



*Charles Brasch in the Botanic Gardens, Oxford, a Jewish burial ground until the expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290. Photograph taken in May 1930, from the Brasch family album.*

money, and the idealistic art-loving Schlegels who spend it in the cause of cultivated enlightenment, the de Beers were almost pure Schlegel—a compact family trio, a little island of Thomas Mann culture planted in the West End of London, with sturdy bodies trained on Queenstown hills and minds civilised by European travel and the London Library, quietly busy through world war and social revolution in preserving some older cultural values and making their own addition to them. Esmond de Beer, as the superlative editor of Evelyn and Locke, as an Honorary Fellow of New College and as one of that very limited list of benefactors whose names are inscribed in marble above the staircase in the Bodleian Library that leads to Duke Humphrey, is (like John Beaglehole) one of the really outstanding scholars New Zealand has helped to produce; and the