

## APPENDIX

Synopsis of Main Plays <sup>1</sup>

Androcles and the Lion: Travelling in a lion-infested jungle, Androcles, a meek Christian who is fond of animals, meets a lion which has a thorn in its paw. Androcles extracts it and the lion embraces him as a sign of friendship. Later Androcles is captured by the Roman with many other Christians to be sacrificed to the lions in the arena. When it is Androcles' turn to be eaten, he finds that the lion which is confronting him is the same lion he has helped. Recognizing him as its old friend, the lion caresses him instead of eating him. Androcles protects the Roman Emperor from the lion and is finally released.

Apple Cart, The: King Magnus of England is confronted with a Cabinet ultimatum. If he signs this ultimatum he must stop speaking in public, or stop presenting his ideas to the Press or stop using his royal veto on an Act of Parliament. The King's solution of the trouble is that he will abdicate in favour of his son and, as a private person, seek election to the House of Commons as the representative for Windsor. In view of his popularity, he will have a very good chance of being elected Prime Minister. Faced with this possibility, the Cabinet, with Proteus

1. The synopses of Candida and Man and Superman have not been included here as they have already been much referred to in the thesis itself.

as Prime Minister, tears up the ultimatum, giving the King the victory.

Arms and the Man: Captain Bluntschli, a fugitive member of the Servian Army, is fleeing from the victorious Bulgarians, and asks for shelter in Raina Petkoffs's Chamber. Bluntschli touches the heart of the romantic Raina; she conceals him when the room is searched by Major Piechanoff, and assists in his escape. Before leaving Raina, Bluntschli shatters her romantic ideals of war and her belief in "heroism" of Sergius Saranoff, her fiancé.

After the war, Bluntschli is entertained in the house of Major Petkoff, Raina's father. The whole story of his escape comes to light and Sergius challenges him to a duel, which he of course evades. When Sergius declares that he will marry Raina's maid, Louka, who is determined to have him, Bluntschli offers his hand to Raina, and all ends happily.

Back to Methuselah: In the Garden of Eden, the Serpent whispers to Eve the secret of birth. Adam and Eve become the parents of man. They invent death as they do not wish to live for ever.

Centuries after, during the First World War, the Brothers Barnabas expound a theory that by biological process and man's strong will, the present term of human life can be extended to three hundred years, which will enable human beings to reach full intellectual maturity. However, the brothers have no specific recipe for longevity.

In the year A.D. 2170, two long-livers are revealed, the

Archbishop and the Domestic Minister, Mrs. Latestring. The government authority discuss whether they should have these two killed, but resolved that this would be useless because they may be other long-livers in the world even among themselves. So the two long-livers marry in order to produce children who will be long-livers like themselves.

By A.D. 3000 there is already a race of intelligent and powerful long-livers in what used to be Ireland. Any short-livers who come to the land soon die of discouragement, as is shown to be the case of an elderly short-liver who wants to stay there.

And by A.D. 31,920, men are hatched fully-grown from eggs. They have only to look forward to four years of childhood, after which they settle down to the serious things of life, and live on until some fatal accident ends their lives. Their only desire is to be a vortex of pure mind. A day will come when there will be no people, only thought, and that will be eternal.

The play ends with the appearance of the ghost of Lilith, the first mother of Creation. She resolves to have patience with mankind until it becomes one with her and supersedes her.

Euoyant Sillions: In a tropical forest near Panama, Clementina, the young daughter of an English billionaire, Mr. Euoyant, is living alone in a wooden house. She has banished herself there because she is afraid of the Life Force which is leading her to

marry. A young English gentleman, Junius, arrives at her house and they immediately fall in love, though both try very hard to get out of it. Clementina rushes to her home in England, hoping never to meet Junius again; but Junius searches for her and announces to her family that he wants to marry her for her money while at the same time he is magnetised by her personality. Mr. Buoyant likes Junius's frankness and advises his daughter to marry him. Reluctantly Clementina sends Junius out to buy a marriage licence and a wedding-ring. When he comes back with the marriage licence and a borrowed wedding-ring, she decides to marry him.

Caesar and Cleopatra: Seeking Pompey in Egypt, Caesar finds Cleopatra, the child Queen who rules Egypt jointly with her little brother, Ptolemy. Cleopatra and Ptolemy, encouraged by their guardian, are jealous of one another and are not on good terms. So when Caesar teaches Cleopatra to play the Queen, Ptolemy's guardian, Pothinus, plots against him. After some fighting Caesar conquers Ptolemy who is drowned during the battle. Before leaving Egypt for Rome, Caesar promises Cleopatra that he will send her Mark Antony, the handsome young man who once fought for her father, and whom Cleopatra admires.

Captain Brassbound's Conversion: Sir William and Lady Cicely Waynflete, his sister-in-law, land in Morocco. They engage Captain Brassbound as escort on an excursion into the mountains. During the excursion, Brassbound reveals to Sir Howard that he is the son of Miles Hallam, Howard's brother, whose estate Howard has taken by a bit of sharp practice after Miles' death.

As a consequence of Miles' action, Brassbound's mother took to drink and died insane. Brassbound, therefore, has vowed vengeance on his uncle whom he regards as the murderer of his mother. Lady Cicely lectures him gently on the folly of his bad intentions, offering to take him back to England to take his place as Sir Howard's nephew. Finally he yields to her persuasive reasons and agrees to forego his revenge but refuses to return to England. Then he asks her to marry him. Being refused he leaves her to go to sea, thanking her for "a man's power and purpose restored and righted."

Devil's Disciple, The: During the American War of Independence, Dick Dudgeon, a daring and apparently worthless young man, is mistaken for the Minister, Anthony Anderson, captured by the British and about to be hanged by them. Anderson's wife, Judith, begs him to let her tell the authorities that they have arrested the wrong man, and confesses to Dick that she loves him for his nobility in risking his life for her sake. Dick replied disconcertingly that he cares nothing for her and very little for her husband: what he has done is for his own sake. To save his life at the expense of another man's would be the action of a coward. Dick also talks enough treason to make it certain that he will be hanged. The noose is already round his neck when Anderson appears under safe-conduct as the officer delegated to discuss the British surrender: the latter have not received the expected support from London and are greatly outnumbered by the rebels. So Dick is set

free. A gentleman to the last, Dick assures Judith that he will never let slip the secret of her avowal.

Doctor's Dilemma, The: Sir Colenso Ridgeon, a distinguished doctor, has found a new cure for tuberculosis. But he can take only a limited number of patients and he has to choose between his honest doctor-friend and an amoral painter-genius with whose charming wife he has fallen in love. He decides to cure his friend, Blenkinsop, and to leave the painter, Dubedat, in the hands of Sir Bloomfield Bonington who knows very little about the new cure. Sir Bonington inoculates Dubedat "on the negative phase" and, therefore, hastens Dubedat into his grave. When, much later, Ridgeon tells Jennifer, Dubedat's widow, that in one way he killed her husband by allowing Bonington to treat him and that his action may have been influenced by the fact that he wanted to marry her, she reveals to him that, in accordance with Dubedat's last wish, she has married again. "Then," comments Ridgeon, "I have committed a purely disinterested murder."

Fascinating Foundling, The: Horace Brabazon, a foundling; requests the Lord Chancellor to provide him with a wife. Hardly has he gone when Anastasia Vulliamy, also a foundling, comes to ask the Chancellor for a husband. A determined young woman, she wants someone over whom she will have the whip hand. Coming back to fetch the walking-stick that he had forgotten, Horace finds Anastasia still there. She immediately decides that this is the husband she wants, and throws herself into his arms.

Geneva: An international trial is being held in the Palace at the Hague. Among the people present are the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Midlander, and the dictators: Sombardone (Mussolini), Battler (Hitler) and General Flanco (Franco). Battler is accused of attempting to exterminate the Jewish race: he replies that every country keeps out undesirables and that he will not condescend to defend himself, being the Messiah of a superior race. They all state, in various ways, their conviction that their own race is the one best qualified to govern the world. The Judge concludes that "Man is a failure as a political animal." At this juncture a telephone call brings news that the orbit of the earth has jumped to its next quantum, and that humanity is doomed to be frozen to death. The news breaks up the trial.

Great Catherine: A handsome English Captain, Edstaston, requests an audience with Queen Catherine. Attracted by his youth and good looks, Catherine gives him her hand to kiss and playfully slaps his cheek; the courtiers, sure that he will be the new favourite, congratulate him. The latter declares hastily that he is already engaged to be married to someone else, and hastens away when the Empress commands his presence for a second time. But he is forcibly carried back to her, and trussed to a pole to be tortured by Catherine, who then tickles him several times until he screams aloud. Claire, his fiancée, rushes to his help, but is so furiously jealous to find that he has only been tickled that she declares she will leave him to Catherine. The Empress, however, pacifies

her and looses Edstaston's bonds. Before leaving, Catherine wishes the English couple happiness. Edstaston boldly advises Catherine to marry some good man who will be a support to her in her old age. "If I could only have had him for my .....museum," Catherine exclaims.

Heartbreak House: Mr. and Mrs. Hushabye invite some guests to stay at their villa in Sussex. Among these are a young girl, Ellie, and her middle-aged fiancé, Mangan, to whom her father is under an obligation. Ellie confides to Mrs. Hushabye that she is really in love with a handsome stranger, Marcus Darnley, who has told her many romantic tales of his origins. Just as she finishes her story, the man himself appears, and Ellie introduces him to Mrs. Hushabye. "What a lark!" says Mrs. Hushabye: he is her husband, Hector Hushabye. She has grown used to Hector's lies, but Ellie's disillusionment is terrible. Meanwhile Mangan confesses to Ellie that he is in love with Mrs. Hushabye. Battered hard and cynical by her disillusionment, Ellie retorts calmly that she is also in love with Mr. Hushabye. As Mr. and Mrs. Hushabye are never tired of one another, Ellie is content to be the "spiritual wife" of the old Captain Shotover, Mrs. Hushabye's father, who is especially kind to her. In the end, Mangan gets killed by a bomb during an air-raid.

In Good King Charles's Golden Days: King Charles II, his brother James, Duke of York, George Fox, the Quaker, and the King's mistresses, namely Nell Gwynn, the Duchess of Cleveland and the Duchess of Portsmouth, are visiting the house of Sir Isaac Newton. They



discuss many topics: religion, monarchy, science, biblical astronomy, etc., during which the King is shown to be very clever, always saying the right thing at the right time. With his queen, Catherine of Braganza, the King outlines his views on the governing of England: the English do not like being governed; he himself is popular because he is lazy, "I enjoy myself," he says, "and let the people see me doing it, and leave things as they are."

John Bull's Other Island: An Englishman Tom Broadbent and his Irish friend, Larry Doyle, go to Ireland together. Broadbent wants to stand for Parliament and looks forward to the time when Ireland will be freed from English rule. At Rosscullen, Doyle's birthplace, Broadbent immediately falls in love with Nora Reilly, Doyle's "old flame". Nora, however, is still waiting for Doyle; but Doyle clearly shows her his indifference. So when Broadbent proposes to her, Nora accepts him. Broadbent's money and the popularity he cultivates in Rosscullen also give him a good chance in the forthcoming election.

Major Barbara: Mr. Andrew Undershaft, a fabulously wealthy arms manufacturer, is re-united with his family after long years of separation. He takes an immediate liking to his daughter Barbara who is a Major in the Salvation Army and who is engaged to Adolphus Cusins, a foundling. The Army is desperately hard up; but Barbara positively refuses her father's offer of "blood-money". But the Commissioner, Mrs. Baines, gleefully welcomes the allowance from

Sir Horace Rodger, the whisky distiller. This means that the whole sum is derived from the profits on drunkenness. Barbara refuses to countenance it and she resigns, losing her faith. Seeing the ideal conditions of her father's factory town, however, she recovers her faith. She feels that her talent for conversion would be better employed there, where everyone is well-fed and happy, than in the East End, the district in which she has worked till now, where she has had to bribe her converts with bread. She decided to live in the village with Cousins, whom her father chooses as his successor, and convert the workmen.

Man of Destiny, The: Napoleon, not yet famous, is chatting to the innkeeper, Giuseppe Grandi, while he waits for the arrival of dispatches. The Lieutenant who is bringing the dispatches arrives without them, declaring that he has been tricked by a youth into giving them up. The Lieutenant hears a voice outside which he identifies as that of the thief, but the person who enters is a woman. Accused by the Lieutenant of being an Austrian spy in disguise, she persuades him to accept her explanation that the culprit must have been her brother. Napoleon, however, sees through her ruse and demands the dispatches from her. All her wiles, her beauty and charm do not prevent Napoleon from forcing her to give up the papers. She then hints that among them is a letter that reveals an intrigue between Josephine, Napoleon's wife and the Director Barras. While Napoleon pretends that he still wants the papers and tells the Lieutenant to find them

under pain of being publicly disgraced, the lady slips away. She reappears in male attire as the "brother" who originally stole the documents and produces them, by a conjuring trick, from Napoleon's coat.

The Millionairess: Eppy, a millionairess, separates from her husband because he cannot bear her violent tempers and domination. Then she meets an Egyptian doctor who treats her severely enough to rouse her interest in him. Eppy suggests adopting him as her family doctor and marrying him. But the Egyptian makes the condition that she must keep herself for six months with an initial capital of 35 s. Eppy accepts the wager, countering with her father's stipulation that he, also, shall turn £ 150 into £ 50000 in six months. Eppy passes the doctor's test by running an inn. The doctor himself has given away Eppy's money to the impoverished widow of an inventor. But Eppy considers this as an investment in the dead inventor's invention, through which millions have already been made, and the doctor is therefore qualified to marry her.

Misalliance: Joey Percival makes a forced landing in his aeroplane in the garden of Mr. Tarleton's house. He owes his life to the agility and quick action of his passenger who turns out to be a woman member of a famous Polish family of acrobats, Lina Szczepanowska. Joey becomes quickly attracted to Mr. Tarleton's daughter, Hypatia, who is engaged to a childish man, Bentley Summerhays. As Joey cannot afford to marry her, Hypatia asks her father to

buy him for her. Meanwhile Lina is proposed to by every man in the house except Joey. She insists on getting the aeroplane repaired and taking off again, saying that she cannot bear the stuffy house where people think of nothing but love-making.

Mrs. Warren's Profession: An intelligent and determined young girl Vivie Warren, is on holiday at her mother's country cottage. Mrs. Warren turns up, accompanied by a gentlemanly blackguard, Sir George Crofts, who is immediately attracted to Vivie. She, however, is flirting with Frank Gardner, son of the local Rector, the Reverend Samuel Gardner. Mrs. Warren recognizes the latter as an old flame.

Left alone with her mother, Vivie asks who her father was, and is told Mrs. Warren's life-history: she went into partnership with her sister Liz, who owned a house of ill-fame in Brussels. Mrs. Warren justifies herself by saying that she treats her girls well, even better than they would be treated in a factory. Vivie is left under the impression that all this lies in the past, so she takes the revelation quite calmly. But the next day Sir George Crofts proposes to her, telling her that he has put £ 40,000 into her mother's business. Vivie then realizes that it is still continuing, and that she owes her education to this tainted money. As Mrs. Warren refuses to give her profession up, Vivie parts from her forever and earns her own living.

Sir George Croft also tells Vivie and Frank that they are brother and sister, and that Samuel Gardner is Vivie's father

as well as Frank's. Samuel Gardner stoutly denies this assertion, Vivie is determined not to marry Frank. Frank does not agree at first; but when Vivie tells him the source of her mother's money and that she has parted with her mother, Frank withdraws his suit, because it is merely Mrs. Warren's allowance that interests him. -

Music - Cure, The: Lord Reginald Fitzambey, a young under-secretary in the War Office, is suffering from a nervous breakdown. His mother has engaged Strega, a famous female pianist, to play to him for two hours. Successively she soothes him with some quiet preludes and then makes him feel heroic with Chopin's Polonaise. Finally she persuades him to play a duet with her, after which he confesses that he is a "clinger" who wants a strong-minded woman to look after him. Strega says that her dream is to have a timid little husband, to be cherished and beaten by her. The curtain falls as they strike up a wedding march together.

On the Rocks: Crowds of unemployed are gathered in the streets. Sir Arthur Chavender, the Prime Minister, is confronted with a deputation which comes to ask what he intends to do for the unemployed; he also has family troubles, and is on the point of a nervous breakdown. On a lady doctor's advice, Chavender goes for a rest to her sanatorium, carrying with him the works of Karl Marx and other Communists. He comes back a changed man, advocating Socialism, and when his projected programme is

resisted, Chavender declares that he will not stand in the next election because he is through with Parliament. In the end, two of the deputation marry Chavender's son and daughter.

Philanderer, The: Julia Craven is in love with Leonard Charteris, a philanderer. Claiming to be an Ibsenite, Julia has refused to marry Charteris so that she can separate from him if she finds "the companionship incompatible with her full development as a human being." Charteris therefore claims the same right, leaves her and flirts with an attractive widow Grace Tranfield. Charteris proposes to Grace but he is interrupted by Julia who is in a rage so violent that he has forcibly to prevent her from attacking Grace. Julia refuses to give Charteris up; Grace refuses to marry him, saying that she loves him too much and does not wish to put herself in his power. Charteris tries to get rid of Julia by helping Dr. Paramore to win her. Finally Julia accepts Dr. Paramore's proposal though it is evident that she is still hankering after her former partner. Charteris, however, makes a great parade of his distress at resigning Julia to another man; and Grace sums up the situation by saying: "Never make a hero of a philanderer."

Pygmalion: Colonel Pickering challenges Higgins, a professor of phonetics, to pass off Eliza, a Cockney flower-girl, as a lady at the Ambassador's garden party; offering to pay the expenses of the experiment if he succeeds. With Eliza's ardent cooperation,

Higgins does succeed: Eliza makes a great impression at the party. But Higgins and Pickering upset Eliza by taking her success for granted, and consider the whole experiment a bore. Eliza rounds on Higgins, telling him that he has taken her out of her own class and left her fit for nothing without considering the consequences. She leaves his house to live with his mother for a while, declaring that she will marry Freddy, an impoverished young man who adores her, as soon as she is able to support him.

Saint Joan: Joan of Arc or "The Maid", inspired by the saints, leads the French army against the English. She wins many battles and crowns King Charles in the Cathedral of Rheims. In a battle, however, she is captured by the English and is sent for trial. She is condemned by the Church as a heretic who listens to the voices of the devil. Realizing that she will be burnt, Joan breaks down and agrees to sign a recantation, disowning the divine origin of her "voices". Finding that her sentence will be life imprisonment, she tears up the paper and chooses death.

Simpleton of the Unexpected Isles, The: On an island in the Pacific, three couples, occidental and oriental, experiment in group marriage. Their offspring are "beautiful, wonderful, but sterile", superchildren who lack conscience entirely. The parents further their experiments by marrying the two girls, Maya and Vashti, to Iddy, a young clergyman with an over-active conscience who has been kidnapped and put ashore on the island

by some pirates. After a time, the girls get bored with Iddy and beseech their parents to get rid of him, when an Angel descends and declares the Day of Judgment, explaining that only those who are worth their salt will remain on earth; the others will simply disappear. The superchildren soon vanish, leaving the parents to discuss their failure to blend the East and the West.

Too True to be Good: Miss Mopply, a young lady who has been confined to bed as a result of her mother's foolish care, realizes at least that she is as healthy and energetic as any strong man. She therefore steals her own pearl necklace and leaves her house with two strangers to see the world and enjoy life.

At a mountainous country resort, Mopply finds that a soldier, Private Meek, is the most responsible man of action while Colonel Tallboys, who is supposed to command the Army, does nothing but sit painting all day. Mopply's mother now comes to realize that she has killed two of her children and nearly turned the third, Mopply, into an invalid by pampering and overfeeding them. She refuses to recognize the transformed Mopply as her daughter, but takes a fancy to her and offers her a post as a companion.

Village Wooing: Z, a village girl, meets A, an author, on board a pleasure liner. Despite A's blunt discouragement, Z tells him her life-story: she is using the money won in a newspaper competition to see the world on a luxury cruise, at the end of which



she will go back to her job in a village shop. Later A comes to the shop as a customer. He does not recognize Z, but allows himself, however, to be persuaded to buy the shop, to come to work in it himself, and to retain her as his assistant. Z soon proposes to A and he yields to her after some resistance.

Widowers' Houses: Travelling in Germany, Dr. Harry Trench, the younger son of an aristocratic family, meets Blanche Sartorius, the daughter of a self-made millionaire. Trench and Blanche become engaged. Back in London from their holiday, Trench learns that Mr. Sartorius is a slum-landlord. Being a young man of ideals, Trench refuses to marry into a family with such tainted money. But later he learns that his own income is also derived from mortgages on this same slum property. That fetches him. He acquiesces to "the inevitable" and returns to Blanche.

You Never Can Tell: Valentine, a young dentist and a philanderer falls in love with Gloria Clandon, his patient's sister. He deliberately sets out to captivate her and makes love to her in spite of her mother's teachings against sentimentality. Realizing that she is not the first woman Valentine has kissed, Gloria vows that she has finished with him. Valentine declares to Gloria's mother that he does mean to marry Gloria. And the latter finds that her own resentment and her mother's precepts are unavailing against her love for Valentine, so she accepts his hand.

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The Philanderer	1893-1894	1898	1898	Grant Richards
Mrs. Warren's Profession	1893-1894	1902	1898	Grant Richards
Arms and the Man	1894	1894	1898	Grant Richards
Candida	1894-1895	1897	1898	Grant Richards
The Man of Destiny	1895	1897	1898	Grant Richards
You Never Can Tell	1895-1896	1899	1898	Grant Richards
The Devil's Disciple	1896-1897	1897	1901	Grant Richards
Caesar and Cleopatra.	1898-1899	1906	1901	Grant Richards
Captain Brassbound's Conversion	1899	1900	1901	Grant Richards
The Admirable Bashville	1901	1903	1909	Constable
Man and Superman	1901-1903	1905	1903	Constable
Passion, Poison, and Petrification	1905	1905	1905	Trehern
John Bull's Other Island	1904	1904	1909	Constable
How He Lied to Her Husband	1904	1904	1909	Constable
Major Barbara	1905	1908	1909	Constable
Interlude at the Playhouse	1907	1907	1907	<u>Daily Mail</u>

	<u>Date of Writing</u>	<u>First Performance</u>	<u>First Publication</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
The Doctor's Dilemma	1906	1906	1911	Constable
Getting Married	1908	1908	1911	Constable
The Shewing-up of Blanco Posnet	1909	1909	1911	Constable
Press Cuttings	1909	1909	1909	Constable
The Fascinating Foundling	1909	1909	—	—
The Glimpse of Reality	1909	1927	—	—
Misalliance	1909-1910	1910	1914	Constable
The Dark Lady of the Sonnets	1910	1910	1914	Constable
Fanny's First Play	1911	1912	1914	Constable
Pygmalion	1912-1913	1914	1914; 1916	Nash's Magazine Constable
Androcles and the Lion	1912	1913	1916	Constable
Overruled	1912	1912	1916	Constable
Great Catherine	1913	1913	1919	Constable
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The Inca of Perusalem	1916	1916	1919	Constable
Augustus Does His Bit	1916	1917	1919	Constable
Annajanska, the Bolshevik Empress	1917	1918	1919	Constable
Heartbreak House	1913-1919	1920	1919	Constable

<u>Date of Writing</u>	<u>First Performance</u>	<u>First Publication</u>	<u>Publisher</u>
Back to Methuselah 1918-1920	1922	1921	Constable
Jitta's Atonement 1922	1923	1926	Constable
Saint Joan 1923	1923	1924	Constable
The Apple Cart 1929	1929	1930	Constable
Too True to be Good 1931	1932	1934	Constable
Village Wooing 1933	1934	1934	Constable
On the Rocks 1933	1933	1934	Constable
The Simpleton of the Unexpected Isles 1934-1935	1935	1936	Constable
The Six of Calais 1934	1934	1936	Constable
The Millionairess 1935	1936	1936	Constable
Cymbeline Refinished 1937	1937	1946	Constable
Geneva 1938	1938	1939; 1946	Constable
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