defence alliance and maintain not only coastal fortifications but also a strong navy, partly to protect themselves against England, which has been driven out of all seas and islands from Gibraltar to the Red Sea, and partly to protect themselves against the predatory states in Argentina and China, from where piracy is shamelessly practised.

We enquired whether the seamen were enlisted for the merchant and naval service, and learnt that for this, as for the troops serving in Siberia, only those volunteers were taken who demanded the least compensation. Of course, they could not demand hand money, but they were usually content with a year of peace being counted as 18 months and a year of war as 24 months.

Nor do we need to tell you about Abbazzia and the great fireworks display that took place there in honour of foreign guests. However, I would like to mention a few things about our brief visit to the imperial court camp on the island of Lacroma.

We sailed over to the island from the mainland on an imperial yacht at three o'clock on Friday. The court usually avoided the southern regions in the summer months, but this year, at the request of the wives of the imperial family, they had tried to make their stay in the south bearable by defying nature. They slept from morning till night and got up at six in the evening. The whole island and the extensive castle buildings were fairy-lit throughout the night. Lunch was served at two o'clock in the morning.

The Emperor and Empress remained \_\_incognito\_\_ in the palaces and socialised as invited guests. This time they were represented by Count Andrassy and his charming young wife. However, it had already been decided to move the court camp to the Rosenberg near Horn on Saturday.

As the occupants of the castle buildings were still fast asleep, I was led into the imperial apartments, which were open to visitors, by an attendant, Anselma, the daughter of the castle manager. Forest had joined another companion. A breeze from the sea cooled the air and we wandered through the spacious rooms. Anselma occasionally lifted the heavy curtains to let me look out over the gardens and woods.

Then we came to the Cabinet, where the Emperor conducts his official business, and the Secretariat. The electric wires lead into the Emperor's study and the Secretariat. In the latter my guide showed me the phonographs with a number of reels to be inserted and she said that at seven o'clock in the evening the meeting of the Council of Ministers and the Imperial

Tribunes would begin at the Forum in Vienna and that there would be an exact recording of the speeches and votes given by the phonographs. These were transmitted in writing by the secretaries in an instant and read out almost simultaneously with the proceedings by the head of the Cabinet to the Emperor, who announced his decisions and often demanded clarifications or ordered postponements if he considered written submissions necessary.

The emperor's official business is usually completed in an hour.

I asked what these negotiations were about and Anselma said that the most important events of the last few days were always discussed. She was able to tell me about them because they didn't know any official secrets and they negotiated in front of the housemates who worked in the offices. Yesterday the fire in Bruck a. d. Mur had been discussed and had attracted particular attention because no fire had caused so much damage for many years and there was the alarming fact that official duties had been violated. Reports of the incident had been obtained by telegraph from the early morning and the governor in Graz had personally travelled to the scene of the accident. The Ministry had found that the administrative official was without any fault and that both his disciplinary judgement and his orders concerning the restoration of the buildings and the uninterrupted operation of production deserved full recognition, which is why he was promised promotion at the next opportunity.

My companion showed me countless works of art of various kinds and drew my attention to the fact that everything in the emperor's private apartments was made by members of the imperial family. For centuries, every archduke has learnt a trade and the products of his work, rarely achieved without the help of skilled workers, are stored in the family flats. But many archdukes also devoted themselves to the arts, and the Habsburg family included not only writers and composers, but also painters, sculptors and medallists. Not to mention the artistic skills of the women.

The doorbell rang and Anselma invited me to leave the chambers because the emperor was getting dressed and then making his way to his study. She led me to my room and I got into position so that I could be introduced at breakfast.

The intercourse was informal. Count and Countess Andrassy were treated as if they were the masters of the castle. The Emperor, whose speech had to be awaited, spoke to me casually about America when my name was mentioned to him at his request. He spoke of the President of our Union, "his fraternal friend," and enquired about the impressions I had gained in Austria. I said that I was very satisfied and that I found far more aesthetics in public life than here. He was pleased to hear that, said the Emperor; it had not always been so, he added with a smile, as history tells us. It was precisely the monarch's task, he said, to work towards decency in social and public life. After all, the state administration hardly ever had political tasks to fulfil any more. The wealth of centuries, which the dynasty and the nobility administered on behalf of the people, must serve to develop a sense of beauty in all, so that this also dominated all manners and relations among the citizens. "The slightest injustice, even a mere inconsiderateness, offends our feelings, and we hasten to give satisfaction to everyone before he demands it; one could say that we have an effeminate mind. -- But

excuse me, young friend, I must now ask the Countess Andrassy to come and see me, to ask how she has rested." -- As I rose to greet him, the Countess walked towards him, following the Emperor's friendly nod.

Later I saw the Emperor in conversation with workers from several provinces who had come to inspect the island and buildings and had access to the court camp like any other Austrian. I didn't understand what they were talking about, as the Emperor spoke to everyone in their mother tongue, according to the old Habsburg custom.

The Habsburgs must have a brain that has developed quite peculiarly over a hundred years of adaptation to their peculiar needs. The present emperor also speaks ten living languages and is fluent in speaking and writing them. From his earliest youth he was surrounded by men and women who communicated with him in the most diverse idioms; he lived alternately among the most diverse peoples of his country, he reads, writes and negotiates in all these languages, and also in some of the most important non-Austrian cultural languages with complete confidence. In addition, he has an unusual memory for people and knowledge of human nature. It is said that he knows the names, personal circumstances and occupations of more than twenty thousand inhabitants of Austria and only in the rarest of cases does he need help from the people around him to put his memory on the right track when he sees someone again after many years. You can read it from his eyes if necessary.

Just then I heard him exclaim merrily: "Oh, the Countess Taaffe! Pinched out by Ellischau again?"

"We've got quite a leathery company thrown together in Ellischau," said the young lady cheerfully. But the emperor laughingly covered her mouth; he feared a mediocre report and the monarch was not allowed to listen to such things. But it was only an excuse of embarrassment on the part of the favourite lady, a slender, youthful blonde. She had been repeatedly summoned by the empress to secret consultations. The empress intended to have a marble sculpture chiselled for her husband according to her ideas. She was a sister of Count Eduard Taaffe and his wife was a sister of the artist who was asked to carry out the work.

The work was intended to depict a Venus striding along, robbed of her robes by gods of love. One of the robbers has flown into her neck, kneels on her shoulders and closes her eyes with his childish hands. The goddess grabs his arms to free herself, and the co-conspirators use this moment to undo her shoulder straps, belt and shoe straps.

The princess did not want to deal with the master herself; she feared that the work of art might, albeit unintentionally, become a portrait statue, which the emperor would have noted unfavourably. Descriptions, drawings and models travelled back and forth and the artist -- we knew him well -- had taken up the matter with all his zeal. His ideas complemented the empress's specifications and therefore led to controversy.

The artist wanted the viewer's association of ideas to be taken into account. One should be able to imagine that the goddess would continue on her way unhindered, surrounded by admiring cupids. This necessitated a different arrangement of the garment than the empress

had planned, and the artist also wanted to use a zephyr to blow the loose garment against the goddess's limbs and help carry off the shell.

The emperor knew nothing of these machinations and a magnificent block of milk-white marble from Greece had already been acquired for the Civilliste, which the officials of the court and the central government had negotiated with the involvement of the court tribune - the Hungarians called him the tribune \_\_a latere\_\_.

The behaviour of the household members was peculiar. It was difficult to break the old court etiquette and to bring the equality of men to full fruition, although Christ had shown how serving one's fellow men was compatible with full human dignity, since he washed the feet of his servants. It had still not been achieved that the servants could socialise with equal rights. All the work of the court had been ennobled by various aids. Furthermore, only well-formed girls and young men between the ages of fifteen and twenty had been drawn to the court, who were allowed to show a certain degree of deference because of their youth. The clothing was of course dignified and was nothing less than reminiscent of a subordinate position. In hot regions, the costume of the Romans and Greeks was favoured wherever possible. Only when the housemates were on duty did they put on a bit of reserve for each other. However, no one failed to preface every request with a friendly plea, and the emperor himself never forgot to reply to every handout with a "Thank you, dear friend" or "Thank you very much, beautiful child". When the housemates had their day off, they had been socialising on an equal footing for several years. This was due to the influence of the court tribune, who was Hungarian and had been fighting for years to change the ceremonial, as he used to say: "Every Hungarian is a king."

The emperor, however, was not belittled by this noble pride of his fellow citizens, but apparently elevated.

After breakfast, we strolled around the grounds, took boat trips in the company of many men and women who, because we were strangers, honoured us, and we watched the fishermen casting their nets. The arc lights cast their bright glow far out to sea when we finally returned home around eleven o'clock to join the party. Over a hundred people had gathered in the large park, where sumptuous carpets had been spread out in a wide square, on which people could sit in a semi-circle if they didn't want to sit on chairs or benches.

In the centre of the company sat the Emperor and Empress, then Count and Countess Andrassy, who in the meantime had gone to the mainland to see an exhibition, and according to the programme a famous reader was invited to recite the work of a poet who was present. It was a poetic tale from the nineteenth century, of indescribable delicacy of characterisation and depiction.

When the lecture was over, the emperor initiated the debate and, as much as he praised the work, he did express some reservations. The poet defended himself and opened up points of view that had escaped the Emperor's notice. They wanted to hear the women's judgement, and one young woman found several things ungentlemanly. This gave rise to a discussion as to whether the poet had lacked delicacy or whether, within the limits of the purest sense

of beauty, he had only reported what was necessary to understand the time and the people of that period, as well as to comprehend the course of the plot.

The discussion threatened to become generalised, but the Emperor asked that a parliamentary procedure be observed, as this was a work that had hopes of winning the laurel at the next award ceremony. Writers, professors and especially actors were invited to express their views.

The reader himself spoke in praise. He said that he was called upon to make a judgement, as a good work is easier to read and carries the reader away with it. This was especially true of a new work that the reciter did not yet know. If something were obscure, some allusion too difficult to understand, or something described in the wrong place, the reader would find it difficult to offer a perfect rendering; also, only that which is written with a perfect command of the language and calculated for a fluent delivery reads easily.

Now that the poet had a few more things to say in his favour and was able to refute many a criticism, the Emperor suggested that a vote should be taken on the question of whether this was a masterpiece that was beyond reproach. Everyone voted in favour of the poet, who was approached by Countess Andrassy to wish him luck.

The second breakfast was now served and pictures were taken. -- Two mighty carpets were placed between two tall trees, behind which the display took place. As often as the carpets were opened, a delightful picture presented itself, in which well-known scenes from the Greek myth of the gods were depicted. The beauty of women celebrated triumphs and enchanted our senses with a freedom unheard of for Americans. An immense treasure of jewels and splendid robes, vessels and weapons formed the accessories.

When the curtain was drawn for the installation of the last picture, you could hear people pacing back and forth, hammering and the interval was extended for a good while. Everyone was in tense anticipation. When the curtains opened, we were presented with a surprising sight.

It was a depiction of a slave being offered for sale to Roman patricians, based on an old painting. A large frame and the arrangements made to close off the space behind the frame, as if the scene were taking place in a room, created the impression that the marvellous painting was actually in front of us. On the left are the sellers, one behind the other, common people, their eyes fixed on the buyers. The man at the front pulls off the slave's robe, which she is trying to hold on to, and holds her roughly by the arm to prevent her from turning away in shame. The old Roman sitting opposite her, holding a beautiful vessel on his knees, with a broad, ignoble head, has an embarrassed smile on his lips, and betrays admiration and a desire that has been suppressed with difficulty. Behind him on the right side of the picture, facing the slave girl, stands a young man, one knee bent on the chair, the back of which he holds with both hands. His noble face is also absorbed in the sight of the lovely slave girl. This figure was presented by a young prince, who put the whole thing together.

The slave was the lovely Anselma, the glorious, radiant figure of the virgin was just as enchanting as the noble posture that expressed shame and chastity.

Our breathing faltered, no sound could be heard and the picture stood still for some time to give us time to admire all the details. It seemed that the beautiful Anselma had been left free to determine the duration of the performance, for we thought we heard her whisper something as the curtains were quickly drawn.

Cheering applause resounded. The young patrician came out in his Roman garb while Anselma was being taken to her flat, and the emperor ordered him to ask Anselma to accept the monarch's thanks as soon as she was dressed.

The picture was discussed and the painter's art was praised, as was the care taken in the depiction and Anselma's beauty. Now she came, escorted by the young man, in a splendid robe of ivory-coloured fabric that left only her arms uncovered, and when she stood before the emperor, he said: "Thank you very much, beautiful Anselma, for the grace you have shown us." -- But the empress rose, saying. "Not thus, dear Rudolf, can we abdicate so much charm, grace and kindness," and she took Anselma by the shoulders to kiss her. Then she pushed the maiden before the emperor, that he too should kiss her, and he did so with the words, "Are we not sister and brother?" -- "We are," said Anselma, "that is what Jesus of Nazareth teaches us, and my parents have admonished me from my earliest youth not to think myself less than anyone else who walks the earth." -- "That's how I recognise my Perger!" said the emperor laughing, "faithful as gold, but full of defiant self-confidence!" -- Then the maiden took the emperor's hands with the words: "You kissed your sister just now; I make use of my right and kiss my brother." -- She then bent over the emperor. We were eager to see how the prince would behave. He said: "Well, I will protect you like a brother, and whoever offends or insults you, I will take revenge on them with my own hands." So the proud prince found himself in the position prepared for him and removed all ambiguity from the proceedings.

Prince Lobkowitz now approached the girl who had become everyone's favourite. She blushingly took his arm and he carried off the lovely girl. As I whispered to my neighbour, a young artist, that in America a girl would be considered insulted if she took on such a role in the presence of men, he said that this had never been heard of in Austria either, but that there was no doubt that Anselma had not acted without the consent of the women's curia, who had probably agreed in view of the artistic reproach. Anselma was therefore safe from any censure and had no dishonour to fear.

The party set off on a pilgrimage to the castle, where the table had been prepared. This time they did not dine in the garden, but the steward had the table prepared in the castle. Threatening weather reports had been coming in for some time from Spain, southern France and Italy, and judging by the direction of the wind there was no doubt that a storm would soon break out, even though we could still see stars in the sky.

After the second course, a rain shower accompanied by thunder and lightning poured down, and as we were dining in the rooms facing the weather side, we were able to enjoy the natural spectacle with the windows open. The famous Imperial Meteorological Institute on the Hohe Warte near Vienna had calculated the occurrence of the thunderstorm in Lacroma five minutes too early.

But we left at dawn because interesting things were calling us to Tulln.

## VIII.

The next evening, Saturday, we sat down with Zwirner under a shady tree in the park and asked for the long-promised information about the women. Zwirner said the following: They had originally lived into the day and the precautionary government had contented itself with announcing the daily surplus of births and providing a monthly overview of the growing disproportion of adults and young people in need of education.

It was immediately realised that one had to look to the right and that the people had to come to a conclusion about legislation in marriage matters. One ponderer referred to Plato's remarks in his Book of the State and to the teachings of Christ in the Gospel of Matthew 19:11, 12, which he interpreted in his own way. Laws were demanded and in all the communities there was back and forth counselling to find the right way out. The women's curia came into being. The girls and women who were entitled to vote did not want to be outvoted on these issues and demanded a vote by curia. These curiae later also voted separately on maternal rights and a general code of behaviour for the sexes.

It has been established that at the time of the old social order, out of six, seven or eight women aged 16-45, only one gave birth to a child each year. The older literature for and against Malthusianism was known and the history of intercourse between the two sexes since Onan, the husband of Tamar.

After several months of negotiations, consultation with the doctors, and after it had also been established that the increased births were above all bringing about an alarming increase in the number of cretins, cripples and those presumably unable to work, it was decided, adopting many detailed laws, that only the healthiest girls and boys should be admitted to marriage in a certain, proportionate number and that the other girls should be punished if they gave birth to an illegitimate child.

"Now we see the tyranny admitted at last," exclaimed Mr Forest, rejoicing.

"It was an obvious popular interest and the laws were proposed and adopted by the people themselves and the majority of the legislators were those excluded from marriage, so there is no question of any lack of freedom. By the way, you will hear that I am only talking about a temporary phase of our legislation in the last century."

"But how can such a law be upheld and what immoralities must it entail?"

Zwirner said that at that time, as is still the case today, future wives were selected as young children because doctors had a keen eye for constitution and health and because the sections of the previous parents were also known. Beauty was also taken into account, and now the hair of future wives was allowed to grow freely, while the hair of others was cut short, and so they grew up and learnt at an age when they still lacked any understanding of what they were destined for. This is also how they play their roles and up to a certain age it is not noticeable if, for example, because of later observations, one girl who wore braids is

shorn and another who was shorn grows her hair in braids. "Once the girls are almost ready for marriage, they have already made plans in their heads and have visualised the wedding day, then, of course, gentle information and ideas are necessary if a mistake is to be corrected; but every girl must comply. One sees them with red eyes before the tresses fall, and they probably demand to be taken abroad beforehand, because they are ashamed in front of their playmates to lose the hair ornament that was their pride."

"If a future bride is convicted of a misdemeanour, she shall be punished for it, unless a young man, certainly the accomplice, provided that he is permitted to marry, offers to marry her within eight days."

"Now I must go back to the older period of our present national life and mention the legislation that was repealed. For the birth of an illegitimate child the girl, for adultery the married woman, was then liable to public punishment. The most severe punishment at that time was that the guilty party was sentenced to wear a penitent's garment. It was made of grey linen and covered her whole body, leaving only her mouth and eyes uncovered. The sinner was only allowed to take it off in her sleeping chamber, never outside her chamber, and no one was allowed to communicate with her outside her chamber, nor speak to her about anything other than official matters. She had to stay behind everyone when it came to votes or amusements. Otherwise no harm came to her, but the appearance of this person had something shocking about it."

"The guilty themselves soon got used to it and, if it seemed too hard for them, they could, as we allow everyone who is dissatisfied with his lot in society, resign and have their share of the national wealth handed over to them, but in doing so they renounced the advantages of society, and then they had to see how they got on by themselves, or they could emigrate to the colonies we have in Africa and thus get rid of their penitent's shirt. In the colonies, too, the Austrian enjoys full provision from the state, he is not left to his own good fortune and he begins there, as here, with regular work and a secure position in life, just as we also give everyone, on request, land and a house in the colony as a fiefdom if he wants to live alone or in a family. There alone the mortality rate for immigrants is so high that we would consider it murder to force anyone to emigrate there. If the sinner and her children wanted to emigrate elsewhere, the state would make it possible, but the love of home is so great that at that time almost all these beautiful sinners preferred the penitent's shirt. Young people, by the way, are sometimes enterprising enough to emigrate before they come into conflict with the laws, and I will only remark that we never impose punishment for murder or other great crimes if the criminal chooses banishment himself. We want banishment to seem harsher than even death."

"Now I must also mention that even then the law against illegitimate births was only applied in emergencies, when their number became so excessive that it really became a threat. A few thousand such births, especially if the children were strong and healthy, did not appear to be a burden that would have justified great severity; only emergency defence was to be exercised if great evil threatened. Very often, therefore, such a girl was only released with a reprimand from the oldest woman in the village."



"But even this gentle application of a law that was reminiscent of an evil past was anathema to our fathers, and so a way out was soon found. The main principles were to be retained; procreation of the strongest people within a limit that did not allow the population to grow too rapidly, childlessness of girls excluded from marriage, penalisation of adultery by a woman who had not obtained a divorce; but we repealed the old penal laws."

"The Women's Curia, of which we shall have occasion to speak, and which has its secret organisation and is excellently advised by female physicians and also on some laws of nature which have remained secret to us, proposed that we should repeal those penal laws and remit all the penalties imposed; it wanted to vouch for the fact that what the law intended would be achieved without such penalties, but that it should be left to the Women's Curia to effect this as it saw fit."

"But in the selection of future wives, the cutting and waxing of hair, it may remain as of old, only it is demanded that the examination of the health of girls should not be done by the doctors alone, but by them in conjunction with a trusted person of the women's curia and a trusted person of the girl's mother, and this has been agreed to. We can be quite satisfied with this; it has become the established custom that no female creature transgresses the law, and, by the way, women's lives are partly a secret to us."

"You can answer for yourselves the question as to the consequences for morality of the necessity of harmonising sexual life with the needs of society, as Dr Kolb tells me that this was discussed before you at the Hygienic Congress. We are not in the habit of talking about it, as there are things that are held sacred and that do not permit discussion merely for the sake of curiosity. Those who are called upon to do so may speak about them in learned assemblies for the purpose of promoting the public good, or write about them with the same intention in specialised journals, but they are not topics of general conversation. Release me, therefore, from the task of entering into details which are repugnant to our tender feelings. But we do not pretend to be saints, we detest nothing more than Pharisaism, we are not silent because we thank God that we are not like these and those, but because we do not want to destroy our own pleasure in women."

"Generally speaking, we only say that we must not expect the impossible, i.e. the unreasonable, from people; we are not permitted to impose burdens on anyone that we ourselves would not touch with a finger. To choose the smallest of many evils is enough in a moral sense, and it is the task of mankind to strive forward and constantly seek a remedy for even the smallest evil, even if we only find a new, albeit smaller, evil. We can only say that, on the one hand, out of religious fervour, which some old men try to spread, and on the other hand, out of shamefulness, many girls withdraw completely from sexual love. But there are just doubts as to whether this is morally justified even for those who have had to renounce marriage. It is claimed that they thereby shorten their lives, and the weakness of the opposite sex, the unmarried men, also requires protection."

"As you will realise, our girls and widows are as far removed from prudery as they are from impudence, and a charming story has come down to us from the end of the last century. A foreign prince, who fancied female beauty, had stayed at the Hofburg and our then crown

prince heard that he particularly idolised the golden-blond Loreley hair. That very morning the Crown Prince had discovered that Austria had over 150 of the most beautiful girls with long golden-blond hair, aged 15-18, and at his invitation they had all arrived in Vienna the next morning with their mothers. In the evening, when the assembly was conversing in the large, white marble hall, the centre of the hall was cleared and the court and guests were invited to sit down on chairs in a circle, whereupon fairy music could be heard and a group of fairies in white costumes and jewellery floated in through the open hall door, dancing in step, slowly circling the hall several times and disappearing again. The girls immediately changed their clothes to go home. No one was allowed to follow. But one was paralysed to see that the young ladies, their golden hair fluttering freely around their backs, not only had their bare feet in shimmering gold sandals, but also that their artificially draped matt white outer dress, held in place only on the right shoulder by an agraffe, left the left armpit and breast free. The crown prince had had these outer dresses, which could not be tailored to fit the body, made in the meantime and there were plenty of jewellery and sandals from the stages and the treasury. The young ladies and their mothers were surprised at the suggestion and, after a moment's thought, agreed to it.

The crown princess pouted, the emperor doubted whether they had not gone too far, but the foreign prince was full of lively thanks.

The Reichsblatt reported everything faithfully and the curiae of women and girls met immediately to discuss what should be done. The women's newspaper, which is edited and printed by women, sent in well-sealed envelopes, read only by women and girls, and into which no man's eye has ever glanced, must have contained many remarks and proposals until, after a fortnight, the verdict of the women and girls of Austria was announced. The elves and their mothers were acquitted of all guilt because they had been taken by surprise. It was precisely at the instigation of the older women that it was also recognised that propriety had not been violated and that there were no fears of any evil consequences, as they were strictly regimented and would not tolerate such things going too far. Also, every girl in Austria knew how to put suitors in their place, but that such a thing could be done in honour of a foreign prince and that one could believe that an Austrian woman had to put up with more from such a person than from her own was outrageous and the Imperial Tribunal was instructed to express its disapproval of the crown prince. On behalf of his colleagues, the eldest imperial tribune also made himself available to the crown prince, who listened respectfully to the communication and asked that the women and girls be informed that he pleaded guilty and did not wish to do such a thing again, but asked for the favour of being received back into grace. This was again dutifully reported in the imperial newspaper and, as a sign of reconciliation, it was decided to make the crown princess a lace shawl, the like of which had never been seen before."

"Based on that scene, a custom, or let's call it a bad custom, has developed for the annual bridal show, where the marriage candidates of both sexes, altogether unguarded, but certainly in strict discipline and honour, meet, but of which one must not reveal anything to strangers."

But Zwirner's thoughts didn't seem to be with us right now.

We were silent and thought of our amorous adventures on the journey to Abbazia. For a traveller does not easily leave the hospitable country, where every harmless freedom is tolerated, so completely unharmed. The widows and the girls with cropped hair socialise freely with young men, but without tolerating any annoying intrusiveness. It is not in the least offensive for them to invite strangers or male companions into their parlour to chat with them undisturbed, to read a book with them, to show them embroidery or drawings, and this can be heard everywhere in the women's corridors. Many of them live in corridors specially reserved for them, shouting, laughing and chatting, and although we know that such visits must have been preceded by an invitation, we also know that not the slightest thing can be inferred from this and that as a rule it is only a matter of politeness. It is by no means regarded as an encouragement and usually the slightest sign of gallantry, which betrays wishes to which the beauty does not want to respond, is followed by a clear but not unfriendly rejection. There is no reply, the smile gives place to a slight frown, or it may be said, "Let us rather go into the garden," and then the invitation to the parlour is hardly repeated. But it may happen once in ten that one feels one may go on slowly, and so it has happened to me, and perhaps to Mr Forest too, but woe betide me if anyone could have guessed who was in my favour. I should infallibly have departed; but Austrians who cannot keep silence are banished and cursed by those who show them such favour. She would have been disgraced.

I wasn't even allowed to reveal where I had been saved. It would be a nice thing if the world learnt that women in this or that region were more accommodating than elsewhere. Let everyone see what he does.

You soon find out where you hope to find favour, even though the advertisements are not recognisable to a third party. Only the women always seem to understand each other; their paths never cross. But then it's not allowed to be foolish. Even the smallest favour has to be won and fought for; a struggle ensues to which both parties are prepared to submit, but which delays victory, often for a long time. The covetous man must know how to tame the most ardent desire if he is to partake of the favour which only he enjoys who knows and confesses that he does not deserve it and that it can only be granted to him as a gift. But this long-delayed waiting also increases happiness, and in this country we learn to hate favour for sale. How can a man humiliate himself so much as to embrace a woman who, despised by all, despises herself?

But if, after long hesitation, a glance from the courted woman authorises us to lock the door, then an incomparable ardour of love compensates us for the self-control we had to impose on ourselves, and anyone who has enjoyed the embrace of a woman who remains conscious of her dignity will never find pleasure in a hetaera.

One more thing should be mentioned. The Austrian woman never tempts us into completely hopeless courtship. The cruel playing with feelings that are to remain unrequited is considered wickedness by women here in Austria. -- The whole of society in Austria is pervaded by such a homogeneous air of a lively feeling for dignity and truthfulness that everyone who breathes in this air is educated and soon finds his way in this song without

words: "Liebe und Frauengunst", a song that had fallen into oblivion in the sad epoch in which the refined woman engaged in contemptuous courtship with the equally refined man.

\* \* \* \* \*

We heard "Zwirner" being called and he stood up with the words: "Come with me to my parlour, we have a meeting." -- Eight of his contemporaries were waiting for him there to greet us, and after the missing chairs had been fetched from the adjoining rooms, Zwirner was elected chairman and opened the meeting. He began: "You know, friends, that two bills are under discussion: the abolition of the nobility and the abolition of the monarchy. The twenty or forty districts required by the constitution have given their assent, and the motion is sufficiently supported. The constitution stipulates:" -- Zwirner had the constitutional document in front of him with the printed votes of expert researchers, and it was clear from it that the first motion can be adopted immediately by a simple majority of votes, but that the decision must be renewed over a year in the event of a veto. Then the veto cannot be repeated; but if the motion is rejected by the people on the first or second vote, it may not be reintroduced before ten years have elapsed.

The second motion requires a full two-thirds majority for adoption and, although no veto is permitted, the decision only comes into force after five years, if it is merely a matter of deposing the emperor, only with the consent of the imperial family and can be revoked in the meantime. The implementation of the decision to abolish the monarchy also presupposes that a new constitution is approved within the next five years by a majority of two thirds of all votes, against which decision, however, there is also no veto.

The debate was opened and many opinions were expressed.

A young man shouted loudly that the nobility was superfluous and that the monarchy could be maintained. The speaker was conspicuously neglected and unclean, and we later learnt that he had never been admitted to the aristocratic circles, but this had been generally approved, so the tribunate did not take him on.

Another said that there were votes from the professorial colleges and student fraternities that they had become accustomed to these circles and did not want to do without them.

Most voices spoke out in favour of the nobility performing functions that could not be dispensed with and for which other members of the people were not better suited. Some complained about the size of the civil list, but others found nothing to criticise; one could clearly see how it was being used. Nobody wanted to hear about the abolition of the monarchy. A motion to reduce the civil list was not discussed because other concrete matters were now at stake and the negotiations should not be disturbed at this stage. The majority was against both motions.

When Zwirner stood up, I asked: "What are these nine votes for?" -- Zwirner replied: "All the other comrades in Austria have held the same consultation today and I will meet with the chairmen of my section in an hour. Every municipality and every neighbourhood has six to ten sections of male and female citizens, which are divided into primary assemblies, one of which you have attended. The chairmen of the primary assemblies then deliberate,

exchange reports on the primary assemblies, mention the arguments put forward, compare the votes in favour and against and then determine how many wavering votes were cast. -- After detailed deliberation, the probable result of the votes of the sections is established and each section elects a chairman, who meets with the chairmen of the other sections to deliberate once more. The latter meeting is attended by the officials and tribunes and the deliberations can also be referred back to the original assemblies several times if there is sufficient time left until the predetermined voting day. The final vote is usually preceded by assemblies of the entire district, in which speakers are heard, and the assembly may withdraw the floor from any speaker."

I now said: "What if the government is cheating the vote?"

"It can't, because it's up to the tribunal to initiate the vote."

I looked at Forest and he was obviously confused. "And what might the end result be?"

"I have no doubt that nobility and monarchy will be maintained, for the people are conservative when they favour institutions that have not proved obviously harmful."

Now Mr Forest mentioned the books by Bellamy and Michaelis<sup>2</sup> and said that quite different results had been arrived at in America. Zwirner then said that it would be advisable for us to give him the books to read, and he would then give his opinion.

He went into the section meeting and left us to our thoughts.

## IX.

Sunday morning dawned and initially gave little hope of an enjoyable day, as the weather was rainy and it was necessary to abandon the planned excursions. Many had intended to go to Vienna and visit museums or the exhibition of the new paintings which had been submitted by the candidates for the Painters' Prize and which, after the prizes had been awarded, were to go on tour around the district towns on the second Sunday following, which meant that they would not be seen by the inhabitants of Vienna and the surrounding area for years, and there was great interest in arguing about who would win the first prize.

This time one of the most beautiful girls had declared that she would give her hand to the victor in this contest if it pleased him, an offer that could not be refused, but which was not approved, because it seemed frivolous to bind oneself to the uncertain, and it would have been equally displeasing if the overconfident girl had not fulfilled her word. But it was suspected that it was not an offer at random, but that the beauty lived in the unshakeable belief that the prize could only fall to the artist who had delivered the Battle of the Huns, and that this was the man she had her eye on.

There were plenty of other opportunities for entertainment in Vienna, and you could also travel to St. Pölten, where there was always something for onlookers to see and today an

---

<sup>2</sup> "Ein Rückblick aus dem Jahre 2000 auf 1887" by Bellamy, Universalbibliothek No. 2661, 2662, and "Ein Blick in die Zukunft" by Richard Michaelis, U.-B. No. 2800.

interesting play was being performed for which you could probably get a ticket. The return journey could still be made after the theatre and everyone was free to visit the towns on non-working days, unless they were staying overnight. The railway miles travelled had to be taken into account.

The neighbouring towns of Vienna were somewhat favoured, which is why, in the event of a housing swap, everyone flocked to the communities of the St. Pölten and Wienerneustädter districts and it was just as much a reward for great merit if someone was transferred there from the working class as it was a punishment if an unsolicited transfer to more distant communities was ordered. For this reason, particularly capable people were usually to be found in the parishes of these districts.

However, visits to Vienna just for the evening were often not particularly rewarding, because since all workers were given leave to go to Vienna once every three or four years and these visitors from more distant regions naturally had preference for all pleasures over those who could come back every Sunday, they could often miss their purpose in Vienna.

The average population of the capital was estimated at 350,000. In addition to the aristocratic quarters, there were 350 residential quarters, each of which had ample room for 1000 inhabitants; but in an emergency, 1200 could also be accommodated in each quarter, resulting in 420000 people present. It also happened at particularly interesting festivals, when a coronation or unusual centennial celebration took place, that every little place was occupied.

The population consisted mainly of temporary visitors from the province and abroad. The daily trains to Vienna brought an average of 20,000 visitors and just as many were travelling home. As the foreigners stayed in the residence for an average of 7 days, this resulted in 140000 changing visitors. The universities had about 60,000 students, including about 15,000 girls enrolled, and in addition one could count 20,000 professors, scholars, artists and civil servants at the scientific and art institutions, then 70,000 retired workers, which already amounted to 30,000,000, and if one added the court, nobility, civil servants, other retired workers, domestic workers and craftsmen, among whom a particularly large number practised the various arts and crafts as a profession, one had 350,000. All of them had to be provided for in the evening, when no one should be bored.

So, as you can see, apart from the conviviality they found at home, no one was embarrassed to spend their time away from home and especially in the district town or in Vienna if it rained on Sunday, and they waited patiently to see if things would brighten up. But Zwirner was disgruntled. He said that he wanted to visit the Kahlenberg with us on horseback and that we would leave him to it, that noon was also taken. We noticed that the rainy weather was making him so bad-tempered and we saw that he jumped up quite happily when the first ray of sunshine came in at the window and soon afterwards the clouds dispersed and a clear sky invited us to go outside. Now it was all the better because it was less hot, and so we mounted our horses at half-past eight o'clock in the morning, which had been given to us without difficulty, as we were entitled to them as favoured strangers, and incidentally most of them used the railways.

We saw that Zwirner, who set his horse into a sharp trot, did not take the popular route via Tulbing, but turned towards Königstetten, and realised everything when we saw two women on magnificent golden foxes from afar, who seemed to be waiting for us. And so it was. -- Zwirner had an appointment with Lori and his sister, who was even more beautiful than her friend and was characterised by long ash-blond tresses. We appreciated her at the age at which Austrian women love to marry. She took us right and left, and entertained us most delightfully with very good English conversation, not failing to speak of older American authors, Bret Harte, Prescott, Lawrence Gronlund, and others. She may have intended what seemed to come naturally, namely that Zwirner and Lori should stay behind us and talk.

We had barely left Königstetten behind us when the road turned right towards the mountains and slowly climbed the heights in countless twists and turns, often leading almost back to the starting point. So we alternately had the mountains in front of us, then again the view of the valley and the Danube, and we sometimes stopped our horses as if we wanted to enjoy the distant view, but in reality to tease our friend Zwirner. But even if the beautiful Mary kept quiet between us and called the names of the villages we saw at our feet, a fine smile would slip over her favourite face when those behind came within earshot, and she would turn her horse towards the road, whisking us away in time.

The road continued like this for a long time and we could often see four or five loops of road behind us. The small wooded mountains, between which lay small hollows that were either planted with vines or bore fresh mats, shifted continuously and offered the most varied pictures. The Tulbinger Kogel remained visible on the right for a long time, but finally the road had reached the height of the mountain crossing and led deep into a wooded area, from where there was no longer a view of the Tulln soil. We travelled between forests and meadows for more than two hours, occasionally setting the horses into a sharp trot. At last we left the army road to take a delightful forest path, covered high with fallen leaves, under young trees that only rarely left a bit of sky uncovered and formed a marvellous light green arch. The trees must have been cut down and regrown many times in the last 150 years.

Now the path led us into the open again and up to the high meadows and Mary told us that, according to the old maps, there must once have been a farmstead at Steinriegel, but that such remote farmsteads were now rare, because it was not easy for anyone to decide to give up the varied life in the community and because such buildings could serve as hiding places for enemies of society if they were not regularly inhabited.

Now our path led through forest again and then came a charming, long and often winding valley, formed by a narrow strip of meadow, which was accompanied on both sides by low hills, which, densely covered with oaks and beeches, formed formal walls bursting with greenery. We had now reached the mountain range whose north-eastern end is formed by the Kahlenberg and Leopoldsberg, and after climbing a considerable height on a winding road, we rode around the foot of the Hermannskogel and then along the ridge across meadows and through magnificent forests to the final destination of our excursion, which we did not reach until after midday.

We had the horses, which had been quite exerted, led into the stables and chose seats on the terrace, from where you have a view over Vienna, to have our lunch. As Lori and Mary, like Zwirner, were well known here, we didn't need any legitimisation and remembered our first visit up here.

The three Austrians stepped up to the parapet, looked at the huge city in front of us and, engrossed in conversation, pointed to the Tribune Palace, which seemed to attract their attention, although its towers stood out from the sea of houses.

Look, the beautiful Selma came to bring us breakfast. She greeted us cheerfully. -- We enquired whether the things we had borrowed on our first visit had been returned, and Selma replied in the affirmative, saying that she had also been ordered the greeting, which I had had paid for. But it had been all too convenient to leave it to others; after all, there were twenty conversations a day between Tulln and the Kahlenberg, so I could have sat down and "connected" with Selma. I laughingly apologised and said that we had meanwhile made a trip to Abbazia and Lacroma, otherwise I would probably have taken advantage of the pleasant opportunity. Smiling, she went her way after shaking hands with Lori and Mary, who had now turned to us. After lunch we strolled through meadows and woods and again Lori and Zwirner preferred to move sideways. But now we joined a game of lawn tennis, although our friends didn't seem to be acquainted with the other players. But when a handsome young man, who must have had his eye on Mary Zwirner, suggested that we should join him and his comrades at a table for lunch, Mary, ignoring his attentions, said that we wanted to dine at Königstetten.

It was now almost three o'clock and we were due in Königstetten at five o'clock for dinner. Zwirner and the two girls were a little worried. They had not considered that the distance was great and that our horses had already travelled more than five hours, the noble horses from the Königstetten stables more than four hours, and that we now had to trot hard if we wanted to reach Königstetten in time, something the Austrians seemed very anxious about.

We were afraid of putting the horses through too much, and Zwirner went with me to the stable to have a look round. He enquired what other horses were here, and learnt that the doctor and the teachers, a company of eight people in all, had come up on horseback from Klosterneuburg. -- Zwirner went to see the doctor and enquired whether the Klosterneuburg horses had already travelled a long way, whereupon it turned out that this was not the case, and the company offered to give us five good trotters and take over our horses, which could make the journey to nearby Klosterneuburg all the easier as the company did not want to leave until late in the evening. As the young people were now on holiday, some of them would be quite happy to take our horses home the next day and bring the others back in return.

So we set off, and when we had left Klosterneuburg behind us and reached the heights towards Kierling, we travelled for the most part at a sharp trot, sometimes at a gallop, via St. Andrä to Königstetten. This route was also pleasant and the section between Kierling and St Andrä in particular offered a lovely change of pace. The friends were now ahead and it was a pleasure to see the marvellous figures of the girls riding happily along. We followed with



Zwirner, and Lori called back to him that the Prince and Princess had stayed at home today for a special reason, as she emphasised with a smile, and therefore Mary would not be leading the representation as had been intended.

Zwirner let the friends ride a little ahead and explained his sister's position in the Hochberg household. He said: "The marriage candidates are held sacred in certain respects, like priestesses, and the other girls are in complete agreement with this and have been accustomed from a young age to the idea that they were destined for a different profession, which in earlier times might have been called 'serving'. It is in everyone's interest to cultivate the beauty of women and not to spoil the beauty of future wives and mothers through labour, which must always leave traces, even if every effort is made to keep the vulgar away from man. But the complete change in lifestyles has also changed people's relationships. Every one exalts the merits and advantages of his fellow-men to the skies, and takes credit to others who are near him, and as it is an honour to the whole community when a golden rose falls to a sister, all the girls take a pride in doing their part to ensure that the more beautiful of their circle lose nothing of their beauty, and they themselves spread the reputation of those whom they would regard with disfavour under other circumstances. Then it falls to the others to excel in another sphere, and it is not by maliciously depreciating their fellow-men, but by cultivating and developing as much as possible those advantages which have been bestowed upon them, that they endeavour to become happy. That is why girls who are excluded from marriage are glad to share in the labours which were once despised, and it has often been proved that there is no person who could not excel in some field. -- Mary, the most beautiful of the beautiful girls in Tulln, has now been spoilt by her sisters. Her reputation was spread and she was given time to cultivate her social talents, without which beauty would be a useless thing. She was invited countless times to the county official's office, where the society is also decorated with beautiful girls, and so she became acquainted with the Hochbergs, who, as happens very often, asked her to join the family in order to take part in the house management and representation, which the actual family members alone are not up to, since the task of serving so many guests requires a larger number of housemates. In this way, all kinds of completely indispensable helpers are attached to the noble house, who have to be recruited in a friendly manner, because no one in the country serves for pay." -- We asked why Mary was not to be seen on the first Friday, and learnt that she had taken over the management of the house at that time and was busy in the parlour, and had not been at all inclined to show herself.

With this conversation we rode into the castle courtyard, where gallant gentlemen - there were a particularly large number of artists here for the summer months - helped the girls off their horses. We were given the opportunity to retire a little, and then we went to table.

Long tables were set up in the large hall and there were thirty of us eating. The conversation was stimulating and we got to know some interesting people again.

Then, towards the end of the table, Prince Hochberg rose to announce that there were two happy couples among us. Professor Lueger had confessed his love to Mary Zwirner, a charming friend of the house, and her brother to his own daughter, Lori Hochberg, and both had been married, and even if the ceremony of the bridal show had not preceded it and such

unions -- one might say without concurrence -- were not quite according to the customs of the country, one knew that hearts could not be commanded, and he invited those present to empty their glasses to the health of the future spouses. -- There was champagne in the glasses and the girls who waited on us threw their arms around the necks of the two brides, just as Prince and Princess Hochberg kissed Mary warmly and congratulated her as if she were their own daughter. This explained what we had noticed in the morning, and we realised that Zwirner had lost his Olympian equanimity today. For Lori was a marvellous woman, and evidently apt to demand and grant stormy love.

Zwirner, who spent time in the garden with Lori after dinner and often walked arm in arm with her on paths we were obviously not supposed to follow, did not want to leave today, and the Princess had to take care of us.

This woman was no longer young, but even she was not lacking in traces of past beauty. She had been born in a village near Salzburg and it was a pleasure for her to hear that we had spent a day there. She recalled, not without melancholy, her younger days in that paradise and described to us the mountains in which she had hiked for many years. She particularly praised the view from the Schmitterhöhe and, as she had heard that we wanted to take the return journey via Zell am See and Wörgl in order to travel via Switzerland, she recommended that we climb this mountain, which was not at all difficult. Incidentally, the Hohe Salve was perhaps preferable. -- She did not fail to mention that one could spend the night on all these mountains.

I was bored of talking to the princess, who only wanted to entertain us because politeness demanded it, and so I left my patient friend Forest to her, pretending that I wanted to look for a glove that I must have left lying on a bench in the park. And so I turned my steps to a quiet spot where one could not be seen from the castle, but enjoyed a marvellous view over the valley. There I wanted to occupy myself a little and settled down on a bench that invited me to rest beside the gravel path.

Then I heard a silk dress rustle behind me, a warm, melodious voice was heard and I recognised Lori's familiar voice. Should I stay or flee? -- It was too late, the crunching in the gravel would have betrayed me and I hoped the lovers would soon redirect their steps.

It turned out differently: "Dearest, let us sit down on this mossy bench and repeat to me the vow of fidelity." -- "I am glad to say that nothing can tear me away from you, and that we want to know no other happiness than a common one. But it seems to me that you have not found the right word when you demand the repetition of a vow. What chastity and virginity are to you, truthfulness is to a man, and we demand unshakeable trust. Not a shadow of doubt in me shall stain your soul, since we have promised each other." -- "I do not doubt you either, but I want to be intoxicated by your promises that you want to be all mine, that you want to love the world and divinity, truthfulness and beauty, the very children with whom Mother Nature will endow us, only in and with me, for the sake of both of us. I have always found it hard when I read the words of Christ: "Husband and wife be two in one flesh." In what cruel nakedness he presents us with the bond that binds us to our spouse. But only to justify the commandment of mutual, all-encompassing faithfulness to our spouses, and the

immeasurable sacrifice that marriage demands of us virgins when the souls of our spouses are united is blissful. We also want to be two in =one= feeling and in =one= thinking. I could never decide to sacrifice my virginal majesty, except to a man to whom I mean the whole world, who forms with me only a single self. I demand you completely and only for this do I give myself to you. As hot as the blood rages in my veins, sensuality would never have triumphed over the divine feeling of virginal inviolability. But when I saw you for the first time, I realised what the Greek myth of the gods means, that the goddesses sometimes descend from Olympus to make a mortal happy. It is not arrogance, beloved, if I feel as if I were coming down to you in this way. Only the desire drives me to found a happiness to which nothing can be compared, and in order to beget this happiness and to enjoy and increase it in compassion, I cast off what has elevated me above men. Since I want to be happy in your happiness, the good that I bring you cannot be great enough. Therefore I thank thee that thy lips have not profaned me, and that neither eye nor mouth have offended me with bold insolence. The hour of union shall open a heaven to you and in you to me."

"I sacrifice my divinity to you and thereby make you my god and myself your handmaiden, but in order to become happy in the human sense and without any external compulsion, by my own choice." --

After a short silence, friend Zwirner said:

"So I take you as the most precious thing a man can find on his journey through life. But the man also belongs to the state and the world."

"So shall you, dear man, but let me share in everything you strive for. We must not only have common goals for our personal interests, but also common ideals for society and honestly endeavour to achieve such unity. Let my image hover around you wherever you are, and do not separate yourself from me, whatever you undertake."

"That's how it will be," Zwirner replied, "I'm not entering into marriage with a different mind either. You know, divinity, how we have learnt to recognise each other. I've often turned your thoughts back to it. The night after our first meeting, when I was alone with myself, I always saw you at my side, your radiant eyes fixed on me. In these waking dreams you revealed yourself to me, all the charms of your sweet body, the beauty of your feelings, the purity of your heart, your whole self I thought I saw before me and that very night I married you. I had no more rest and the very next evening I came back and confessed that your image had never left me. You, too, had only dreamed of me and made me your husband in your dreams, and you knew that I would come again and woo you."

"Then came a week of testing. The more we talked and exchanged our thoughts, the more certain we felt that we were not mistaken. You told me then, as you do now, how great you imagined the happiness of marriage to be and how the union of spouses must embrace everything, everything. So you let me see the whole world through your eyes and I let you look into my heart. I found that we were like a pair of eyes, always working at the same time to solve the riddle of the world; the two eyes never seek different goals. And then you rejoiced that I had discovered the true meaning of marriage in this picture. You pursued the thought further and showed me how the eyes, because they can never move to one and the

same place in space, bring two messages to the soul, but only in order to explore things better than an eye alone could, and how the soul combines the two images into a unity. And so we should arrive at a view of the world that remains closed to the solitary. We too should learn to merge our views into a unity. And you sensibly remarked how the two images of the eye diverge greatly from each other when we look at the next, and how they coincide when we immerse ourselves in looking at the stars; we should therefore not lose sight of the infinitely great, the eternal and only close to the spirit."

"And so we learnt to recognise each other in our view of the world."

"After all this, should any self-deception be possible? How could we lack happiness anywhere where we are together?"

"I dream for and for of an unfading happiness that I will find in your arms and in an all-encompassing community of life with you."

And then they had risen and their voices died away in the distance. -- Now I left my resting place, and when I met the young people later in the castle, I was ashamed that I had made myself an accomplice to such an outpouring of souls. Lori shook hands with me impartially and we parted.

Zwirner was lost in thought on the way home.

When we got to Tulln, I remembered that I was supposed to "connect" with Selma and went to the telephone in the municipal palace, which was almost deserted. I let myself be put in touch with Kahlenberge and asked for Selma, who called me soon afterwards and greeted me. -- "Beautiful Selma, I'm looking forward to chatting with you."

"You're just in time, tell me, why did Lori and Zwirner urge me to come to Königstetten?" -- "That's a secret."

"Why not, in Austria they have no secrets."

"Oh yes, I myself have a very dear secret that I'm taking home with me."

"You seem like a loose siskin to me."

"Oh, not at all, on the contrary, I'm quite steady."

"I trust that you are constant in nothing but impermanence."

"False suspicion, but at least I want to be taught by you if I still need perfecting."

"Thank you for your trust, I have a pupil to whom I am fully dedicated and who has made amazing progress, and when I have completed his education, I want to retire and take on no more pupils."

"So I must have arrived too late?"

Now I clearly hear a smack through the telephone. I think I should answer it; then there is laughter in several voices, and as I call out "Selma" a little peevishly, a bass voice replies: "Selma has been called off, what do you say?" -- "Oh, it is nothing of importance; who

speaks?" -- "Martin, the studious pupil." -- "Well, well; good night to you both," -- "Thank you very much." -- "Finish!" -- "Grrrrrrg." --

I could have spared myself the trouble, for when I thought about it, I remembered not only beautiful dark hair flowing down my back, but also a gold ring on Selma's ring finger, and I learnt later that Selma had spent her honeymoon with Martin on the Kahlenberg and that she had decided that they did not want to indulge in amorous dalliance, but would help out in the inn. My paths would probably not lead me together with the couple again and I thought that the little misunderstanding would soon be forgotten.

X.

From now on it was clear that Zwirner, for whose sake we had come across the ocean, was lost to us. As Dr Kolb was not at home either, although we would not have lacked for hospitable company, we devoted the following day to a tour of Tulln, or rather of the few buildings that made up the town. As everywhere else, the centrepiece was the municipal palace, the ground floor of which served as a dining hall. In the pavilions at the four corners, stairs led upwards and the upper floor contained a large reading room in the centre, which was surrounded by around 16 smaller rooms. The walls that formed the reading room were supported by mighty columns on the ground floor. Surrounding the community palace were four spacious, three-storey high buildings, each of which formed a cross with the staircase in the centre. These buildings were positioned so that two of their wings were parallel to the extended building lines of the walls of the community palace and the other two wings extended out into the open. From one of the storeys it was possible to reach the community palace through a lockable corridor. The social needs of the community demanded that people could move from the residential buildings to the community palace protected from rain and wind. The four residential buildings contained a total of 1024 residential units, which were divided into larger or smaller flats, communal dormitories and special parlours, so that the most diverse needs could be met. There was also a special infirmary. The functionaries, civil servants, doctors and teachers were somewhat favoured in that they had more spacious flats with better furniture and special reception rooms for their friends.

The spaces between the residential buildings and the palace were decorated with lawns, flowers and shrubs, and the sections outside were used partly as swimming pools, partly as playgrounds and dining gardens, and partly as enclosed gardens with glass houses. In the two swimming pools you could always see bathers in warm weather.

As a district town, Tulln also had a second palace, similar to the municipal palace, in which district assemblies were held, a school of music, drawing and modelling was housed, there were larger flats for the district official, district doctor and district teacher, and large singing and music festivals, as well as theatrical performances of a lesser kind, could be held. This palace was also the venue for meetings of the district's officials, doctors and teachers. Tulln also had two large residential buildings for pensioners and foreigners, which could be used as hospitals in the event of an epidemic.

Under the large dining hall of the community palace was a floor intended for the kitchen and utility rooms, cellar, laundry and covered baths, then for gymnastics. No work was done in this housing estate, which was set back from the road, except for housekeeping. The large stables were quite far away and could not be seen. There were also the barns, factory rooms and so on. That's where we turned our steps.

The livestock population of such a community is naturally very large, with an average of 400 cattle, 70 horses and many other domestic animals per community.

There was no other industry in Tulln than a shoemaker's workshop, which we visited. The factory only worked for the district of Tulln and therefore had to supply 40,000 pairs of footwear a year. Despite the fact that all conceivable machines are in operation, this requires between 60 and 80 workers, including many women and girls. Many workplaces were empty and we were told that during the harvest the industrial workers helped out in the fields, while the agricultural workers took part in the industrial work in winter. But it also happened that when it was necessary to rescue crops threatened by storms or rain, everyone, including children, teachers and old people, ran into the fields and only a few guards stayed behind with the youngest children and the sick.

The state appoints a factory manager in each workshop, who is responsible for ensuring that as much labour and material as possible is saved. His statistical work, the results of which he can compare with those of other factories, gives him clues for his task. The population selects the most skilful workers, whose task it is to adjust the shoes and therefore take precise measurements. It has been found to be a good idea to keep some kind of statistics on these measurements as well, which provides a lot of useful information for science and administration.

The same applies to tailoring for men and women, which requires more labourers. The fabrics produced each year are made to order by the municipalities according to samples that can be viewed in all districts. The administration ensures that the requirements do not exceed the ratio. However, the factories only have to fulfil orders from the government. The distribution is basically the same for all items, including the fabrics, although there are some differences depending on rank or civil service and body size.

Here, too, the relationship is the same. The factory manager is appointed by the state and is responsible for the economy; the population, however, chooses the workers who adapt the clothes to the wishes and stature of the individual. The main distribution can be changed by agreement between the members of the community, just as a kind of exchange can take place. The central administration distributes the cloth according to statistical data to the provinces, the provincial administration to the districts, the district administration to the districts, and the further distributions are initially subject to precise regulations. If a municipality does not exceed its share of materials and labour, it can distribute as it wishes. Initially, the whole distribution business was carried out according to very rigorous regulations, but later became more lax, as it was found that the accounting system itself caused a lot of work and was of little benefit. Since a kind of customary law has developed, according to which the figures differ little on the whole, there is not too much for the

government to do in this respect, but consumption is nevertheless regularly published in the statistical tables in order to prevent any undercutting.

The situation is similar with other distributions of materials for private activities. For example, wool and thread, leather, paper, writing and drawing requisites and the like. As a rule, all waste and worn-out materials revert to the state. Exceptionally, someone may be allowed to keep a favourite skirt for a longer period if he is still able to serve, but the rule is that the state reclaims and uses everything.

The communities also need all kinds of tools and instruments for hobbies, games and music. It doesn't matter what the communities want, as long as their requirements are proportionate and the overall requirements do not contradict the labour and material supplies.

As we found the splendour at public festivities somewhat astonishing and asked how the expense could be covered, the manager of the shoemaker's workshop told us that not an ounce of gold or silver had been dug for 80 years and not a precious stone had been purchased. If it pleased the Americans to reopen the old Pribram silver mine, to which young people are now being taken in order to show them the hard lot of the workers of the older period -- salt, coal, iron, lead, copper and the like are still being worked today -- the government would allow it and not demand a lease. Similarly, the opal mines in Hungary could be exploited, no one would value them. The enormous reserves of gold and silver in bars and coins from the old days were sufficient for all eternity for technical purposes and for the treasuries. The old jewels and jewellery were divided up in treasure chambers and were only occasionally brought into more artistic settings. The Civilliste always has artists in this field at its disposal. There is no increase, as immense stocks from ancient times are piled up for court festivals, the theatre and wedding celebrations. The same is true of many different fabrics. Silk, velvet and tapestries are still being produced, but as they belong to the people and not to individuals, countless festivities are also organised in smaller towns.

I said that we had now repeatedly seen Zwirner in almost rich costume, to which our new friend replied that he was now walking on free feet and looking for his festive clothes, which otherwise were often not worn for years and were calculated at decennia. The working clothes, as we could see, were very simple and cheap, as were the usual formal dresses, which they endeavoured to preserve. The emphasis was more on cleanliness and physical beauty, and in costume on taste and variety, than on costliness. The old, ridiculously patterned fabrics had fallen into disuse. Young and slender girls and women also knew how to adorn themselves very tastefully in loose dresses that did not fit the body and were only pinned and draped, which made it possible to make all kinds of exchanges and changes and saved an infinite amount of labour. Such clothes also wore out less and the young men liked the beauties better in this charming costume than in the barbaric bodice and hoop skirt, of which the most ridiculous pictures could be seen everywhere as a salutary deterrent, just as one never tires of describing the culture of the earlier period. 'What they had that was beautiful, we have a hundredfold, and what was barbaric has disappeared. We now believe we know what Christ meant when he said: 'He who is well instructed in the kingdom of heaven is to be compared to a householder who brings forth the old and the new from his treasure.

We greeted him and came to the rowing centre, where we hadn't been since the rowing festival. An old gentleman, who was in charge of all sorts of paperwork there and was a keen rower, showed us the museum, the archives and the trophy room and gave us information about the organisation of the clubs and their support from the state. He said that provision had been made for the indispensable supply of bodily needs, but also -- within certain limits -- of ideal needs through regular labour, so that everyone had to work a certain number of hours a day for such and such a number of years, depending on his profession, which the people demanded of him.

However, it had been found that people were actually in need of work and, as soon as they had left work, wanted to create something again. This gave rise to the idea of not only providing individuals with certain materials for free labour, as had been done in the past, but also of setting up associations and providing them with large amounts of money to develop a certain activity, which was obviously useful.

Houses had been built for the rowing clubs, boats had been built to their specifications, members had been provided with suitable clothing, they had been allowed to print a newspaper at state expense, prizes had been granted and the central management had been given a million railway miles to distribute among the members so that they could travel to consultations and exercises as well as to competitions, which were not included in the individual's usual journeys. This sport had improved the human material; people were becoming broader-shouldered and the ribcage was expanding, which was becoming more and more pronounced in the type of people. Dr Kolb always preached that this sport should be encouraged because it was obviously beneficial to the human form.

Dr Kolb came in just then and confirmed this. He said that the municipality of Tulln had asked him -- he wanted to talk about his art later, he was a sculptor -- to design a statue of Zwirner, which they wanted to erect to please him and even more so his wife when they moved in after their honeymoon. He had made a very nice design and hoped that this time his work would be cast in stone, which he liked better for large works than bronze, with which one also had to economise a little. He wanted to depict the left arm of the Zwirner statue leaning on a slender and towering oar and the right arm outstretched as if pointing far out towards the gathering boats. The rowing costume allows him to form the splendid neck and the muscles of the arms, and he has the idea of depicting the present bride of Zwirner, who will soon be his wife, in the bridal robes, no doubt Greek, fitted dresses, bare feet clad with sandals, bare shoulders and arms, the rose in her hair. Then the statues could be erected in the park of Tulln and future generations could be assured of a memory of a couple of splendid people.

We were all called to the table, where there was much talk today of Zwirner, who was back in Königstetten and had been on leave since the engagement. After the table, however, the gongs sounded a signal intended for such occasions, whereupon everyone hurried out and dispersed to the houses, inns, stables and workshops at the given signal. A carriage had just arrived and Prince Hochberg, received by the municipal official, got out to make an inspection, for which he had received the order from the imperial chancellery today. He had the inventories presented to him and in the meantime everything had to be put in its place.



All the inventory items and supplies, books, tools and livestock were examined, and as several items were missing, it was explained that this and that had been lent to neighbouring communities, two animals had been given to an animal sanatorium, and so on. In the meantime, the district official from St. Pölten had come over and a number of technicians from various places had appeared, since the purpose was not only to subject the iron railway bridge to a general test and inspection, but also to determine from the records whether the regular inspections prescribed by law had been carried out accurately. Everything satisfied the Prince, and as he was about to get back into the carriage, the official said that, as he was just here, the community wanted to take the opportunity to give the Hochberg family and the young bridal couple a party, and the Prince was asked to stay; invitations had been sent to the Princess and the young people, who had finally been found in Sieghartskirchen.

The Princess arrived in the carriage and soon afterwards Zwirner with Lori and Mary with Professor Lueger on horseback, and as it was already late, they prepared for the evening meal. But the official said that this time the Prince and Princess would probably have to sacrifice a piece of the night. They would not regret it, the prince said with a laugh.

Before she left Königstetten, the Princess had arranged for a deputy. For whenever official socialising brings together several people, someone must represent them. This time the princess had asked a tragedienne who was a guest in Königstetten to take over the position of housewife, as she was excellently suited to it, for she was enormously dignified and always played the queens on stage.

No one was absent from the evening meal except the sick and the babies, for whose care some of the older girls had been punished. Of course, they would have loved to be there, but as they had been guilty of something at school that had not yet been atoned for, this opportunity was welcome.

Of course, one should not imagine a sumptuous meal, because the Austrians live moderately for aesthetic reasons, for health reasons and because everyone has to be satisfied. Nevertheless, the tea was not only accompanied by cold cuts, as is often the case, at least on Sundays, but also baked goods, fruit and ice cream, and at the end, when it was time to give the bride and groom a toast, five hectolitres of the best Klosterneuburg wine were brought in, which the community has to use very sparingly because the better wines do not grow in abundance.

After a short break, during which the hall had emptied, the guests were invited to the games in the giant hall of the district palace. This hall had been transformed into an amphitheatre by means of ascending scaffolding and we were informed that, because of the many regattas and other festivals, the rowing sports house had stands that could be dismantled and piled up in a courtyard for thousands of spectators, and they had been used for this purpose, just as many hundreds of opera glasses could be distributed, which had been sent from the Vienna stages for the last regatta and had not yet been collected.

Everyone took their place, the children below, the adults above according to size. The little ones were mostly from other communities, by the way, because during the holidays the children travel around a lot with their guardians to get to know the world at a young age.

In the open space in the centre, a grass-green carpet had been spread out and a wooded area had been marked out with small plants, as it were, surrounding a mat. Now a bright beam of electric light shot down from the ceiling, illuminating only this room, which served as a stage, while the rest of the hall was completely dark, so that the various actors could emerge from the darkness and disappear into it again and the illusion was not disturbed. However, many hundreds of people were able to enjoy the spectacle.

First came well-trained little actors from Klosterneuburg who, dressed as dwarves, performed a lovely little fairy tale. Then a charming dancer dressed as a bayadere. She was a member of the ballet troupe, but on leave and at home in Tulln. --

Then came brown fellows, at the sight of whom we heard Lori shout: "The gypsies!" -- There were no more gypsies, as everyone had to settle down and settle into the new order of things, but the gypsy way of playing had survived in Hungary, just as their appearance and clothing were still recognisable from pictures, and professional musicians who belonged to the large orchestras and also gave lessons had come together and played some gypsies, professional musicians, who belonged to the big orchestras and also gave lessons, had got together and formed several gypsy bands, which, in order to give themselves and others pleasure, sometimes played here and there in the evening with violin and dulcimer, but of their own free will and of course without payment. Lori was a great lover of this kind of music, which is why she could always be heard shouting "The gypsies" when they appeared, and that's why they loved to come to her.

When they had played a few pieces of music and left again, after a short pause a strange figure came whirling out of the darkness into the light, and after it had spun round in circles a few times at lightning speed, so that it was impossible to tell what it was, the oddball suddenly stood upright, with its neck stretched out and a grave grandeur. One had never seen anything like it and did not know what to make of it. He had brushed his hair on three sides as if in flames, coloured his face white, stained his cheeks and lips with a hideous red paint and painted his eyebrows high. He was dressed in white clothes with fist-sized black buttons and began to strut around like a rooster and talk stupidly, occasionally rolling over in the air a few times and then standing stiffly and upright again. Then a fiddle and bow came flying out of the darkness into the cone of light, which he skilfully caught and, seemingly childishly delighted, tried to play. He acted as if he didn't understand it, but gradually perfected himself and finally got into a crazy tempo, where he began to jump for joy and finally, rolling over and continuing to play at the same time, became more and more crazy and suddenly disappeared into the darkness with one movement. Everyone laughed and wondered what that was. I could confirm that this sort of thing had been performed by degenerate people in my early days, but I did not know how the folly had come about. On leaving the house I learnt that this was Zwirner's younger brother, a clean-cut and extremely agile lad. Of course, Zwirner's parents were no longer alive, otherwise I would have had to introduce them to the honoured public. The boy had now seen pictures and descriptions among his brother's old things, from which he had taken this owl's play and secretly practised it in order to contribute something to the general amusement. After scrubbing his face clean, he was allowed to kiss Lori on the mouth.

After saying goodbye, the Hochbergs drove home with the professor and Mary.

Late in the evening, the official from Tulln took advantage of a chance meeting to tell me that the head of the women's curia had instructed him to bring up the liberty I had taken against Selma. She herself had deemed it necessary to communicate the incident to her sisters, and it was believed that I was not entirely without reproach. It was not altogether to be approved of that I should boast of any favour I had received; it was somewhat inconsiderate of women in general, and it was thought that Selma had done wrong to answer with a jest; she would have done best to disregard it. But the presumptuous gallantry against a married woman, to which I allowed myself to be led in the course of the conversation, could not be excused. I replied that I had not known that Selma was married. The official then remarked that the instruction instructed me that married women who wore the golden ring on their finger were entitled to special restraint. I defended myself by saying that I had not paid attention to this, but was told that it would be wisest to observe greater restraint in case of doubt rather than to take liberties that could be taken badly. Incidentally, the whole thing had remained without consequences, for the young husband had taken no offence and considered everything that his idolised Selma did to be right, and it was only to be hoped that I would be more considerate of women's sensitivities in future.

Like the crown prince in the fable, I swore to be more careful in future and asked Selma and the women in general to forgive me.

XI.

Today, the day before the wedding, we wanted to rest and spent a lot of time lying in the woods and in shady spots in the meadows, we also plunged into the Danube a few times in places where it was allowed to swim, rowed a boat and spent a few hours in contemplation. Then I had another confidential chat with Mr Forest. He enquired what it was like in 1887 compared to today. I had travelled in Europe at that time and was familiar with the conditions of the 19th century in this part of the world.

I gave my opinion as follows: At that time Lori would have been a high-nosed comtesse, devoted to secret sins and very pious, and finally, if she was poor, she would have married a Cavalier for the sake of his wealth, and would have held herself harmless for what he lost by marrying a groom. The Hochbergs would have grovelled before the emperor, just as the peasants despised her, and if a prince had taken a fancy to Lori, she would have given herself to him dutifully before her marriage, but without love and like a harlot, and thus fulfilled the wish of her lord father, who took credit for what he again, in princely condescension, showed as a favour to his steward.

Zwirner would be a rough woodcutter, who would be righteous, but would perhaps get into crime if he were itching to shoot a piece of game in Hochberg's park.

Mary would perhaps be a respectable peasant maiden without education or taste, but much more likely, as she is unusually beautiful and Vienna is not far away, a light-shy creature who cannot be seen by day, ill, given to drink, with a hoarse voice and despised, although not a

jot worse than everything around her. Doctor Kolb would be a quack doctor, at the service of rich people for expensive money, but referring the poor to the clinic; he would deal best with secret diseases, which he would rather treat gently than cure, and he would not write \_=one=\_ prescription without getting a little douceur from the apothecary the next day, who would take three times the price for it. If a friend was getting married, he would not send a photograph--I had accidentally learnt of his intention of making a wedding present for Lori--but, as only what cost a great deal of money was of value, he would send a silver teapot or a china service, according to his income, and the recipient would thank him very kindly, but would be quietly annoyed at his bad taste and stinginess.

The little twister would fare best of all, provided he devoted himself entirely to the trade and only wanted to do somersaults for the rest of his life.

If you think of the photographs that Dr Kolb took of his female statues, the Europe of that time had its counterpart in disgraceful photographs that were barren of all finer senses, depicting the crudest in the crudest, and hundreds would make a living from secretly showing and selling these photographs, preferably to young people, to whom it would be quite damaging and who would steal their parents' money from the drawer to pay quite high prices for such beautiful things.

If the villagers wanted to have a good day, they would get drunk and then beat each other half to death. But -- wasn't it "Mr Forest? -- It was nicer back then!"

"I don't want to say that, but even back then you could have left it all alone!"

I replied that I had again begun to doubt the correctness of his, Mr Forest's, views and hoped, if I lived another hundred years, to discover the truth.

We then went to Dr Kolb's studio. He was a sculptor as a hobby and had been given a large room for his purposes in the district palace next to the modelling school, as his art was considered useful and he wanted to be supported in every way possible. Next to him stood a model - well, a model - but without a mother's company, for it was a giant of a man who, being a rower himself, had shoulders and arms that fitted Zwirner's statue perfectly. Dr Kolb had modelled Zwirner's head countless times after nature, so he was able to make a portrait statue, although Zwirner was not to know what was in the works. During the work, which essentially consisted of finishing the neck, the shoulders with the collarbones, the arms and hands, Dr Kolb chatted with us and as we expressed our amazement at yesterday's improvisation of the evening's entertainment, he said that where many hands work together, man achieves amazing things. While he worked, he asked us to take a seat among the countless statues and busts on the low stools on which he used to place his dear models, and offered to tell us a story. We saw a statue standing in the background, completely covered with cloths.

"In Gutenstein," he began, "there still lives today an engineer who in his younger days suggested and realised the most incredible things, and whose resourcefulness made him a popular choice when he had a project in mind. One day, it was a Friday evening, he was with some friends in the park at Gutenstein, where they had rolled themselves a small barrel of

beer, which they had decided to finish off on the lawn. Now the talk turned to many great things that would have been accomplished quickly through the co-operation of many, and the engineer presumed to surpass everything. They laughed and said they would try it out, and when the beer had run out, the young people went their separate ways that night. They had come from different communities to congratulate their friend because he was soon to be married. They were all technicians, and the next day at the dinner table they all received a sealed parcel from the engineer - his name was Schneider - which said that the recipient was to meet at the telephone at 6 o'clock with as many men and young men as he could find and only then open the sealed parcel."

"The recipients did the same, and as everyone was eager to find out what the devil's cutter had cooked up again, all the young and old men stayed at home for miles around, even though on Saturdays everyone was usually mobile and planning excursions, especially near the snow mountain, which many thousands climb on such nights. The mystery was solved between 6 and 7 o'clock. Schneider had decided not only to conjure up a tourist lodge on a side peak of the Schneeberg, which had previously been neglected by tourists, but also to build a completely new ascent to it in 24 hours, which, rising gently in serpentines, would be suitable for pedestrians and pack animals. Each of the friends had to appoint and instruct ten assistants for the section in which he was to lead the work. In the sealed packets, the ten sections of the route were clearly indicated by the inventor, who was familiar with the mountain, and the plan of the tourist house was also enclosed with drawings of all the timbers and precise instructions as to what materials were required and how many pack animals were needed to do everything properly, and what tools had to be taken along, not forgetting dynamite cartridges, as blasting was necessary in certain places. But 5,000 workers were needed, the inventor explained, because the total length of the route was 15,000 linear metres due to the gentle ascent and he did not want to expect anyone to cover more than 3 metres of the route on average. However, those at the foot of the mountain had to make 7 metres and those who had to hike to the top only had to cover 2 or 1 metre. For each community, the place where they had to work was indicated, and the paths to be taken, often known only to the tailor, were so precisely marked that they could have found their way even in the dark. But it was a moonlit night. The carpenters, joiners, locksmiths and glaziers were supposed to finish everything in the first half of the night or at least by 4 o'clock in the morning and move up the hut in its individual parts, which was not difficult, as the path had to be passable by then. Of course, many people would have to work together and the officials, who had a kind of disposition fund for such purposes, would have to provide dry wood and the steam saw together with other woodworking machines. But as there was a large joinery in Neunkirchen with all the machinery, the plan could not fail to succeed. The bricklayers only needed to take slaked lime in chests, which could be carried by two pack animals. They would find sand, stone and water in abundance and would only need insignificant foundations."

"They rejoiced and set to work, dragging along all the equipment from the supplies, including the cooker. In the morning, the cunning man, who had worked restlessly on his plans and instructions during the night from Friday to Saturday, but slept peacefully in his bed from Saturday to Sunday, picked up his bride and said that he wanted to give her her morning gift

today. As she was ready to go and he had heard over the telephone that everything had been completed, he led her up the new winding road to the refuge, to the rapturous applause of those who were still putting the finishing touches to the work, emptied a glass of wine, which he then threw 200 metres down into a precipice, to the health of his bride and said. 'Well, friends, christen the hut 'zur schönen Schneiderin' and don't desecrate it for me until the end of my honeymoon, which I want to spend here with my Kathi. Then the house belongs to the whole world. -- This was thought fair, and after he had married, he went up with her with provisions, books and pictures, and a photographic apparatus, and spent a month. When he came back, he showed innumerable photographs he had taken, and people could not understand what the devil had done, for there was not a soul in them, and in all the pictures he was depicted with his young wife; There he was watching her cook, there she was cutting off the collar of a chicken they were about to eat, then again they were dining or drinking merrily to each other, here they were teasing each other, then he was giving her a sermon and she seemed quite irrepressibly contrite, soon afterwards he was on his knees before her as if in despair and she turned her back on him angrily, and so it went on; Tailor and dressmaker were immortalised on all the beautiful places and benches and vantage points, and on one precipice he even stood as if he wanted to throw himself down, and she pulled at his coat-tails with all her might. After they had racked their brains as to how this happened, Schneider showed how he had managed, with hooks, string, pulleys and stones that served as weights, to make the flap of the apparatus open and close by itself at the appointed time in a flash, and so, after he had adjusted the apparatus, he had time to take his place and play the desired piece with his wife. But his friends claimed that Schneider was concealing some of his pictures, that they knew he had taken 100 discs with him and that there were only 97 recordings. That was against communism, they said, and he should also show the other three pictures. Mrs Schneider blushed imperceptibly, but he swore loud and clear that this was a lie, that during his fight with his wife on the precipice three plates had fallen down and if they didn't believe it, they would just jump in after them."

"There you have the story of the origins of the shelter for the beautiful dressmaker, which you must have seen when you spent the night on the snowy mountain."

We had that too. We took the narrator's word for everything.

## XII.

We travelled to Vienna on Wednesday 29 July 2020, where the wedding of the 100 most beautiful was to take place today. The next guests had already travelled ahead early in carriages and we travelled from Franz Josefs station on a tram to the Burgtheater, where we got off and walked through the Rathhauspark to the Palace of the Tribunate to climb up a magnificent staircase into the large ballroom, where we were shown, among many bronze statues, that of Dr Johann Nepomuck Prix, the first mayor of Greater Vienna. We lined up with the other spectators in a circle opposite the windows, leaving aisles from the doors for the brides to enter. The gallery was swarming with all kinds of women who had bought tickets, and opposite us a throne had been erected under a canopy of red velvet

embroidered in gold and gilded tent poles, to which people walked up steps of rare wood, on which lay a precious carpet.

It was just 2 o'clock; the tower clock struck booming and three knocks were heard at the hall door, which burst open and behind the halberdiers and the tribunes in their official ceremonial dress walked in the Minister of Education in his red gown with the red beret on his white hair, the chain of office with countless diamonds on his chest, followed by high officials and halberdiers, who brought up the rear. The July sun was playing in the trees in the park and through the mighty windows I could see the Burgtheater opposite us, with the suspicious Apollo towering over it.

After the Minister of Education, who was standing in for the Emperor today, had settled down and the escort and halberdiers had taken their places, the signal was given and two hall doors opened, through which the brides, led by their chosen ones and escorted on either side by a swarm of maids of honour, entered and formed a tighter circle around the throne. The young man stood behind his bride and the maids of honour further back. The brides wore their hair in braids. The costume was Greek, the upper dress was tied at both shoulders, and gold brocade had been chosen today. The gown, which was gathered at the hips, formed slightly overhanging folds there and flowed down to the ankles; they wore richly decorated sandals on their bare feet and the jewellery on their necks and arms had not been sparingly used, as not only was the bridal treasury available, but the Obersthofmeisteramt had plundered the entire imperial treasury on the emperor's orders. The brides had already been coming for three days to try out their outfits, for adorning a bride was an art that only a few understood, and for days they picked and chose among the jewellery until they found the right one that best suited their hair and skin colour. Every single bride was adorned in the most sensible way in the peculiarity of her beauty. As there was not =one= bride in the hall who had not been the Rose Queen, they all had the golden rose in their hair and one was dazzled by the beauty that could be seen here. In vain did pearls and diamonds try to mislead us; we saw only necks and shoulders, strong arms of the most beautiful proportions, skin shimmering from the purest dull white to light amber, and a kingdom could have been given for the tiniest birthmark or freckle. The hair came in all colours, but black predominated; only our Mary Zwirner had ash-blond hair.

Now the Minister of Education, seated and leaning forward a little, gave the speech and congratulated the young men who were bringing home such marvellous wives, but also the brides who would experience joy in their husbands. He told the brides that they were taking on a heavy burden and would have to suffer a lot, but they were blessed by the thought that the family would live on in them, and the fatherland was grateful. No one stood higher in honour in the fatherland than the mother, surrounded by flourishing children, and there would be no lack of them. Austria should not be ashamed of its women. Beauty, grace, strength and suppleness adorned their bodies and grace was delightful in their movements and facial expressions, but the hundred female friends standing before him had no equal on earth; the deity had come alive in them and this hour was a solemn one for all who were present.

He had the married couples, who were called by name by a herald and came before him in turn after he had descended the steps, exchange rings and dismissed each couple with the words: "From this hour onwards, you are husband and wife."

When the ceremony was over and the married couples had left the hall with the maidens of honour, everyone rushed to the exits to get into the street and secure a place near the Burgtheater, because now came the bridal procession, which was to move around the Ringstrasse. In front were the heralds with silver trumpets, from which fanfares sounded from time to time, then the maids of honour on white horses, finally the magnificent 100 bridal carriages, drawn by Isabella, with gleaming harnesses, and in each of them the lovely bride sat beside her chosen one, moving about and constantly bowing, while her husband, beaming with happiness, waved and greeted his friends, but would not take his right hand off his wife's shoulder, whom he would have loved to embrace. As the procession was moving very slowly in order to give all the thousands of spectators time to admire the beauty, we hurried ahead through the crowd when the procession, in the centre of which the Minister of Education was riding, surrounded by mounted tribunes and officials, had barely passed. We had just managed to get a place on the steps of the monument to Empress Maria Theresa when the first carriages arrived at the Forum and turned left to pass in a semicircle under the windows of the Imperial Castle, which was decorated with carpets and plants. There in the centre on a wide balcony stood the emperor, who had driven in from the court camp at the Rosenberg near Horn, and the empress with the princes and princesses, and all the windows were occupied by court officials and nobles, foreign envoys and the emperor's household, from the ladies of honour and castellans to the charioteers and cooks with their assistants and helpers. Everyone waved their scarves and some brides were seen bursting into tears. The procession continued along the ring road back to the castle, where the table had been laid because the young married couple and the whole entourage, including us, were at the Emperor's table.

In the huge hall, which had been brightly lit after the windows had been closed to exclude daylight, the tables were set out. The meal proceeded merrily and was not only a great splendour, but there was also no lack of music, which was appropriate to the nature of the feast. After the third course, the emperor rose and all those at the table followed his example. With a voice that resounded far and wide, the prince spoke the toast: "I empty my glass in praise and honour of the beauty of women, which is embodied here in so many and varied forms, and to the glory of the young women who bequeath the precious possession of divine beauty to future generations, to the delight of their spouses, to the blessing of their children and to the perfection of the human race -- high the young women!"

The men fell in and the women bowed with a smile. The Emperor clinked his glass to that of his neighbour, Princess Anselma Lobkowitz. She replied: "Thanks to you, the prince of so many noble peoples who possess the patriotic soil, united in mutual trust and peace through the honest labour of Habsburg emperors. We and our sons and grandsons are devoted to you and your house as long as your house remains loyal to the nations. Habsburg up!" -- "Habsburg high!" rang out from everyone's lips. -- The Emperor looked smilingly at the outspoken speaker.



Now Zwirner rose to the right of the Empress, holding Lori by the hand: "Our wives, united with us, bequeath beauty and strength to future generations. Above all, we men want to pass on to them an inheritance, loyalty and reverence for women and loyalty to civil society, that loyalty to duty in which the Habsburgs have so far been our guide. -- To whom we all serve, Austria, high!" -- Everyone joined in enthusiastically and the table, at which only a few dishes but excellent wines were served, was soon brought to an end because the husbands wanted to go home.

Night had already fallen and the carriages were closed, leaving us free to ponder whether the kissing had already started.

Our friend had been given a lovely pavilion for the honey moon in the castle grounds of Königstetten, hidden in the rear part under high lime trees, and this part had been put under a spell that no one was allowed to enter under severe penalty, except the girlfriends, who were called in to set up the meals and keep the rooms in order. We could no longer see either Zwirner or Lori and expected that they would forget us completely. We had to make do with Dr Kolb as our friend's representative, who promised to clarify some doubts for us the next day.

Zwirner, who had other things to do, had given him the books by Bellamy and Michaelis to read and he knew how to inform us.

### XIII.

The next day we hiked with Dr Kolb via Tulbing into the mountains, where, it should be noted in passing, we later saw the enchanted pavilion of our friends shimmering a little through the dense tree branches from a height, and devoted a few hours to discussing the question that had brought us here.

Dr Kolb began his discussion with an overview of the books by Bellamy and Michaelis and showed that Bellamy had made many mistakes, but Michaelis had made many more and that both had obviously reported incorrectly. According to Bellamy, the telephone system served only for childish games, not as an aid to production and distribution; the larger towns suggested scattered farms that must lack all intellectual culture, and if Dr Leete had told me that goods were transported to the villages by pneumatic tubes, he had obviously been pulling my leg. Such circumstances must inevitably result in a division among the people between over-refined and crude elements who do not understand each other and are hostile to each other, which explains the attack of the party on Dr Leete.

America in the year 2000 could not have looked like Bellamy, or actually I as his puppet, and the views that Michaelis had Mr Forest express were just as erroneous. Bellamy had seen impossible things and admired institutions that were heartily bad, but not bad because they were communist, but bad because communism had not made a complete breakthrough and the new principle had been applied as clumsily as possible. "We can also see from Bellamy's reports how things are going for Dr Leete, but he gives us no information at all about the situation of the peasantry and workers, the distribution of the population, popular education

and much else. The remnants of private property confuse all relationships without providing any benefit. Property must be completely abolished, or more correctly, everything must become collective property, and even if the division of labour and thus the division of occupations must not only be maintained, but must be carried out down to the smallest detail and perfected far beyond the degree known in the 19th century, the individual occupations must not be allowed to face each other like insidious opponents and stand in the same conflict of interests in which the individuals used to stand. Among the 19th-century works examined by Zwirner, a book by Dr Theodor Hertzka, "Theodor Hertzka", was found. Theodor Hertzka, entitled "The Laws of Social Development", in which, in addition to astute criticism of current doctrines, the most abstruse suggestions were made as to how all professions, which should work on their own account and remain the owners of the products, should be obliged to account for them, so that the whole world could find out in which profession the highest dividends would accrue and everyone could give up their poor trade and join the most lucrative one."

"These were unclear thoughts that confused self-interest and unselfishness, and there was always a feeling of fear that competition might be extinguished. It was not seen that at that time there was competition for speculators and robber barons, but that honest labour found no reward and that the competition of the workers only benefited the pockets of the entrepreneurs and in the end always led to intensified slavery of the workers, so that they pursued the special diligence of their comrades with their hatred with full right, because their own lives depended on it."

"It was also a sign of great confusion of concepts that at that time no distinction was made between material and spiritual production, between that human activity which exploits the culture already acquired and that which serves progress and opens up new paths for mankind, and that it was not recognised, that the one kind of human activity is only fruitful when it is regulated, the other only fruitful when it follows free individual impulses, and that it is as absurd to regulate all human activity as it is absurd to claim freedom and individualism for all human activity. Since, however, only a small part of the economic resources can obviously be devoted to progress and intellectual culture, it was also obvious that the overwhelming mass of human labour must be bound and collective, as it already was at that time, but not to the advantage of the people and the working class, but to the advantage of a small number of happy entrepreneurs. The success of the large-scale enterprise pointed to the absolute necessity of regulating the mechanical labour of the people."

"For progress, however, competition had to continue."

"We \_=have=\_ competition, but only in the noblest form. I have long been free of work, that is, I no longer need to do any regular work, because I served as a doctor and therefore, since doctors have a responsible profession and must be available day and night, I had already completed my period of service at the age of 47. Three years have passed since then and I have still devoted myself with love to my former profession, only not with the constraints of a civil servant and with a limitation that allows me to render other services to the fatherland to which it would no longer be entitled. Wherever it is known that I am in the town or in the neighbourhood, seriously ill people or their relatives ask me to appear at their

bedside, and my advice has often been useful, for the most skilful colleagues are often struck blind in a single case, as has often happened to me. I often take part in learned congresses, give expert opinions on general institutions, serve as an expert witness in legal cases and write articles for the specialised journals. But I only do this out of love for the cause and my country and because I see that all the other people who have retired are making themselves useful, and because we doctors know very well that this prolongs one's life. It is bad for anyone who falls into indolence and hedonism after completing their service."

"But I, like everyone else, am not only a professional but also a dilettante and, as you already know, I have turned mainly to sculpture, where my knowledge of anatomy has stood me in good stead. I had already paid homage to this art earlier, but since the end of my service I have created about a hundred busts and statues in clay, whereby it was to my advantage that I had an abundance of material for my years of training and did not have to beg for material. I soon gained a reputation and the state administration, as well as the Civil List, had many of my statues cast, making me a well-known name. Only recently have I ventured to chisel my works in marble, and I am currently working on a piece for a distinguished lady, who is the source of the charming idea behind it all."

"A great deal is cast in bronze because the field and fortress cannons have been abandoned and most of the countless bells have been melted down, and there are still several thousand Uchatius in the magazines that are eager to be moulded into famous men or beautiful women. I usually do the chasing of my works myself, but chasing has also become a widespread hobby and I often see friends in a village busy chasing a cast of my statuettes."

"We also have other reproduction processes, such as stone casting according to a method patented in the 19th century by the Matscheko and Schrödl company, whose workshops, ten times larger, still stand on the southern outskirts of Vienna. Attempts were then also made to make moulds of already chiselled bronze statues and, with the help of electrical and galvanic processes, to produce a metallic coating in the moulds that could be cast with a pasta that became as hard as stone. When the moulds are then removed, the result is a reproduction that faithfully reproduces the finest chiselling, and it is not clear to me why this cast should not be kept completely equal in value to the original. In this way, sculptural works are distributed everywhere and are no longer to be found only in collections."

"As you have noticed, I already have a great reputation and since women adore the arts, I have no shortage of models. The most beautiful girls, even those destined for marriage, come to my studio, naturally under the protection of their mother or adoptive mother, and my eye has seen beauty for which there is no expression. As an anatomist, I know how to capture and reproduce the essential. I have just finished my masterpiece, which no one is allowed to see yet and with which I hope -- it may be a deception -- to win a master prize. The sculpture competition will take place in December and until then I don't want anyone to see my work. You can see the covered statue in my studio."

"It depicts the bride who, with her head turned as far to the side as possible, buries only her face in her arm, which is bent at the elbow, in order to hide at least as much of it as can be

done without aid, in gentle shame, lowers her right hand, as if very quietly defending herself, as far as her arm reaches, and, one would like to believe one can feel it, shudderingly begs for protection. We must think of the young husband as he sinks to the ground before his goddess and kisses her dear feet. I flatter myself that the attitude of the statue allows everyone to complete the picture in this way, and that seems to me the task of art; it should not give up any riddles that cannot be solved with complete certainty simply by looking at it."

"I tried on fifty models until I found the girl who was not only incomparably beautiful, but also seemed to reproduce the sculptural posture I was looking for."

"If only the women's curia didn't reproach me with the accusation that I shouldn't have led my imagination into the bridal chamber, or that my work of art lacked truth, because no chaste woman would show such favour even to her husband. But I will never tire of working for our poor beauty-hungry men."

"The statue," said Mr Forest, "could be mistaken for a harem slave on display."

Dr Kolb then remarked, a little angrily: "That depends on the observer's view of life. In our time, in which men are probably kept in a kind of - albeit sweet - slavery, this interpretation will not easily impose itself, and the rose that we give to our most beautiful virgins and the bridal jewellery left in their hair also speaks against it."

Our view of life resisted finding the interpretation so unequivocally desired by our partner, but we did not express our thoughts any further.

"What could you get in America for such a statue, and here they will certainly give you meagre wages," remarked Mr Forest.

"I want to keep my statues in the country, but the reward would not be meagre if the art judges and the people were satisfied with me. I could choose a castle for myself and demand gardens, horses and carriages and a dozen housemates until the government's patience runs out and the people are asked whether they should give in to my insatiability any longer. But if I demand wages, I exclude myself from the competition for the column of honour, and a Communist who wants to live here or there and pursue his pleasures has no pleasure in being tied to a small clod with a castle. For it is a just demand that he who demands something exclusively for himself should allow himself to be excluded from that which is common to all."

I then said that we thought we knew enough about the subject which seemed to dominate all minds here, and that perhaps the answer might now follow to Mr Forest's question as to how religion was regarded here, and whether there were no Christians in the country, as no worship was seen.

Dr Kolb then said that the visible church had disintegrated and that there was only an invisible one. There seem to be secret sects that do not allow anyone to enter who is considered to be free-spirited, but they have given up forcibly imposing themselves. The churches had mostly been demolished by tacit agreement, clergymen had not been reinstated, and at the last conclave one had indeed seen the little white clouds rising from a

certain chimney from the ballot papers burnt at the end of the election, but when some nobili and women shouted enthusiastically: "\_\_\_Habemus papam!\_\_\_" the cardinals came out of the conclave without having achieved anything and said: "\_\_\_Papam non habemus.\_\_\_"

"The Gospels were examined and it was found that Christ did not want a public worship of God at all and that the core of Christianity is: 'Love your neighbour as yourself', which Paul describes in a peculiar but truly profound way with the words: 'No one seeks his own, but the other's'. There was a long struggle back and forth, but then the movement took the course that the thinkers had expected. Three churches can still be seen in Vienna: St Stephen's Church, the Votive Church and the Capuchin Church, which remains because of the old imperial crypt. But on the entrance door are the verses: What kind of house is this that you want to build for \_\_=me=\_\_ , and what kind of place is this where \_\_=I=\_\_ shall rest?[D]" "But you, when you pray, go into your chamber and shut the door and pray to your Father in \_\_=hiding=\_\_"[E].

"Don't you have any more religious instruction?" I asked. Dr Kolb said that the Gospel of Matthew had been cleansed of some passages unsuitable for children and significantly shortened, and that the teachings of Christ were presented like a legend or a fairy tale. Dogmas are not taught to children at all and the stories of Christ nevertheless have a great effect, as two festivals are also linked to them, which are festive for children's minds. The Christmas tree with the cot underneath and the Easter celebration in the darkened library hall, in which coloured lights glow more than shine, have been retained and the latter celebration is followed by the resurrection and is accompanied by moving songs.

"Symbolism has taken the place of dogma and it is taught -- as Christ replied: 'But I tell you, Elijah has already returned[F]' -- that Christ has in reality already risen, because in our state we have realised the kingdom of God and the elect have already entered the kingdom that was destined for them from the beginning of the world, since every hungry person is fed, every thirsty person is given water, every naked person is clothed, every stranger is sheltered and every sick person is visited."[G]

The mighty Christmas tree is brought into the hall in pieces at Christmas and decorated with lights by the mothers. -- There was no shortage of toys and nibbles and the evening brought many new things, especially little dresses and books. The youngest children are still led to believe that everything has been conjured up by the Christ Child hovering high above. "We believe that \_\_=we=\_\_ are Christians and our opponents are Pharisees. We are the ones who realise Christianity, but out of conviction, not according to the heresies of the confessions."

"Experience has shown that the discontinuation of public worship has had no bad consequences. Anyone who feels the need to participate in religious exercises can seek edification in private conventicles or read the countless books of edification of earlier times. However, the need for this is not forced upon anyone by school and education. We believe that many unmarried girls indulge in this fervour, but nothing is known about it. The state order has become so powerful that it does not need the support of the church, but religious sects can never become dangerous. Offending someone because of their convictions or religious practices is strictly frowned upon."

"And the women's emancipation did no harm?"

"Certainly not. From the very beginning, women have conquered an area in which they rule, love and the family. They have realised where the family must make concessions to the state. On the other hand, in this respect and in love, nothing has been regulated that the women have not unanimously approved. It has, so to speak, been natural for them to set up a kind of secret secondary government, and the use of exchanging their ideas on these matters in secret consultations and in a secret newspaper makes it possible to consider them carefully, entirely in the interests of women. -- The proposals for all festivities and customs originated with them, and they approve of every liberty which the women overwhelmingly favour. None of them contravenes the act of womanhood and the position that women take in marriage and love is unshakeable. They have consented to the inclusion of their curiae rights in the constitution in return for the fact that neither the civil servant, nor the tribune, nor the pedagogue, nor the chief physician should be elected from among women. On the other hand, they have their medical school, where only women teach and demonstrate, only women are treated and female corpses are dissected, and they develop their medical science in their women's newspaper. Only research results and doctrines that have no connection with sex life are discussed publicly and in the public papers."

In all economic matters, women were of course just as capable of voting as men, but women were also just as competent as men in constitutional matters and other public affairs. In certain cases, a woman or a girl entrusts herself only to the female doctor and, incidentally, the woman doctor must submit to the direction of the medical officer and leave the official business to him, as well as provide him with information. Thus the age-old injustice of women's bondage had been abolished and it was women who had helped the country to achieve the most perfect possible conditions of sexual life, even if there was certainly still room for improvement.

We now wanted to hear whether there was no abuse of imperial power and no partiality or tyranny on the part of the civil service. -- In this, said our counsellor, Europe differed from America, that it had retained the monarchy, and that the officials were not appointed by the people, as was often regarded as a requirement of liberty, but by the emperor or in his name. The profitability of the monarchy was also connected with this. Above all, the emperor had a position to fill which no one could force himself into, and he was in a position to form a judgement on the worthiness and integrity of the officials, which afforded the people great protection. The tribunate also has the opportunity to complain directly to the emperor about civil servants, which leads more quickly to the goal than a time-consuming plebiscite, which the people are happy to be spared if other remedies can be found. However, as an obviously organic institution, the state administration had to be based on an organisation, and this was the civil service. An organisation requires continuity as well as metabolism, i.e. it must be possible to replace unusable and dying parts quickly without allowing the whole to fall into decay. This applies to an official body that persists as a whole but is always in a position to discard rotten parts and find suitable replacements for these and other elements that are discarded. This is not only the nature of the monarchical civil service, but also of every civil service in a prosperous private company. This is in stark contrast to an elected body of civil

servants, who have to step down every four years or at other intervals and make way for other civil servants. This is the height of unreasonableness, arising from a misunderstanding, namely that it is the organisation that makes bureaucracy harmful. The people could confidently leave the appointment of civil servants to the government if they were in a position to gain an insight into the activities of civil servants and to call individual civil servants, as well as the government itself, to account. The establishment of the people's tribunate and the realisation of the people's sovereignty have put an end to all the ills of the civil service economy without impairing the consistency of the administration. The official appointed by the government had the actual decision in all questions of production, then the distribution of labour and goods, but he worked with a tribune of the people, elected by the people and removable at any time, from whom he could not hide any of his steps, who took an insight into everything, who could at any time appeal to the superior official and report on everything to the people.

"But how do monarchs and princes feel about women?"

"As far as the private life of members of the imperial household is concerned, it is held just as sacred as that of ordinary citizens. But public offence may not be offered. Only the emperor can exercise jurisdiction among them, and all are inviolable." But anyone who served them in the slightest way in something unjust or even unseemly, or provided even passive assistance, would be punished by the people's court. If a girl, a divorced woman or a widow had a love affair with the emperor or a prince, she would only be censured if there was a hint of venality. Nor would they want any imperial bastards. If one believed that these women did not grant marriages out of love, but for external advantage or certain partiality, then the people, and above all the women's curia, would always know how to do themselves justice. -- It would not be difficult for the emperor or prince to bring his mistress close to him, since male and female members of the imperial family are employed in all the palaces of the imperial family and are charged to the civil list. But if a conviction for venality were to occur, the guilty party would be recalled and the continuation of the love affair would be made impossible by interning her. -- The women wanted to preserve their honour and dignity corporately, and that was of immeasurable value.

Then Mr Forest interjected that, although the members of the imperial family could not be denied the same freedom in love as the ordinary citizen, they seemed to take the sanctity of marriage less seriously than the people. Dr Kolb then remarked that it had only been a question of whether the citizens should not fear for the honour of their wives and daughters. As far as the women in the imperial family were concerned, they could always find protection against infidelity if they called on the help of the women's curia. Even if one had no power over one's husband, one had full power over the co-guilty party. The offended wife could also leave her husband and the people were rich and powerful enough to provide her with a replacement for the household she gave up.

However, he still wanted to explain a few things about the civil service.

"The officials are under the strictest supervision. -- The next superior is responsible for his subordinates unless he can prove that he did not experience or could not prevent an

injustice or negligence. Civil servants are already precisely described from school according to character and talent. They only advance if they have proved themselves, and even a major clumsiness can cost them their job, in which case they must become farm labourers or craftsmen. The spirit that prevails in the entire body of civil servants encompasses each individual member. Labour and goods are so accurately accounted for in the statistical statements that an abuse of the position is impossible, and if one also takes into account that it is assumed that every additional burden or shortfall in a person's provision must have an effect on his life and thus every partiality is tangibly expressed in the average life span, then one also has a standard for the assessment of the just administration of office and an incentive for the official to exercise the greatest justice."

"As far as accounting is concerned, I can only show you individual examples of how it is handled and that the officials cannot commit fraud, except in the case of trade with trading foreign countries, where very special control measures are applied. Milk is an important accounting item because it is consumed quickly, and therefore the accounting of the production of milk and its consumption is published daily. Each municipality has a head of the dairy industry who, under the supervision of her workers, records the quantity of milk milked and its use on a daily basis and invoices the official. As much milk is milked, as much is given to the kitchen, as much to the butter and cheese production, as much is given to the district administration, as much is left over from the previous day, as much is left for tomorrow. The production of cheese and butter and the production and consumption of the resulting waste is also accounted for. The accounts are filed daily in writing in the municipality, with the district official and with the county official, and the district summary is drawn up first. If the first calculation is correct - and the official only has an indirect influence on this - nothing more can be falsified. The next day, the district gazette publishes, in the manner of a statistical table, the district total and its origin from the district totals, and since the correctness of the latter data can be ascertained from the acts by every inhabitant of the district, this calculation is just as undoubtedly correct for the district as the provincial and imperial totals."

"Now that the population statistics are published daily, everyone is able to check the distribution of this one article precisely. Other articles of consumption and use are calculated weekly or monthly, buildings annually. Ten copies of this statistical part of the government gazette, which is published under the responsibility of the civil servant and the tribune of the people for the district, respectively the province and the empire, are available in each municipality of the Circumscription, which is quite sufficient to guarantee full publicity. The statistics of foreign districts and provinces can only be found at the district location."

"But what assurance do you have that the monarch will keep the peace with the outside world and not forgive the people's rights?"

Dr Kolb then said: "The peoples of the European mainland have entered into a union up to the eastern border of the Russian Empire, which guarantees common defence against the outside and eternal peace within the Union." The Union army, commanded by Russia, and the naval force, commanded by Austria, would be maintained jointly and the contribution in troop contingents and in kind would be divided according to population. On the other hand,



all states have disarmed and Russia, too, has agreed not to raise more troops than the percentage of this empire. Europe had destroyed many millions of rifles and the arsenal for defence on land was in Russia. England was outside the Union and no longer possessed anything in the waters from Gibraltar to Aden. This sea area was treated by the Union as an inland sea, the entrance at Gibraltar and into the Red Sea was denied to all foreign merchant ships and warships and was fortified accordingly.

"The coasts within this area need no fortifications at all and, incidentally, the main naval arsenals and shipyards are located in this completely secure area and it is, so to speak, the training ground for the Union Navy. Foreign merchant ships that are unloaded in our closed seas are taken over by Union sailors and brought back after unloading the cargo like a wagon passing the imperial border. But foreign trade to the harbours of the closed seas has almost completely ceased. Even the Baltic Sea is \_\_mare clausum\_\_."

Turkish rule had been completely abolished and Russia had taken over Asia Minor and Arabia, Italy Egypt, France the area from Egypt to the western border of Algiers, Spain the entire west of northern Africa. The peoples of the Balkan states had formed four independent Christian empires under the sovereignty of the Emperor of Austria, who was also in command of the navy and coastal defence.

Now, not only every republican head of state, but also every monarch who took office had to swear an oath to the constitution and then to the union treaties in the presence of the tribunate and, if the people so demanded, elected deputies, thus ruling out any shifting of borders for all eternity. This oath was usually taken by all the heads of state of Europe. The oath would now be replaced by the words: "As my speech is yes, yes and no, no!" International disputes between the states of the Union would be decided by the non-aligned heads of state as an international court and the unwavering observance of these judgements was part of the sworn duties of the Union.

"We consider that there is no danger of the Union breaking up, as the German Confederation once did, and provision has also been made to ensure that Union law can develop in line with the times. We hope that England will soon be compelled to join the Union, and for the still distant future we may well assume that the whole of Asia will be won over to the collective principle, and then Europe, Asia and Africa, which in reality form only \_=one=\_ continent, will be united into a single confederation of states."

After these conversations, night had fallen and we went home in the moonlight to have our supper and indulge in the social pleasures of Tulln. We had got to know little of it so far, too much attracted by other things. There was a big children's game under the lime trees, in which old people liked to take part as spectators. In one part of the dining room the young people had arranged for a dance to be held today, and in the small halls and schoolrooms next to the library hall the final consultations for the vote on the motions to abolish the nobility and abolish the monarchy were taking place today, as the votes were to be cast tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock. On Dr Kolb's advice, however, we went to a music hall where singers from Tyrol, who were here on a visit, wanted to be heard today. We had a strange

pleasure here and had an excellent time. The continuation of our conversation was postponed.

#### XIV.

Today Dr Kolb had kept us waiting and when he joined us in the evening, he said: "Think where I've just been! I have entered the enchanted cave of our friends who wanted to escape us completely. Zwirner is unwell and Mrs Lori, who was excessively worried, asked me to come. Her husband is indeed not free from fever, though it is not much of a problem. -- I tell you, the people are comfortable! A pure temple for lovers and made to serve as a background for unclouded love happiness. The pavilion contains only the four rooms that such happy people need; no stairs, no kitchen, nothing to remind you of the everyday things in life. You enter the parlour, where books, statues and pictures captivate you, then a dining room for two, then the path leads to the bedroom, from there to the bathroom and back to the parlour. Each window offers a different enchanting view. The summer house was built at the expense of the Civilliste for the emperor when he was still crown prince and his marriage was expected in the next few years. The days of our present Crown Prince, who is a nice boy, can be traced back to the same bedroom in which our 'poor' friend must now miss a few days of his honey moon, and I will do my best to restore him. By the way, we would all like to be ill if Lori were sitting by our bedside. She will not leave his side, although it is evidently not a matter of life, and demands of me that I should give her back her husband without delay, her idol, who is in need of health. 'Must it be now,' she said, 'that the time is to be stolen from me when I want to chain my husband to me so that he can no longer think of breaking my bonds? We poor women, alas, must lose weight; when we are at our richest, we give ourselves to the one who loves us and whom we love. For a few weeks we two belong only to each other. Nothing of this happiness shall be wasted on us, for to the last breath the memory shall supplement a fading presence for the man. -- Zwirner protested and said: 'My dear, I would always like to be ill and be nursed by you. I feel so well when your dewy hand strokes my forehead, and even \_=this=\_ memory will never leave me. Lori covered his mouth with kisses and forgot that I was standing here and that my favourite memories should not be mixed up with the image of a third person. So I promised to send something to take a spoonful of every hour, expressed the hope that the indisposition would last at most another night, and disappeared unaccompanied by Lori. I had the remedy prepared in the pharmacy in Königstetten and filled in the medical report at the doctor's, who could rely on me completely and could do without visiting the patient.

On leaving the Zwirner paradise I saw that my wish had been fulfilled by the Hochbergs. There were two photographs hanging in the bedroom, which I had sent there to surprise the young couple. I had taken a snapshot of the moment when Zwirner received the laurel wreath from Lori, and then it had occurred to me to send along a photograph of my "bride" which no one had yet seen, and I think I noticed that when Zwirner occasionally turned his smiling eyes towards it, Lori blushed a little. But I'm sure she has no idea that I'm the sculptor. I must consider whether I owe it to Lori not to smash my statue. But I hope I can save it, for Lori will not resent me if she learns that I am the sculptor, as she probably does

not think that she has betrayed herself by blushing. Swear to me at once to be as silent as the grave; I must not tell the Austrians what I have seen and how it is connected."

"I almost regret now that when I was young, inflamed by the thought of devoting myself entirely to science, I didn't want to be bound by marriage. It seems to me that I lost more than I gained."

We took a stand against this dishonest fight. We wanted to make an unbiased judgement on the state and society and did not want to be confused by stories of things we could not see. Mr Forest also added that there was nothing of equality in beneficiaries having their own cottage for the month of marriage. But Dr Kolb said that since the days of the young marriage of the present Emperor the pavilion had often served as a residence for young married couples, for the Emperor did not consider these rooms desecrated if others were also happy there. And, by the way, there are such places everywhere, as the majority of newlyweds prefer this poetic seclusion to the noisy honeymoon, which is also an opportunity if the young spouses prefer to travel. It would be downright barbaric to plunge the young woman into the hustle and bustle of a communist community on the morning after her wedding, even if no one could be bothered to tease her with a banal joke. Of the 100 brides who recently married, certainly none would have anything to complain about, and if one were to demand equality in the sense described by the opponents of collectivism, the world would certainly be a very poor place. On the contrary, communism is the source of wealth, and precisely because every thing serves all, whereas under the old social order this pavilion would have been shut off forever.

He jumped up and shouted: "But now I have to go to the referendum. Come with me!"

The vote was already being prepared. Signs of a great movement went through the population. All the walkers came home, the bathers got out of the water, the children were put under the care of the girls, who were not yet fully eighteen years old and therefore had no right to vote, but on whom one could completely rely; also from the stables and utility rooms and the sick rooms came out everything that was entitled to vote, and also sick people who could drag themselves further, and convalescents came into the library hall and were partly carried in, because no one should abstain from voting. As we were foreigners and were not allowed to vote in Austria, we were given a separate place in the library hall as spectators and witnesses, but the Tyroleans and some other guests from Poland and Hungary also separated themselves because their votes had to be counted separately. Two old men took their seats at the telephone and the official with the tribune mounted a raised platform from where he read the first motion and then the second aloud. When the clock, which showed not only the local time but also a legally fixed mean imperial time, stood at 7 o'clock imperial time, the official asked the inhabitants entitled to vote to first vote on motion one, and those "in favour" were to line up to the right, those "against" to the left. The votes were then counted precisely by the two officials and at the same time two shop stewards counted the votes from an elevated position and then all four tellers came together with the written notes and announced unanimously that 810 "no" and 198 "yes" votes had been counted, and furthermore declared that the two officials and one of the shop stewards had voted "no" and the second shop steward had voted "yes", therefore 813 "no" and 199 "yes"

votes had been cast. In Tulln, the number of voters fluctuated between 1000 and 1100, because as a district suburb it had a population of almost 1500. Voting was then also initiated for the second question.

Now the foreigners voted by province and then the stewards were seconded with the two officials to take the votes in the hospital room, which resulted in 13 and 10 votes in the negative and 8 and 11 in the affirmative. The total in favour of Motion One was therefore 826 to 207, but 801 to 232 in favour of Motion Two.

In front of all the witnesses, the district officer and the district tribune, who had cast their votes as local residents, now positioned themselves at the telephone, where the two old men had also taken their seats. Each of these four men now picked up a receiver and awaited the news. First came Langenlebarn with 425 "No" and 205 "Yes" for question one, then the figures for motion two, always with a special indication of the vote of the foreigners, and so on from Tulbing, Königstetten, then St. Andrä and so on. Now the votes from Tulln were called back everywhere, and then there was a long back-and-forth between the individual places, where people enquired directly about the vote, until finally every place in the district knew what the vote ratio was in every other place, and then each municipality calculated for itself. The official announced the result of the vote as 8350, or 9010 "No", and 4110, or 3450 "Yes", and made a sensation of the relatively high number of minority votes, as it was believed that the supporters of the proposals would suffer a much greater defeat. The other localities had also reported the result of the vote in the district exactly the same, so there was no doubt about the correct vote count. The result was immediately reported to St. Pölten. The minutes were drawn up, read aloud, approved and signed by the official and the tribune. The minutes for the district were drawn up by the district official and the district tribune.

Now they chatted for a while and remained in a somewhat expectant mood. Many had meanwhile eaten their evening meal when a signal sounded from the telephone and everyone was called back into the hall. At nine o'clock the news of the vote in the district came in, and at half past nine one learnt how the province had voted, and at ten o'clock how the Reich had voted. All the news was announced aloud to the communities of the district in the presence of all those present.

There was general satisfaction when it was heard that only about one-fifth voted in favour of abolishing the nobility and one-twelfth in favour of abolishing the monarchy, and there was evidently somewhat greater resentment against the nobility and the monarchy in the district than elsewhere.

Now Dr Kolb came to us and said that special newspapers would now be printed in all district and provincial towns and that the next morning at 7 o'clock we would infallibly find the exact voting report in the Kreisblatte, Provinzialblatte and Reichsblatte, as well as the statistics of those who had voted in foreign places or had abstained from voting or had not even turned up to vote. That's how we found it the next morning and all the printed data matched exactly; there had been no miscounts anywhere. It was also clear exactly how many citizens in each province were absentees and how many were strangers, and when all

the figures were compared, it was found that all the absentees had voted in some other province.

Kolb said that nowhere were the citizens as conscientious as in Austria and that, apart from about 45,000 Austrians travelling abroad, there were only 3,110 abstentions, while the number of votes cast was 22,846,010.

My friend, Mr Forest, was interested in the publications, and as he knew that tourist statistics were also published and that in Tulln, as the district town, all the district newspapers were available, he took the July numbers and then showed me with complete satisfaction that on 13 July 2020 in the Salzburg district, on 14 and 15 in the Tulln district, etc., and everywhere we spent the night, two Americans were noted. and 15th in the district of Tulln &c. and everywhere we spent the night, two Americans were noted, only in Vienna we were several hundred Americans and in Gloggnitz, where the Semmering Hotel is counted, we had five, and in some larger places a larger number was recorded. The Chinese, whom we encountered twice, was also there, and the total number of foreigners recorded everywhere corresponded to the total number of foreigners travelling in Austria, which is shown daily by the burglary stations, which indicate the arriving and departing foreigners and, by adding the number from the previous day, indicate the total number of foreigners travelling in Austria. We also know exactly how many Austrians are travelling abroad.

We now leafed through the newspapers of the months of June and July, namely in several district papers as well as in the provincial papers and the Reichszeitung, and found the questions decided today discussed everywhere. Each such newspaper consists of two separate sections, the section of the State Administration and the section of the People's Tribune, and the editorship of these sections is the responsibility of the state official or the tribune for the district concerned. The Tribune not only publishes its own opinion on pending proposals, but also reports on test votes of the municipalities, summarises the reports of the subordinate tribunes, considers arguments for and against and is obliged to mention the submissions of individuals at least in such a way that new arguments and points of view are not completely lost. As far as statistical data and other observations are concerned, no part omits to correct any erroneous statements made by the opponent, and such a correction can often be found in the same issue. In the case of very important motions, speeches made in public are also printed in full if the tribunate or the state administration deems it appropriate.

## XV.

Late that night after the referendum, we stayed up late chatting with Dr Kolb, because the next morning, Sunday 2 August 2020, we wanted to leave Tulln and travel to Tyrol. Our pre-paid travel time would have expired on Sunday evening, but we had extended our journey by five days as we wanted to see a few things in Salzburg and Tyrol. As we had also ordered gifts for 3000 marks, including a magnificent statue of Dr Kolb, cast in bronze, which could probably already float, the administration in Salzburg had been instructed to transfer this amount of 3000 marks and also the travel money for five days of 250 marks to our credit

balance of 9000 marks deposited there, and it was arranged that we should be able to pay our remaining account of 5750 marks in Bregenz, where we wanted to leave Austria, in Baarem or a bill of exchange from the Austrian state administration.

We did our shopping in the Prater, where the rotunda had been converted into a large goods hall. There was no sales outlet there for locals and European countries, but foreigners from countries that still had a money economy could make purchases there. Once orders had been placed there, they were executed as if by a merchant after payment had been made. At that time, Austria, like all European states, traded in gold marks and the sums received in this way, which amounted to around 500 million marks a year, were used partly to purchase goods in America, China, Japan and in English territories, and partly to pay for trips to such countries undertaken by Austrians with state authorisation. -- These journeys were mostly made possible for technicians, artists and scholars, but particularly meritorious men, inventors, high civil servants and those who had reached at least the rank of provincial tribune in the tribunate and had served in this position for three years without reproach were entitled to travel allowances of a certain amount. The credit granted to the state administration for these purposes was approved by the people, taking into account the cash receipts based on experience, the quantity of products sold abroad, the demand for goods that had to be obtained from abroad, and other factors. A certain amount of credit was always issued for a number of years, because the annual votes on such matters seemed too onerous, and people not only relied on the tribunes, who could have arranged for votes in cases of abuse, but also made sure that the accounts of cash income and cash expenditure were published every week and showed what the income was used for. The Civilliste could also sell its share of the annual produce abroad within certain limits and either purchase goods for it or use it to pay for trips abroad. As far as the latter expenditure was concerned, however, it had to be shown that a certain amount was not exceeded. Travelling in the Union territory was granted reciprocally by the civil list of the individual countries and the expenses were alternately compensated or, more correctly, reciprocal hospitality was practised.

Now we wanted to do some sober maths like merchants and check whether we had got out of it cheaply. Mr Forest calculated what our journey would have cost us in America. He confessed that we could not have found more than half of what we had enjoyed in Austria there, but he calculated the rest for two people, including the goods, at 2560 dollars or 10746 marks 97 pounds, so that we had made a profit of 6496 marks 97 pounds.

Dr Kolb said that this was a natural consequence of the principle of not distributing goods by buying and selling, but rather to allocate everything directly to consumption and enjoyment, whereby a much more complete utilisation is achieved and trading costs are saved.

Incidentally, the Austrians are also hospitable, they have nothing against offering the foreigner more than he pays, as they are of the opinion that intercourse with foreigners is a gain in and of itself. It stimulates the mind, develops new ideas and it is not without benefit to make friends abroad. Moreover, Austrians are saturated with those pleasures that often delight foreigners, and since it is not only professional people who provide diversion and entertainment in ever-changing forms, but everyone with the necessary talent contributes to entertainment, there are many things in Austria that cost the people nothing, but would have

to be paid for abroad with expensive money. The high level of education achieved in Austria was the reason why one could not be bored in this country. Every Austrian travelled for at least 14 days a year, as all public holidays had been abolished and everyone had been granted the right to take a 14-day holiday each year. During this time, he was free to travel around Austria, even if his stay in the cities was limited. But it was interesting to look around other provinces, to learn about other trades, methods, games and crafts. Now the holidaymakers come back from all parts of the empire, enriched with new impressions and experiences, which stimulates the spirit of invention and leads to the most varied entertainments and games being brought home and new and original ideas being concocted.

Now we asked our friend to explain to us in more detail why the monarchy and the nobility still had a right to exist in the changed circumstances, especially now that international politics no longer existed, and he said he wanted to explain this to us. Dr Kolb continued: "I will explain to you the tasks of the monarchy and the nobility in our country and also explain my own character and what I consider to be my profession, which I only chose voluntarily in old age.

Monarchy and nobility are hereditary in our country, they are a remnant from the old days of the class state, but I would like to justify their preservation. The monarch's task is also partly a practical one; the monarch has to direct the economic affairs of the realm with the co-operation of responsible officials in the highest instance, and also to make the supreme judicial decision in cases of compensation from province to province or differences between nationalities. But the main function of the monarch and the task of the nobility is to look after the highest ideal interests of the people. Although, as we know quite well, ideal goods also have their repercussions on the economic world and always make demands on economic goods or cause material expenditure, the aesthetic side of human life is to a certain extent opposed to material life; it is apparently immaterial, because the material is inconspicuous in relation to the value that these goods have for man, and the material benefit of the aesthetic is not obvious. Certainly the poet conceives his poem without the aid of matter, except in so far as the organ indispensable to thought and intellectual creation, his brain, is material. But if he wants to spread the poem, he needs pen, paper and ink, then printing ink and labour, the maintenance of which again presupposes material means, and so it is found that art, if it wants to have an effect on others, also requires the supply of material aids. On the other hand, it cannot be said that it does not give back in abundance to the material world what it gives to it. If millions enjoy what the poet creates, it revitalises the vitality of that population which has to work in the production of material goods; art itself can spur people on to create, it shows how even craftsmanship is ennobled by art, as for example in the song of the bell. It points to the connection that exists between all the activities of the most diverse people, and, since the people who create with their hands are also led back to nobler pleasures through art, it benefits the economy insofar as it distracts from those coarser pleasures that often make people slack, but under all circumstances lead to the waste of material goods. In the sciences the connection between ideal production and the economic world is clearer; in art this connection is almost imperceptible and one speaks of purely ideal goods, although this is based on a misconception; for nothing can be conceived free of matter. Nevertheless, the aesthetic side of human life is that which makes the least demands on matter and yet plays

a powerful role in the economic world and teaches people to utilise material goods in the most appropriate way. Millions enjoy my statues and I will soon be able to say that there is no Austrian for whom I have not provided a few precious moments of joyful pleasure with my art. And certainly my reward is greater, which consists in the fact that I know of no village in Austria where I would not be celebrated when I set foot there, than that of an artist of the former world who had to haggle with art dealers, negotiate with critics, whom a rich man then paid off with money and who was often anxious to return the money in a very mean way. My art belongs to the whole world, but in return I conquer the whole world, because as a recognised artist I am honoured everywhere, I travel wherever I want, I am just as welcome in Madrid as I am in Irkutsk, and if I want to roam foreign parts of the world, my fatherland will lavishly provide me with the means, for I have paid in advance with my art and one knows that the artist =must= create, that his genius =drives= him and that everything I see on earth will again be transformed into statues and will again bring profit to the fatherland. No one doubts that I will not be unfaithful to this fatherland, and since the European states are in the closest union, even what I give to the Spaniards or Swedes would not be lost to my Austria. But the fame remains mine, for it will never be forgotten that I was born here and became an artist here, and as I have long been recorded in the chronicle of Tübingen, where my cradle stood, and in the chronicle of St. Pölten, where I worked permanently as a district doctor, the history of Tülin will also mention me, where I have spent most of my time for three years and have also created the most because of many friends and a brother who is working here."

"But that alone is not the benefit that my art creates, that it brings joy to countless people. With my works I inspire enthusiasm for sculptural beauty, I develop a sense for the beauty of the human body and preach the doctrine everywhere that only that which is healthy, strong and can withstand the weather as well as the rigours of life is beautiful. I contribute through works of art and teaching to awakening a real joy in beautiful human children, and so it has come about that those who are denied marriage console themselves with the fact that it is a wholesome abstinence for all that is demanded of them, and that those who live in marriage regard themselves as priests who co-operate in the immense work of perpetuating a humanity that will completely subdue the earth and one day embody all the ideals of God in itself. As the nineteenth century established the inner unity of the forces of nature, we have brought to evidence that the ideas of good, truth and beauty are in their essence only =a= law, and that the good is nothing other than what is expedient or economic in the human sense. What only a few once dreamed of now completely fulfils the imagination of all. Our youth educators never tire of memorising the words of Isaiah:

'For behold, I am creating new heavens and a new earth, and the former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.

'Then there will be no child who lives only for days, no old man who does not fulfil his time; for a boy will die only after a hundred years, and a sinner will be cursed for a hundred years.

'They will build houses and live in them and plant vineyards and enjoy the fruit of them.



'They shall not build and another inhabit, nor plant and another eat of it, for the days of my people shall be as the days of the tree, and the works of their hands shall reach old age'.

'\_ =My chosen ones shall not labour in vain, nor beget children in terror.=\_'[H]

And Peter also described us as the work of the carpenter of Nazareth:

'According to his promise, we await a new earth in which righteousness dwells'[I].

We have prepared all this, if not perfected it, yet I as an artist give it my blessing; human society also strives for those ideal forms of balance and perfect harmony that every artist strives for in his field. I in my chiselled songs of the most beautiful woman, who, in order to be beautiful, must show in all her parts that marvellous evenness which, if we look at it soberly, is only the expression of the greatest practicality.

So now the whole world is material and the whole world, viewed differently, is ideal. There is no structure without matter, no matter that is not imprisoned in a structure. Our division of labour, however, brings it about that in the realm of the ideal, creation falls to many, but in this realm, enjoyment and reception fall to all.

The monarchy and the aristocracy should above all maintain the aesthetic in life to the best of their ability and bring it to the greatest possible perfection, especially in social forms. They are, as it were, called by birth to serve the people as organisers of festivities, to guide them to those beautiful forms of intercourse among men which must become a tradition, but which will never be realised unless a noble sense of equality has broken through. The history of the nineteenth century, as my friend Zwirner, from whom I learnt much, has already fully established, shows us how the monarchy was transformed at that time. -- At the end of the eighteenth century, the King of France and the Queen of the House of Habsburg were executed on the scaffold. A poor lieutenant ascended the throne of France in a few years and became the most powerful monarch, before whom the princes trembled and whose chariots, as it were, German princes ran after like schoolboys. There was something to learn. This emperor could not socialise with his surroundings like an old-style monarch. When he once rang the bell for his secretary Bourienne, the latter declared that he could not be rung like a footman, and the Titan had to put up with the rebuke. The monarchs became polite. While the King of Spain still sat on his throne in the 18th century with his courtiers genuflecting before him, his nose raised to the sky so as not to see this worm, at the end of the nineteenth century a German princess married a doctor, the third German emperor addressed his guards with the words: 'Good morning, comrades!' and accepted the reply: 'Good morning, Majesty!' and the forms of intercourse were visibly changed in the direction that prepared a complete change in social life. Zwirner found a report in a volume of the 'Neue freie Presse' from 1890, which I will read to you here:

'The English newspapers report a number of pretty features from the life of the recently deceased Cardinal Newman, whose body will be solemnly interred in Birmingham tomorrow, Tuesday the 19th of this month. His letters are to be published shortly. -- It is interesting to note his definition of a gentleman in his addresses to the Catholics of Dublin.

'A gentleman, said Cardinal Newman, is one who causes no pain to anyone. The true gentleman avoids everything that might be disliked by those around him or that might cause even a murmur of disapproval. He knows how to arrange it so that opinions do not clash, feelings are not hurt, no suspicion is voiced, no object is touched that could arouse grief or hurt feelings of honour in one or the other. He has his eye on each individual, he is tender with the shy, compassionate towards the ridiculous, he always remembers who he is talking to, he easily gets over the service he does someone, he only talks about himself when he is forced to. Experience has taught him to behave towards an enemy as if he were to become his friend one day. He does not always have to have the right views, but he is never unjust. Even if he himself is a non-believer, he will neither mock nor fight against the faith of others. He will tolerate all religions, not only because philosophy has taught him impartiality, but also because he possesses the mild, almost feminine feeling which is one of the most beautiful achievements of civilisation.

As this sketch was read to us, I thought of Emperor Rudolf in Lacroma. This prince was the first gentleman in Austria. How he raised everyone up to him, how he taught everyone to avoid unseemly behaviour unnoticed, how he knew how to protect the daring attempt Anselma was tempted to make from gossip, and how he remained, only \_\_primus inter pares\_\_, so completely emperor."

Dr Kolb continued: "These were the forms which the better part of the aristocracy had assumed in the nineteenth century, and thus the most domineering and crude caste had been transformed into an element of conciliation, and the aristocrat of really good education was certainly useful in social life. Of course, these people often interpreted what they might have thought to be mere condescension to mean that the aristocrat must make himself common with the commoners, and they sought not that in which man resembles man, the right and dignity which nature gives him, but the degradation which is not to be imputed to the individual, which is a product of the prevailing abuses, which one must be tolerant of, but in which one must not therefore take part. There were high aristocrats everywhere who called the vilest prostitutes to them and listened to the balladeer for the sake of the coarseness that aroused their favour. The aristocracy had to be purged of this laziness and made aware that it had to serve like any other class, but it was also recognised that it could assume a privileged and hereditary position in union with the dynasty if it freed itself completely from the economic hustle and bustle and from the exploitation of the working people, it restricts itself to the resources provided by the people and spends them not on an exclusive society hostile to the people, but in the interests of the people as a whole, essentially in the sense that art and sociability are cultivated in their noblest form. One finds that at least the cultivation of a refined sociability and the organisation of festivities on a grand scale can best be entrusted to those people who, having been destined and educated for it from their youth, bring with them a certain tradition for it and also show a certain nobility in their outward appearance. This has made it possible for us to retain nobility and monarchy, and we have become so accustomed to each other that we do not believe that a motion to abolish the monarchy or the nobility will ever find the necessary number of votes. Incidentally, the number of noble families is small, and the fact that the monarch and the nobility were given the right position and could reserve a place for them in the overall life of

the people made the victory of the new ideas easier. For at the time of the birth pangs that preceded this change, the old nobility had hardly been able to maintain its splendour and wealth alongside a plebeian plutocracy that was growing daily, and only by joining the camp of the reformers could the aristocrats put a stop to this growth alongside them and regain a privileged position. Incidentally, it is a constitutional principle that the daughters of the aristocratic families do not marry within these families, which are not numerous, and that they therefore always take fresh blood from the people. There is also a kind of selection within the male members of these houses in so far as malformed sons do not propagate the nobility."

We were quite satisfied with these explanations, even if an American does not want to know anything about monarchy and nobility, and we enquired how the weak, sick and crippled were treated in Austria.

"Didn't you see that mutilated man in the shoemaker's workshop," said Dr Kolb, "sitting on a chair built especially for him and operating a sewing machine powered by the motor? Both his legs have been torn off high above his knees by a machine. He works precisely and tirelessly and does his job, he says he wants to pay his own way. Imperceptibly, everything he needs comes to him and the finished work disappears, for others do for him what he cannot do himself because he has no legs. Before he knows it, someone has taken him on their shoulder when he goes to work or for a meal. There is always someone nearby to guess his wishes or get him what he needs, and so he goes to the table and then in his wheelchair wherever he wants to go. They put him in his own floating saddle when he goes swimming. But he is not a burden to anyone, because a thousand arms and hands serve him. You can read what he wants from his eyes and you know that he always wants to be there when the girls and lads are dancing, because he says he has learnt to empathise with the others so much that he thinks he himself dances like crazy when it's all about him."

"But what you have not seen, I will tell you now. He also has his wife, his own dear wife. It is that stepper who has her eyes on him more than any other, who does not press herself most closely to him, but certainly always jumps in when the poor fellow is suddenly left alone somewhere by chance, who brings him the best morsels and fusses about him with the greatest cheerfulness, as if there were no greater happiness than to have brought her legs to the man. She was weak at a young age and was not supposed to marry and was quite disheartened. Then she recovered, her lungs strengthened, she became the picture of health and when they wanted to place her among the future wives and let her braids grow, she defied them and cut off her hair again and again. It was thought that she had renounced all love and did not want to forgive society for the offence of putting her down. Then the bleeding man was brought out of the machine room, also mutilated and half-formed, like the woman who should not have the man she loves and beget children and die in the arms of loved ones. During the long suffering that followed the operation, she nursed the poor man in the hours that her work left her free. She came frequently at first, then more and more often, and finally she never left his bedside and began to joke and laugh with him so that he forgot all his misfortunes and became a merry man who mocked those who needed legs to help them through life. She was the first to take him outside in his wheelchair, but she was also

happy to make room for other girls so that the maimed man would not lack friends. We communists don't always want to cling to just one, we want to have =everything= and =everyone= as friends. And so she kept herself in reserve and taught everyone how best to do it for him. And since poor Jacob could not run after the world, as we all could, the world ran after Jacob and he became the happiest person in Tulln, who lacked nothing and could only wish to get to a high mountain to be sure of being taken there."

"And now the defiance of the beautiful Anna broke. Now the man is made and provided for, now he should also have his wife. Not according to the laws of society, no, she wanted to make her own law, he was to be happier than all the others; he was to possess the wife, now radiant in beauty, health and happiness, he was to be favoured above all others and she declared to him that he must become her husband. "Just as =I= want it, Jacob, =I= want it so, just as you shall enjoy the happiness of love, like an Olympian; take me and I shall never regret it in my life." And he took her with good courage, trusting that she would never again rob him of what she offered him in that hour. And so it happened; they are a happy couple and you never saw them morose or worried, jealous or indifferent. The stranger hardly realises that they are husband and wife. No one has married them and they have no children, but they are as close as if they were one body. -- An exception was made with them. Lovers who are not legally married are otherwise not allowed to live together. Nightly meetings are also severely penalised. But in this case, where so many reasons of fairness coincided and where it was a matter of caring for a man who was dependent on the help of others, what was otherwise frowned upon was permitted. After all, society had to show consideration for a man who had been maimed at work."

"This is how we understand charity, and this is how those for whom the social order cannot quite do justice know how to make their own happiness. If Jacob's legs were to grow, perhaps his and Anna's happiness would come to an end. And now, friends, let's listen to Dr Leete and Mr Forest."

"Dr Leete has instructed you, dear West, as follows:"

"I must also mention," he said, "that for those who are too weak mentally or physically to be fairly enrolled in the main army of labourers, we have a special class, out of touch with the others, a sort of invalid corps, whose members are assigned lighter kinds of work suited to their strength. All our mentally or physically sick, all our deaf, dumb, lame, blind and crippled, and even our insane, belong to this corps of invalids and wear its badge. The strongest among them often do almost the full man's work, the weakest of course nothing, but no one who can do anything wants to give up work completely. In their bright moments, even our lunatics are eager to do what they can."

"The idea of the Invalid Corps is really good," I said. "Even a nineteenth-century barbarian must realise that. It is a very nice way of disguising charity, and must be very agreeable to the feelings of those who receive the gifts." -- "Charity!" repeated Dr Leete. -- "Do you mean that we regard the class of the unfit, of whom we speak, as objects of charity?"[J]

"How woodenly is the care of the unfit conceived, how cruel, to put all the cripples together into a special corps with special insignia, and where is the true compassion, if one only feeds the people like hackneyed domestic animals? -- And what did you say, dear Forest?"

"Now without doubt," Forest continued with great emphasis, "everyone has a natural right to the fruits of his labour. But we take away a part of the products of his labour from the efficient worker of the first grade to give them to a lazy fellow of the sixth grade. This is, of course, obvious robbery, which is not even concealed under the shabby cloak of a "principle of government"; for by dividing the labourers into six divisions on account of different abilities, we expressly acknowledge that equality is nothing! Accordingly, all those who do not admire this deprivation of the industrious in favour of the lazy as an act of the highest state wisdom are condemned as enemies of the best social order of which the history of mankind tells us?"[K]

"Shame on you, dear friend, for this display of brutality! There is not one of us who could not find himself in poor Jacob's position tomorrow. We come into contact with machines everywhere, the railway drags us about with great safety, but we have over a hundred railway accidents every year, and the statistics prove that every year one of our fellow-citizens loses two legs just like our Jacob. The emperor is as little safe from this as the carpenter who has to deal with the particularly nasty woodworking machines, or a railway employee. What we do to these poor people, we do to ourselves; we know that the Austrian is happy even if he becomes a cripple. And we know another thing, that, however great the happiness which society as such secures us, the best is still that which a loving heart \_=alone=\_ wants to be for us and \_=us=\_ alone."

"But even the lazy man, of whom the parasites of the nineteenth century spoke with such contempt, is no more guilty than the cripple. The moral world is bound by the strictest laws, just as the material world is. Whatever is bad in us is given to us by birth or acquired by education. None of us does what we feel like doing, but what we can't help doing. It is the task of the administration to utilise all human qualities in such a way that they are of benefit to society. But where it cannot do this, we must learn to bear the infirmities of our fellow citizens, like the foul odour of a sick person. We are also best served by not making sacrifices when we take care of everyone."

"If the moral disease can be cured, for which we can also apply a system of disciplinary punishments and have often done so in earlier times, then we will not hesitate to do so, but since we regard moral diseases in the same way as physical ones and equate congenital with acquired ones, we will not let anyone perish and society will only benefit from it. But if anyone should think it unjust or robbery, as you call it, we shall be careful not to do him violence."

"Well, what do you do then?" asked Mr Forest.

"We allow him to emigrate like everyone else, but we do not expel him from the country against his will. We also give him, if he wishes, his share of the national wealth once and a half times, at his choice, land, housing or building materials, tools and seeds, and then we let

him do what he wants by excluding him from our \_=robberous=\_ distributions, \_=he keeps his products and we keep ours=\_\_. He remains on his property and we do not enter it."

Dr Kolb smiled ironically and Mr Forest remained silent.

"And now a reminiscence from the 19th century. In the 1891 edition of "Heimat", we read the following little admonition from the pen of the then much celebrated poet Karoline Bruch-Sinn:"

"How we let our fellow human beings wither away! I had business in the city and took the road through Währingerstrasse, through a crowd of carriages, horsemen and pedestrians. There, what was limping across the road? I froze -- and now let me describe to you, dear reader, how our brothers are doing. Over there from the anatomical institute building swung a poor rascal. The strong, bony man, who must have been 30 years old, dirty and torn, had no legs. The stumps hanging down over his torso were barely three inches long. And the poor man was in a hurry, he ran like a weasel; yes, he ran, believe me, dear reader! With his hands thrust behind him into the street dirt, the wretch hurls his torso forwards, pulls his arms back again, and continues to stroll the shapeless sack, on which sits a human head in the flesh, across the street in front of the passers-by, now he escapes an escadron of cavalry, there the hoof of a tram horse brushes him, then a cartwheel almost catches him, and now he is over and throws himself at my feet on the pavement to hurry on towards Nußdorferstrasse, where I follow him in horror. He can't see where he's putting his hands, now in a puddle of faeces, then on the sharp rails, here in the horse manure, there in the sputum of a sick person. And this is a man like us. I must know what happened to him. At last he stops at the door of a miserable house in Sechsschimmelgasse, a quarrelsome woman opens it, and with the words, 'Here comes the monster,' she lets him into her flat."

"And the man laboured all his life, was seized by a machine and mutilated, and was unhappy that he was not allowed to die of his wounds. It would have been a kindness to him if he had been compassionately allowed to bleed to death. No, medical science had need of him, the clinic requisitioned him as a "teaching aid", he was cured so that the poor could be taught how to cure the rich, and then he was thrown into the street and the accident fund paid him too little to live and too much to die. And now he is the cornerstone of his own life and a burden to his own people. But we sit on the chairs he made and stretch our limbs without thinking how he has to drag himself through life."

"And friends, what good has the poetess done with it? Nothing, for we read in the following issue of 'Heimat' that the compassionate woman's story had been confiscated."

We went on our way in silence for some time, for we had long since set out and left the park at Tulln to spend the glorious night walking in the woods, having wandered quite a distance without realising it. We had already left Tulbing behind us and were climbing the hill when we heard loud singing and joking at the foot of the Tulbinger Kogel, and as the moon was just beginning to spread its mild light, we followed Dr Kolb's advice and climbed the height of this mountain. It must have been about half-past one in the morning when we emerged from the forest into a clearing where there was cheerful life. A camp had been set up and about a hundred young people of both sexes from various villages in the neighbourhood had

gathered here to spend part of the night playing and dancing and awaiting the morning, but then to rest a little and not break camp again until about midday. Horses were grazing at the edge of the copse, which had brought up the tents, blankets and pillows, and there was no shortage of refreshments and provisions.

We watched the merry goings-on for a while and listened to the alternating songs that young boys and girls sang on such occasions, and learned from Dr Kolb that such merry feasts were very popular and that people liked to use the night from Saturday to Sunday for this purpose, because work stopped on that day. The tents mostly originated from the former army equipment and were now mainly used to accommodate workers who were employed in river regulation, canal or road construction or in the construction of new settlements, of which over two hundred have to be built every year in Austria to provide housing for the growing population.

It was suggested that we take part in the games and wait for the sun to rise over Kreuzenstein Castle, and as we were putting off our departure for the next morning, we were persuaded to abandon this idea and give it another day, as we were not bound by anything.

The fresh morning air was so tempting that we let ourselves be persuaded and spent the rest of the night with the others. Dr Kolb, however, was a little tired and went to sleep in a tent.

Games of forfeits were suggested and the lads weren't jealous when the Americans often had to trigger their forfeits with a kiss. About two hours went by when the moon began to fade, the stars went out and we too stopped the noisy conversation. Groups formed and some of the lovers put their arms round their girl's neck. Everyone looked to the east, not with superstitious gestures, but in solemn anticipation of the natural spectacle that was about to take place. -- Dr Kolb also crawled out of his tent and some of the sleepers were woken up, for nobody wanted to be absent at this time of night. The birds, which had long since filled the forest with twittering and singing, now fell silent and a fresh breeze brushed over our heads. The sky was already bright, but at our feet the valley lay at dawn and the distant mountains stood out darkly against the sky.

The shining clouds on the eastern horizon glittered in dazzling light, illuminated by the still hidden sun. They pressed towards the sun as courtiers wait expectantly at the door for the appearance of their king.

Now one mountain peak after another, the highest in front, shone in bright dawn red, standing out brilliantly from the tangle of dark rows of mountains. A few more seconds and up floated the mighty ball of fire, which was soon enthroned freely in the sky. A loud cry of joy greeted it, which, like the earth, is the common heritage of all, and we knew that many, many thousands on all the mountains of Austria and far beyond the borders of the empire were now enjoying the same spectacle. Nothing revitalises the love of nature so powerfully as the calm and carefree atmosphere that accompanies the life of the Communist. That was the early mass in the Tulln area.

And now it was daylight everywhere and the sun was reflected in the Danube below. The cock, who had also been silent for a while, now called out as if announcing the end of this truly devoted celebration: "\_\_\_=Ite, missa est=\_\_\_" and the call spread from village to village as far as one could hear. And so it was five o'clock; now the gongs rang out in the villages to wake all the sleepers, and soon people could be seen stirring far below, and now and again they could be heard shouting.

But in Königstetten we clearly saw a white morning dress fluttering under the lime trees and we praised the happy one, to whom a different sun had risen, which does not mean the same to everyone.

Now the others went to rest and we set off back with Dr Kolb.

## XVI.

When we got to Tulln, we also felt the need to rest a little, so we cancelled our plan to leave that morning and slept for part of the morning. Then, on the advice of Dr Kolb, who had already sacrificed too much for us, we travelled to Klosterneuburg with the intention of attending the opening and settlement of a new community in the district in the evening, namely the village of Höflein a. d. Donau, which had previously fallen into disrepair and had now been rebuilt.

Klosterneuburg, famous for its excellent wine, is currently the suburb of a district and has about 1500 inhabitants. Only the abbey and church remain from ancient times, but they are without priests and monks. We visited the extensive monastery building, which is currently only used to store bibliographical rarities and historical documents and harbours an immense amount of material. All European countries have not only opened their archives to historical research, but have also reproduced their document treasures, partly in facsimile, partly printed in modern type, and thus made them accessible to each other. This immense treasure trove of documents is divided up into the various communities in the district of Klosterneuburg and attracts countless researchers to this district. The central collection, however, is located in the former monastery of Klosterneuburg and fills all the rooms there as well as the former church, in which huge cabinets have been set up that reach up to the ceiling. Numerous officials manage the treasure and research is open to everyone. We visited the building and were guided by a Castellane into the cloister, which is still preserved. In addition to several tombs, we were captivated by a magnificent marble statue of Mary lying in mourning with the body of her crucified son on her lap. Our guide drew our attention to the beauty of the masterpiece, but added that the work of art contradicted the Gospels, since Mary had not been in Jerusalem at the time of the crucifixion and had had no communion with Christ at all since he took up the ministry. There could hardly be any doubt that Mary belonged to the all-powerful sect of the Pharisees and therefore preferred the company of Christ's brothers, who, according to John, were Christ's opponents. That is why Christ said in despair that nowhere was he less esteemed than in his family, that is why, when his mother and brothers were mentioned, he said that only those who do the will of God are his mother and brothers, and this explains why his own people, to whom his mother



also belonged, wanted to take him into their custody and blurted out that he was insane. The Gospels also report nothing about Christ asking for his mother after the resurrection, but that he wanted to see his friends and disciples.

We had to say goodbye to the zealous Bible scholar, as we had been persuaded by our friends to attend the opening of the Höflein congregation, which was scheduled for four o'clock on 2 August 2020. As the time had already advanced, we borrowed a couple of two-wheelers from the administration and arrived just in time to attend the opening ceremony.

As the population in Austria increases by more than 200,000 souls every year, around 200 new municipalities are created each year to accommodate the surplus population. It is preferable to proceed in this way rather than to enlarge the municipalities, because such an expansion of the municipalities would make administration more difficult and cause confusion in many areas, especially the school system. Settlement takes place by means of voluntary registration and since, on the one hand, there are always dissatisfied people who hope to improve their situation through a change, but on the other hand, with the constantly advancing culture, the newer settlements mostly offer amenities that could not yet be introduced in the older ones, the number of applicants is always far greater than the number of vacancies. The general principles for the selection of new settlers are as follows: Firstly, the government selects particularly capable men for the administration, the medical service and the teaching profession, because it is more difficult to provide the service successfully among a newly mixed population than in a community in which the majority of the inhabitants have grown up together and have already settled in under a long and stable administration. Then it is important to recruit capable leaders and foremen for the branches of production that are to be run in the new community. All ages should also be represented in such a way that the various tasks of education, teaching and provisioning immediately occupy the entire administration. This will also be achieved by the fact that everywhere the surplus population will be designated for resettlement and in this way a certain balance will be established even where it has been disturbed. As a result, there are no overcrowded school classes and teachers can devote more or less the same amount of attention to their pupils everywhere. Finally, applicants living closer to the new community are favoured over those who wish to immigrate from further afield, so that a population that is as homogeneous as possible offers a greater guarantee of peaceful coexistence.

As the municipal area of Höflein an der Donau is not large and offers little opportunity for livestock farming, a large electrotechnical factory was built there. This industry made an expansion necessary anyway. On the other hand, the livestock population was low and not only was there no surplus of milk for butter and cheese production, but it was also expected that the daily requirement of raw milk would have to be supplied in part from the fertile Tulln soil. Large fruit orchards had already been established on the municipal territory, which had to be separated from neighbouring communities, and fruit growing was therefore an important branch of production. Berries in particular were produced in abundance here and the currants also provided a refreshing drink.

The animals destined for here had already been driven in and some of them had also been taken to the railway and the keepers were to hand them over to the waiting staff of the new community today and then leave.

The factory and stables were located close to the railway on the river side. But the housing estate had been built on both slopes of the picturesque Margarethen valley, which lies just opposite the railway station and is characterised by very mild air and excellent drinking water, so that one could enjoy a delightful view over the Danube from the residential buildings over the church, which had been preserved because of its great age and romantic location. The bed of the deep stream, which winds its way through the valley, had been channelled between the buildings across the gardens connecting them and, to prevent further erosion, the channel had been paved and the banks secured with fascines and masonry. Attractive bridges connected the banks and steep paths led from the housing estate over stone steps, some of which were accompanied by iron railings, into the orchards, which rose higher and higher.

When we entered the large dining room at 4 o'clock, the district official from Klosterneuburg introduced the local official to the assembled congregation, whereupon he took over the chairmanship of the opening proceedings. He then introduced the doctor, the pedagogue and the teachers to the members of the community, followed by the production managers, and had a printed list of the community members distributed, stating their profession, age, previous local affiliation, relatives and such data as should enable everyone to make themselves known soon and prepare for the election of the tribune, which was to take place this evening. The new members of the community should also select their living rooms according to rank and age and register today in primary assemblies and sections, so that the necessary constitution for the discussion of public affairs can take place immediately.

The official then gave a speech in which he exhorted the new members of the community to keep the peace, to give each other mutual encouragement and to support the endeavours of the administration. He reminded them that a community had already existed on this site in earlier times, although it was poor and then fell into disrepair; However, he said, they had not neglected to collect all the relevant data, church records, building plans, census facts and the like, and he also referred to a picture hanging in the library hall depicting a man who was of interest because he had already intervened vigorously in the nineteenth century, when the social movement had barely got off the ground, and through a printed pamphlet: "Die weißen Sclaven der Tramway" ("The white slaves of the tramway"), he had pointed the finger at the callous exploitation of the tramway staff and had great success. He had also highlighted the injustice and unsustainability of the conditions at the time with reference to statistics, which were admittedly still in their nappies at the time, and thus, as far as his position allowed, had prepared the way for our era.

A thunderous tribute was then paid to the memory of this man and it was noted with satisfaction that the above-mentioned pamphlet and other essays and writings by the same man, the then pastor Rudolf Eichhorn, had been collected and now formed the basis of the new parish archive.

The official then announced that two American guests, whom he introduced to the parishioners, were attending today's opening ceremony and would take part in the luncheon, whereupon a hearty \_\_\_"Cheer"\_\_\_ rang out. Finally it was announced that the district administration had sent a few barrels of delicious Klosterneuburg wine on the occasion of today's celebration and with the intention of making the celebration a fraternisation party among the new members of the community, which, although not a hundred years old, came from the best of all previous wine years, the year 1985.

As the new members of the community had already inspected all the living quarters, they were asked to write their wishes on a piece of paper next to each plate during lunch, and the allocation of the living quarters would then be announced before the end of the meal. With a cheer for the Emperor, the Fatherland and international peace, we went to the table. As an exception, the staff for the kitchen and living quarters had been brought in from the neighbouring communities for today, and from this evening onwards all the work was to be handed over to the members of the new community, some of whom had been appointed and some of whom had been chosen for this purpose.

According to the basic idea of the state organisation, the economic management of the kitchen was entrusted to a body appointed by the state administration, but the management of food preparation was carried out by persons elected by the community members.

At the end of the meal we inspected all the rooms through which the new arrivals were wandering, in order to take a closer look at everything, and before the consultations about the choice of tribune began, I left the settlement, having arranged with Mr Forest that we should leave for Tulln at eight o'clock, to climb the mountain, from where there was a wide view over the region on the other side of the Danube. I climbed higher and higher, occasionally turning back to look at the ever-expanding area at my feet.

Look, what is that black ruffled head slowly descending? Giulietta, I will tell you; my Giulietta. She gave me her hand cheerfully, pulled me along and said that she had already seen me today when the Americans were introduced to the community. Now we began to question each other and Giulietta confessed that she had asked to go far away from her home for the sake of a man whom she loved and whom she should not possess. He had married in her home town, and although she knew that she would have to renounce him, and had renounced him long ago, and although the happy young woman was a dear friend to her, she had not been able to bear to stay next to this happy couple, and so she had asked to be transferred far away so that she could forget more easily. The administration had to take this into account and many people in the same situation tried the same remedy, often with success. As we strolled along, her seriousness soon turned into cheerfulness again and she spoke of a thousand things, of the journey she had travelled and the impressions she had gained in her new home, of her curiosity to look around Vienna and many other things. Then she remembered having heard that today was the day we were supposed to leave. I said that I was reluctant to leave Austria, and she asked, looking far out into the valley as if in thought, but with a faint hint of cheerfulness that could not refer to any object in that distance, whether I could not be held back a little longer. And since I was really to be held back, I took her hand and said that I had already decided to postpone my departure. Then

there was a short pause and then I squeezed her dear little hand softly and after a very short interval the pressure returned. -- And so we came down to the village as good friends who had found each other again.

Mr Forest had left a message saying he wanted to meet me in Tulln. It was a good while. -- And he?

At this point, I would like to share my memory of information I received in Giulietten's homeland, which explains why this blossoming beauty had to deny herself marriage. She had reached her seventeenth year when her mother and father died at a sprightly age. The post-mortem revealed that they were both afflicted with cancer, which had destroyed the same organ in both of them. As necropsy was not yet common in earlier times, the constitution of the ancestors was not taken into consideration when Giulietten's parents married. However, the medical histories were traced back several generations and well-preserved photographs were compared, and the opinion of the doctors and teaching staff was that hereditary transmission to the descendants of the families concerned was probable. Despite the objections of Giulietta and her elective mother, she and her brothers and sisters were denied marriage.

\* \* \* \* \*

The settlers were called to vote, and Giulietta was not allowed to stay away. I took advantage of the time and asked a young attendant, who was busy carrying out her duties in the absence of her voting sisters, to allocate me a bathing chamber. As the day had been scorching hot and I hadn't been able to get out of my clothes, I also wanted fresh underwear, which is why the young woman pedantically measured my collar size and sleeve length and provided me with everything I needed, including a bag made of wax cloth for my belongings. So I cooled myself in the dust bath and came out into the garden as if I had been reborn. As the election had just finished, the settlers poured out of the administration building and seven o'clock had just struck.

I asked for Giulietten's room. The chambermaid had probably been informed that I was coming, because she let me into Giulietten's room without asking her permission. She was in good spirits. She had already made herself at home. Flowers in pots stood by the window, everything was arranged according to her taste, the bed, with the headboard against the wall, stood in the centre of the room, an elaborately embroidered silk blanket was spread over it, the pillows were likewise decorated, and everything that served as decoration, curtains, heavy rugs on the bed, embroidered cushions, were the products of many years of diligence on the part of my beloved Giulietta, which she had been allowed to bring with her from her home country.

When you entered the room, you didn't notice the bed because there was a large three-sided screen in front of it. The frames were cut from wood and surrounded by delicate foliage. The fillings were made of charming woven straw by Giulietta's hand. In front of the screen stood a rocking chair covered with embroidery. On the walls were beautiful photographs depicting landscapes from her homeland and portraits of her parents. Here, too, the wooden frames

had extraordinarily fine carvings. She told me the name of the artist she had grown up with on the Adriatic.

Giulietta proudly showed me a marvellous wooden work by the same artist, a youthful nymph with her hands back and leaning against a pillar, watching the birds at her feet pecking at the scattered grains. She has a grain of wheat in her mouth, which a sparrow, which has flown onto her shoulders and hopes to be allowed to snatch at it as a favoured favourite at the next turn of the head, looks at lustfully.

Looking at the nymph's splendid limbs, I cast a concerned and angry glance at the face of my beauty and scrutinised the contours of her youthful figure. Giulietta answered the jealous doubt, which I did not express, by saying with a smile: "The artist, a Dalmatian fisherman, who spends his holidays every year at the sculpture schools, but does not want to leave his home or profession, is my adopted brother according to the customs of southern countries. He consecrates his life and his art to me without any wish for himself. I am always sure of his protection and his revenge when I invoke them against an offender."

There were also a few finely cut crystal glasses on the table.

We sat opposite each other by the open window and chatted. Sometimes I brought my mouth close to her lips, but she bent back or held out her rose fingers to me. Only once did she act as if she were forgetting herself, and when I caught the opportunity, she turned angry.

While we were chatting, Giulietta picked up a piece of knotting and, seeing that I was burning with thirst, she had me fill a carafe from the water pipe next to the door with fresh water and poured some fruit juice into my glass, thus offering me hospitality in her narrow home. When I put the bottle of fruit juice in her cupboard at her request, the scent of rose petals, which she had scattered between her shirts and aprons, wafted towards me.

I tried to steer my Giulietta into dangerous territory, mentioning the galleries in Vienna and talking about the masters whose works you can admire there. From Bordone's paintings and his voluptuous women, I moved on to Rubens' pictures, then to Titian's Diana and Callisto, and finally to Correggio's Io, and in this way I tried to give the conversation a turn that would upset Giulietta. But the beauty went along with these ideas without noticeable agitation, keeping me constantly in check and making me feel that I had to put my words on the line.

She was not unfamiliar with the pictures. Admittedly, she remembered nothing of her visit to Vienna. She was an immature child at the time, and at that time the principle, which was later considered erroneous, was not to take children into picture collections where, it was believed, their imagination could be poisoned. But every parish had numerous engravings in its library and the collections of the district suburbs were even very rich. There were several reproductions of those pictures, especially of Correggio's masterpieces, and Giulietta had studied and compared them carefully. She rejected Titian's Diana and Callisto, and Rubens' paintings were not to her taste, although she admired the painter's genius.

I remarked that Correggio's Io was the most offensive picture I knew. Giulietta said she did not share this opinion at all. What is offensive eludes the observer and it would be a poor

fantasy to imagine it. "On the other hand, what delicate poetry in this double image. To depict the earth longing for rain as a loving and receiving woman and to idealise the embrace of man through the natural image of the all-animating elemental process." --

Here a cloud flew over the forehead of my friend, who was excluded from the cycle of ever-rejuvenating nature. But my calculation had failed, for I had not assailed my counterpart with a new idea, but had brought her to an object with which she was familiar.

I was ashamed of my defeat, but I appreciated Giulietta all the more for the delicacy of her feelings. There was something special about this sparkling lust for life mixed with a little pain of the soul.

She asked me to tell her about my acquaintances here, with whom she would soon be socialising. When I told her about my misfortune with Selma -- not without some backing up -- she made a serious face and said I had been punished too mildly. The mention of the newlyweds' happiness made her angry, a shadow appeared on her forehead, and to dispel it I quickly jumped off and described the pranks of the little juggler who had performed such cute tricks. Now she laughed. But then she said: "We don't like it when one of us exposes our human form to laughter. We are demigods and not buffoons."

I mentioned Dr Kolb among my friends and she wanted to know more. His reputation had reached her home, where art was held in higher esteem than anywhere else and the art of sculpture in particular was celebrated. I now knew where I had to stay. I also portrayed the veiled work of art according to my friend's communications; I pursued the desirable enemy opposite me and brought him into ever greater agitation; already flashes of fire shot from her eyes, her bosom heaved more strongly, her lips quivered, restlessness seized her beauty; I penetrated her more and more.

Then she interrupted me, as if she wanted me to pause, and said: "Friend, a favour! I saw a delicious rose half-opened in the garden. You will find it easily. The bush blooms next to the statue of the goddess of fertility. An insect has become entangled in the innermost leaves, from which it is trying in vain to find a way out, for I have spread a piece of spider's web over it. Bring me the rose and the prisoner."

When I now rose and bent over her, she bent back to look at me, but she spread her arms wide apart to confess her defencelessness and pressed her hands against the wall where she was sitting, and as our lips locked, scorching fire poured into my eyes from the stars of the Italian woman. How auspicious is a plea from a beautiful woman's mouth!

I stormed down into the garden but couldn't find what I was looking for for quite some time. When I saw the statue, women were standing there talking and I preferred to postpone the robbery. At last I stealthily cut off the precious rose that the insect was still holding in its chalice and chased back to Giulietten.

But now there was a dim light in the room, which was filled with fragrance, and Giulietta stood in the flowing robe of a proud Roman woman, open at the sides up to her waist, before my delighted eyes, which caught a glimpse of the rosy toes of a divine woman's foot peeping

out from under the hem; and we were already lying breast to breast. Her soft arms encircled my neck, she kissed me passionately and then she buried her head in my bosom.

Then I catch sight of two buttons on her shoulders. I undo them and the robe slips from my fingers. I lift this exquisite gift of nature in my arms, carry her to her bed, place the rose on her shimmering bosom, which I cover with kisses, and so this splendid body surrenders itself to my embrace with closed eyes, the blissful smile of happiness on her lips, quivering in a shower of delight.

\* \* \* \* \*

It was half past eight when I arrived in the dining garden. It was already dusk and I looked for a lonely table to sit down at. There was a lot of noise around me as the new settlers tried to get to know each other. The mothers proudly called out the names of their children; they chased each other around the tables and every now and then a warning call was heard, which was immediately heeded. The attendant, a young girl, came to my table to ask my wishes. -- Soon she brought supper and a glass of fiery wine. "You are our guest from America?" -- "Yes, I am." -- "How do you like the country and the people?" -- "Excellent, especially the people." -- "We miss your thousand-year-old trees, though." -- And she turned to go.

I looked with pleasure at the children cavorting around me. The children's costumes were simple. Until they reached the age of independence, the young people were not distinguished in their clothing by their parents' rank, for example, and until they started school, boys and girls wore a very simple summer costume, which nevertheless looked lovely. They usually wore something on their feet that was half shoe, half sandal. Short knickers and a skirt of thin white material held together by a belt without sleeves, then a large bast hat were their entire clothing, legs and arms bare, the neck free; cleanliness, beauty and cheerfulness won them all hearts. --

I longed for Giulietta, who had promised to come down. Where was she? --

We had often watched the hustle and bustle of the youth. Until the parents came home from work, the young people were in droves, casually separated by age, under the supervision of women or girls, the older boys often under the orders of the teachers. They played all sorts of games, except war. They played visiting, school, wedding, court and punishment, building houses, forfeits, charades. The older boys would try their hand at answering questions, then they would wrestle or race each other, and then the boys would choose a female judge, whom the winner was allowed to kiss.

Soon the children dispersed at the teacher's command to look for sponges and strawberries in the woods, soon they gathered again to listen to an explanation or a story, of which each teacher knew many hundreds for every age. Then another half-grown girl was allowed to read something to the little boys, and then they went on again. They didn't care much about rain or sunburn and when they came home after a few hours, they had often roamed the whole parish.

Great attention was paid to developing a sense of place. Before the children started school, they already knew every path and footbridge in the entire district, knew how to find the shortest connections everywhere, learnt to orientate themselves in foreign regions and had an idea of the size of their homeland, which they were taught to regard as their own property. They were also familiar with the native animals and plants and the benefits they provide from the tenderest age, just as one did not fail to familiarise them with the constellations in the night sky and to awaken their love for nature and especially for their homeland. --

Heavenly Giulietta, don't hesitate any longer! -- --

The childcare staff only had a limited right of punishment. This was vested in the mother or mother of choice and a disruptive child was threatened that a complaint would be made to the mother. This was then reported after the table and she often imposed the most severe punishment after the governess and other children had given evidence. If she was too lenient, they avoided reprimanding her behaviour in front of the children, but the matter then came before the teacher, who exerted his influence. Only in an emergency was the right to take away the mother's right to raise the children exercised. --

Giulietta still didn't come. -- I dreamed of her splendour. Only since I had seen Anselma had I realised what an epitome of beauty a woman's body is. Giulietta was the type of Austrian women. Her eyes and hair were of the most beautiful lustre, her slightly tanned, spotless skin had a pearly sheen and the blue veins shone out in places, but on the outside of her fine hands they were clearly and strongly visible. The coral-red gums covered a good part of the uniform, close-set white teeth, the broad shoulders joined the slender neck with delicately curved arches, neither too flat nor too steep, and all this splendour was in constant graceful movement, just as the play of facial expressions incessantly accompanied speech and counter-speech. She wore her bodice like a cross-laced bosom-cloth, not much more than a pile; it betrayed her youthful forms in its outline, and in places also in its colour, and Giulietta could probably do without the bodice for many years to come, which the Austrian woman only wears when she begins to fade.

It is a tradition among them that moderation in everything, especially in love -- but also in abstinence -- preserves beauty, and that even violent emotions, offence, jealousy and anger take the spell from a woman's body. This belief is also salutary. And guided by it, Giulietta did not abandon herself too much to sorrow, which always reminded her of lost greater happiness. --

Giulietta had not yet come down. I was tormented by a longing for the sight of her. --

She had been appointed headmistress of a straw weaving school as she had acquired exceptional skill in this work. This industry employed thousands of girls and women in the country and a school was to be maintained in Höflein. If my favourite showed pedagogical and economic abilities, she could rise to the rank of teacher, which brought great advantages, in particular a six-week holiday, exemption from work from the age of fifty and somewhat greater expenses for clothing and housing. Because of her beauty, grace and education, the administration had been instructed to grant her weekly access to the social evenings of the residence or the higher officials, to which others were only entitled a few



times a year and during the short holidays. It was generally the principle of the state administration to compensate such girls, who had been deceived in their hopes and had to make such a heavy sacrifice to the needs of society, with every favour compatible with justice. Not only was the women's curia involved in this, which declared itself unable to fulfil its promise that the female half of society would subordinate itself to the general needs if the greatest consideration was not shown for the sacrifices of these interests, but the feeling prevailed in all sections of the population that such girls deserved special consideration, and it had to become the endeavour of all to reconcile Giuliettes with their fate. --

Where are you, enchantress? Will you let me pine away? What image is there before my senses? -- --

She had finished her day's work in Trieste barely twenty-four hours ago and was due to take up her new post at six o'clock the next morning. It was to be expected that Giulietta would soon be a welcome guest at the palace in Königstetten and would be on friendly terms with Dr Kolb, through which she would soon become acquainted with many important people in the district. The art-loving girl probably spent her Sundays in the numerous museums of the Residenz and she was also able to listen to Italian music to her heart's content, which was eagerly cultivated in Vienna. We should not fear for Giulietta's future. -- She had taken on another task. --

A dress rustles near me, I wake up from my dream. -- It's not her.

As in all German communities, there were also many members of the community in Höflein who had spent some of their youth in an Italian community in order to make the Italian language their own, just as others were proficient in Hungarian or a Slavic language. For it had almost become the law in Austria that the members of all nations adopted the German language and the Germans again a second imperial language in order to establish a living connection between all nations. And thus, in a certain sense, Austria had become the spiritual centre of the world, where all the peoples of the world exchanged and combined their spiritual treasures.

Indeed, a home had also been established for all Oriental peoples and all cultural nations of the world were enabled to maintain a university in Austria. The Chinese, Japanese and Persians, Arabs and Turks, as well as the Spanish, French and English, Danes and Swedes, Russians and Finns, had universities in Vienna that rivalled the Austrian institutions, and at which Austrians taught and enjoyed lessons together with guests from foreign countries.

The Germans, however, who had made a second imperial language their own, sought to remain in continuous practice and maintained clubs organised by language, which pursued the literature of these languages. Giulietta, who spoke and wrote her mother tongue with marvellous perfection, loved Italian poetry passionately and also improvised herself, was to preside over the Italian club. So she had told me in her parlour. --

I woke up from my dreams. -- There was still cheerful life going on around me. Everyone avoided my table, as if by appointment, and when the children came near me, they were called away. They had obviously noticed that I wanted to be alone, and just as it was

beginning to get dark, Giulietta stepped out of her house. A modest, light-coloured dress enveloped the figure of the beautiful sinner, a shimmering gold belt held her in place and in her hair she wore the still fresh rose with the prisoner. She approached me at a leisurely pace and sat down at my side with a friendly nod.

The attendant approached our table and asked Giulietta's request: "Aren't you Sister Giulietta from Trieste?"

"That's me, my name is Giulietta Chiari. What do you call yourself, little girl?"

"My name is Josepha Ohnewas and I've come over from Klosterneuburg. The administrative officer has instructed me to invite you to his reception rooms tomorrow evening. He wants to bring together some outstanding members of the new community so that they can make closer acquaintances." -- "Tell him my thanks, I will gladly come. And now offer me your hand, kind messenger, and become a loyal friend to me." -- "I will be to you," she said, shaking hands. --

"What is this timid little boy?" asked Giulietta, kindly grasping the chin of the boy, who, looking anxiously into her eyes, was holding on to the folds of Josepha's skirt. -- "It is my sister's child. She died a few days ago, her husband before that, and now the little one is orphaned." -- "Will you take him under your protection?" -- "He is to have an elective mother. I was asked whether I wanted to take him in my son's place, but I would prefer it if this care did not fall to me, because I will be starting my own family in a few years and I do not think it is good if the mother of her own children also has to fulfil obligations for someone else's child." -- "Did you want me to be your mother?" Giulietta asked the boy, but he said, "You are not my mother!" -- Giulietta and Josepha looked at each other as if they were asking the same question. She then said: "I have faith in you. Would you like to take upon yourself motherly duties?" -- "It would be a kindness to me," said Giulietta, sighing. "But let me watch the boy for a few days and we'll talk it over. We must first get to know each other." -- "I will think it over and then we can make a proposal to the administrator. In the meantime, Peterchen is in my care." -- With that, Josepha left.

Giulietta sat pondering next to me. Sometimes we looked at each other, but we didn't speak.

After a while, Josepha also served Giulietta and when she saw that my glass was still untouched, she gave me a friendly drink with a smile. She sipped, but I emptied my glass to the brim in one go. She looked seriously at my empty glass and probably had a meaningful thought. We remained silent, but she allowed me to furtively squeeze her hand in gratitude. It was now bath-fresh and frosty; I would have gladly given it a warm breath if I could have done so with impunity.

The day had faded, star after star flickered, one in the west in changing light, as if imitating the twinkling of my Giulietta's eyes. It became quieter around us, the tables were cleared away. All had gone to rest; Giulietta did not speak now either, but she seemed to think that she must not leave her guest. She now hesitantly took the rose from her hair, as if she had come to a decision after a struggle with herself, released the prisoner and smiled at me, announcing her forgiveness. -- Now I said with a handshake -- a kiss was forbidden to me

here by strict custom --: "Go to rest too, my love." She rose, with a friendly greeting in her eye, and left. Under the door she turned round slowly once more, waved a greeting and disappeared. Soon afterwards the window of her chamber lighted up, she became visible once more, and then, after a short pause, the blinds fell. -- To enter her chamber at this hour was forbidden to me by inexorable statutes.

Now I got up, went to the stables, showed my residence card and asked the stable guard for a fiery horse. So, with my little bundle fastened to the saddle-button, I chased after my quarters in the storm, the flickering star in front of me. A young man who had the night watch greeted me as I came from the stables to the settlement. I thanked him silently and went to the library room, which, like all the other rooms, was open, turned on a light bulb and wrote a few lines to Giulietta. I told her that we were going our separate ways, but that I would never forget her. I confessed myself unworthy of the royal favour with which she had favoured me.

I put the letter in the letterbox for the journey east and went to my camp.

## XVII.

But now it was serious - we were leaving. Mr Forest and I had said goodbye to the official and were waiting at the station for the train from Vienna, and now they all came, our new friends, to shake hands with us. The many lovely girls and women who had served us at the table and elsewhere, not like servants, but like friends and sisters, including Anna, whom we had got to know better, with her Jakob, whom she pushed along in a wheelchair, and the younger Zwirner and so many dear faces. I resolutely demanded a farewell kiss from the beautiful Anna and she first looked Jakob in the face and then offered me her mouth, but she said it wasn't a farewell kiss. She gave no explanations. And as we stood there surrounded by so many friends, Dr Kolb hurried up to say goodbye and give us something. It was Zwirner's letter and an offering.

Zwirner wrote that he regretted not being able to see us again, but that he hoped to receive letters from America and to see us again. Dr Kolb had often written to him about us and he was reassured that we were in good hands in Austria. Dr Kolb would also have been able to give us information about everything, just as he did, and he did. He himself was living in sweet captivity and did not want to escape on our account. We would like to accept the offer that Dr Kolb would give us, and we would find the happy young couple firstly in the chatting room and secondly in the dining room. We should not lay claim to numbers three and four. Next to his signature were the words: "I, too, am good to you and wish you the best. But I will not release my prisoner. Greetings to me. Lori Zwirner." -- The package consisted of two identical cartons with photographs. The carton was made of beautiful pressed leather and had four medallions on the front and a bronze shield in the centre. The medallions contained intricately carved bust portraits of our friends: Zwirner, Dr Kolb, Lori and Mary, and the centre plate was the landscape we had so often gazed at from our window. Dr Kolb explained to us that the hobby of cutting medals is widespread, and beautiful heads like the ones depicted here often attract the attention of artists in this field. Then, of course, the model receives an artistically crafted specimen. Galvanoplastic copies of these portraits had been made and

attached to the cartons. The landscape was just as incidental and the cartons themselves had been made at the request of the Zwirner and the administration had authorised the whole thing to be presented to foreigners. Some of the photographs had been sent in by Zwirner, others had been procured at his request. Two lovely pictures from the "prison" in Königstetten, some pictures from the aforementioned tailor's album, the portraits of the Lueger couple, of Dr Kolb, then of the beautiful Anna and Jakob and -- but first we had to pledge our loyalty -- of the "bride".

The train was just approaching. Another quick handshake, a wave, and we were in the carriage that was to take us away.

We travelled along in silence for a long time and when we had lost sight of Tulln, we craved books and leaned back to immerse ourselves in reading.

We travelled on to St. Pölten, where we had to change trains, and on via Linz and Salzburg, where we didn't intend to stop again this time.

The journey continued day and night and on 4 August morning we arrived in Meran and from there by car and partly on foot at about 4 o'clock on the Ortler peak. At the foot of the glacier we found many strangers in our accommodation, including over fifty Englishmen and Americans. We do not speak of the Ortler; it stands in the same spot as it did in the nineteenth century, and reigns over all the mountains as it once did.

We stayed from 4 August in the evening until 6 August in the morning and then continued our journey via Finstermünz and Landeck to Bregenz.

\* \* \* \* \*

Before we say goodbye to Austria, I would like to summarise some information that I obtained in various places and which has not been included in my previous travelogue.

As far as the family is concerned, it is by no means eliminated by the participation of the state in education. As long as the parents, especially the mother, do not forfeit the right to bring up the child through negligence or abuse, they have this right in preference. Only the state authorities have the right to supervise and oversee, and if the parents are prevented by work or absence or other reasons from supervising the children or exercising their educational activities, the state authorities take over the upbringing. Mothers have a decisive influence in the choice of supervisors and nannies. They are also the ones who choose the carers if the children are being educated or taught elsewhere; they can delegate adoptive mothers by will in the event of their death, they represent the children against the state and the state authorities, through them rewards and punishments are meted out and the children are also otherwise directed to the mother with all their needs and wishes, insofar as this is at all relevant. They must follow the instructions of the doctor regarding the physical upbringing and those of the teacher regarding the education of the mind and heart, and their right to bring up their children can be withdrawn if they are guilty of negligence or abuse. Parents are free to spend their non-working hours with their children in their rooms and to withdraw from public and social life, as long as this does not affect their upbringing. We were unable to

gain an insight into this private life because we were strangers and were not drawn into the family circle.

Primary school education begins at the age of six and ends at the age of eighteen. In the first four years, children of both sexes are taught by female supervisors. It is only from the fifth year onwards that the sexes are taught separately, by actual subject teachers in classes that rarely have more than 25 pupils. Each community has eight primary school teachers, including the pedagogue who is in charge of the educational system. These teachers for the girls' classes are taken from the women and girls, but are also subordinate to a man who is in charge of the educational system. Neighbouring communities are always linked in pairs so that the girls from one and the boys from the other receive their education in the neighbouring community and are either brought back and forth under joint supervision or the mothers choose a foster mother with whom they are accommodated.

The lessons are linked to productive work and aim not only to introduce students to all branches of knowledge and enable them to teach themselves, but also to qualify them for work in the field and in industry. Community excursions and trips are organised during the holidays. The pupils in the older classes must participate in the lessons of the younger children, correpetiren and practise with them and all children are constantly supervised by adults. The mother,[M] or in her absence the father, must co-operate in the choice of occupation, and all necessary information must be given to them. The transition to a scientific profession depends on the success of the studies.

At the end of the eighteenth year, schooling ends and, with the obligation to perform full labour, independence and voting rights in public affairs come into effect.

The doctor of each parish and of each district shall be responsible for the prevention and cure of all diseases, for the observation of all data relating to health, for hygiene, for influencing the distribution of labour and goods and for compiling population, mortality and morbidity statistics. He must examine all members of the community thoroughly once a year and submit daily reports to the district doctor, in particular presenting findings and diagnoses for each sick person. In dubious cases, he must request the secondment of a specialised doctor and, in surgical cases, observe all necessary measures until the surgeon arrives. The community doctor can never be kept away from the patient's bedside, but the patient or his relatives may request the attendance of another doctor. The doctor must supervise obstetrics and dental care, for which suitable medical personnel of a lesser kind are appointed, observe the influence of labour and lifestyle on health and longevity, study the question of nutrition and dissect all corpses.

The European continental states form a common sanitary district and all travellers arriving from abroad are subjected to such a thorough examination that the introduction of diseases is completely impossible.

The civil servant for the municipalities and neighbourhoods has the actual executive, as the higher authorities mostly have to limit themselves to monitoring, deciding on appeals and general management. Only the newspaper business falls within the remit of the higher officials. The civil servants also represent the official socialising and can also delegate this

function to certain other persons. They have disciplinary powers. In the case of serious offences and crimes against state property, personal safety and the state, jury courts are presided over by retired civil servants who hold the office of judge in an honorary capacity. Legislation is simple and the laws are taught in elementary schools.

Proceedings for compensation for special burdens - e.g. on the occasion of a natural disaster or due to other reductions - are also decided by juries composed of pensioners from the labour force and presided over by senior retired civil servants. The Emperor personally decides on compensation payments from province to province or disputes between nationalities. Attempts at conciliation shall be made at all times. The disciplinary punishments consist of deprivation of such benefits as are not necessary for subsistence, reduction of rank, refusal of leave, extension of working hours, the punishments for misdemeanours and crimes consist of transfer to penal communities, deprivation of the right to vote, and the death penalty is imposed for the most serious crimes. The disciplinary punishments can be avoided by leaving the social organisation in exchange for land, building materials, tools and seeds, and the more severe punishments by emigration or voluntary exile to the Austrian colony in Africa. Labour has by no means been so diminished as Bellamy or any other nineteenth-century socialist theorist has taught. Full-time labour does not begin at the age of 21, but at the age of 19, and lasts until the age of 65 for ordinary workers, shorter for skilled workers, production managers, teachers, doctors and civil servants. The average daily working time was initially ten hours on 300 days a year and only gradually fell to nine and eight hours. It turned out that a further reduction in working hours would not have been sufficient to cover the costs of rationalising the physical and mental care of the people. It was necessary to improve the completely overgrown condition of the waterways and forests and to this end enormous investments had to be made. In order to increase the yield of land, very large facilities also had to be created and new housing estates had to be gradually built for the entire population, which took sixty years to complete. Austria is now completely independent of world trade and only exchanges goods with foreign countries where it appears useful for increasing national prosperity. It has two-year reserves of all land products. The economic advantages of the new economic system are immeasurable. Best utilisation of all labour, greatest steadiness of production, saving of trade costs or of that economic labour which brings about the turnover of goods by buying and selling, much higher utilisation of consumer goods, saving of capital, better utilisation of faeces through greater colonisation of agricultural land, more complete, faster and free extraction of all waste materials, mutual support of industrial and agricultural labour, but above all an increase in the physical and mental strength of the people and thus not only a stimulation of the spirit of invention, but also a much faster introduction of tried and tested inventions.

As regards property, the following principles prevail. The socialists of the nineteenth century, it is said, generally proceeded from the opinion that the labourer must be the owner of the product of his labour, and thus be placed in a position to draw the full profit of his labour from the product. But since it was now clear that if the individual worker produced for himself, all the advantages of large-scale production would be forfeited, the idea was to remedy this by the workers uniting in co-operatives. Since even this did not promise much, since no one

could be forced to join an association, and existing associations could not be forced to accept new members, the idea was to establish compulsory co-operatives in such a way that all members of a trade would work in a particular field for a common account. This in turn was bound to create a conflict of interests between the individual branches of production. If the peasants were united in such a co-operative, they could starve all the tradesmen and place them in the most oppressive dependence, because food is indispensable and the satisfaction of all other needs can be postponed. The idea would be again to establish that those producers who withhold their produce in order to bring about a price increase should be compelled to sell their produce.[N] -- Why should the producer remain the owner of his product if he could then be compelled to sell? Incidentally, this would make no sense at all in the case of agricultural products, for the farmer needs provisions for his household needs and for tilling the fields, and who could tell him how much he must sell and how much he can keep for himself? All attempts to regulate the economy according to the principle that each individual or individual professional co-operatives should produce for the whole empire or according to provinces, districts, etc., for their own account, had to fail. In addition, there were many vicissitudes, livestock epidemics, hail, fire, etc., against which insurance was again to be granted, and the confusion grew ever greater, apart from the fact that everything was aimed at causing even more distribution work than was already necessary at the time for the turnover of goods and a highly inadequate insurance system.

Another question that was never sufficiently analysed was how to deal with residential buildings. Since the state was not supposed to produce itself, it could not only have no influence on the settlement of citizens, but it could not even advise where someone entering production should go. It was also imagined that everyone had to have their own house. Apart from the fact that this is extremely uneconomical, that this haphazard construction of countless houses must also bring the greatest confusion into many public institutions, schools, streets, lighting, there was also no thought of a public life, orderly sociability, a reliable popular vote, if the settlements only expanded or atrophied according to individual impulses. And now, what was a person who had built or bought a house to run a business here supposed to do if he could not advance in his profession? They wanted to give him the freedom to move to other trades or to change his place of residence for reasons of gain; but now he was the owner of a house, he was supposed to sell it at a loss or rent it out and let a third party manage it. It was clear that the main thing was to protect the members of the people against the vicissitudes of economic life, and under the alluring name of "freedom" they were being prepared for countless new dangers, a confusion and confusion greater than they had ever experienced.

Insurance was also to be provided for accidents that caused someone to become unable to work. The non-worker was therefore also to be provided for. If the products of labour were the property of the producers, how was the incapacitated worker to be maintained? The producers had to be taxed again, and for this reason, too, a part of their property had to be taken from them. And how were the means of production to reach the producers if they were state property, as the socialists demanded? Should everyone receive an equal share of land and an equal share of machinery, and what were equal shares given the extraordinary differences in the productive capacity of the land? Or should it be leased? With residential

and farm buildings or without them, to individuals or co-operatives, for how long, under what conditions? And who should invest, how should the plundering of land be prevented?

All this was impracticable; the only practicable way was to imitate the large-scale enterprise that flourished so successfully in the nineteenth century, but not for the account of an individual or an entrepreneur, but for the account of the state, which built and settled the settlements according to statistical data, distributed the population according to labour needs, ordered and distributed the work, produced what the people needed and took all economic risks upon itself. Everyone had to contribute to the production of the total output to the best of their ability and in return was allocated the provisions from the total output.

The state, therefore, remained the owner of the material through all stages of production, and regarded the labourers as the entrepreneur had formerly regarded them; the labourer was propertyless and remained propertyless, the product belonged to the state just as much as the land and the primary materials, and the labourer received only what he had to consume, and that only for consumption, not for the accumulation of stocks.

The difference, however, from the former was that the state was again only the totality of the workers, that the worker ruled as a voting citizen in the state, and that the whole product had to be distributed among the workers according to principles which the totality of the workers approved. All taxes on parasites were abolished.

Since the labouring population was aware of the importance of efficient and conscientious civil servants, teachers and doctors, the necessity of the monarchy, the usefulness of the institution of the nobility, the encouragement of the spirit of invention, research and the arts, the need for higher wages for hard-working labourers and certain dangerous and unhealthy jobs, it allowed a certain fraction of the product to be used for this purpose, but this was not to exceed one tenth of the total product, and thus no significant impairment of the individual could ever be brought about.

One tenth of the total production in Austria was the labour of 2,200,000 workers, and it is evident that this must not only be sufficient to support the crown and nobility, for which only one per cent was spent, but that it must also suffice to maintain civil servants, teachers and doctors, who make up a little more than one per cent of the population and on whom three to four per cent of the product could be spent, which, with unequal distribution among the persons concerned, again allowed a brilliant endowment of the highest positions. The remaining five per cent was more than enough to promote the arts and sciences, to reward inventors and to establish a gradation in wages among the workers according to diligence, skill and willingness to make sacrifices, and finally to maintain and increase the capital. But the state could not hold on to all matter until it was completely consumed, because this would have prevented any free activity even in the field of intellectual production. The people therefore authorised the distribution of part of the product under the name of consumables. In this way, Schneider built his shelter, photographs, statues, carvings, models for newly invented objects, tools and machines, etc. were produced. &c. To a certain extent, one had to be able to acquire ownership of such consumables, even if not full ownership, because in reality the state did not give up its ownership of anything. Whoever painted a picture, made a



drawing, manufactured a tool or a machine according to his invention in his own free time, and not by order of the state, was, since everything necessary for it had been left to him for consumption, just as entitled to alter it, to remodel it, or even to expose it to consumption, as if it were his own property, but only by permission of the real owner, who always remained the state. -- The latter could also reassert its ownership at any time, stop the use and consumption and reclaim the object, just as the state undoubtedly had the right to claim letters left behind by a famous man if they acquired value through the history of the letter writer. Nor was anyone allowed to take anything abroad without the authorisation of the state or to make anything the object of trade or even to give it to others as a gift with the intention of corrupting someone. This would not only have been a criminal offence, but the donated object would also have been reclaimed.

However, the state administration could not proceed arbitrarily, but only according to the will of the people. If, during the distribution of consumables, Dr Kolb had been able to obtain enough ore, furnace material, etc. for his share to cast a statue, he or his family or the community, a friend or a lover would have remained the exclusive beneficiary of the statue for the time being, but the statue would remain the property of the state and it would depend on the state whether the statue could be passed on to heirs.

#### XVIII.

We arrived in Bregenz in the afternoon. Lake Constance was a delightful sight in the bright sunshine. Thousands of boats of all sizes crowded the shores, and in the distance we could see numerous steamers, which had brought many thousands from the Swiss and German shores of the lake today.

It was Thursday 6th August, the eve of our departure from our beloved Austria. From the railway station to the beautiful buildings of the city and along the riverbanks there was a throng of people, including foreigners of all tongues and from all parts of the world. We hurried to the table, for the arrival of the emperor and the imperial court was imminent. The news came in from time to time as the imperial train passed through the stations and now many hurried to the station building to receive the monarch.

The Empress at his arms, followed by the Crown Prince and his younger brothers, then by numerous archdukes and princesses and the court household, the Prince, greeted and saluted, strode along the short carpeted path to the mighty portal of the magnificent building that was to be opened today. It was still closed and at the entrance the master builders and the workmen waited in traditional costume, the skilfully crafted keys in their hands, to open the gates after a few speeches appropriate to the celebration had been exchanged, over the threshold of which the Emperor and Empress strode first, followed by the princes and princesses, then high officials and members of the nobility, locals and foreigners, almost filling the huge hall in a short time. A raised stage, covered with carpets, had been erected on the long wall facing the lake, from where one could look through high windows and glass doors into a marvellous winter garden. After the hall had been filled and silence had descended, the Emperor, with the Empress on his right and the Crown Prince on his left, on

whose golden-curved head he laid his hand, took the floor to commemorate an event in his family which had given rise to the building of the palace and to today's celebration.

On the same day three years ago, the crown prince, who now stood next to the emperor in blooming health, had been caught by a wave in Lake Constance, where he was bathing, not yet knowing how to swim, and was carried out into the lake, which was quite turbulent. His mother stood on the shore, wringing her hands, and two boatmen rushed into the water to rescue the prince. They wanted no thanks and said frankly that they had been concerned about the human child, not the prince, and the emperor, no less grateful for this, decided to commemorate this act of charity by presenting the town of Bregenz with a palace to be built at the expense of the Civilliste. After the Emperor had once again thanked the rescuers, who neither wished to be named nor attended today's ceremony, he declared that the building would now be handed over to the inhabitants of the town so that they could spend happy hours here and entertain the many guests who flocked here throughout the year.

Then the Emperor, standing and speaking with his head uncovered, gave the floor to the highest official of the province, who held the ceremonial speech in which he praised charity and described what great things it had already achieved in Austria.

After the end of the speech, the singers present intoned a suitable cantata, after which the tour of the magnificent building began, which had been completed in the last three years and, as we Americans would say, had cost more than two million marks. In Austria, the construction was estimated to have taken two thousand years of labour.

The overall layout was the same as all these buildings. However, the floor containing the great hall was higher than usual, reaching a height of sixteen metres. The pillars between the windows reaching up to the ceiling and the columns supporting the ceiling and the building above were covered with stucco, the stucco decoration of the cornices and the ceiling was white with gold and on the pillars, supported by consoles, one could see the busts of the Emperor and Empress, then the Princes, and finally those of the Imperial Tribunes and the Provincial Tribunes of the year. The busts of the lifesavers were not allowed to be erected because they did not permit it.

The view of the lake side was just as delightful as the view of the conservatory opposite, which was decorated with palm trees and other plants. The library hall was also richly decorated and a statue of the poet Hermann von Gilm was placed there. This large hall, which measured six hundred square metres, was surrounded by sixteen smaller halls, which were beautifully decorated and furnished in a wide variety of styles and contained countless bronzes, marble sculptures and paintings.

A new system had been used for ventilation, which had been made generally applicable after many trials and improvements. By means of machines installed in the roof space, great cold was generated in a closed room, in which the air brought in from outside was cooled down considerably, and this was then channelled to the floor of the halls and the large dining room through pipes installed in the brickwork and the pillars.

On the other hand, the high windows on the ceilings of the rooms to be ventilated had to be opened and the spoilt and heated air was drawn out all the more quickly because the colder and heavier air flowing in from the floor displaced it. The air that was fed into the rooms was drawn in from the neighbouring spruce forest and had the most delicious scent.

The building was also a beautiful sight from the outside. The towers at the four corners, which contained the staircases, were entwined with epheu and towered high above the building, closed at the top with a parapet. The main walls of the building were also raised far above the upper storey and a flat platform of strong construction was erected above the actual roof, which was partly covered with earth and partly paved, forming a charming garden, in the centre of which the upper part of the library hall towered. The building also included a treasure trove of glass and porcelain, silverware and table linen, as well as the sumptuous furnishings of the kitchen and the underground baths.

After the building had been inspected in all its parts, everyone gradually streamed towards the three large exits leading to the lake, and first the emperor, empress and princes, and then the entourage and singers, strangers and residents came out to cross the forecourt and stairs to the ships. First the richly decorated imperial boat filled up and then the singers' pontoons. Three famous singing societies had come to today's festival. First of all the Viennese association, which still held first place and whose leadership was in the hands of a man whose appearance would hardly have betrayed the artist. A broad, somewhat ruddy face, a tall, bony figure and a somewhat shortened leg were features reminiscent of a famous singer from ancient times, whose name and memory had been handed down to the Austrians. But the voice was also the same, a delightful lyrical tenor that won everyone's heart as soon as it struck. The singer's name was Rieger.

Then there was Cologne, who struggled for a long time to beat the Viennese, but could also be satisfied with second place, and the third club was the Berner Sängerbund.

The pontoons for the singers were built on large boats that were able to carry the heavy load and could each hold over four hundred singers. They were propelled by an adjustable propeller that could be set in motion by hand from the deck. These pontoons floated slowly out into the lake, taking the imperial boat and a few other boats in the centre and surrounded from the outside by thousands of small boats and the steamers. The Bernese opened the singing festival, followed by the people of Cologne and then they waited expectantly for the famous singing of the Viennese. A mighty choir began and after it had faded quietly, the heavenly tenor of the Viennese master rose up in sustained, swelling and fading melodies. After a few notes, this marvellous voice had enchanted all hearts, all noise died away and not only the people listened breathlessly, even the wind and the waves that had just been playing seemed to die down, no oars stirred and the birds of the sky settled on the boats to listen. They listened reverently to the sounds that, carried by the water, were audible from afar, however softly they sounded.

Suddenly there was a bloodcurdling cry: "Jacob, my Jacob!" and as they turned towards a boat in the middle of the singing ships, the empress was seen to lean towards the water, terrified and with heart-breaking lamentation. But the emperor commanded calm with a wave

of his hand, that no oar should dip into the water and no boat should move in the terrible crowd, and behold, a blond head appeared beside the singing ship, the crown prince seized the planks that offered a secure hold and, swinging himself up, he pulled half a boat out of the lake, he pulls the half-dead Jacob out of the lake, who would have drowned without fail if the prince had not thrown himself into the water before the empress could hold him back and risked his own life -- and there, where thousands of boats wedged in and bumping into each other, made it difficult to get up. There was a general cheer and poor Anna, who was already afraid of losing her protégé, threw her arms around the neck of the Empress and the Crown Prince. A powerful movement spread across the lake and to the shore when they learnt what had happened. They took poor Jacob, who soon recovered, onto the imperial ship, and after the rescued men had been rowed ashore to get them dry clothes, the first singers came together to agree on the song that seemed best suited to this hour. It was the song: Freedom, Equality and Human Love, which the three choirs sang together. First the Bernese sang the verse of freedom, where the choir was followed by a powerful bass voice, then the Cologne choir sang the verse of equality, which was praised by a sympathetic baritone, and finally the Viennese sang the love of mankind, alternating with the tenor.

In the meantime, bonfires were flaring up on the mountains in Vorarlberg and Switzerland to greet the Emperor according to the old custom, and their glow perfectly matched the mood that had spread over so many people here.

Thus, on the last evening of our stay in Austria, we were able to witness how the crown prince paid the only thanks for his rescue that was equal to the service he had received. And now, late in the evening, after all the ships had long since been illuminated, the entire fleet gave the Bernese, who were travelling to Rorschach, their convoy, we joined them and did not return to our quarters in Bregenz until midnight.

The next morning, the beautiful Anna told me to visit her and bring her help. Jacob was in a fever and when he came round from time to time he showed an incomprehensible melancholy. He lamented that he had not found his death in the lake, and he was warning himself that his Anna, chained to a cripple, was trusting her life, as he put it. Here no one shared the care of him with his companion, and as he now lay ill, the thought of her sacrificing herself to him oppressed him. She had certainly repented long ago, but did not want to be unfaithful to her word. Let his friend come and see if he could advise her.

I still had a few hours before our departure and asked Mr Forest to settle the business with the administration while I hurried to the unhappy couple. Just then the Empress and the Crown Prince, who had not been harmed by the cold bath, left the sick-bed. The former greeted me kindly and remembered that this was the third time we had met. I held out my hand to the crown prince in praise of his brave deed. He grasped it hesitantly and with some trepidation.

When I entered Anna's house, I found the two of them in despair. Jacob could not be persuaded. The sacrifice was unnatural. I pulled an old, yellowed newspaper out of my pocket and asked for permission to read it to them. He smiled wistfully and agreed. This was my story.

"A stork story.

On a Holstein estate, according to the "Kieler Zeitung", eleven years ago a stork was injured in a fight with a jealous rival to such an extent that it fell from its nest, unable to fly. Despite careful care given to the poor invalid, it was not possible to restore him to the point where he could use his wings as usual. From then on, Master Rothbein wandered around the farm in gloom, huddled around in barns and stables and seemed to bear his fate heavily.

Nevertheless, he remained alive and when his comrades set off in late summer to seek out their winter home on the banks of the Nile, Peter - as the casualty had been christened - looked after them longingly and sadly, but finally resigned himself to the inevitable. The farm owner made his winter stay as easy as possible; in order to keep the necessary food ready for Peter at all times, fish was brought in from a neighbouring coastal town, and so over the years the red-legged invalid became so accustomed to his situation that he became quite tame and followed his master, and only his master, everywhere. The only sad time for Peter during the eleven years was when his comrades returned from Africa in the spring and made themselves comfortable on the roofs in their cosy nests. Then he usually stood on the highest point of the farmstead, the dung hill, and looked sadly and lovelornly up at the happier members of his family, who were preparing for marriage and family life on the roof. Two years ago, a happier time was to dawn for Peter too; a friendly ray of sunshine fell into the monotony of his stunted existence. A young female stork floated down to the loneliness of the dung heap on a beautiful spring day and - compassionate as good girls are - she took a liking to the cripple and kindly accepted his courtship.

The merciful stork lady was even prepared to make do with a nest on level ground near a summer house, contrary to her habit of nesting on the roof ridge. So Peter spent a happy summer at the side of a beloved wife, became the father of several children and everything would have been in perfect order if autumn had not come. As the migration season approached, Peter's wife's homesickness won out over love and loyalty and one fine day she flew away with her children, leaving Peter behind in solitude. Poor Stroh Wittwer was more introverted than ever during the winter and was almost inconsolable when his young wife did not return to him the following spring. Had the unfaithful woman forgotten him so quickly? Jealousy increased the anguish of his heart. But what was the use? He had to resign himself to his fate. And the summer passed and winter came again and after it the new spring. A few weeks ago, as he did every year, Peter stood on his dunghill and watched the flight of his returning friends. Then, who can describe his joy, it came flying down with a rush and before him, after a year and a half of separation, stood the wife he had thought lost, fresh and healthy.

Everything seemed to be in order, except that the reunited couple did not seem to want to build again on the flat ground. The farmer realised this from Peter's futile attempts to reach the roof of the pavilion and immediately had a convenient ladder built. Peter made good use of it and today the couple nest harmoniously on the roof of the pavilion. In the neighbourhood, however, people are already betting on whether the stork lady will leave her Peter again this year or not."

"Well, Jacob, what do you think of this story, which is over 100 years old?"

Jacob had become thoughtful and did not speak for a long time: "Should it be true that the animal itself finds pleasure in sacrificing itself to the unfortunate man? Then you would be my stork," he said, looking more cheerfully at his Anna. -- "I suppose so," said she, smiling, "I have nothing dearer in the world than you. What we love we make our treasure, and to lose it is our ruin."

After some thought, Jacob said: "If you are my stork, you must accept me as your stork. What would you have left of me if I had drowned? The stork and the storkess could live together, but they had their nest." Anna became serious and didn't answer. Jacob then said again: "Let go of your defiance, dear wife, let yourself be married to me properly and give me children, then I will no longer doubt."

Anna cheered: "But the boys must have legs," and she threw her arms around the sick man's neck. "Of course, because where would a second like you be found?" --

Holding Jacob in her arms, Anna now looked up at me merrily and called out: "It wasn't just for our sake that I asked you to come over. A letter has arrived for you and it smells of roses, it will be from a woman's hand."

She gave me a letter, which I vomited up immediately. It was from Giulietta. Here it follows:

"Dear Julian! I received your letter from Tulln. It was frostier than I would have thought, although I had no doubt what the outcome of my novel would be. Admittedly, the American's screwiness is partly to blame. You lack the graces. I don't blame you. I do not regret what I have done; I have enjoyed a sweet hour and prepared it for you, but I have also learnt that we women love differently from you. We want to preserve, you want to increase and change, you are insatiable.

I had no goal on Sunday, no intention guided me; but as I surrendered myself to you, the idea of lasting happiness was unavoidably linked to the delight of the moment. I did not hope, for you gave me no hopes, but it seemed as if happiness was worth holding on to.

If I had reasoned coolly, I would not have been mistaken, but how could we women reason when we delight lovingly!

How soon I realised that you are not filled with the same desire as I am, and that you do not think of overcoming the difficulties that never prevent us women from repaying love. No man will ever embrace Giulietta again. I have not parted from you, I have parted from love, not without the feeling of a man who loses the better good and clings to a lesser one, only to find that this too is denied him. But do not grieve over it. You could not have departed without anxious doubts, and I want to reassure you. It is enough for me that you can return to your country without remorse. I have no regrets and the certainty of having created an hour of blissful delight for a dear person remains with me.

But now look what a favourable fate has granted me. Peterchen will be my little son after all. I've been watching him and have been told all about him. As small as he is, I know that he has good qualities and the best disposition. At such a young age he easily forgets his mother

and he will become attached to me. The administrator gave him to me after Josefa and other relatives advised it.

The evening with the official was very pleasant. They sang and danced and I was asked to improvise. The Italians love to recite poems on a topic that comes up at the moment.

I was very well received and was delighted to be able to use my divine language among Germans.

The reception rooms for the members of the municipal council - which also includes the teachers - are particularly splendid, in keeping with the progress and development of our state. They extend through two floors of the residential building in which I have my parlour, and they form two large and two small halls, from one side of which you can access a charming little garden, and on another side a glass hall decorated with flowers. The most beautiful hall is richly decorated with stucco marble, mirrors, bronze candelabras and chandeliers. The gentlemen of the board have agreed that they will take turns hosting their evenings here. Each of them determines his invitations as he sees fit. No one will be completely excluded, but access will not be evenly distributed. This time an Archduke was also present for a short time, who had come on a mission to welcome the new community.

Dr Kolb was there. A talkative man. He was pleased to hear that I knew about him and that I highly valued the art of sculpture. He also liked the work of my adopted brother very much. He confided in me that he had been commissioned -- he didn't tell me by whom -- to execute a Venus in marble. He wanted me to model for him. Don't get jealous of me, no man should look at me any more. But the artist explained the reproach to me, and it was not of such a nature that I could not fulfil his wish. Peterchen is stripped naked and placed on my neck as Cupid to cover my eyes. We argue about whether the little god should kneel on my shoulders or sit astride me. We are now leaning towards the latter idea.

I wanted to use some old toiletries to make the clothes the artist had in mind. But he refused; there was no need to economise, the fabric had to be of such a kind that the drapery would be beautiful. A clothing artist would come from the residence and it would cost something to create something truly beautiful.

We -- Dr Kolb and I -- will meet often, because I should enjoy the socialising in my new home and probably also in the residence more than other girls.

So you may assume, dear one, that Giulietta will live respected and happy.

Farewell and remember your Giulietta." --

I said goodbye to Anna and Jakob, who thanked me for giving them the opportunity to rekindle their love. When I got back to my flat, I read the dear letter again. It was a real load off my mind to know that Giulietta had given me her all and without offence. She did not blame me and so I was able to leave Austria without feeling guilty. Under a clear sky we travelled with many Swiss, French and English people on the steamer to the Swiss shore.

That's how our journey ended.

\* \* \* \* \*

Allow me to mention a message that I received a year later, which made Giulietten's character even clearer to me. My sister Ellen also went to Austria to see the country I was happy to tell her about. She spent the last part of the winter of 2021 in Vienna and then stayed a few more weeks to look around the flat countryside. She had made friends with Lydia, the daughter of an immigrant American, and she made it easier for her to do the research she wanted to do.

Here she met Giulietta without intending to, and I will leave the part of her travelogue that refers to this encounter here.

\* \* \* \* \*

When I arrived in Höflein, I asked my companion to introduce me to the women and girls, so we walked to the park, where there was a lively bustle at that hour. A large number of ladies were assembled under a mighty tree, and after Lydia had named herself, she introduced me: "Miss Lydia West, of Boston." -- It was remembered that an American of my name had been in this neighbourhood last year, and I confessed that he was my brother, and that I had been induced by his accounts to visit this country also, in order to become acquainted with it, and especially to enlighten myself as to the position of women.

The head of the women's curia, who was present, promised me all the information I might desire. A girl of radiant beauty and strong sensuality looked me inquiringly in the face when I made my desire known and, holding out her hand to me, she said: "Dear sister, allow me to give you my name; my name is Giulietta Chiari and I want to help you satisfy your thirst for knowledge." I thanked her with a smile and turned my attention to other women.

After a while, when the group began to disperse, Giulietta slipped her arm into mine and said, "Allow me now to take you to that grove." -- She called a boy who was playing nearby, and when Peterchen had slowly risen and trundled along, we set off for the shady grove. Lydia said good-bye to me, and called to me that we would find each other at dinner at nine o'clock, and then return home at nightfall.

As Giulietta pulled me away with her, she asked: "Tell me, Sister Ellen, do you know my name?" I answered with an honest no! and she said, after looking around to see if Peterchen was following his "mum". "So your brother is secretive." -- "Did you know him better?" -- "Certainly, and what he dutifully concealed I will confide to you without hesitation, for we sisters have no secrets between us."

Giulietta promised to introduce me to the meeting of the women's curia in Höflein the following Thursday and described its constitution and effectiveness. Every Thursday after table, the women's curia meets in the large library room and at this time the whole floor is closed to men and young people. The women's curia consists of all girls and women who have reached the age of eighteen. It appoints a headmistress and several female teachers who have the duty to initiate adolescent girls into the secrets of sexual life at the appropriate time and to instruct them in everything necessary to maintain the respect of men and peace among women. "Within these limits, however, we allow all the greater freedom. The state



laws concerning marriage, procreation, the family, education and the rights of the mother and wife are also the subject of instruction. So also the epitome of all those secrets that make it easier for us to meet the needs of society."

"Now, dear friend, do the confessions you promised me have any relation to women's lives?"

"Certainly, and they will make all the greater impression on you because your brother is involved in my stories. Tell him also, when you return to your country, that I will release him from the obligation of secrecy if he wishes to make confessions to you in order to give you a better insight into our circumstances."

We settled down on a bench away from the path and Peterchen, who lay down in the grass next to a brook, soon fell asleep.

I said to Giulietten, looking at the boy: "Are you married?"

"No, the boy is orphaned and I'm his foster mum. That has something to do with the encounter I had with your brother."

Giulietta told me her life story, but I asked her to ignore it, because Julian had told me about it, only he hadn't given me a name.

"Tell me sincerely, dear sister, has he also been famous for the favour shown to him by that unnamed person?"

"I can answer this question truthfully in the negative."

"Well," said Giulietta, "I am not forbidden to speak of it, for it is only \_=my=\_ secret. Listen."

"One hot day in July, I was bathing in a secluded bay near Trieste when I noticed a man swimming in the water some distance away. At that time, against my will, I had become free of a promise that had bound me to a childhood friend for two years. I had rejected the applications of other young men to whom my fate was known, precisely because I had previously met them with the majesty of a virgin consecrated for marriage and they should not entertain the idea of taking advantage of my misfortune. But the woman stirred in me, the desire to please and to find my own happiness in it broke out from time to time, and nature reminded me that sensual desires have power over us. I was aware of my rights and so the desire for the embraces of that stranger grew stronger and stronger. Your brother, that stranger, is an Apollo, and as he wrestled with the water, sometimes splitting the tide with powerful thrusts, sometimes submerging, then rising again, I lost myself in contemplation, let myself be carried by the water and laid my cheek on the smooth surface without moving my limbs any more than was necessary to keep from sinking. Now the man's attention was drawn to me, and as he must have guessed that a woman was bathing there, he too did not take his eyes off me. He approached slowly, not without giving me time to flee, and as I did not seize the opportunity and did not take my eyes off him, he finally steered to my side and greeted me respectfully. He asked for permission to stay close to me, and now we were crossing the bay and chatting about our home and the like. Julian proposed to me to swim out into the wide sea, and seeing that he knew how to keep within the bounds we set for the solicitations of men, I consented, but said jokingly that I would make sure that he would not

leave me to languish alone on the wide waste of water when he was tired of my company. I untied a barge, in which I had laid my clothes, from the nearby shore, pulled out the long line and tied it to his left foot. He laughed and pulled the boat after him as he swam out to sea with me. Although he now only had one leg free for swimming, we made rapid progress, for Julian is of Herculean strength and marvellous agility, which I noticed with pleasure in the excitement that I allowed to grow. Soon we had got so far out to sea that we could hardly distinguish the shores, and Julian suggested that we should now let ourselves be carried by the tide and turn our faces to the sky. Although my swimming costume did not cover my upper body, I did not reject this suggestion and so we lay for a while like spouses on an endlessly wide bridal bed. Julian devoured me with his eyes, but always kept me at arm's length, and so we indulged in looking at each other. Now I approached myself and slipped my arm under my companion's shoulders. He did the same, but as we lay so entangled next to each other, the comrade of this sweet hour did not dare to bring his lips close to mine, and so I now drew him to my breast and sealed the alliance we both longed for with a kiss. And I think that even now his mouth was confined to my lips, and so I buried my fingers in his hair and gently drew him to my bosom: then he was seized with wild desire--and yet, when I said, "Julian, be reasonable, let me choose the time," he tore himself away and we parted again. Only his eyes would not leave me, and I could no longer make him chat freely."

"I was now sure of his self-control and so I soon asked him to pull the boat over. We took our seats in it and Julian rowed me ashore."

"As we approached the shore, Julian asked for permission to provide me with the services of a maid, and I allowed him to clothe me."

"That evening I enjoyed the happiness of love in his arms; the first time in the arms of a man!"

"What a storm of pleasure, what passion! I really would have let myself be crushed willingly. At this moment, the woman feels connected to the universe and believes she can summarise in herself all the happiness of love that countless people have enjoyed in aeons."

"A week later we met here. -- I had torn myself away from my home and had arrived here on the day of the opening of this young congregation. Chance brought us together on the grounds. He wooed my favour once more by taking hold of one of my fingers and squeezing it tenderly. After a moment's reflection, I returned the pressure and thus signalled my consent to belong to him again."

During this story, we had left our resting place and Giulietta had taken her protégé in her arms. He had talked up a few times in his sleep, then lay like a sack of flour on her chest, his face on her shoulder. We entered Giulietta's parlour and after she had laid Peter down in his little bed, undressed the slumbering boy and kissed his cheek tenderly, she continued.

"Your brother wooed me again in this parlour. He was less considerate than in Trieste. I had to reprimand him more than once."

"At last his wooing prevailed over my restraint, and as I wanted to oblige him, I dismissed him from my presence for a short time on the pretence that I wanted a rose that he should fetch for me from the garden."

"I had seen a marvellous rose there, in the innermost calyx of which an insect, half-stunned by the scent, was groping for a way out. It seemed to me like a man in love who had seen his wish fulfilled and was now longing for freedom. I didn't want to let it escape and thought it should die from the excess of the odour. So I took a piece of the spider's web, which stretched from one branch of the rose to the other, and blocked all its ways out. I remembered this rose and Julian was to bring it to me. When he had run off to fetch the rose, sure of his handsome reward, I prepared myself and my little chamber to receive him. When he came again and threw himself on my breast, he realised the opportunity I had offered him; he seized it and took out his naiad from the loose cover. When he saw that I was thinking of our first meeting, he lifted me into his arms with a cry of joy and laid me on my bed. Once more we revelled in the delight of lovemaking. But then came a disappointment. A sweet habit took hold of me, I searched for constant happiness, I dreamed of intoxicating myself again and again, I believed we should always belong to each other. He could stay here or take me with him to America. I didn't realise how it would turn out, but for a moment I became a slave to a passion."

"When we met later in the garden, he must have thought, as I did, what was to become. But I thought I noticed that his affection for me was less serious; I doubted whether he would appreciate my favour in all its magnitude, and so I took the rose from my hair and released the insect. He obviously interpreted the symbolic act correctly, did not protest, and I was convinced that he wanted to take possession of the freedom I had given him. So we parted and I tried to fight down my desire."

"From my window I could still see him, bent over and inwardly torn, looking towards my parlour. But soon afterwards I heard a horseman storming away on the country road and I became master of my weakness."

"And have you regained your composure, dear Giulietta?"

"It cost me a struggle, but I have generously released your brother and renounced love altogether. Since the love feast in Trieste, it seemed to me that I had reached the peak of happiness and that the second half of life was of little value. I could have slumbered willingly from the excess of happiness into the realm of shadows. And then, when I saw that love, detached from the pure joy of maternal happiness, could not permanently satisfy me, I decided to renounce it."

"Can you do that when you've tasted the cup of love?"

"It was possible for me, because I had loved twice with all my ardour and had been cheated of happiness twice."

"And have you really found yourself again?"

"I have. My fatherly friend Dr Kolb used to say that our social order can be compared to a healthy organism that harbours a powerful healing instinct. All wounds heal quickly. In my case, this little treasure has contributed a lot to that." -- Giulietta pointed to her slumbering protégé and told me that she had seen the boy for the first time the last time she had sat in the garden with Julian. She had adopted him and was now only doing her duty to make a real person out of this child. "Dr Kolb calls that an antiseptic dressing," said Giulietta, laughing.

It had become dark in the meantime and when Giulietta had switched on the light, I was astonished to see that her parlour was beautifully decorated and contained many artistic treasures. I recognised a nymph carved in wood, as Julian had told me about it. "I can see that Julian thought a lot about you, because he spoke often and fondly of this nymph, and he never wanted to say where he had seen this masterpiece. But I notice many things that he would have described to me if he had known about it. You must occupy a high position in the state, since such splendour surrounds you?"

"No, Ellen, I'm only the head of an educational establishment for straw weaving, a profession in which I have probably earned great merit because I'm as inventive as I am economical. But I don't owe this little treasure trove to my position."

"Has Julian never been here?"

"Yes, we enjoyed our shepherd's hour here and that's why I never want to swap the parlour. But I had only just arrived from Italy and what I had collected there gradually came together. First, a former doctor, Dr Kolb, who is now a great sculptor, sent me this bronze figure, a Venus. I really deserved it, because I modelled for him for the marble statue that he made at the request of the Empress, who surprised her husband with it for Christmas. With her permission, the artist copied the work in miniature and sent me this charming bronze cast. But the most precious thing in my possession is this glass plaque."

She took a glass panel from the window and held it up to the light to let me see the strangest work of art.

"This was made by my late mother's brother, \_\_Matteo Folco,\_\_\_. He is the most famous glass cutter on the continent and the first gem cutter in the old world would not have been ashamed of his work. The Civilliste had recruited him and he had many advantages. He perfected himself and his art extraordinarily and trained many pupils. At the age of forty-five, he was contractually retired, and the Civilliste has to keep him until the end of his life and grant him all the advantages he used to enjoy. He now only works when it gives him pleasure, and all his new works are at his sole disposal for thirty years. Only after this time do they revert to the Civil List. He may keep them in his possession, or leave them to friends and relatives, or dedicate them to deserving men, that is up to him. Since I am his favourite and he wanted to give me pleasure to the best of his ability because I had suffered an insult, he sent me this work of art. Look at this splendour! Adam and Eve in paradise, mankind in its beginnings. Happy, in the hope of eternal life on this earth; not weighed down by worry, illness, labour or guilt, archetypes of human beauty. In cosy communion they walk through the tall grass, Adam laden with the fruits of the forest, Eve dallying with flowers, representing

the two groups of our wealth, the useful and the beautiful. The giant strength of the primeval father and the grace of his mate also correspond to this. Paradise shows us the primeval forest, the richly overgrown meadow, the luxuriant luxuriance of the vegetation and all the animals surrounding the human couple, subject to him. What a wealth of forms and shapes the artist has been able to draw into the realm of his depiction here. The view to the right between the mountains into the wide sea is marvellous and the sun, which is just rising, is reflected in the slightly rippled waves. The edge is surrounded by coloured tendrils and flowers made of spun glass. You could buy the mirror disc that Matteo needed in America for thirty cents; but what has the art of the Oheim made of it! He himself never created anything of this perfection and richness. The best draughtsman in Austria sketched the picture for him, and two years' labour was devoted to it. An English lord offered ten thousand pounds sterling for it. But of course I have no right to sell the work, just as I am not allowed to own any money, and it is not for sale on the Civil List. Nor would it be justifiable to the people to let the masterpiece go out of the country. On the contrary, the Civilliste is jealous that no \_\_\_Matteo Folco\_\_\_ is missing from its collections."

"And you're hiding this treasure enviously?"

"No, that would be a sin; everything that is beautiful should be savoured. It is well known throughout Europe that this is the place to be seen, and no traveller misses the chance to descend here."

"The visits must be getting on your nerves."

"If I had to receive everyone who makes a pilgrimage here, it would be torture! But it's up to me who I want to admit to my lesson. The work is usually visited during the hours I spend at school. Only famous men and beautiful women, whom I want to favour, are admitted during the hours I have chosen for the reception."

"That may give you a lot of inspiration."

"It may become a nuisance, but for now I still enjoy visiting strange people. I am expecting a visit from the Emperor and Empress next week. The Archdukes have all been here, but the Emperor has so far been kept away by the hunts and receptions in the Hofburg. Now the Empress has asked me to determine the day and hour of the Imperial visit. I let her know that I expect her next Sunday at 12 noon, but that the Crown Prince must come with me and I must be allowed to kiss him. We are very fond of the prince because he pulled Jacob out of the water."

"Julian told me about that."

"I hear he's a lovely boy and I'm looking forward to seeing him with me. The empress promised to bring the prince with her, but said I should waive the kiss. Her son was in his fourteenth year and they wanted to preserve his impartiality. But I insist on my conditions; it will do him no harm if he learns to kiss when the time comes."

"You seem like an egotist to me."

"Ellen, what are you thinking! The prince must count it an honour when a beautiful girl kisses him, and the empress has also given in."

"With us, you would pay a dollar entrance fee."

"I can imagine that. But now I also have all kinds of advantages. People are sending me all kinds of beautiful things from all parts of Europe. Carpets, vases, bronzes, precious furniture, curtains and wallpaper have gradually piled up. It's not the artwork alone that makes me friends; they want to make up for what I've lost as best they can. Of course, the countless drops of love that people shower on me are no substitute for the vast ocean of happiness that I once dreamed of, but I would be a fool to reject the kindnesses. -- Everything here has changed little by little, but I won't change my bed."

And with her gaze fixed unwaveringly on this place, she turned her face towards me with a charming smile and kissed me almost fervently.

"Cargo," she said, smiling at me a little coquettishly. --

"I will send it to the address," I said. "But tell me, Giulietta, should Julian come back?"

"For God's sake, no. The sea that brought us together is now between us, and so it shall remain. You see, I think to myself that Julian could not make up his mind to leave his fatherland, and that he was too conscientious to ask me to leave. There is no offence in not being able to replace the fatherland, the greatest thing a man possesses, for the one he loves. If he were to return, perhaps a new series of disappointments would begin, which I would not be able to cope with. And on the other hand, I think, if I did not find happiness with him to whom I offered the most precious gift, which I cannot offer again, how could I count on that never-extinguishing ardour of passion with any man, without which love seems to me an unworthiness."

I now asked the question:

"Have you forgiven the company?"

"I certainly did. Sometimes I dream of the happiness I imagined when I was young. My Giacompo sits at my feet again, he whispers of our hopes, and image after image quickly passes by my soul. The preparations for the wedding, the sweet anxiety of the bride, the wedding festivities, the seizure of the longed-for happiness, the tender solicitude of the young husband; now I believe that a new happiness is on the horizon, I see the man rejoicing at my message, then women stand around my bed, ready to stand by me, and now I want to press the offspring to my breast. Then a weak, unattractive creature grins at me and I wake up with a cry of fear. When I switch on the light and see the blossoming protégé slumbering carefree next to me, I feel as if I have been redeemed."

Dr Kolb used to say: "Good and evil, beautiful and ugly fight over matter, without which there is nothing. We must win all matter for beauty, the earth must become a heaven. I am too devoted to beauty to stand in its way."

After a pause, I said to pull Giulietta out of her reverie:

"Julian will ask me what happened to his friends."

"He is fondly remembered and I can imagine what interests him. Dr Kolb did not win first prize with his 'Bride', but he did with 'Venus', became an academic and received unlimited funds from the state to cultivate his art. He does not want to leave Tulln, but has gathered a circle of students around him who support him in the realisation of great works. Anna married Jacob on the day of your brother's departure. As the imperial family was still in Bregenz, they took part in the wedding celebrations and the crown prince himself presented Anna with a magnificent bouquet of flowers. Jacob had recovered by the hour, as he wanted to provide for offspring on the same day. And Anna also hopes to become a mother on 7 May. Jacob is now very proud. -- The 'young' couple spent their wedding holidays on the RigiKulm; the Emperor took over the expenses at the expense of the Civilliste. -- But Jacob also wanted to climb the "Jungfrau" with his Anna. This presented some difficulties. Twelve skilful mountaineers with their own equipment had to work together to get the maimed man to such a height. The equipment was sent from Tulln and, on the recommendation of the sister association in St. Pölten, a dozen young men were found in the Bernese tourist association who undertook the venture and completed it successfully."

"Lori is the second head of the nursery in Tulln and, according to the doctor's certificate, has acquired perfect skill and knowledge in the care of newborns, among whom her own offspring will probably be included in April. They have chosen her husband as tribune and he is characterised by prudence, firmness and personal dignity before all his colleagues in office."

"Martin is a charioteer at the imperial court and Selma is the chief administrator of our empress's wardrobe."

"Lori's younger sister has become the bride of Archduke Adolf. The Hochberg girls are made for love, but woe betide the man who does not remain faithful. The Archduke is somewhat amorous in nature. I saw him in the first days of my stay with the administrative officer. Later, he often found an excuse to visit our Monday evenings and soon revealed himself: he had taken a liking to me. Although he is a handsome young man, I did not want to be unfaithful to my intention and I did not encourage him. One evening, when he only ever danced with me and asked to dance with me again, I agreed, but on the condition that he would soon attend a general dance evening in Höflein and dance with all the girls without distinction. He laughingly agreed, but he never came to the assembly dance. In December, when the winter dance evenings began and we were in the midst of the wildest dancing, we heard the jolly jingling of bells on the snow-covered country road and a procession of sleighs stopped in front of the parish palace and Archduke Adolf emerged from his furs and warm blankets with many gentlemen and splendid girls to take part in our festivities. The prince greeted me respectfully and said that he wanted to honour his word, and so he danced with all the girls and young women, but not with me. He said that he had brought the young men a replacement for what they had lost to him and the gentlemen in his company. The Viennese girls were all outstanding beauties of the residence, especially the Archduke's young sister. They conversed excellently, perhaps somewhat more informally than at the balls in Vienna, and Archduke Adolf took leave of me in the morning with a kiss on the hand and said that he

had hoped for my favour, but considered his applications rejected. I replied that I would not listen to any man and that my reticence should not offend him. As the party drove home, some young men mounted horses and escorted the guests with torches to Klosterneuburg. The girls called out to them in farewell that they had entertained themselves royally."

"I'm talking more than cheaply about myself, dear Ellen, but I feel as if I'm talking to Julian."

"You haven't told me anything about Mary Lueger yet."

"Mary! She's become a convert."

"How am I supposed to understand that?"

"Mary was full of kindness and heartlessness. In the first months of her marriage she played with her husband like a cat with a mouse. Smilingly she watched his courtships, smilingly she surrendered to him, smilingly her enquiring eye rested on him when he had indulged his lust. There was no real happiness in the marriage. She believed him to be dissatisfied, and with dalliances and coquetries she always brought her husband back to her when it seemed that he was becoming indifferent. It never came to a discussion. But it caused some uneasiness in Mary's mind, for she thought she discovered that Lueger was unhappy. She realised that her husband not only wanted to feel passion, but also to arouse it. But she was cold by nature and believed, since she had become his wife, that it would be enough if she let the impetuous man have his way. Later, however, she felt that the "way of life" demanded something more, and she was reluctant to allow any dissonance to arise in her relationship with the man of her choice. Out of pure kindness and sociable gentility, she now played the sensual one a little. She smiled less, appeared restless, seemed to warm herself in his arms, pressed his hand gratefully, and as she had formerly been extravagant with her charms, she became reserved, as if she wished to incite the man to greater passion. He was happily surprised, the first passion returned, and the more impetuous he became, the less she could bring herself to drop the mask and admit that she had disguised herself. On the contrary, the more ardent the man became, the more lustful the woman pretended to be. Then, in the fourth month of the marriage, the spell was broken. One day, Mary felt real lust in her husband's embrace, an electric shock shot through her white body and she looked at her husband with longing and adoration. Her need for love grew more and more powerful; she embraced her husband with a fervour that had hitherto been foreign to him, and once, when he seemed indifferent, she threw herself on her knees before him and wooed his love in senseless desire. At first he stroked her hair compassionately, and as she never tired of challenging his sensuality, he finally drew her rapturously into his arms and one of those sweet hours followed in which two people are everything to each other."

"Lori enjoyed it when Mary confessed that she was now dominated by sensuality, like any other woman. It was bound to happen, Lori said, coldness is unnatural in a woman."

"Are you that open with each other?" I asked.

"The women trust each other completely. They are otherwise closed to us unmarried women, just as we form a closed caste towards married women. We otherwise only exchange our



experiences theoretically and only allow openness to prevail where it is required by the laws we have given ourselves."

"What kind of laws are these?" I asked.

"They aim to keep men subject to us in everything that concerns love. They should not grow cold, but neither should they fall into dull sensuality; they should not succeed in sowing discord among us. No husband should be listened to when he turns away from his wife, unless he obtains a divorce and is found innocent by the women's curia."

"Aren't you afraid of men's talkativeness if you have no secrets between yourselves?"

"We run a strict regiment. It has happened that an insatiable man, in order to make a wooed girl more compliant, has invoked favours shown to him by other girls. This was severely punished. Such a rebel was banned for half a year and we all turned our backs on him until he had served his sentence."

"Shouldn't there be a weak one among you who secretly favours the criminal?" I reply.

"I don't think that's possible. Each and every one of us has sacred respect for the Curie."

"And how can you recognise the veiling?"

"We have sufficient means to communicate with each other, our revenge will pursue the criminal to the furthest limits of the empire."

"And how did you, an unmarried woman, discover Mary's secrets?" I enquired further.

"I am exempt," said Giulietta. "I am considered to be a philosopher and scholar in matters of love, who only informs herself about them out of scientific interest, which is why I am also consulted and have the right to be elected headmistress. I also combine a large amount of experience. I am half and half a woman, for I was on the point of marrying. I tasted love and then became a vestal virgin after all. Since then I have made the love of women in the noblest and most daunting forms the object of my studies. In our women's library I have researched everything that has to do with love; history, poetry, psychology and physiology I have tirelessly exploited in order to exhaust the question of what body and soul have worked, enjoyed and suffered in love. And it was precisely this theoretical study of the great enigma of "love" that made me immune to any temptation to be unfaithful to my intentions. I have given many lectures in the women's curia, and since they have learnt how useful my science and teaching can be to my sisters, I have all the building blocks for the development of my theories. However, I have earned everyone's trust because I do not abuse what I am told."

"Under these circumstances, I dare not enquire how Mary's marital romance will continue."

"I'm counting on you and Julian not to expose me. America is far away and you are certainly no less conscientious than your brother has proved to be."

"Mary and Lueger became the most amorous couple imaginable. Mary, who had previously been as cold as ice, feared that she would fall into insatiable sensuality and blunt herself

against all the other charms of life. Jealousy, too, was stirring before her husband had given her the slightest cause for apprehension, and one day, as Lueger was dallying with his wife, she drew out a sharp-edged dagger and made him read the inscription engraved on it: 'Anyone who looks at a woman with lust for her has already broken marriage with her in his heart. He looked up, shocked, and his blonde, imperturbable, always friendly Mary was completely changed. She kissed her husband and said, 'As sacred to you as your brothers' rights as husband must be to you, so must the right I have to you. Ever give me cause to doubt you, and, I swear to you, this weapon will break the tie that binds you to me. He embraced her fiercely and promised to be faithful to her even in his thoughts."

"Mary now realised that she had lapsed from one fault into another. She became unsociable, repulsive to other men, she shut herself up with her husband, and our 'medical nurse,' as we call the doctor, made her ideas. The young woman grew pale, her eyes lost their lustre, she was often lost in thought when her husband was absent, there was danger of her nervous system being shaken, and so I advised her to make theoretical studies on love. I told her to ask her husband to give her history lectures on love and marriage. He collected material and did her bidding. Accustomed to grasping and transmitting history with a philosophical spirit, these lectures became a salutary instruction for him and his wife, and in the meantime I had also made our rich material accessible to Mary, and so she also gave her husband lectures in which, to his surprise, new historical images and philosophical theorems were woven into a whole, although Mary conscientiously avoided anything that belonged to our secret doctrines. The married couple avoided speaking of the conclusions they drew from the science for their own married life, but knowledge makes wise, and they found their own way to the balance in life that is necessary for lasting happiness."

Now the door opened and a couple of splendid people entered. Giulietta rose: "Professor Lueger and Mrs; Miss Ellen West." They both stood before me for a while; Mary, clinging to her husband's arm and leaning her head on his shoulder in tender intimacy, looked at me and then said, holding out her hand to me: "How like our friend Julian. How is he, and what is Mr Forest, the mute companion, doing?" As I was about to answer, Dr Kolb and Lori arrived. I recognised them from the medallions I had seen and was delighted to call out their names before Giulietta had introduced them to me. "Before we lost ourselves in the grove, I ordered the friends to come to me for the evening; they would find Julian's sister with me," she explained. "They were happy to leave their appointments for the evening, only Zwirner is prevented by official business. Make yourselves comfortable, we'll have to provide ourselves with chairs!"

Just then Lydia arrived, who had been visiting some acquaintances and had been invited by Giulietta, and then a pretty, adolescent girl with whom Giulietta had a few things to arrange on the side. Soon afterwards a couple of small tables and chairs were brought in, and while we women were seated, Giulietta invited the men to move a tabouret into the window alcove; she knew that her friends loved chess and would like to play a match.

Mary, who was sitting next to me, noticed that my eyes were fixed intently on Lori, so she whispered in my ear: "I've been hoping for offspring for a few months too." The wicked woman had sinned against her profession for six months but, as in everything else, had

returned to her duty. "I tease my husband by threatening to baptise the rascal, if it is a boy, Boanerges, for he is sure to be a great orator before the Lord. The Luegers always come into the world with a lot of shouting."

In the meantime -- Giulietta had been chatting with Lori -- the girl from earlier arrived with a large load of useful and pleasant things. As a rule, Austrians can take their meals wherever they like. So our catering made no expense to Giulietten. But in cases where strangers or foreign friends are guests somewhere, the administration also tends to do the rest, as far as the supplies last. So many delicious things had been brought. Giulietta filled the large samovar with water from the tap and then set about preparing the punch that would put us in a cheerful mood. In the meantime, Giulietta had to deal with Peter, who had woken up. She dressed him, moved him into the high chair at our table, let him say his most difficult words and explain the picture book, and then went back to her work. We chatted for a while and then Giulietta called out: "Done! Let the queen in distress now think of rescue alone and come over, we need men to court us."

The gentlemen moved in with us and while we were enjoying ourselves, Dr Kolb raised the question of what the summer would bring.

"Now that we have become such good friends, dear Professor, I am planning trips and excursions with you for the summer. I have enquired at the central court administration; they gave me the choice between Gödöllő, Abbazia and Miramar for the spring, and a castle in the Carpathians or Amras in midsummer. What do you think of Amras? It has a lovely location in the low mountain range; the garden, which Archduke Karl Ludwig had laid out, is now overgrown with ancient trees, and the old park in the mountains and ravines behind the castle is extraordinarily poetic, with countless bridges and grottos and a confusing up and down of well-kept paths, which often cross one deep below the other."

"I think," said Mary, "you're counting without the landlord, Doctor. If you want to be with my husband, you'll have to put all this out of your mind."

"I don't know, Mary," said the professor, "that we have any other plans."

"Your little wife has already thought about summer."

"Let's hear it, I'm curious."

"Above all, you cannot dispose of your time as Dr Kolb does, you must keep to your lectures punctually, not a day is given to you and you have to be back by the first of September. I have fixed my plan for the holidays -- that is, if my gracious lord will graciously agree with me -- and I advise Dr Kolb to travel to Scotland or the Swedish fjords in the spring and to visit the North Cape in June for the sake of the midnight sun; perhaps these natural beauties will interest him even if he has already had his fill of the splendours he is used to looking for on his models between his chin and his ankles."

"Everyone should stick to his last," said Dr Kolb with a laugh, "the midnight sun belongs to the painters."

"And in autumn, I'm sending our Doctor on a study trip to Greece and Asia Minor."

"That's good to hear," he said, "and what about the holiday plans?"

"I don't think," said Mary, "my husband could part with his poor wife for six weeks."

"Be careful; you have to come with me, just say where you want to go."

"Oh please, that's not possible, your wife has an office."

"I know, Mrs Librarian, but there are holidays."

"I have spoken to the administrative officer, but he only wants to know about a fortnight. He says I'm not entitled to more, and," said the rogue, looking hesitantly and thoughtfully before him, "my influence doesn't reach so far as to seduce an Austrian official."

"A fortnight, that's not possible, what are we going to do with a fortnight!"

"Your clever wife has considered everything. Perhaps my husband will like to remember the days he spent with his bride in Königstetten. The Hochbergs are residing there again this year, their second daughter is getting married and their only son is with his regiment in Siberia; the old people want to spend the summer near Lori and until then they have a grandchild in Tulln."

"You are right, I will speak to the princess; we will have your little room remodelled into a matrimonial chamber. Do you remember how I was sometimes allowed to read to you there? the wild hunter, Ekkehard --" "-- and what other loose wooer I refused to read to you." "That is true, my dear, and how I was treated with unforgivable harshness." -- "Yes," said Mary, "but you are to live there alone this year." "What does that mean?" "Divorce from table and bed, my dear," said Mary, laughing. "\_\_\_Divorçons!\_\_\_" "A new variation," said Lueger with a grin. Mary only imperceptibly betrayed that the word excited her amusement, and we looked as harmless as ever we could. Lori now interjected, "It won't be too hard." "You see," Mary now explained, "I've hatched all sorts of things. You shall have your holidays and I want to lengthen your chain a little, but I won't let you out of my sight. I'm going to live in Tulln."

"And get the library in Vienna? How does that rhyme?"

"Ask Lori."

"If you agree, Professor, Mary will swap places with the library administrator in Tulln for the holiday weeks. I have arranged this at her request. She is a rather old widow who wishes to enjoy Vienna to her heart's content. Her daughter is married there and we have also made arrangements to provide her with all possible comforts."

"That would be excellent, the administration will certainly allow it."

"It has!" said Mary.

"But now I don't see the point of the separation," said Lueger. "Stay with me in Königstetten, the Prince will have you driven to Tulln every day and brought back in the carriage."

"Thank you," said Mary, "you know what state I shall be in at that time. Do you think the beautiful Mary would like to appear among the ladies in Königstetten with a distorted face

and a disfigured body? -- Not at all. But perhaps," she said with a hypocritical expression, crossing her arms over her chest and bowing her head humbly before her "master", "it will please my lord to steal away from the castle one night and seek out his "maid" in Tulln."

"Excellent! Window-dressing your own wife!" laughed the professor.

"And what if a masked woman sneaks into the castle in the evening, enters the professor's room and stands humbly at the door?"

"Then the professor won't let them leave again until the larks start chirping."

"And when the sisters from the castle come to applaud me, it will be a "joke"."

"We want to think about the summer plans," said the professor.

They had listened to Mary's last speeches in silence and Dr Kolb had got up to look at some objects of art that were still unknown to him. Giulietta suddenly turned the conversation to another subject, and Mary took an impartial but somewhat serious part in it. Peter had fallen asleep again after his meal and had been put to bed by Giulietta.

As it was time to leave, I was asked a few more questions about how Julian was doing, what his profession was, whether he would marry soon, and I was asked to make comparisons between Austria and America. I said I was too patriotic to make comparisons that would not be to my country's advantage, and I was not pressed further. The little girl came back and said that the clerk had sent carriages for us because we had missed the last train, and when we had said good-bye to Giulietta and descended the stairs, two carriages were already in front of the house. Höflein is halfway between Vienna and Tulln and we had two hours of hard travelling ahead of us. There was only one young man to drive the horses, and as Dr Kolb was not allowed to leave his lady, he took charge of the carriage and asked Lueger to drive ours. Mary wanted to protest that the night air was dangerous, but the professor was well provided for and would have to comply if we did not want to stay here. There was no one to be found who could have been entrusted with driving the car.

The young man gave his instructions as to which stable the horses and carts were to be taken to, and we took our seats.

Mary said, "Now we can speak English." I accepted gratefully and mentioned that we had spent a very happy evening. "If only I hadn't gone against my sisters' feelings," Mary said impartially. "You shouldn't have reminded Lori of her looks," said Lydia. "I suppose it wasn't that; Lori herself feels that she doesn't want to go much among strangers now. But I'm sure they thought I spoke too freely." "Are you that strict?" "It's difficult to keep to the right line and not become boring. It is thought that men should not be accustomed to frivolous speech; they would only too easily fall into coarseness. I have already been reprimanded several times. Married couples should also leave out of the game anything that reminds them of their intimate life." "But I have heard very confidential things said by women in this country." "That may be, in pairs or in a curiate meeting. Certainly not in front of men or out of wilful jesting." "That is quite true. Will the occurrence have any consequences?" "I believe our headmistress will make representations to me, but that will be done with the greatest

gentleness." "Who will tell her about it?" "Giulietta. It was her territory and she is a hair-splitter." "Won't that cause trouble between you and her? A denunciation!" "That's what we agreed between us; everything can be discussed in the Curie and no one is allowed to hold a complaint against her, even if it is found to be unjust." "Surely the secrets of married life are sacrosanct," I said inquisitorially. "Not necessarily, unless they remain undiscovered." "What business is it of Curie's?" "I want to tell you about my experiences and you may learn from them what power the Curie has over us. I didn't want to have children. I was too vain and lacked courage and self-denial. At least I wanted to have a deadline. The headmistress reproached me for this. She said I should have renounced the marriage if I lacked steadfastness. My husband had the right to demand that I give him children, and society was counting on it. I had to make excuses and feigned coincidence and weakness. But the headmistress was not to be misled. The doctor had paid me several visits against my will and the cause of my infertility was not in doubt. This matter was discussed repeatedly, always with great gentleness, and the worthy old woman was patient for several months. Then a change took place in my mind; my husband repeatedly spoke of his hope of becoming a father, and so -- he did," said Mary, with a charming smile, "that is, in \_\_\_spe\_\_\_." "Does no discord arise from such admixtures of third persons?" "We are accustomed from early youth to submit to the curia of women, and the mistress is always a woman who knows how to retain the love and confidence of all. She also spares sensitivity in the most careful way and we don't have to be ashamed of our small mistakes, because no one is free from them." "This institution is reminiscent of confession," I said. "But with one very important difference. We are not held to any self-accusation; we are not counselled, and perhaps sometimes reproved, by an ordained person, but by a self-elected superior, and no man is allowed to meddle with matters which should truly inspire him with timidity and reverence." "But it can happen that the rector does not have the trust of all the sisters in her congregation." "Certainly, then a sister is called a confidant of the rector and she uses her as a mediator."

The car just stopped in front of my house and I said goodbye.

Epilogue = \_

I follow Tolstoy's example when, like him in the Sonata of the Cross, I follow the preceding book with an epilogue. For it is in keeping with our time, which has reached the turning point of a new world order, that a vision precedes and its interpretation follows.

My vision is not only directed against Bellamy and Michaelis, but also to a certain extent against Tolstoy and especially against his peculiar Posdnyshev. Tolstoy may have softened his hero's barbaric fanaticism about purity in the epilogue, but he finds the ideal of Christianity not in the love of man, but in the spiritualisation and dematerialisation of man. He rightly says that Christianity sets an ideal which will never be attainable in its perfection, but which we must therefore always have in mind. Its next effect, I believe, must be to help us overcome the Pharisaism that has overgrown Christianity. The Christian ideal, however, in Tolstoy's sense, is not love, but asceticism, if not asceticism in the sense of worship, at least

asceticism in the sense of a needless denial of man's animal nature. According to Tolstoy, Christ would have said: "Love your neighbour as yourself, but hate yourself."

In this Leo XIII is far superior to Tolstoy, for in his Encyclical de conditione opificum, which is of little importance in the discussion of the social question, Leo XIII says that man is also an animal, and that animal nature in its wholeness and perfection belongs to the =being= of man (paragraph 4). And this also corresponds entirely to the teaching of Christ. Christ has bestowed full righteousness on the person who eats and drinks. It was the Pharisees who called Christ a glutton and a winebibber, to which Christ replied: "Yes, the Son of Man eats and drinks." He even forgave the public sinner. "Many sins will be forgiven her, for she loved much." [P] John says of him: (11:5) "But Jesus loved Martha and her sister Mary and Lazarus." Christ said: "My teaching is in truth bread and wine, food and drink, and not in the mystical sense. He instituted the social supper as the only religious act and his demand is ultimately only for economic work, for when he calls out condemningly at the last judgement: I was hungry and you did not feed me, I was thirsty and you did not give me water, I was a stranger and you did not shelter me, I was naked and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not visit me, -- Christ says nothing other than that man, precisely as an animal, must make demands on man and that the latter, precisely as an animal and labourer, must pay debts, and it is these economic obligations that constitute the true cult of Christianity. With Christ, worship is merged into human service, human service into labour, and these requirements presuppose the continuation of the animal man with his animal needs until the end of time, and the ideal of Christianity is certainly not to be sought there, where Tolstoy believes it to be found.

When Christ says: 'Man and woman are two in one flesh', he gives sexual love a characteristic expression precisely because of the material version and confirms the justification of animality also in love, and since he says that those who love much will also be forgiven much, he further confirms that love of neighbour can and always will be manifested in this too.

When he says: 'It is not what goes in the mouth but what goes out the mouth that defiles a man, for what goes in the mouth goes into the stomach and takes its natural exit, but what goes out the mouth comes from the heart and defiles a man,' Christ is clearly saying that man is not defiled by mating, but by mating without love. Posdnyshev seeks dissonance in the wrong place; it is not defilement through sensual pleasure that is abominable, but the falsification of love in that one seeks only one's own satisfaction, not at the same time, and even more so, that of the other. I have not without reason, and without hesitation, had Julian West say that the Austrian woman of the future grants hospitality to the stranger, and no one will convince me that there is frivolity in this, or that I have left the ground of Christianity. Why should we be harder on the Austrian woman who is not bound than Christ is on the adulteress?

But a selfish love, a love that pays with money and lets itself be paid with money, a love that does not ask what harm it will do you, or whether it will break your heart, in a word, the selfishness in love, the abomination of which Posdnyshev has rightly recognised, such a love is contrary to Christianity, to love of neighbour.

However, an asceticism based on human pride, as Tolstoy imagined it, is nobler than an asceticism based on pietistic hatred of the flesh. But cleanliness is not purity and Christ taught this classically with what he says about washing hands. Mere mating without all love is perhaps a little more unaesthetic than greedy eating or intemperate drinking, but love, driven by the desire to please, is certainly not impure, and the instinct that teaches us to withdraw when we love and to hide our happiness from others does not at all testify to a bad conscience or to the fact that we are sacrificing ourselves to a merely pardonable weakness, but it points us towards being completely absorbed in the beloved. And I deliberately say in my sense: the beloved, for woe to the woman who ceases to be the beloved.

August Bebel, too, in his precious book, *Woman and Socialism*, misjudges Christianity when he teaches that Christianity preaches contempt for women, that it demands abstinence and the destruction of the flesh.[Christ, who recognised full equality for women, since, going beyond Moses, he also granted women the right to be faithful to their spouses, Christ, who was followed by so many women, at whose crucifixion only women persevered, who himself gave the adulteress no other rebuke than: "Go and sin no more," whose friendship with Mary and Martha was so humanly noble, is said to have preached contempt for women, and he, whose final teaching was: "Give men food and drink, clothe them, shelter them and visit them when they are sick, \_=there is no other service of God=\_ " -- he is said to have demanded the destruction of the flesh, as if its very preservation alone were not the ultimate goal of those works not of love but of Christian righteousness, of productive labour? At the same time, however, I do not want to refrain from noting that, in the sense of Christ, it is he who feeds, clothes and shelters us who moves his hands, not the parasite who merely opens his pouch. Christ is blasphemed by those who call him an ascetic. Once again, he teaches that the Son of Man eats and drinks. It is certain that he says: "Go ye all, leave goods and houses, wives and children, for the kingdom of heaven's sake," but he adds, "and ye shall have an hundred goods and houses, and an hundred children, and eternal life."

My novel shows that whoever forsakes everything in the sense that Christ understands it, namely for the justification of collectivism, becomes richer and not poorer, and a picture of this is the mutilated Jacob, who had more legs than any of his fellow countrymen. Christ demands that we seek the kingdom of heaven, but he teaches that the task of the kingdom of heaven is to distribute food, clothing and housing according to justice, and that it is therefore an earthly and highly practical institution. Christianity is bright joy in life, Christianity not only eats and drinks, it also loves, and the aesthetics of Christianity is not abstinence but godlike moderation and above all justice towards our fellow diners.

Paul, unfortunately the first dogmatist after John, also understands Christianity in my sense. He too is liberal against the animal nature of man and says in his first letter to the Corinthians 6:12: "Everything is lawful for me, but nothing shall have dominion over me," and I will let the Austrians of the future live according to these principles; this teaching of Paul is not pietistic, but philosophical.

How foolish it is to accuse the bright, joyful Christianity of asceticism, Paul shows to the Colossians 2, 20. 21. 22. 23. Paul mocks the Pharisaic teaching: "Do not touch, do not taste,



do not touch," and rebukes, "the self-chosen service and the humiliation and non-sparing of life, to which no honour is given for the satisfaction of the flesh."

Practising asceticism is not at all Christian and demanding asceticism is downright unchristian.

Bebel is misled by what Christ says about marriage, in that he affirms that it is not good to marry. But Christ spoke in riddles, and in this very place Christ declared that he could not say what he thought. "Few understand this word" and "whoever can grasp it, let him grasp it." This teaching of Christ is certainly the least literal, and Bebel takes it just as brutally literally as the Russian scopists. I believe that Christ did not in the least mean that =all= should be cut off, and that by cutting off he meant a =renunciation=, but not an =ascetic= renunciation. I believe that Christ meant that his "kingdom" was impossible if all wanted to found families; he presupposed that =many=, but by no means that =all= would renounce family happiness so that the "kingdom" could exist. The renunciation therefore concerns procreation, not love. I, too, believe that the social state is impossible unless a large proportion of the people renounce the family altogether. But only experience will show whether this assumption is correct when the new order has been introduced. All observations under present conditions are deceptive. But the restriction of procreation has been known at all times and among all peoples and even among those who still live in a natural state, as Azara reports of savages in South America. There are compelling circumstances that make all theory and a priori morality a disgrace, and therefore one should postpone a final judgement on many things that cannot be assessed without making a variety of observations.

Malthusianism certainly seems to be reprehensible, but I think it is absurd to propagate it to the limits of what nature allows. But we need experiences that cannot be gained under the present world order.

Bebel has also spoken about this in his book "Woman and Socialism," but I consider his doctrine to be erroneous. When he quotes Spencer, who said: "Always and everywhere perfection and reproductive capacity are opposed to each other," the question still remains whether Spencer should not have said: "Always and everywhere perfection and the will to reproduce are opposed to each other," for it is absurd to infer from the actual increase of a people their reproductive capacity. But what all sociologists seem hitherto to have overlooked is that it is not a question of how many people the earth can support and, since emigration cannot be made the rule, how many people the native earth can support. It is not the earth that feeds the people, but the productive population, and man does not live by bread alone. The question is therefore how many children an adult can raise and feed. With the help of exploited wage slaves, however, one can also raise and feed ten and twenty, but each for himself? If the number of children triples, can we educate them and build them houses? Since only one child is born out of every six that could be born[S], there must be another factor influencing the number of births than merely the limitations of the natural procreative capacity. There lies a still unsolved riddle and a side of the question that has not yet been considered.

This also refutes what Bebel states with reference to Liebig on pages 259 and 260. For by a rapid increase in births, only the breadwinners increase for the time being, but not the labouring hands, and without these the land rent does not increase, still less do the dwellings increase.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### FOOTNOTES:

[A]

[B]

[C] Matthew 13, 52.

[Isaiah 66, 1 Acts 7, 48. 49.

[E] Matthew 6, 6.

[F] Matthew 11:14 and 17:12.

[G] Matthew 25, 34-45.

[Isaiah 65, 17. 20. 21. 22. 23.

[Isaiah regarded the economic order still in force today as a pernicious one, based on the exploitation of people by the propertied classes, and he prophesied a different and better social order in the future. From this, namely from the recognition of the injustice of the domination of property, Christ's struggle against the rich is explained and the terms "this world" and the "other world" denote the contrast between the prevailing and the future world order.

[J] A review. -- Page 104.

[K] A look into the future. -- Page 27.

[John 7:2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Mark 3:21, Matthew 13:57, 58, Mark 6:4, Matthew 12:46, 47, 48, 49, 50, Mark 3:31, 32, 33, 34, 35, Lucas 8:19, 20, 21, especially Acts 1:14. -- It is curious that after the wedding in Canaan and a brief visit to Capharnaum, Christ was never again with Mary, who always went with the "unbelieving" brethren, and also appeared with the brethren after Christ's death, and the way in which Christ avoided all remembrance of Mary is described in Matthew 12:50. Marcus 3, 35. Lucas 8, 21. on the one hand, and Lucas 11, 28. on the other, are clothed in a peculiarly indirect form, which agrees with the saying that a prophet is nowhere less valid than in his own house and among his relatives. -- Lucas 11:28 admits of no other interpretation than that Mary cannot be called blessed because she does not hear the word of God and does not observe it. Then it agrees exactly with those other words "who is my mother and brothers, not Mary is my mother and not her companions are my brothers, but those who do the will of God." See also Matthew 27, 55. 56. Marcus 15, 40.

41. Lucas 23, 49. -- On the other hand, one must obviously assume that John 19, 25. 26. 27. is not historically correct, but only to be taken figuratively, which is already evident from the fact that John had escaped according to the testimony of the Synoptics. Matthew 28:10; Mark 16:9; Lucas 23:55, 56 and 24:1, 2, 9, 10; John 20:2, 4 and 8 clearly show the motive which explains the divergent reports of this evangelist. See also John 13, 23. then 18, 15. 16. 19, 27. al. 2, 21, 20. 23.

[M] As Morgan's "The Primitive Society" shows, the mother was originally the head of the family and female descent was decisive for kinship, and it was only after the introduction of special property that descent from the father's side became decisive. The return to joint ownership must naturally make the mother's influence the decisive one in the family and in education.

[N] Michaelis, A look into the future, page 83.

[O] The Civilliste in Austria had been approved by the people at one per cent of the total production or, what was the same, of the labour input, and since 55% of the population were productive, the people thus provided 22 million workers, the Civilliste was equal to 220000 working years, therefore the construction in question, the production of which was spread over three years, formed only a small part of the public buildings that the Civilliste took upon itself. It was intended for the court and nobility and served the interests of the people.

[Lucas 7, 47.

[Q] Page 41 of the 10th edition.

[R] Matthew 6, 33.

[According to the census of the kingdoms and provinces of Austria represented in the Imperial Council, the number of women aged 15 to 45 on 31 December 1880 was 512,3884 and the number of births in 1882 was 87,3522. But if even this birth rate of only four to one hundred of the total population (about 22 million) were to remain constant and if mortality were to fall to 1.5 %, which must be expected if all members of the population are rationally nourished and cared for, i.e. if the annual increase were to rise to 2.5 %, the population would double in about 30 years and quadruple in 60 years. Who will build the necessary homes? If labour can keep pace with this increase, it will be a blessing. The closer we can live, the happier communism will be.

Notes of the editor:

Bold text marked by = ... = Blocked text marked by \_= ... =\_ Text in Antiqua letters marked by \_\_ ... \_\_

Table of contents inserted.

The spelling and punctuation of the original have not been changed.

End of Project Gutenberg's Austria in 2020, by Josef von Neupauer