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(1858.) Wt. 5333—66.4000.12/14. A. T. & Co., Ltd.
(6559.) Wt. 3103—96.20,000.8/15.

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S.
2531
D.M.P.

DUBLIN METROPOLITAN POLICE:

Detective Department,

Dublin, 26th. February, 1916

Subject,

MOVEMENTS OF DUBLIN EXTREMISTS.

SECRET.

I beg to report that on the 25th. Inst.,
the undermentioned extremists were observed
moving about and associating with each other
as follows:-

Thomas J. Clarke, John McDermott, and D.

Lynch in 12, D'Olier Street for over an hour
from 12 noon. Clarke afterwards went to Kings-
bridge, where he left by 3 p. m. train en route
to Limerick. R. I. C. informed.

Those observed in 75, Parnell St. during
the day included C. Colbert, John McGarry, E.
Daly, C. Collins, and D. Lynch.

Bulmer Hobson, M. O'Hanrahan, C. Colbert,
and Mrs Sheehy-Skeffington in 2, Dawson St.
between 1 & 2 p. m.

Alexander McCabe, who was acquitted at
the

The Chief Commissioner.

*The Under Secretary,
Submitted.
W. B. Dunne*

Comm 26/2

*Under Secretary
E. J.
26.2.16.*

*Ch. Sec.
To see papers.
Th. J.*

*28/2
Lam. C. Secy.
A. P. M.
C. C. 28/2*

the recent Commission on indictment for
having explosives in his possession, left
Broadstone by 5 p. m. train, en route to
Sligo. He was seen away by E. Daly.

R. I. C. informed.

John McGarry, Joseph McGuinness, J.

T. Kelly, T.C., and Patrick Dowling in
25, Rutland Square between 8 & 9 p. m.

M. O'Hanrahan, John E. Lyons, Thomas
Hunter, John O'Hanrahan, F. J. McCabe and
James Coleman in 2, Dawson Street between
8 & 9 p. m.

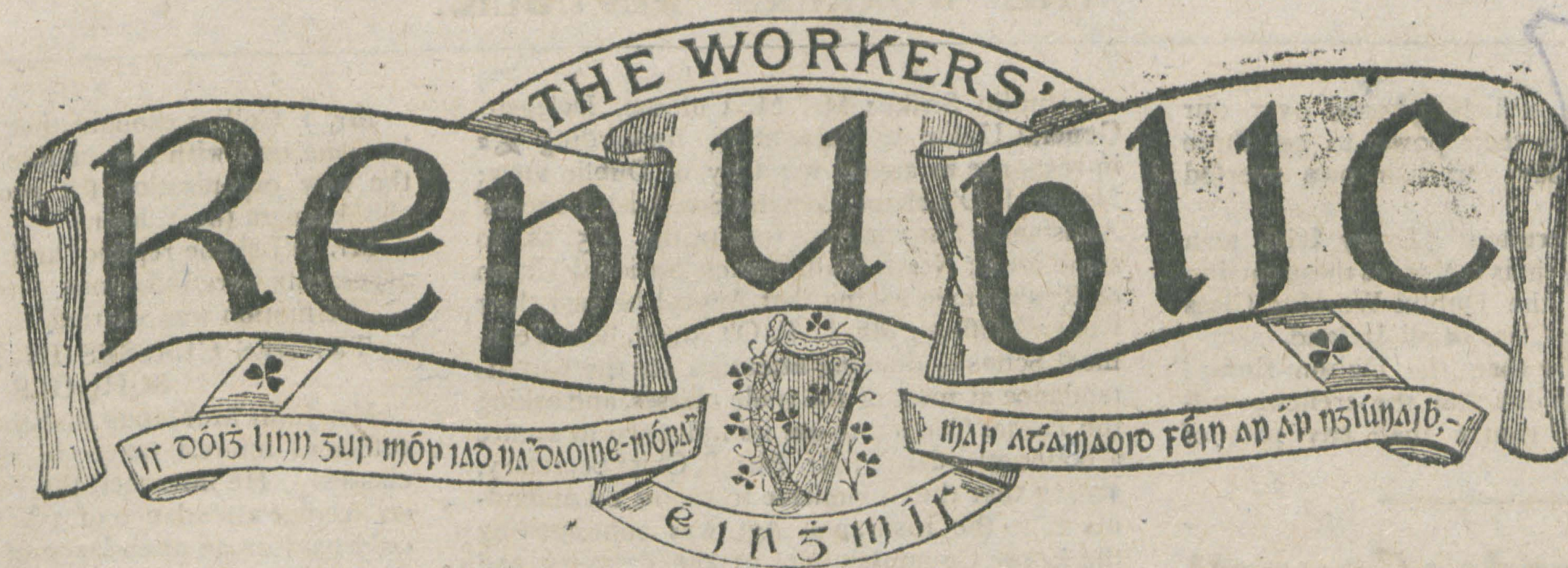
John R. Reynolds and James Stritch to-
gether in 41, Rutland Square for an hour
from 9 p. m.

Attached are copies of this week's is-
sue of The Workers Republic and The Spark,
both of which contain notes of an anti-Brit-
ish character.

Owen'Brien
Superintendent.

FOR LATE NOTES SEE PAGE TWO.

PRICE ONE PENNY.



"The great only appear great because we are on our knees: let us rise."

Vol. I., No. 40.]

DUBLIN, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1916.

[Weekly

Notes on the Front

THE SLUMS AND THE TRENCHES.

A speaker at a recent recruiting meeting in Dublin declared that the Dublin slums were more unhealthy than the trenches in Flanders, and the same "bright saying" has been repeated in a circular issued by the recruiting authorities.

It is the English idea of wit. Consider it, my friends, consider it well. The trenches in Flanders have been the graves of scores of thousands of young Irishmen, scores of thousands of the physically strongest of the Irish race have met their death there in desperate battle with a brave enemy who bore them no malice and only wished well for their country.

A very large proportion of these young Irishmen were born and reared in the slums and tenement houses of Dublin. These same slums are notorious the world over for their disease-breeding, unhealthy character. All the world over it is known that the poor of Dublin are housed under conditions worse than those of any civilised people on God's earth.

From out of those slums these poor misguided brothers of ours have been tricked and deluded into giving battle for England—into waging war upon the German nation which does not permit anywhere within its boundaries such slums and fever dens as the majority of Dublin's poor must live in.

When at last the common-sense of the people of Dublin re-asserts itself, and men and women begin to protest against this suicidal destruction of the Irish race in a war that is not of their making, and for an Empire they abhor, the cheap wits of the recruiters sneeringly tell them that there is more danger of death in a Dublin slum than in a trench in the line of battle.

But you can die honourably in a Dublin slum. If you die of fever, or even of want, because you preferred to face fever and want rather than sell your soul to the enemies of your class or your country, such death is an honourable death, a thousand times more honourable than if you won a V.C. committing murder at the bidding of your country's enemies.

These are war times. In times of war the value of the individual human life is but little, but the estimate set upon honour is even higher than in times of peace. True, the conception of honour is often all wrong, but the community and the individual in time of war does esteem highly the individual who sets his own conception of honour higher than his regard for his own life.

The boy or man who has a soul strong enough to resist all blandishments to betray the cause of freedom as he sees it, who is strong enough in his own mind and purpose to face the prospect of long unemployment and its con-

sequent misery and want, who can see day by day his strength wasting and his body shrinking for want of nourishment, who knows that that nourishment will be his for a time if he is prepared to sell himself into the service of the age-long enemy, and who in face of all this is yet man enough to hold out to the last, should he die in his Dublin slum is nevertheless a hero and a martyr fit to be ranked with and honoured alongside of the greatest heroes and noblest martyrs this island has produced.

"The trenches healthier than the slums of Dublin." Ay, my masters, but death in a slum may be the noblest of all deaths if it is the death of a man who preferred to die rather than dirty his soul by accepting the gold of England, and death in the trenches fighting for the Empire is that kind of death spoken of by the poet who lashes with his scorn the recreant who

"doubly dying shall go down
To the vile dust from which he sprung,
Unwept, unhonoured, and unsung."

In the times of the wars at the end of the eighteenth century when all that was best in Ireland eagerly, passionately awaited the coming of the French the armies of England were at least two-thirds composed of Irishmen. Are these poor deluded fools remembered or honoured to-day? Where in all Ireland could a popular demonstration be organised in their honour. Not in any one part of Ireland would any body of Irishmen or women spontaneously turn out to do tribute to their memory. Nor yet could all the gold of the British Empire induce any popular body or trade union in Nationalist Ireland to walk in a procession to pay the tribute of respect to their record.

But in the same period there were men and women in Ireland who with all the wealth, power and influence of the country against them took their stand on the side of England's enemies, and held by that faith to the last despite poverty, hunger and want, despite imprisonment, torture and exile, despite death by the bullet, the bayonet and the hangman. These men and women held to the creed that England has no right in Ireland, never had any right in Ireland, never can have any right in Ireland, and so holding they believed that whilst England so holds Ireland—whilst England is here at all—every enemy whose blows hurt England is a natural ally to Ireland, every blow which weakens England loosens a link of the chain that binds Ireland in slavery.

These men and women, who were they? In what estimation are they held in Ireland to-day? They are the heroes and the heroines of the popular mind—the demi-gods of modern Irish history. Scarcely more than a century is gone and already they are enshrined in the memories of the Irish race, whilst all who fought for England are forgotten, or repudiated when remembered.

Did you ever hear an Irish man or woman say, "My grandfather fought for England in '98?" and expect to get popular approval or respect because of that fact. You did not. But if ever you met a man or woman who could say that their grandfather, or great grandfather, fought against England in '98, were you not proud to meet them, and did not you and all your friends look upon them with respect because of what their ancestor had done against England? You did. And you were quite right, too.

But some people in Ireland do honour the men who fought for England in '98, or pretend to honour them. Who are these people? They are the people whose ancestors were the greatest enemies of the Irish race, the evictors, the floggers, the pitchcappers, the exterminators of the Irish people. The descendants of the landlords who

"enforced their rights with a rod of iron and renounced their duties with a front of brass."

And some people there are who pretend to honour the men who fight for England in our day. Who are they who in press and on platform pour their praises upon the heroism of our poor brothers whom they have driven or coaxed to the front?

Who are they? Why, they are the men who locked us out in 1913, the men who solemnly swore that they would starve three-fourths of the workers of Dublin in order to compel them to give up their civil rights—the right to organise. The recruiters in Dublin and in Ireland generally are the men who pledged themselves together in an unholy alliance to smash trade unionism, by bringing hunger, destitution, and misery in fiercest guise into the homes of Dublin's poor.

On every recruiting platform in Dublin you will see the faces of the men who in 1913-14 met together day by day to tell of their plans to murder our women and children by starvation, and are now appealing to the men of those women and children to fight in order to save the precious skins of the gangs that conspired to starve and outrage them.

Who are the recruiters in Dublin? Who is it that sits on every recruiting committee, that spouts for recruits from every recruiting platform?

Who are they? They are the men who set the police upon the unarmed people in O'Connell St., who filled the jails with our young working class girls, who batoned and imprisoned hundreds of Dublin workers, who wrecked and pillaged the poor rooms of the poorest of our class, who plied policemen with drink, suborned and hired perjurers to give false evidence, murdered Byrne and Nolan and Alice Brady, and in the midst of a Dublin reeking with horror and reeling with

suffering and pain publicly gloated over our misery and exulted in their power to get three square meals per day for their own overfed stomachs.

These are the recruiters. Every Irish man or boy who joins at their call gives these carrion a fresh victory over the Dublin Working Class—over the Working Class of all Ireland.

The trenches safer than the Dublin slums! We may yet see the day that the trenches will be safer for these gentry than any part of Dublin.

Dublin Trades Council

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Dublin Trades Council was held on Monday evening, Mr. John Lawlor, vice-president, in the absence through illness of the President, Mr. Thomas Farren, presiding. Also present:—

Messrs. J. Barry, Frank Moran, Bakers and Confectioners; H. Dale, Boot and Shoe Operatives; John Flood, Bottle Makers; Francis Young, Brass Founders and Gasfitters; R. O'Carroll, Brick and Stone Layers; W. Murphy, Brushmakers; John Lawlor, Cab and Car Owners; Thomas MacPartlin, Carpenters Amalgamated; M. Culliton, Carpenters (Gen. Union); C. O'Loughlin, Carpet Planners; T. Boyle, and J. J. O'Farrell, Coachmakers; J. Birmingham; P. Bowes, R. Tynan, R. Farrell, and A. Kavanagh, Corporation Labourers; J. J. Collins, Electricians; B. Drumm, Farriers; P. T. Daly, T.C., Fire Brigade; H. Rochford, Hairdressers; M. J. O'Lehane, E. J. Hayes, E. M'Loone, Irish Drapers' Assistants; Jos. Metcalfe, Thomas Foran, P.L.G., J. Bohan, Irish Transport Workers; W. Baxter, Ironfounders; John McManus, Litho. Artists and Engravers; C. Halligan, Mineral Water Operatives; James Byrne, National Union Assurance Agents; J. Farrell, P.L.G., M. Smith, Painters (Amal.); W. Shanks, Packing Case and Box Makers; C. Cooke, M. Dunlea, Amal. Society of Dyers; Peter P. Macken, J. Birmingham, Painters (Metro); J. Brabazon, Irish Automobile Drivers; P. Harte, Pavors; P. O'Kelly, Plasterers; Peter Birmingham, Plumbers; J. P. Dunne (Typo); A. Doyle, Saddlers; G. Paisley, Sawyers; Jerry Kennedy, Smiths (United); J. Kelly, N.A.U. Shop Assistants; J. O'Neill, H. Brady, Irish Grocers & Purveyors Assistants; P. Carey, J. Flanagan, Stationary Engine Drivers; Charles Smith, Rathmines Workers' Union; Wm. O'Brien, Tailors; John Farren, Sheet Metal Workers; T. Brady, Waggon and Cart Builders; John O'Kane, Shirt and Collar Cutters; Thomas Johnson, National Executive, Irish Trades Union Congress Labour Party; Jas. Hughes, Visitors.

Minutes of previous meeting and of Executive having been submitted and passed,

Correspondence was submitted from—

Mr. W. Bowerman, M.P., Sec. Trades Union Congress Parliamentary Committee, requesting copy of last report of Irish Trades Union Congress, and stating his Committee may be seeking the assistance of the Irish Congress shortly; Mr. P. Tobin, Sec. Paving Committee, forwarding copy of report adopted by his Committee dealing with complaint of Pavors' Society as to conditions of employment of pavors by the Corporation; Sir Charles A. Cameron, Medical Officer of Health, stating the Tuberculosis Sub-Committee had agreed to receive a deputation from the Trades Council re the appointment of an electrician in Crookslin Sanatorium; Mr. John Killo, Sec. District Committee A.S.E., in same matter; Messrs. Smith & Son, Saddlers and Harnessmakers, re proposed deputation; Messrs. Wayte & Co. declining to receive deputation re strike of taxi-men; North Dock Branch U.I.L., forwarding resolutions re additional taxation of Ireland, and restrictions in printing trade; Mr. Thomas Farren, President, re City

of Dublin Strike; Mr. M. Culliton, Delegate, General Union of Carpenters, forwarding £2 in response to appeal for City of Dublin men; Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, General Sec. Irish Drapers' Assistants' Association, forwarding £5 5s. to same fund; North Wall Branch National Union of Railwaymen asking that Appeal be sent their General Office; Mr. L. E. O'Carroll, Sec. Technical Schools, drawing attention to the bad attendance at most of the trade classes, and asking the Trades Council to use its influence to secure a better attendance; Mr. Birrell, Chief Secretary, stating that the Committee to report on amendments to the Insurance Act was appointed by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, and that the Trades Council's letter had been forwarded to them; Ald. Lorcan O'Toole, Sec. National Union of Insurance Agents, re Public Meeting in Inchicore on first March to protest against the Prudential Company's "Block System"; Industrial Co-operative Society re complaint of Irish Grocers and Purveyors' Union; the Prime Minister, the President of the Board of Trade, the Chief Secretary, and Mr. J. E. Redmond, acknowledging resolution re restrictions in the Printing Trade; the Lord Mayor granting use of Supper Room for Public Meeting on 22nd inst.; Mr. Fred. J. Allan and Mr. Frank W. Chambers re Lighting and Heating of same; Mr. Michael O'Flanagan, Sec. Dublin Typographical Provident Society, forwarding name of his Society's representatives at Mansion House Meeting; U.K.S. Coachmakers appointing Messrs. J. J. O'Farrell and Thomas Boyle as Delegates; Irish Glass Bottlemakers, appointing Mr. John Flood Delegate.

Mr. James Byrne referred to the necessity of taking action further in relation to the Committee appointed to investigate the working of Insurance Act. He moved—"That the Trades Councils be communicated with with the object of bringing pressure to bear on the Lords Commissioners to secure representation of the organised labour movement of Ireland."

Mr. Halligan seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. MacPartlin raised the question of the block system. He objected to the Council approving of the opposition to the system until his queries were answered.

Mr. Byrne said that the system had been condemned by the Agents who had knowledge of the whole facts.

EARLIER CLOSING OF SHOPS.

Mr. O'Lehane moved—

"That this Trades Council, representative of the organised workers of the City and County of Dublin, is of opinion that the closing hours observed in regard to many shops in various districts throughout the city are unnecessarily late, more especially on Saturday nights; if the shops closed at a much earlier hour no inconvenience whatever would be caused to the Shopping Public, and we urge the Public Health Committee of the Corporation to give immediate effect to their published intention to make a Closing Order affecting various classes of shops; we request the workers and their families not to, on any account, make their purchases after the hours mentioned, and that a deputation be appointed to wait on the Public Health Committee in reference to the matter."

Mr. E. J. Hayes seconded the motion.

Councillor O'Carroll explained his position. A number of small shopkeepers in his Ward had waited on him. A number of deputations had been in attendance on the Public Health Committee, and explained that if the closing order were made to apply to them—Chandlers, stationers, and people of that class—it would ruin them. Cycle mechanics said the same if they were compelled to close at the hour suggested. He thought that the matter should be gone into by the Executive and the Labour members (hear, hear).

Mr. J. Collins thought that the matter should be gone into with the people who had started the new organization for protecting the small shopkeepers (hear, hear.)

Mr. O'Lehane replied, and said that all the arguments were fallacious.

The motion was carried.

TRADES CLASSES IN TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Mr. John McManus said that there was not sufficient interest taken in the different craft classes. He instanced the Brass-finishers with an average attendance of 3.8. The Department only paid on an attendance of 6. It was said that different trades had complained that the classes were not properly carried on. If that was so the fault was theirs. Questions of demarcation might arise, and if they did it was only by taking interest in the matter. He also instanced the Mechanical Engineering and Building Construction Classes, and quoted from the Report.

Messrs. Rochford, M'Manus, Smith, John Farren, and Macken also supported the appeal.

SHIPPING PROFITS AND THE PRICE OF FOOD.

Mr. W. O'Brien proposed—

"That this Council, representing the workers of Dublin, enters its strongest protest against the inaction of the Government in allowing the shipowners to amass huge fortunes by exploiting the necessities of the people, and declares that the high freightage is almost entirely responsible for the unprecedented increase in the cost of Food; that we demand that the Government shall immediately take over the entire Mercantile Marine as the only method calculated to be effective in stopping this shameful robbery of the people, which will continue so long as shipping remains a private monopoly. That copies of the foregoing be forwarded to the Prime Minister, the President of the Board of Trade, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, Mr. Redmond, M.P., and Mr. G. J. Wardle, M.P."

He said that the representative of the shipping interests was a son of a big man in the shipping interest. Sir Walter Runciman was a member of the Cabinet. He quoted the case of the Moor Line in which Runciman's family were connected. A ship built for about £68,000, had been chartered for £109,000 for twelve months. He further read a list of ships sold since the war, amongst which he instanced "The Magdalene," bought in 1911 for £25,000, realised £72,000; "The Moldavia," bought in 1910 for £13,000, sold for £30,000; "The Asnarca," bought for £26,000, was sold in a couple of years for £51,000. (Shame.)

In reference to the question of freights, the speaker quoted the following return of the different Lines in which the Runciman family were immediately connected:—Moor Line—Sir Walter Runciman, chairman. Profit, £374,074, of which £150,000 is added to the contingency fund, £100,000 to reserve, £65,250 to pay a dividend of 25 per cent. (twice last year's dividend), and £53,022 carried forward. Cairn Line (Mr. Noble, chairman)—Gross profit of £292,108, net profit £142,345, of which £60,000 goes to various funds, including reserve; dividend 10 per cent. and 4/- per share bonus, making the total 30 per cent., with £11,805 carried forward. With regard to its statement that they had been "exceedingly prosperous during the war," Messrs. Runciman wrote to *The Times* on February 7, "We do not know on what ground you base this assertion, for, as a matter of fact, neither we nor our Moor Line did as well in 1914 as 1912 or 1913." The report published above shows how correct *The Times* statement was. The profits of the Redcroft Steam Navigation Company, Limited, Cardiff, for the financial year ended January 31, 1916, amounted to £117,953, after meeting all charges. The directors recommend a dividend

of 20 per cent. for the year, as against 10 per cent., putting £35,000 to the reserve fund. The directors also reserve £55,000 to cover income tax and excess profits duty. The capital of the company is £100,000 and the profit of £117,953 has been earned with only four vessels, one of which was not delivered till March 16. In the previous year, when the company had three vessels, the profits amounted to £13,125.

After such a scandal had been exposed he thought the Government should commandeer them and use them for the good of the people (loud applause.)

Mr. J. P. Dunne seconded the resolution, which was carried by acclamation.

CORPORATION SUPPLIES AND FAIR HOUSES.

Mr. John Farren asked that the different trades would send on lists of Fair Houses to the Supplies Committee of the Corporation at once.

Mr. J. P. Dunne said that every trade should get out a list of Fair Houses every year.

CITY OF DUBLIN DISPUTE.

Mr. Thomas Foran said that the impression had gone out that there were no members of the Transport Union idle. The reason being that an advertisement was appearing for men from an individual named Long. The members of the Transport Union were not scabs, and they would not work for the individual in question (applause.)

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. John Lawlor, President. Mr. P. P. Macken, Vice-President. Mr. John Simmons, Secretary. Mr. John Farren, Treasurer. Messrs. J. Lawlor, T. MacPartlin, T. Foran, and J. Farren, Governors Richmond Asylum. Messrs. Smith and Daly, Auditors. The above gentlemen were elected without opposition.

The following were nominated for the Executive, viz:—Messrs. P. Bowes, Thomas Foran, James Byrne, P. Carey, R. P. O'Carroll, T.C.; Henry Rochford, C. O'Loughlin, E. Harte, T. MacPartlin, J. Farrell, P.L.G.; E. J. Hayes, J. P. Dunne, Thomas Farren, William O'Brien, J. MacManus, T. Boyle, J. F. O'Neill, and Daniel Holland.

Mr. Rochford gave notice of intention to raise the question of the appointment of Trustees at next meeting of Council.

WARNING TO NEWSAGENTS.

We wish to warn all our newsagents that some unauthorised person is visiting shops in Dublin and advising that the REPUBLIC should be put out of sight as it is going to be suppressed. Also collecting returns.

There has been no change in the assistants in our despatch department, and no stranger should be listened to on such a matter, nor entrusted with any copies of our paper. MANAGER.

TO-MORROW (FRIDAY and SATURDAY)

25th and 26th February,

In THE HALL, 41 YORK STREET, SS. Michael and John's Players will present

"OWEN," An Episode of '67.

(From the Irish of P. H. Pearse, B.A., B.L.)

Also A SPARKLING IRISH COMEDY.

Full Concert Company of Talented Artistes.

Doors open at 7.15. Commence at 8.

Popular Prices - - - 3d. and 6d.

N. J. Byrne's TOBACCO STORES,

39 AUNGIER STREET,

(Opposite Jacob's),

FOR IRISH ROLL & PLUG.

A KINDLY OFFER.

Mr. Francis Sheehy Skeffington has addressed the following letter to the Secretary of State for War—

"When forwarding my baggage, which was detained for examination at Liverpool on my return from the United States, the military authorities failed to return to me the following books and papers—

"(1)—A number of copies of five New York weeklies—The *Irish World*, *Gaelic American*, *Fatherland*, *Vital Issue*, and *Issues and Events*—of various dates between August and December, 1915. As copies of all these papers have already reached Ireland, and as many of them have been quoted by loyalist newspapers here, it is difficult to see what ground there can be for detaining them.

"(2)—A number of copies of German dailies published in New York. These include not merely the *Staats Zeitung* and *German Herald*, but a bundle of copies of the *Deutsche Volkszeitung*, a Socialist paper which is opposed to the German Government, and takes an anti-German view of the war. The detention of this paper shows that no logical method was followed in the seizure.

"(3)—One copy of Sir Roger Casement's book, "The Crime Against Europe," and three copies of the pamphlet, "Ireland, Germany, and the Freedom of the Seas," by the same author. These valuable historical documents are of great interest to the Irish people, and their detention is wholly unwarrantable.

"(4)—One copy of a book entitled, "The German American Plot," by F. W. Wile—a book published in England and strongly anti-German in tone. Beyond the fact that Mr. Wile writes for the Northcliffe papers, I know of no reason why this book should be detained.

"(5)—Several copies of my own pamphlet, "War and Pessimism." I have no desire to prevent the military authorities from keeping and studying this pamphlet, but I object to their doing so without paying for it.

"(6)—Two or three copies of a leaflet (reprinted from the *Gaelic American*) giving the photographs and fac-simile signatures of some officers of the Irish Brigade in Berlin. This leaflet has been widely circulated in Ireland, and has been described and discussed at length in the *Dublin Evening Mail*. There can, accordingly, be no valid reason for detaining these three additional copies.

"(7)—One copy of a cartoon, illustrating the Bishop of Limerick's description of Mr. Redmond as a donkey before whom Mr. Asquith dangles the carrot, "Home Rule." I am not aware of any regulation under the Defence of the Realm Act which renders it unlawful (as yet) to caricature Mr. Redmond; and accordingly there exists no ground for detaining this cartoon.

"You will therefore be good enough to direct that all the above detailed papers and books shall be returned to me forthwith; or, in the alternative, that their full value be paid to me as compensation.

"I am prepared, however, to waive both claims on one condition. I note that the Irish soldiers at the front are in need of reading matter, and that the Lord Lieutenant is exerting himself to supply them with literature. If you will undertake to see that they are duly forwarded, I will gladly make a present of all these books and papers to the Irish soldiers, and will waive all claim to compensation for the inconvenience which has been caused me by their detention.

"F. SHEEHY SKEFFINGTON."

Don't Forget

LARKIN'S

LITTLE SHOP for GOOD VALUE
in Chandlery, Tobacco, Cigarettes, &c.,

36 WEXFORD ST., DUBLIN.
IRISH GOODS A SPECIALITY.

STOP PRESS.

We are informed upon reliable authority that in the past few days all the banks in Ireland have received orders from the British Government to call in all debts and refuse all over drafts to business men and other customers.

This will strike a deadly blow at small industries, and spread unemployment in its most acute nature through the country.

CITY OF DUBLIN FUND.

Thos. Healy, 1/-; Jas. Mahony, 4/-; H. Reilly, 1/-; Jno. O'Sullivan, 2/6; Teds., Goods per W. Vickers, £2 1s. 6d.; Cork Branch per D. Carey, £1; Dublin & Wicklow Manure Co's. Employees per J. Gannon, 17/3.

A PUBLIC MEETING under the auspices of the National Union of Assurance Agents is to be held in the Workmen's Club Hall, Inchicore, on Wednesday March 1st to protest against the block system of the Prudential Company.

THE DEBATE between Countess Markievicz and F. Sheehy Skeffington on the question, "Do we want Peace Now" was a great success. All sides were ventilated, and the great majority voted their belief that since England had provoked the war she ought to be allowed to get her medicine before Peace was declared, otherwise Ireland would benefit nothing.

KILLARNEY NOTES (CONTINUED)

should. There is room for a lot of improvement in the present day condition of our friends, the Asylum attendants. I believe the doctor of that institution is receiving about £500 per year. The assistant doctor and his wife (the matron) between them are receiving about £300 and free apartments. But the men on whose shoulders fall the burthen of the work of the institution are required to work for a wage which may be anything from £25 per year.

STILL SAFE.

The *Sunday Pictorial* of January 23rd last publishes the following—

"STILL SINGING."

"A friend who received a letter from the front a few days ago tells me that Major Winston Churchill is as happy as ever in the trenches. He frequently bursts into song and keeps all he meets in high spirits." Evidently the failure at the Dardanelles with its 150,000 casualties has lain lightly on the mind of the man who originated this suicidal movement, but wisely refrained from giving his 150,000 victims a lead. The above indicates that even now he is in a safe position.

TWINEM BROTHERS'

MINERAL WATERS

The Workingman's Beverage.

TWINEM BROTHERS'

VOLUNTEER SAUCE

The Workingman's Relish.

Factory—66 S. C. ROAD, and 31 LOWER CLANBRASSIL STREET. 'PHONE 2658.

THE RED HAND SHIRT

Made on the premises, in all sizes and patterns, Better Value than any Shirt in Dublin.

Price 2/6

To be had only at

IRISH WORKERS' CO-OPERATIVE STORES,
31 EDEN QUAY, DUBLIN.

IF you have not the ready money convenient here is an Irish Establishment which supplies Goods on

EASY PAYMENT SYSTEM

IT IS THE

DUBLIN WORKMEN'S INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION, LTD.,

10 SOUTH WILLIAM STREET

Office Hours—10.30 to 5.50 each day. Monday, Tuesday and Friday Evenings to 9. Saturday Evening, 7 to 10.30.

Manager—ALD. T. KELLY.

THE WORKERS' REPUBLIC.

EDITED BY JAMES CONNOLLY.

THE WORKERS' REPUBLIC will be published weekly, price one penny, and may be had of all respectable newsagents. **ASK FOR IT AND SEE THAT YOU GET IT.**

All communications relating to matter for publication should be addressed to the Editor; all business matter to the Manager.

All communications intended for publication must be delivered here on Tuesday morning. This rule will be strictly adhered to.

Subscription 6/6 per year. Six months 3/3. Payable in advance.

Office, LIBERTY HALL, DUBLIN.

"An injury to one is the concern of all."

DUBLIN, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1916

Unemployment in Ireland.

THE MASS MEETING in the Mansion House of Dublin, under the auspices of the Trades and Labour Council, to protest against the restriction upon Irish importation of paper materials, though not attended as well as it might have been, served nevertheless to draw attention to a great evil. That evil, the war made by the British Government upon every form of employment in Ireland that does not directly subserve the interests of the Empire, is taking on daily more and more significance. For months not only the Government but also all the subsidiary Boards and Commissions by which it governs Ireland, have set their faces against any form of activity that might serve to give employment to Irishmen of military age and capabilities. In the building trade every kind of public work has been held up by the orders of the Government, and within the past week public notice has been given that the War Office has power to forbid any building operations in Great Britain and Ireland, whether such operations be public works or purely private enterprises. We are all aware that such power will be most drastically enforced in Ireland, even if loosely applied in England. The whole trend of the Government's policy at present is to force into the army through stress of unemployment all Irishmen capable of bearing arms, and to seduce out of Ireland into England all Irish men and girls whom it can persuade to accept war work in the latter country.

Within the past week a number of young Irish girls have been deported out of the County Kerry to take up munition work in England. These girls are being sent off among strangers out of their own country, away from all who could counsel and advise them, and left subject to a thousand temptations. No indignant protests against these deportations have been heard of from the people who raised such outcries in Dublin when homes in England were being provided for some of the children of the starving strikers. No A.O.H. rowdies have attempted to prevent these young Irish maidens being sold into slavery. Although every trade union in England protests that the Munitions Act binds the workers hand and foot in galling bondage, the vile crew that shrieked out their lies against us in 1913 are now openly conniving at the deportation of young Irish girls to England to serve in that bondage, without a trade union, without a counsellor, without a friend to help them should they repent the bargain they have made in their innocence and ignorance.

From the same district a number of labourers also recently left for government work in England. One of the number who came back since the Conscription Act was passed has just received a notice from the War Office informing him that he is called up under the Military Service Act. The notice reads:

I beg to give you notice that under the Military Service Act (1916) all single men are now considered to be in Army Reserve whether attested or not. You are therefore liable to be called up any time after the 2nd March.

Thus the traps are being set everywhere for the Irish. The armed men of Ireland cannot be conscripted. They have resolved that if they must fight they will themselves decide where they will fight. No government can take that power out of their hands. But if they cannot be conscripted by force then their weaker or more foolish brothers can be conscripted by hunger and trickery.

And the brave Irish girls can be deluded into trusting themselves into the service of a government which will visit upon their heads in England vengeance and spite for every manly stand made in Ireland.

The Printing Trades are now marked out for the next open blow. They also must furnish their quota to the army of England. Unemployment is the whip that is to lash them into the ranks. Perhaps no trade union in Ireland has so consistently shown itself to be so subservient to its masters, so ready to abandon the ranks of the fighters as have the printers under the rule of the present governing body. For that very reason it is probable that they have been chosen as the first trade body in Ireland to be openly attacked. They failed to learn that their greatest safety lay in audacity, that the capitalist cannot be conciliated. Attempt to conciliate the capitalist and, like all bullies, he assumes that your peacefulness is cowardice, and immediately forces the fight upon you. On the other hand if you force the fight upon him he whines for mercy immediately.

It is in vain that the printers will call upon the employers in the printing trade to resist this new move of the Government. The employers

have recently planned the formation of a Seaboard Union for Printers. They will welcome a period of restriction which will increase the number of members upon the Unemployment Benefit of the bona-fide Union. Such drain upon its funds will soon destroy its resources, and a little judicious(?) management will pave the way for all the further attacks the employers have planned upon the status of the employees in the Printing Trade. Restrictions upon apprentices, girl labour, division of labour, and all the other questions the employers want re-opened are at the back of the minds of the Employers in the Printing Trade when they consider the effects of the restriction order. If it means bad trade for a while, they argue, it also means an opportunity of smashing the printers' trade union. They will bear with the bad trade for the sake of the greater freedom it will give them to exploit the workers.

Nor is that all they see in the effect of the order. They also see in it an opportunity to still further concentrate the industry. Time was when Dublin was as full of small bakeries as it is now of small printing establishments. Nowadays the baking trade is concentrated in the hands of a few firms. The hope of the great guns of the Master Printers Association is that the restrictions upon the importation of paper materials will before long bankrupt the small printers by the score, and all their trade will fall into the hands of the great firms who alone have capital enough to tide them over the crisis. Then when the restrictions are removed the ground will be cleared for a few firms to monopolise the business in the printing trade as completely as a few firms monopolise it in the bakery trade.

Thus the capitalist class use governmental power to develop the power of the great capitalists.

Thus the British government of British capitalists use their power to aid their fellow thieves in Ireland in return for help in holding Ireland for the British Empire.

THE IRISH
WORKERS' CONCERT HALL,
LIBERTY HALL,
SUNDAY, 27th FEBRUARY, at 8 p.m.

THE IRISH WORKERS' DRAMATIC COMPANY
WILL PRODUCE

"BIRTHRIGHT," A Play in Two Acts.

AND
"THE LAD FROM LARGYMORE,"

A COMEDY IN ONE ACT.
FOLLOWED BY A HIGH-CLASS CONCERT

ADMISSION - THREEPENCE.

W. CHASE,
Tobacconist, Stationer, Fancy Goods,
Chandler, & General Hardware Stores,
115 PARNELL STREET,
DUBLIN.

**LORD MAYOR GALLAGHER,
THE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION
AND THE CITIZENS.**

At the monthly meeting of the Municipal Council a motion to increase the wages of Corporation Labourers was tabled for discussion. A combination of employers trading under the title of the Citizens' Association circularised the members of the Council to fight the motion. And as sometimes happens a little of the truth slipped into the circular. But little as that little was it is valuable. They called on the members of the Borough of Dublin to oppose this motion "because it would lead to a universal demand for higher wages outside." The body, which calls itself the Citizens' Association, did not argue that a man could live on less than 25/- per week. They never put forward the argument—if one could call it argument—that a workman should not receive a wage sufficient to maintain him in frugal comfort, as quoted so frequently from the encyclical of Pope Leo XIII. They did not attempt to argue that it was other than just. But appealing to employers from employers the Secretary of the Citizens' Association lays it down that it is inadvisable as it might lead to disturbance amongst the employees of the employers who are members of the City Council and of those who are members of the Citizens' Association. But still they talk of the City Fathers, and the Beatties, and the William Martin Murphys, who wrap themselves round in the robe of civic purity and stretch out their hands to protect the citizens from the auspicious maws of—everybody else.

On the same Agenda the following motion was down for consideration, viz.:

Councillor P. T. Daly:—

"That the Town Clerk be, and he is, hereby instructed to make such arrangements as are necessary to procure supplies of house coal for the citizens, and to sell same at a cost which will provide against any loss to the Ratepayers of the City; that the coal be sold in such quantities as the citizens require, but that no citizen be supplied with more than three tons in three months, excepting persons in charge of charitable organisations purchasing for or on behalf of such organisations."

Here was an opportunity for the alleged Citizens' Association to prove their interest in the Citizens, but whatever order was circulated against that motion not a whisper was raised when the Lord Mayor illegally ruled it out of order. But I would venture to wager that if the matter is brought to the King's Bench for the consideration of the eminent jurists who adorn the Benches there, the Citizens' Association will not be the body who will take the necessary action. It is our policy invariably to call a spade a spade. And we allege that from the result of our enquiries the Coal Merchants of Dublin are robbing the citizens who trade with them; and that some of the citizens who trade with them are further robbing the poor who trade with them. May we ask how many of these robbers are members of the Citizens' Association? How many of the Coal Merchants are members of the Citizens' Association? How many of the men who frame the retail price lists are members of the Citizens' Association? In a word, how many members of the different dens of thieves that constitute the food rings and the fuel rings of the City of Dublin are members of that august body which trades on the virtues of citizenship?

The experience of the Richmond Asylum Joint Committee in importing their coal direct will be an instructive lesson to the general public, and it will furnish convincing proof of the extent of the profits required by the middleman. The first year's figures date from the very day of the outbreak of the War, and, though the Committee were compelled to

increase prices with the fluctuations of the market and wage rates, yet the astounding fact emerges that the Asylum Board paid for their fuel about £1,800 less than in a normal year. If the Joint Committee had been under contract this great saving would have been wiped out and the Board would undoubtedly have to pay a couple of thousand pounds additional (like other public bodies) for War "losses." A more striking piece of evidence could not be furnished of the contention of the general public that prices to retailers were unduly inflated. If further proof is needed abundance of it will be found in the reports of coal companies. Reverting to the asylum record we shall just quote, without comment, the report of the Joint Committee at their monthly meeting when their Annual Estimates were adopted. They say:

"For the last eighteen months the Joint Committee have been importing their coal direct, and those members of the Board who viewed with misgiving the departure from the local contracts system, are now satisfied that the actual working of the new scheme has presented no real difficulty, and that the financial benefit arising out of its operation has been exceedingly substantial. Although at the present time we are paying some 45 per cent. or 50 per cent. more than before the outbreak of war, our prices are still much lower than those of institutions supplied under the contract system, and we have been receiving throughout the whole period of our direct supply coal of the very highest quality, and of enormously increased calorific value as compared with former supplies under local contracts. The result of this is very largely shown in the substantial decrease of 850 tons of fuel in our estimated consumption next year."

Now the figure given of a decreased consumption of 850 tons on next year's requirements owing to the "enormously increased calorific value" is practically based on figures which would amply justify a claim for a greater saving. The Committee wisely took the precaution of paring substantially the anticipated gain, so that the figure of 850 may be fully accepted. Then again, if the Asylum figures of cost are contrasted with contract rates to other public bodies the latter are much in excess. We may illustrate the position in this way: the Asylum pay for best Welsh steam coal several shillings less than other institutions pay for the Lancashire variety, though it is well known that the latter is several shillings per ton cheaper in market value. The same may be said of the house coal. The Asylum get the best house coal delivered into the institution seven shillings per ton cheaper than the lowest advertised price of Wigan from the merchants. All these figures prove that a little organisation can bring enormous relief to the general public and save the lives of the poor who are disabled from paying the crushing charges now imposed.

The intention of the motion was to check a mortality amongst the poor that will become graver than the casualties of the battlefield if they remain supine. It was the intention of the Labour Party by the production of verified and authenticated facts to the Council of the City of Dublin to provide a remedy at once—and to do it in such a way that it would put a stop to the manipulations of the Coal Trade Profiteers. The Lord Mayor of Dublin has decided that the Council shall not have the opportunity of even discussing it. We wonder what will be the views of the Judges of the King's Bench! We wonder! Aye, we wonder!

GO TO . . .

MURRAY'S
SHERIFF STREET,
FOR GOOD VALUE IN PROVISIONS
— AND GROCERIES. —

**MISS HARRISON
AND JOHN SCULLY AND OTHERS.**

Ex-Councillor Miss Harrison is known throughout Ireland and more especially in the City of Dublin as an uncompromising champion of our destitute poor. Councillor Scully, as light weight champion, has achieved unenviable notoriety in the opposite direction in connection with the same helpless class of the community. The names as given above appear on a Civil Bill Summons to be tried before the Right Hon. the Recorder on the first of March next. Miss Harrison advocated recoupment schemes of improvement in connection with the work of the Dublin Distress Committee. This did not suit the property owners who hitherto got this work done for nothing, thereby increasing the value of their private property at the public expense.

Miss Harrison's advocacy of the recoupment methods resulted in the Local Government Board Auditor suggesting that a certain sum be set aside for the purpose of allowing her to carry out a scheme. And the Dublin Distress Committee sanctioned the improvement of Kelly's Row for this purpose, and further ordered that the sum of £100 be set aside for wages in this connection.

The moment the work commenced there were unmistakable indications of influential hostility. The most unsuited for the work were selected for the task. The work done was condemned, and had to be re-done, and after all sorts of heartbreaking obstructions it was suddenly discovered that the £100 set aside for wages on this particular job had been used up in connection with the workshop. And Councillor Laurence O'Neill advanced £90 and Miss Harrison £40 out of their own private resources, so that the poor men engaged might not be without their wages.

Councillor Scully's opposition killed the recoupment scheme, and not satisfied with this success for the private property owners, the gentleman in question would appear as anxious to deprive Miss Harrison of the £40 advanced on behalf of the Dublin Distress Committee. What the trial in March will bring forth we can only, in the words of Asquith, "wait and see," or, in the practice of Scully, "weight and tea."

HOW CORK GIRLS ARE TREATED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE WORKERS' REPUBLIC.
DEAR SIR,—

Please allow us a space in your valuable paper to protest against the treatment the girls in Ogilvie and Moore's Sweet Factory are subjected to in regard to their working hours.

Now, sir, some time ago the Board of Trade laid down a wage of 10/10 for girls in sweet factories for 52 hours a week at 2½d. an hour. In order to cut down the wages to 8/4 the employers reduced the hours to 40 a week. From Monday to Friday the time in the morning is a quarter to 9 and 2 at dinner time, going out to dinner at a quarter to 1. On last Monday in all the snow and sleet all hands were locked out at 25 to 9, and at 10 to 2 at dinner they were again locked out.

Now, dear sir, we think it is about time the Board of Trade or Inspector of Factories done something to put down those Slave Drivers, as you could call them nothing else.

Hoping, sir, you would be so kind as to insert something about this in your valuable paper, and that you will not treat us as the *Cork Examiner* did by not inserting two letters sent to them. But we suppose they did not like to insult the good Employers of Cork City.

Yours truly,

ONE OF THE SUFFERERS.

TRANSPORT UNION STILL SPREADING IN THE SOUTH.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING OF WORKERS HELD

In response to public announcement a meeting was held in the Urban Council Chamber of Listowel, Co. Kerry, on Thursday February 17 for the purpose of organising the workers of the town in their own interests.

Councillor Partridge, Dublin, and Mr. M. J. O'Connor of the United Trades, Tralee, attended and addressed the meeting which was a large one, the Chamber being crowded by tradesmen, mechanics, and shop assistants of different callings.

Mr. M. J. O'Connor, who was moved to the chair amidst cheers, explained the object of the meeting which was the organisation of all classes of workers for the benefit of themselves their wives and families. Speaker then dealt with the cost of provisions and the necessities of life and said the only way to meet the increased prices was to look for increased wages—and the sure way of attaining this end was by organisation.

At this juncture Constable Lillis who was accompanied by Constable Reidy opened the door when there was an unanimous shout of "put them out." Mr. J. Tackaberry, who acted as secretary to the meeting, informed Constable Lillis that he would not be admitted but the constable persisted when Mr. Partridge informed him that the room had been rented for the night by him and he would not allow any policeman into it (cheers.)

Mr. O'Connor then continued, and said that was the first victory in Listowel, and he hoped it would be the forerunner of many other meetings there (hear, hear.) In conclusion, he hoped that meeting that night would be the starting point of the labour movement in Listowel and that by the organised union of the workers they would better the lot of themselves, their wives and their families and bring them up as God intended they should (applause.)

Mr. Partridge who was enthusiastically received, then addressed the meeting. He said the remarks which he intended to make to them that night would be very brief and to the point and before going on the question of organisation he just wanted to say that if that constable asked permission to come to their meeting he would get permission for he (speaker) didn't care if a whole battalion of police or soldiers were present while he was speaking. He had no objection; but when they wanted to force their way they would show them that the people had the hall and not the police (applause.) Speaker then dealt with the serious crisis through which they were passing at present, and said it was a time for clear-thinking and straight-talking here in Ireland. The men who represented Ireland and were paid by Ireland's opponents—some of them had lost all interest in the country and taxation had gone up from nine millions to seventeen millions. It seemed that they, in Ireland, had no one but God and themselves to rely upon.

After referring to the fight against the Capitalists in Dublin and its good results, Mr. Partridge appealed to the workers of Listowel to organise and form a Trades Council as they had in Killarney where they were doing very well—for without organisation the employers would screw them down while if people lived as God intended they should there would be no need of organisation at all (applause.)

It was decided to hold a public meeting on Monday evening at 6.30, and a vote of thanks to the Chairman, proposed by Mr. O'Quigley seconded by Mr. Tackaberry brought the meeting to a close.

GORT NOTES.

At an overflow meeting of the Blacksmiths and Allied Trades held at the Town Hall last week, a general revision of prices was made and a standard agreed upon. Mr. Molony was instructed to get out a set of notices for the purpose of hanging in each forge to notify customers of the advance in charges.

This is the first attempt to organise labour in the Gort District, and ere long it is hoped the various other branches will follow suit. Effective as this mode of organisation undoubtedly should prove, it can not be denied that the scope of its exertions will be limited. It will therefore be up to the diverse associations to link together and form one solid, consolidated organization under the Transport Workers' Union.

Now is the time to do it. Let there be no more apathy damping the workers' vital interests. Too long has the slave driver of Gort sought and unfortunately obtained labour at his own price. Join up. Demand a living wage, and insist on obtaining it.

Gort is battalion headquarters of the Irish Volunteers, and a most important organising center for the county. The great concentration match to Ardahan will be announced when least expected, so all the members should be ready. As vividly and interestingly portrayed in last week's REPUBLIC, the great adventure in miniature scale should prove an irresistible draw. Who could miss marching off at 10 p.m. on Saturday to billet five miles away with at least 1,500 men and spending a night of income payable interest. None should; but it is not altogether the necessity of attending I wish to emphasize, but the importance of obtaining recruits. The Gort Corps is wasting too much time in useless frivolities. Undoubtedly very good work has been done under trying conditions. But why not get more recruits? Why not organize the surrounding districts? Their help will yet be most advantageous.

So at last the war heroes have been called to book, and the "save, O save," postmen are to be prevented from further extravagance. The Right Rev. Monsignor Fahey, P.P., V.G., D.D., delivered a most scathing and condemnatory sermon on the Barrack Dance at First Mass on Sunday, and exhorted parents to keep their daughters from being initiated into the mysteries of dancing by the police. He was surprised that some of the people of the town would let their wives be taken into the arms of these men who should be defending the Empire at the front, and condemned young girls who attended Children of Mary classes during the day, and at night slouched along the Barrack lane to take part in a drunken orgy, presided over by drunk-sodden profligates, but the dangerous day was at hand, and this extravagance would be compensated for by the day of need. Dublin Castle did not employ police to organise dances and open funds for amusement when on all sides the cry was to save. The police were not barracked at Gort to draw money from the inebriated rich and squander and drink in a public house from night till morning. This drunken revel he condemned and its actors he disowned.

So the "barrack debauchery" came to light and the "save-oh save" postmen are in trouble. The District Councillor who publicly dubbed such patriotic Irishmen as Liam Mellows, Sean Milroy, and Desmond Fitzgerald as "Sinn Feiners and Government spies men working to secure Ireland's downfall," was the hon. sec. to the "barrack dance." This superior Nationalist D.C. is denounced in company with peelers.

The REPUBLIC has been well received in Gort, and a large circulation is already ensured. With the permission of the Editor, I will contribute a few Notes each week, and I hope, in return, the present readers will see that the sale

of the paper is pushed ahead, and new readers secured. We wanted a broad-minded, National Journal. Now that we have one let us support it.

S. REVART.

CORK NOTES.

Some interesting discussions took place recently anent the National Health Insurance Act, the reasons are many, but we are inclined to think some at least were not actuated by laudable motives. How any man or body of men, could regard the act as it operates at present as a blessing or even as a benefit to the majority of the working classes we are unable to understand, no more can we understand those who say it is a sham and a fraud. Few amongst us who do not know of someone to whom the act has been a blessing in disguise; people who perhaps would otherwise have to face the workhouse through no fault of their own. On the other hand we have to admit gross cases of injustice, especially in Part II. of the Act. The Labour Exchanges of the United Kingdom have been used to serve the employers interests in nearly all cases, inasmuch as they are used to supply districts and employers where fair conditions do not exist, and who refuse to recognise trade union conditions, with well paid and highly skilled labour for the rates prevailing thus compelling men to keep two houses on a lesser wage or lose their Insurance Benefit. We were, and still are of the opinion, that the Act could be worked much better and cheaper if left in the hands of the Trade Unions and Friendly Societies. It is a matter for the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress and Labour Party, not for any gang of political job-hunters. Let us amend the Act if possible, but before ending it, a vote of the contributors should be taken.

We were privileged to be present at another of those great meetings in the City Hall on Sunday night: a meeting called to tell the English Government and their West British tools, that Cork will not submit to the re-introduction of the infamous penal laws. The spacious hall was packed; there was not standing room even on the platform, whilst thousands failed to obtain admission. The principal speaker was Claude Chevasse, an Englishman of French descent, who got a month in gaol from a bench of Irish Magistrates, for daring to insult an Irish peeler, one Abbleby, by speaking the Irish language. Shades of Plunket and Harvey Duff what do you think of that? Some one suggested conferring the freedom of the city on Mr. Chevasse, whilst another expressed the opinion that it would be a doubtful compliment in the light of the treatment meted out to another great Irish scholar, Kuno Meyer.

We have just been informed of the result of the trial of Mr. T. McSweeney. This is evidently a test case; how dare an Irish Catholic have a Boy Scout's signal code in his possession whilst Carson and his braves are permitted to be armed to the teeth with guns and war material supplied by Germany? If the people of one portion of Ireland are to be disarmed and left to the tender mercies of the armed hooligans of the North when the war is over, it would be well that we should all seriously consider the question. Or is the disarmament only meant to prevent us protecting the food supply, and thus enabling us to prevent a repetition of the awful famine time? If the people are wise they will not part with the weapons they have already, but will try and get more, they may need them in the near future, not to fight the Germans, but to prevent the food being stored by local magnates, to inflate the prices, or shipped to England whilst the people who produced it die of slow starvation, and a British Prime Minister calls on an English audience to give "three cheers for the famine."

The Irish railwaymen are again demanding the War-bonus, paid to Englishmen, Scotchmen, and Welshmen. Judging by the attitude of the Irish Companies on this question the public would be inclined to believe that the Irish railwaymen were in receipt of a good wage. Such is not the case, they are the worst paid workers in the British Isles. In some cases the men are paid as low as 12/- per week and the maximum appears to be from eighteen to twenty; twenty years ago it was considerably more than this, when tips were plentiful and before the wealthy classes found it profitable to give lessons in thrift. We wish the railwaymen success.

NORTHERN NOTES.

At the Belfast Trades Council on Thursday night week it was reported that the Executive Committee, on investigating a complaint that a city firm had taken in voluntary women workers for munitions, had found that the firm "did not employ any women voluntary or otherwise." A member said that he had learned to the contrary from a friend. After discussion further enquiries were left to a committee of three—Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell and Taylor.

The Coopers' Society reported that they had secured an increase in their bonus from 3/- to 5/-.

Mr. D. Houston, of the M.E.A., reported that the Corporation workers had applied for a bonus of 5/- a week for those who had already got no increase and 3/- a week for those who had. It was hoped that influence might be brought to bear to win the demand. He also reported that the Water Commissioners had rescinded their decision to grant no bonuses and that the question of an increase was being considered.

Mr. D. R. Campbell gave a report on the proceedings of the English Labour Conference. During the discussion of Conscription it seemed to be going to be a duel between trades unionism and the I.L.P. He did not think a good deal of what was said was really meant. At the opening of the conference it was felt that anything might happen in the nature of disruption, but the conference ended most harmoniously. The report was adopted unanimously.

At its meeting on Tuesday week the Belfast Coisde Ceanntair of the Gaelic League adopted the following resolution:

"That we commend the action of Mr. Claude Chevasse in refusing to answer the police except in Irish; that we are ashamed and indignant at the action of the magistrates who sent him to prison for his refusal; and that we consider his imprisonment an act of tyranny and not of law."

Belfast readers of the WORKERS' REPUBLIC—they are still increasing—would do the paper and its local office a service by ordering the REPUBLIC and getting it from the same newsagent every week. Most of the newsagents who stock the paper give us and others a good show. But paper is getting so dear and scarce that returns must be cut down to a minimum. Order your copy and we will thus be better able to gauge the quantity to be sent from head office. You know you could not do without the Notes on the Front.

There are young men and women here who are thirsting for Great Adventure. And they hope to get it.

The annual meeting of the Belfast branch of the Irish Transport Workers' Union will be held in the Co-operative Hall, Frederick Street, on Monday next at 8 p.m. Admission is by current year's card (yellow.) The Acting-General Secretary, James Connolly, is to speak. And others, too.

CROBH DEARG.

TRALEE NOTES.

[BY ROBAL.]

THE MCGALEY CASE is the main subject of discussion. On all sides the conviction has been condemned. The resolution of the Tralee Division A.O.H., (I.A.A.) has been sent to the various public bodies in the County and was unanimously adopted by the Co. Council when they met last week. The Tralee Workers' Union has passed a similar resolution and we understand the head office of the National Union of Clerks is interesting itself in his release. The McGaley fund is assuming big proportions, even though shopkeepers like Mike Flavin, M.P., Culloty, Rock St., and Jones, Boherbee, refused to subscribe. There are a few other tight-fisted, narrow-minded individuals who are in the same boat and we hope to give them the full benefit of their names appearing in the REPUBLIC shortly.

COUNCILLOR PARTRIDGE'S VISIT is expected to result in much good. He and Mr. M. J. O'Connor addressed a crowded indoor meeting at Listowel last week when an open-air meeting was fixed for the following Monday night. He also spoke to the members of the Tralee Workers' Union at some length when steps to be taken to obtain a much-needed all-round increase in their wages was decided on. He is to address the Fenit Branch and a public meeting in Killarney. The biggest and most enthusiastic meeting in Dingle for a long time was that held on Sunday under the auspices of the I. T. W. Union. There was an immense crowd not alone from Dingle but from the outlying districts. Magnificent speeches were delivered by Mr. T. Baker, M. C. C. (Chairman) Councillor Partridge, Messrs. T. O'Gorman, (Pres.) M. J. O'Connor, (V. P.) M. O'Connell, (Sec.) Tralee Trades Council, and Mr. M. J. Moriarty. The cheering at times was deafening and Councillor Partridge's straight talk and advice was much appreciated. A strong resolution concerning the McGaley case was adopted.

MASTER EDWIN McCOWEN and his Shylock-like methods were briefly dealt with last week, but a recent exploit of his deserves special mention. Learning from a soldier relative of his in France that a Treasury £1 Note was value for £1 1s. in that country he collected 15 of such Notes and sent them out to his relative receiving £15 15s. in return—a gain of 15/- on the transaction. Which reminds us of a saying attributed to McCowen Pater, long since deceased: "Make money, honestly, if you can, but make it anyhow." This seems to have been the motto of the McCowen firm and, no doubt, accounts for their success.

WEXFORD NOTES.

Since we wrote our notes last week regarding the making of munitions in Pierce's we have been supplied with information from some of the men concerned which confirms our references to the wages paid, as it appears now that the men with the small wages are those that are specially chosen for overtime work. We have also heard that the Misses Pierces, of Rockland House, are not at all pleased with the class of work as, to use their own words, thousands of pounds have been laid out preparing machinery, which they are of opinion will never be got back again. This bears out the opinion held here by many that John Pierce started the making of munitions in the firm of which he is the principal partner for the sole purpose of getting his son out of the army (which he had joined in a mad fit) to take up the position of manager, which is only a blind, as we are sure he does not know the first thing about making munitions of war. They are very much knocked about, that the bicycle trade is completely ruined, and express a strong hope that the agricultural machinery trade will not suffer the same.

About a fortnight ago it appears that some sort of a charter was signed by Messrs. O'Connor and Stafford behind the back of the joint owner of the schooner "Alice T," to have that vessel carry a load of oats for Stafford to Bristol. When the crew heard this they refused to bring her down unless she was loaded by Trade Union labour. To this Stafford would not agree, being under the thumb of the blacklegs which he has around him. In the meantime O'Connor sold his share of the schooner to Billington, who immediately set about loading her with timber, but what was our surprise to see her masts placarded with sheriffs' bills forbidding her to sail until a certain amount of money had been lodged in bank, while Miscella and Phil Byrne, two scabs, are relieving one another at the work of bailiff these last two or three days. Surely a splendid occupation, but good enough for men who scabbed on their fellow men when they were out to better their position. As we write the vessel is being loaded, and we are to be treated to a sensational law case over the matter. For the captain of the schooner (Thomas Morris) and his father (joint owner) we have the greatest sympathy, but it will teach a lesson to any other owner who contemplates giving his vessel to be loaded by scab labour. Some people seem to think that the Union is not alive now in Wexford because there is no turmoil on the quays. On the contrary, it is much alive, and is going to remain alive, as the men now realise that it is only through organisation that they can get their just rights.

SLIGO NOTES.

We understand that the unveiling of the memorial to the late P. A. MacHugh, which is announced to take place on St. Patrick's Day, will be made the occasion for another recruiting stunt. We do not know what part MacHugh himself would have played in the present crisis, but we do think it the sublimity of cheek to exploit the memory of the dead in such an unholy cause as the luring away to destruction on the fields of France, Flanders, or Mesopotamia of the young manhood of the country. We wonder will Jinks, the alleged Mayor, have the hardihood to call for recruits on this occasion; past experiences tell us that there is no limit to his capabilities in that direction.

We see that Foley, who is in possession of the farm of Martin Coen, is presently living the life of a hermit owing to the rigorous boycott which has isolated him from the remainder of his fellows. Coen and his sons are members of the Transport Union; having been evicted from a comfortable holding some years ago. The sympathy of all people is with them in the fight they are making to win back their own.

KILLARNEY NOTES.

I believe some of our friends in the Urban Council are feeling rather sore over the fact that any "worker" was so intelligent as to criticise their actions. No doubt facts are rather hard things to face, but doubly hard when put forward by a "worker." But whether it be from a workers' or ratepayers' point of view they are a sad lot. But for jobbery and wire-pulling I would give them first place in all Ireland. That being so there is very little hope that the committee appointed to furnish the estimates for the ensuing twelve months will include any item that may benefit the workers. However, we must only wait and see. Already the strain of the coming election for Town Steward is being keenly felt by some of our Urban friends. They will be sadly disappointed if their "pet" is not elected. It will be an ease to Councillor Collins and his cousin Jenny's feet; the men who are running the "Borough" at present.

There are other committees who are not treating the workers under their charge as they

(CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE)

Irish Citizen Army

Headquarters: LIBERTY HALL, DUBLIN.

COMMANDANT: JAMES CONNOLLY. CHIEF OF STAFF: M. MALLIN.

A CALL TO BATTLE.

I.
Men of Erin! men of Erin! when shall break
sweet Freedom's day.
When shall we with banners hoisted proudly
march into the fray.
There to meet the hated tyrant, there to crush
him in his pride,
And to reap the golden harvest for which count-
less martyrs died?

II.
God of battles! look upon us, guide us safe to
Freedom's goal!
Strengthen Thou a nation's arm to purify a
nation's soul.
Aid us now to burst the fetters lest we fail when
trumpet's call
Brings our countrymen together, mustered on
the hilltops all!

III.
Let us not be cowed by failure, or disheartened
in the fight!
For God will nerve us on to action to reclaim
our long-lost right.
Give us hope, then, for the future, that, being
sanguine, we may go
To gain our rights in honest battle, else die
grappling with the foe!

IV.
Arise, arise, ye men of Erin! now the day's
approaching nigh,
For the coward to fear and tremble, for the
brave to fight and die.
Soon the strongholds of dark thralldom will lie
crumbling for aye,
And the long, long night of suffering will give
place to Freedom's day.

E. J. M.

"THE PATRIOTS."

About forty years ago the then Earl of Derby "owned" a sweep of sand at Bootle outside Liverpool. Owing to the industry of the people and the keen merchants in the district it became necessary to enlarge the docks, and Earl Derby, like a true Englishman and good patriot, let the people of Liverpool have his "bit of sand" for £200,000, and lest they might forget they had to pay £8,000 a year as rent.

When the present Lord stuck the Birkenhead dockers in khaki did he yield one acre of "his land" or £1 of his rent? Not he. And with the breed of the Saxon serfs running in their blood the dockers came to their knees when their "lord and master" cracked his whip. It was discovered some time back that unless a certain point of land was made a powerful naval base the country and Empire was in danger. Another lord let the country, "his country," have it for the modest sum of £400,000.

Take any of the English landlords in Ireland—the Marquis of Sligo, for instance. This fellow will not allow an Irishman through his demesne. Ashtown, the arch-evictor, and the rest of the foul gang, are they giving up any of their stolen property? Not they. The more Irishmen they get killed the less claims for land, and the roots of landlordism is getting driven deeper and stronger in Ireland. And Wimbourne says the peasants will "have to" go to Flanders! And John Redmond says they "must go," and if John sees a nude nun through an English reporters' eyes it "must be" true, and no more about it.

John should have his sight tested immediately. The man who can see naked women "somewhere in France," and cannot see them in Dublin, "must have bank notes" or "English gold" stuck heavily across his eye balls.

John wants Irishmen to die in defence of the landlords who frequent the Kildare Street Club. How many men in Dublin to-day are aware of the fact that on the night of the protest meeting held in Stephen's Green over the deportation of Captain Monteith, that the Clubmen (some in uniform) were begging the police to allow them to turn the Lancers in the Castle Yard loose on the people. The Lancers were all picked men—English troopers and Orangemen, and were wound up to the right pitch to make the streets of Dublin red with the blood of its people.

John has dust in his eyes, not common or garden dust, but good, sound, yellow, gold dust.

"SEEING RED" IN WAR TIME

Professor Ludwig Schleich, one of Germany's greatest surgeons, has spent some months at the front, and also a considerable time in charge of a military hospital in Berlin. In his impressions, now published, he speaks of a strange, almost awful look in the faces of those released from the firing line. They are still willing soldiers, some of them eager to get back to the trenches, but the more highly civilised a man is, Professor Schleich says, the better educated, the deeper his feelings, the more does he bear that indelible something in his face, the sign that he has seen terrible things.

Physically, these soldiers may be hard as iron, yet they are not intact. The officers nearly always develop an uncanny, marble, staring look, as though they had been accustomed to gaze unshudderingly at all the terrors and desolating orgies of destruction, as though they had been obliged to witness this with unblinking eyes, and finally felt that their eyes had become a mirror of the horrible. It is as though a claw of a demon had seized their faces and made their eyes sink deeper into their hollows. They are all changed, says Schleich; they have all seen the head of the Gorgon in the Region of Night, they have all been beaten by the pinion of the iron bird of Destiny.

A writer in Berlin *Vorwaerts* some time ago gave a less scientific but even more striking sketch of the psychopathic effects of modern war. He told of observing a young couple in a railway train—a soldier on furlough and a blooming maiden, evidently his sweetheart. While the girl chattered gaily and tried in every way to divert him, the young man stared blankly before him and answered only with a brief "Yes" or "No." At last the girl lost patience and cried out: "What's the matter with you, Fritz? You might at least give me a smile." Her companion looked gravely into her eyes and said in a toneless voice: "Bertha, those who have seen what I have seen do not smile any more."

J. J. WALSH (of Cork),

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IRELAND'S POSITION.

FURTHER STRIKING VIEWS OF A PROMINENT GERMAN.

Recently you published in the columns of the WORKERS' REPUBLIC a clipping, which I sent you, from a book issued in America by Count Ernst von Reventlow, one of the most eminent of German diplomatists. The quotation was taken from one of the pro-English papers published in this country, as of course the book itself could not pass the British censors of Irish mails. An Irish-American journal just to hand, however, gives more extensive quotations from the German Count's work. As the views expounded in the book regarding the position of this country, may be of interest to your readers, I pass on the following passages:—

We hear a lot of Ireland's helplessness and poverty, and it is nothing but trash accumulated by England's scribes and hirelings. Ireland, the most fertile country in Europe; Ireland, whose flourishing industry was deliberately destroyed by England; Ireland, whose civilization goes back far beyond the Christian era into the dim twilight of the ages, and whose missionaries carried, during the early Middle Ages, the torch of learning and piety all over Western and Central Europe; Ireland, who, in the nineteenth century alone, while artificially made famine wrought ruin among her children, furnished one thousand million pounds sterling to her oppressor for investment in the latter's world policy.

Ireland, whose sturdy sons, broken on the wheel of misery, were decoyed to the number of two million during the nineteenth century into England's army of mercenaries; Ireland, whose geographical position makes of her the connecting link between Europe and America, and whose forty harbours to-day lie empty and desolate at England's behest; Ireland, whose economic and biological wealth has formed the basis on which the whole structure of the British pirate Empire has reared—Ireland is a rich country, rich by reason of her economic resources and rich by reason of the incomparable moral qualities of the Irish race.

Europe has too long forgotten Ireland, too long has she shut her ears to Ireland's cry of distress. And to-day the most far-sighted of her thinkers and statesmen recognise that the secret of Europe's future destinies lie embedded in the green isle of Erin.

The British Butcher has tried in vain during three centuries to exterminate her, and yet, just before the war broke out, he was forced to hold out his gory hands in a vain attempt to coax the victim he had intended to strangle. Her race, her religion, her traditions, her language—Ireland has maintained them all, and yet no foreign help has been hers since the days of Napoleon. Often has she been deceived, but none the less is her faith to-day stronger than ever, for England's difficulty is Ireland's opportunity.

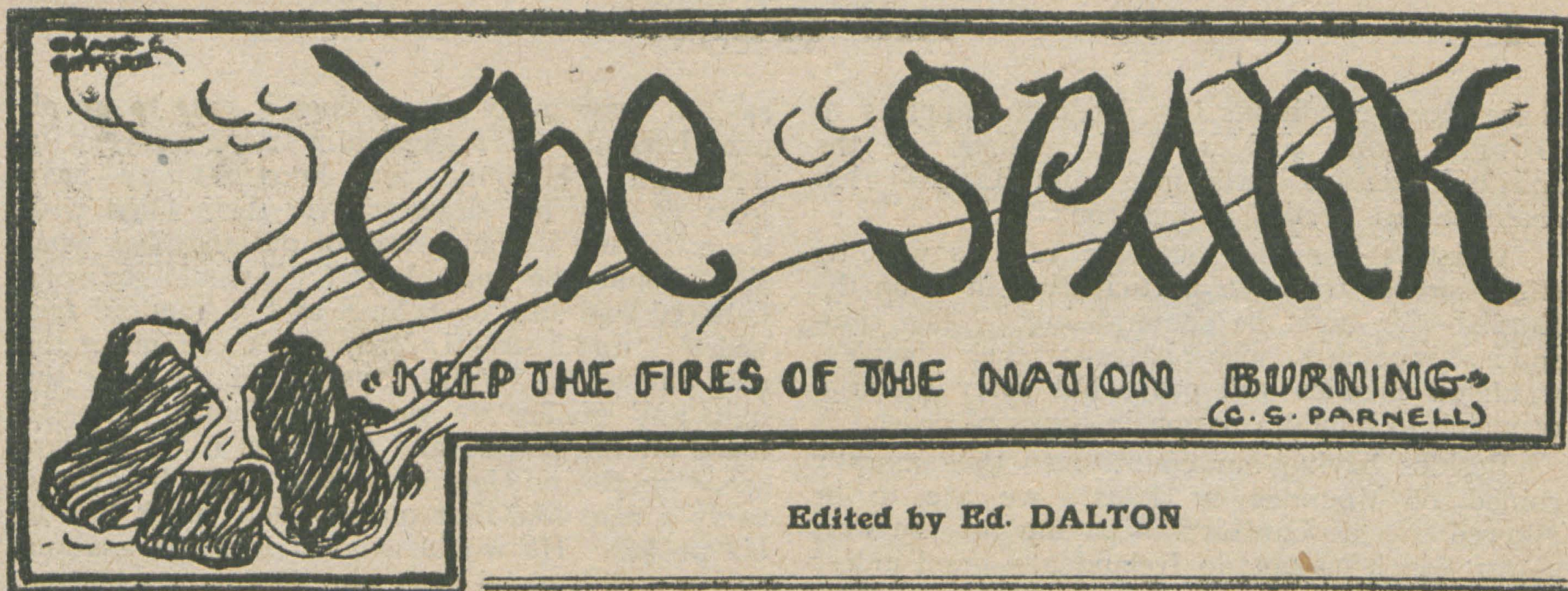
It is worth while bearing in mind while reading the above, that this book is authorised and issued by the German authorities, and that the views of Count Reventlow may, therefore, be regarded as the official attitude of his government.

E. O'Maol Ruanadha.

ESTABLISHED 1852.

FOR RELIABLE PROVISIONS!
LEIGHS, OF BISHOP STREET
STILL LEADS.

PRINTED FOR THE PROPRIETORS BY THE IRISH WORKERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY AND PUBLISHED AT LIBERTY HALL, BERRSFORD PLACE, DUBLIN.



Edited by Ed. DALTON

VOL. III. No. 56.

DUBLIN, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1916

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY

BLOOD MONEY!

A great public meeting to inaugurate an All-Ireland campaign against the imposition of increased taxation on Ireland, will be held on Tuesday night next in the Dublin Mansion House at 8 p.m.

The British Government having through its spokesman, Asquith, invited "the free gift of a free people" in the shape of Irish manhood to help England through her war, and having lavishly wasted the life-blood of such Irishmen as were entangled in the imperial web, now proposes to tax us on an imperial scale that we may give a further "free gift" towards the war's expenses.

But Ireland has given no free gift. Individual Irishmen have been cajoled, intimidated, and coerced into joining the English Army, but Ireland the nation has not freely and voluntarily taken its stand with England in this war. We scoff at and despise England's claims as to her motive in this war. It will need more than Le Bas and his paste-bucket to convince us of England's concern for small nationalities, the sanctity of treaties, the honour of womanhood, and the safeguarding of Christian ideals. Henceforward, as a result of Le Bas' campaign of "dead wall" appeals, we shall hold acquaintance with the Blatherskite (alias "British") Empire.

And what of Redmond, the compeer of Le Bas? Redmond of the surrenders, Shawn a Khaki. How account for his "all sorts" of literature campaign? Alas, and alas, it is the old, old story of human weakness and depravity. Redmond, who might have led a nation, is now

but the accepted mouthpiece for the time being of a pack of paid tools of a foreign Government. His "all sorts" of literature campaign is embarked upon with scant regard for truth. Three decades of Parliamentarianism have been more than sufficient to destroy in Redmond his primitive virtue. He has been an apt student in the school of British Whiggery, and the poison has been absorbed into his system. "The cruel, cowardly, and callous English minister" of Amnesty days is now John's master, and John Redmond is the most willing, docile, and subservient tool which any British Cabinet Minister ever hired to delude this Irish nation.

This man, in his recent manifesto to young Irishmen—fancy this prostitute politician having the temerity to address a younger generation of Irishmen after the humiliating failure of his policy with his own generation—speaks of the Irishmen in the trenches. Well, if Redmond's visit to the trenches was stage-managed, and if he was only shown the bright side of trench life, I can but pity the man for the deception of which he was the victim. But if, on the other hand, he knows the truth about the conditions in the trenches, I say then it is his crowning act of infamy that he seeks to entice more Irishmen to share those conditions.

Prior to the engagements the men are doped with rum, and between rum and the excitement and roar of the bursting shells they become callous of danger and charge like infuriated gorillas, or as the London "Daily Telegraph" says, "like wild men from Borneo." It is to

share those conditions that Redmond appeals to young Ireland, and it is to minister to the spiritual needs of "wild men from Borneo" that chaplains are needed at the front.

Whatever be the outcome of this war, its effect on the Irishmen participating in it on the English side must be demoralising. The rum-sodden wretches who bayonet their helpless wounded enemies will prove but sorry material of which to mould a nation in times of peace.

Besides having our countrymen thus morally ruined, or wounded, or killed, we are to be allowed to "do our bit" in paying for the war, a war which cannot do Ireland any good unless our traditional enemy is beaten. To take effective steps to resist any increased taxation on Ireland, is the object of Tuesday night's meeting, and I trust the Round Room, Mansion House, will be packed to overflowing on the occasion.

REDMOND'S MAP.

"Well, Pat, have you your mind made up yet?"

"No, I have not, nor won't till I see further."

"Well, didn't you read John Redmond's speech in Dublin the other day?"

"I did. And what's more myself and Denny Flynn parsed every word of it between us."

"Ye did. Well how did ye get over the map of Ireland that was found in the pocket of the German soldier?"

"We did not get over it at all. It was too big to get over. But we got under it. And when we found it was too heavy to lift it, we left it there."

"What do you mean?"

"I mean this. Denny and myself were up in Dublin at the big football match at Jones's Road last November. And Denny made a bet with me that he would show me a map in Dublin that had our own house and farm at home marked on it. Well, the day after the match, he brought me into a shop in Grafton Street, and he got me the map, and sure enough there was our house, and the breen down to it, and the outhouse, and even the carthouse, and all the fields and everything. And I said to the man in charge, 'Where's Ballinrobe?' 'Oh,' says he, 'that is on a different sheet.' 'And,' says I, 'where is Tourmakeady?' 'That is on another different sheet.' 'And where is Cloonelt?' says I, mentioning the next townland. 'Let me see,' says he, and he came and looked across my shoulder. 'Part of Cloonelt is here, and part of it is on the next sheet.' 'And,'

says I, 'how many sheets does it take to go all over Ireland?' I noticed him trying to keep in the laugh. 'Hundreds and hundreds; we have forty or fifty big drawers over there filled with them.' 'And if they were all put together what size would the map be?' 'Twould be one hundred and fifty feet long and a hundred feet wide.' 'And,' says I, 'why don't you make the map smaller?' 'Well,' says he, 'if we made the map any smaller we would not have place to mark all the houses and farms on it.' So you see, Captain, no German soldier would be able to carry a map like that on his back much less in his pocket. He would need at least an ass and cart to pull it along after him."

"But maybe Redmond didn't mean a map of all Ireland."

"Maybe not. But these are dangerous times for a man going round the country saying what he does not mean. If you say what you mean maybe you put yourself in danger. But if you say what you don't mean it is because you would rather put other people in danger. It is just like yourself, Captain. If you meant what you are saying to me you would be out in France fighting. But by saying what you don't mean you think you can get me to go out and fight instead of you."

"Well, but what have you to say about the money the people have in the banks?"

"I'll talk about that the next time we meet. I'm in a hurry now going over to put a new jamb in the door for poor old Peggie Jimmie."

M.O'F.

PATSY PATRICK

ON POINTS OF VIEW.

"It's curious the different views people take o' things," remarked Terry.

"'Tis," replied Patsy. "Iv ye iver attended a Petty Sissions Court ye'd see the peelers' view-point—the quarest view-point in the wurruld. I've known people to shake their heads an' wonder why the earth wouldn't open an' swallow up the peeler in the witness chair. They'd say, 'Oh! the perjurer, I wonder the ground doesn't open an' swallow 'im.' The mistake they make is not knowin' 'bout the view-point. A man trained to swear like a peeler will see from a peeler's point o' view. Whin he does' he'll fall into terminological inexactitudes. He'll swear hard. Ye may think it'll trouble his conscience. It won't. He has a polisman's conscience, an' that always agrees wid the polisman's point o' view. Its official. Its self-interested. It manes

to win the case, 'specially iv its a sedition case, but I darosay you're thinkin' iv plain peoples' points o' view?"

"I was thinkin' o' the different views ov the war," said Terry.

"Be me sowkins I'm thinkin' ther's only the wan view o' that," replied Patsy. "I don't mind the papers that tell us its a God sind to gallop away from Gallipoli an' the end o' the war to get into Erzerum. The Press view-point is taken from the pinnacle o' pelf. Its taken thro' Mister Kevin Kenny's binoculars. Ther's the haze iv self safety, the mist iv auctioneer and other advertisements av the cloud iv Imperialism obstructin' the view. Ther are a lot iv contemptible little rags, as Mister John Redmond calls 'em, printed ivery week in Ireland, an' they take ther bearin's like the captain iv a canal boat. They've no Kevin Kenny binoculars. They see clear. Theirs is a National not Imperial view-point. Like the Bishop o' Limerick, they don't care two Jack straws whether Robinson s better nor Kitchener or Haig more patient nor French. They don't give a tinker's dam what happens iv Ireland is kept afloat whin Impires are torpedoed. There ye have the different points o' view. O' course ye've a reason for it. An undertaker loves a brisk business. He likes to have his hearses on the road ivery day. The Imperialistic newspapers an' the Kevin Kennys iv every degree are makin' all they can out o' the half-strangled body o' the Irish nation. I remimber the time Aidan Devereux was laid up wid some internal complaint. They'd ivery doctor round the district in wid 'im, an' that didn't do 'em but they got two down from Dublin in motor cars. They cut and carved 'im, and ther was more medicine bottles 'round the room than ye'd see on the shelves iv a chemist's shop. All the time Pat Dunbar, the herb man, used to be slippin' in wid an odd spoonful iv a syrup he med out iv colt's-foot, eyebright, betony, thyme, lavender an' comfrey, an' Aiden used to take it, for somehow or another tho' he ped the big doctors an' thought the wurruld o' thim, he'd a sort iv a hankerin' faith in Pat Dunbar. Thin at last the big doctors had a consultation, an' they sed they should give Aiden another cuttin' up wid a thousand to wan chance o' curin' 'im, an' the same odds he'd be in his bone-box forty-eight after. 'I'll die as I am,' says Aiden. For wan thing he didn't like been cut up like a sheep, an' for another he felt the herbs were doin' him a sore o' good——"

"What happened?" interrupted Terry

"Oh! he lived on," replied Patsy. The big doctors cleared out, an' Pat got a free hand with his herbs. Ireland is sufferin' from an internal disease to-day. Its Imperialastic tuberculosis, complicated by foreign war fever. The papers

an' other people wid the Kevin Kenny binoculars are the big doctors, an' the contemptible little rags" are the herb-men, like Pat Dunbar. But ye were talkin' iv view-points on the war. I was in the train the other day 'tween Mageney an' Kildare, an' I was listenin' to farmers arguin' 'bout the future. Wan man, wid a frieze coat ye'd be tempted to steal, had a quare point o' view, else he didn't iver hear o' the Realm Act. They were talkin' iv taxation, an' a little man sed ther was nothin' for it only to start an agitation, an' hould public meetings to protest agen beggarin' the country. A young fellow said that was ll rot, that the rifle was the only thing of any use now. 'I agree wid ye, young fellow,' says the man wid the frieze coat, 'but ye mayn't have to iver use it here. Iv the war takes a sartin turn,' says he, 'we'll be rid o' the taxes, an' we'll be rid iv the Purchase Annuities as well——'"

"He sed that?" interrupted Terry.

"He did," replied Patsy. "I nearly dropped from the seat. Talk o' points o' view, talk iv newspapers wid whalebone-backed editors, talk iv motor car doctors an' herb-men, but in those days iv Realm Acts in closed Courthouse Conferences an' balmed Home Rule Bills, the view-point o' that frieze-coated farmer nearly knocked me stiff."

"They must be readin' somethin'," said Terry.

"Faith, I think they're readin' the 'rags' " replied Patsy. —◆—◆—◆—

REV. DR. DOHERTY, CHAPLAIN

A few weeks ago the Cardinal published a report showing a deplorable dearth of Chaplains in many camps where Catholic soldiers are stationed. He urged that all priests who could should answer the call of those souls so soon to face the gates of death. I feel sure that Dr. Doherty will now make good his Bray boast by volunteering as Army Chaplain, and I am equally sure his ecclesiastical superiors will throw no obstacles in his way. —◆—◆—◆—

THE BEGINNING.

"After a very successful recruiting meeting in Ballyomadhaun, the recruits were paraded amidst great enthusiasm and presented with cigarettes. In the evening they were entertained in the local J.P.'s house, and got a hearty sent-off at the station."—Any current khaki paper.

THE END

The last words of Private Patrick Sullivan, whose death in Weymouth Workhouse Hospital we have already announced, were "Don't give me a paupers' grave." He had served 12 years in the Royal Irish Fusiliers, re-enlisting during the war, fell into con-

sumption as a result of a gas attack, and died penniless. A Union grave holds his remains, the military authorities refused him a military funeral.

THE FRIENDLY ALIEN.

Have you noticed the innocent Jap pedlar man around Dublin again? He is an alien, yet he and his fellows roam about the country unhampered by the G.-man or the military authorities. A Frenchman may not go outside a fixed boundary without permission. What are these Japs doing? What do they live on? Certainly not by pedalling. Are they spying for Germany or Japan? Probably, the Castle will wake up in a year or two. The Jap men have been in Ireland only two years now.

DEFENDING THE REALM.

The process of sand-papering the "one bright spot" is well described in the pamphlet on the "Defence of the Realm Act in Ireland," issued by the Committee for Public Safety, 41 York Street. England introduced the Act solely as a measure of military precaution when she went to war, but it has been used in Ireland to the end that the remaining bulwarks of Irish nationality should be destroyed. Dublin Castle, by means of this Act, has persistently, but vainly, sought to prevent Ireland from saving herself from the impoverishment and degradation her masters and their Irish lackeys designed for her. A few "brass-head" military officers have been set up as "competent military authorities" under the Act, but behind the whole machinery are Chief-Jester Birrell and the whole ugly gang of Castle officials. But the little game of trying to prove Irish Nationalists as German agents in receipt of German gold has failed. In no single instance out of the numerous ones cited in this pamphlet, has the foreign administration been able to make out a plausible case on these lines. But the defenders of small nationalities have persecuted Irishmen for the crime of trying to make their country self-defended. The history of the more important cases is lucidly set forth in this pamphlet, where the whole trend of British policy is exposed, much to the discomfiture, no doubt, of its Irish apologists. The most gratifying result of this policy is the refusal of juries and benches of magistrates (in many cases) to find those verdicts dictated by Dublin Castle. Even amongst some West Britons "the felons of our land" are held in honour. I strongly advise readers to purchase a copy of this pamphlet. It will be a most valuable historical document in years to come. Don't be content with one copy. Buy several and post them to J.P.'s, chairmen of public boards, and other local administrators.

These sadly lack national education. The pamphlet is published by James Whelan, Ormond Quay, at one penny.

A CORRECTION

Dear "Spark," we're very grateful for your word about "Irish Fun," But it's at 96 Middle Abbey Street we've got our place in the sun: We emerge from it only once a month, but ere Britain beats the Hun, We hope to see a Daily "Spark" and a Weekly "Irish Fun."

BAND PARADE

The Fianna and Fintan Lawlor Pipers will parade the City and Suburbs on Sunday (27 Feb.) Parade starts at 3 o'clock. Punctual attendance of members requested.

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Ceiliadh

ÓGLAIG NA hÉIREANN
Comp. O., Batt. IV.,
Banba Hall, Sat., March 4th,
Commencing at 8.30.
Tickets, Double, 3/6; Single, 2/6

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Printed for the Proprietor by the Gaelic Press, 30 Upper Liffey Street, and published at 4 Findlater Place Dublin. Trade Union Labour. Irish Paper and Ink.