

THE IRISH WORKER

AN T-OIBRÍDE ZAÓDLAÉ

Edited by JIM LARKIN

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(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

SATURDAY, MAY 3rd, 1924

TWOPENCE

JOBBERY

In our last issue we drew our readers' attention to the brutally selfish actions of certain Unions and individuals within and without the Union movement, who are hogging jobs, which they have grabbed, not by merit, but because of political, social, family influence and, in many cases, by paying cold cash to some corrupted boss or employer. We have been inundated with letters from citizens of Dublin and from many places outside the city. It seems to be a national disease, to buy a job by undue influence. If you are not a Mason, in some occupations and industries you will not be employed. In other occupations you must be an Hibernian. All well-paid and administrative jobs, with few exceptions, are held by Masons. If you possess neither grip, password or sign, you enter the field of employment heavily handicapped; and if you are a member, conscious or otherwise, of a trade union, you find there is an inner circle who, being amenable to direction, from the Union officials, are jobbed into the cushy jobs, and these spineless tools are allowed to break every rule governing conditions in the trade or calling governed by such unions. For instance, one Patrick Stafford, formerly one of the most pernicky grievance-mongers on the Quay, when a common casual, in the course of events, by a bogus election, became an Executive member of the I.T. & G.W.U. His only reason for being on the Executive was to vote for Foran against O'Brien—this was before the two "safe" men agreed to help each other to exploit the Union funds for their own purposes. Mr. Patrick Stafford, who is past doing a real day's work, is jobbed into the Corporation. Not satisfied with one job, he is allowed to leave the set job and take a tonnage job, discharging the steamer carrying coal for the Corporation, and in addition, he was paid two pounds a week for attending and voting at Executive and Finance meetings on O'Brien's and Foran's instructions. The minutes of this Injunction Executive prove that the Corporation employee, who was in Lissen Sanatorium and receiving pay from the Corporation, was sitting, or alleged to be sitting at Executive meetings, getting paid for same, and he was also getting paid from National Health Insurance Section of Transport Union at the same time. Another lad works in the Port and Docks Board. He is a member of the Amalgamated Engineering Union. He is also a member of the No. 4 Branch Irish Transport Union—Theatrical Section, which enables him to work in the Tivoli Theatre at night as scene shifter, while at the same time there are many members of both these unions walking about for months and in many cases their dose is exhausted. These are the things men

ROLL OF HONOUR

JAMES CONNOLLY.
SEAN CONNOLLY.
MICHAEL MALLIN.
LOUIS BYRNE.
JOSEPH BYRNE.
JOHN ADAMS.
PHILIP CLARKE.
JOHN O'REILLY.
CHARLES DARCY.
GEORGE GEOGHEGAN.
JAMES FOX.
JAMES CORCORAN.
FRED RYAN.

J. McCORMACK.
A. WEEKS, a Jewish comrade who joined on Easter Monday and died in action.
P. DOUGHERTY, died 1920 from the effect of wounds received in 1916.

fought and suffered to get an eight hour day for, and wages which might meet the needs of themselves and families. A baker, one of the scab Cullens, patent Union men, works in that union shop, Kennedy's, Parnell St., from 4 a.m. to 2 p.m., and in his spare time collects insurance on a £20 a week book, which brings him, in addition to his union wages, as a baker, £4 a week. And the union baker works for the same Insurance Society as the Bug Byrne, the Union Secretary of the Insurance Agents' Union. These be Union Leaders and Union men—moryah!

Another Union Insurance Agent makes six pounds ten a week collecting, plays in a string band at night, seven nights a week. Another of these Union Insurance sharks in a drapery house at night. Another is a traveller for a wholesale house in addition to collecting insurance premiums. Another (a Union Painter) works in Tram Company from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and scours the city from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. collecting insurance money, and, it is alleged, works on Sunday. Another, a tram conductor, collects insurance between, before and after his swing; when he sleeps, except on the platform, no one knoweth. But what could one expect from men (?) who joined an Union—an English Union—because the boss advised them. Such are the union men and the officials. Words are all too inadequate to express the loathing one must feel for such a bunch of grafters and stool pigeons. There is hardly one among them who is not a pettifogging grafter, directly or indirectly. They are in all games and for themselves; and all are hanging together knowing they will hang separately as soon as the Union members wake up.

THE AXE TO THE ROOT.

Let The Chips Fall Where They May.

Senator Foran is much concerned because the truth has been published of his pusillanimous and treacherous conduct to the tramwaymen. The One Big Union; eh, what! To-night, as we go to press, two of these paid agents of the employers who hold positions in No. 1 Branch of the Union are trying to persuade the shipyard labourers to eat dirt and take a wage they have refused time and again. The employees of Watsons, nurserymen, Cabinfeely, have been advised by "Windy" Metcalfe to accept a cut of four shillings per week. Last week the Red Heron uttered another lying boast of what the official scab-herders had gained for the motor drivers in Jacobs'. All that the pugnacious (?) Burke, the publichouse singer, and the unctuous McCabe gained was a kindly word from the Captain, after they had assured that military gent that, they, the officials of the Transport Union, did not want to give the firm any trouble; but the men insisted on representation being made. The motor drivers of Jacobs' have been working, and are still working under conditions that give Jacobs' firm three pounds a week advantage over other firms employing motor men. They have been promised boys on the cars to assist them; they are still awaiting the fulfilment of the promise, and may wait until Tibbs' eve.

A motor man was taken out of the Gas Works five weeks ago; he is still out, and unless the men in the Gas Works take action, he will remain out on strike (!) One man out of 700—a strike! Another of Foran's and O'Brien's lightning strikes.

The Curragh stable-boys have gone back beaten. Parkinson was given a banquet by the Trainers, and Senator Foran got another tip of two from his friend Senator Parkinson.

A. ROYAL REVOLUTIONARY.

King George has graciously intimated that men attending court (not the criminal court) are not now compelled to wear gold braid on their pants, etc., etc. It is enough if they wear "an ordinary dress coat with black knee breeches and silk stockings."

How good of him, and how grateful the revolutionary I.L.P. Socialists must be for this concession.

Couldn't Rainsay, however, go in kilts.

LONDON.

Jim Larkin,
17 Gardiner's Place, Dublin.

Greetings Irish Worker League Demonstration/May Day demanding release all Irish Prisoners from thirteen platforms.
MACMORROUGH.

PROTECTION—FOR CAPITALISTS.

The Free-State Government has driven in the thin end of the Capitalist-Protection wedge in the new Budget. The duty on imported boots and confectionery is not intended, of course, to be devoted to the development of these industries or to raising the standard of living of those employed in these industries. It is not too much to say that it will be spent—very much—otherwise.

Already Irish Capitalism is taking advantage of its opportunities and the price of, at least, one class of goods has been increased. This increase (15%) will not hit foreign manufacturers severely, but, it is a beginning for the new policy.

It is well the people should know what the results of the new policy will be. Firstly, English boot and confectionery manufacturers, better equipped industrially than their Irish competitors, will enter the field, and we will have more British factories erected and financed with British money. After Players and Wills, the Keillers, Scotts, True-Form, Manfields and Tylers. The profits of these British financed industries will go to English shareholders and the country will, to that extent, be permanently the poorer.

If the Irish "Government" were to make it a necessary condition of industrial development that, say, 65% or 75% of the capital invested in Irish industries should be subscribed at home, there would be a touch of sincerity in their proposals for new taxation; perhaps, however, the adoption of partial and limited Protection is merely considered as the shortest road to popularity—newspaper-made popularity—in the next General Election campaign.

Employment and Unemployment.

If the new duties appreciably affect the import of the dutiable articles, though there will be increased employment at one end, there will be increased unemployment at the other. In the case of the confectionery industry, more people, mainly girls, will be employed at home, but dockers, etc., and seamen will be thrown out of work in Irish ports. In this particular instance there may be a further re-action, if the British Government should, next year, impose a duty on Irish confectionery imported into Britain. Messrs. Jacob, for example, may find themselves badly hit in that market next year, and then the band will begin to play. If this should come to pass, Irish dockers and seamen will be still more hardly hit, for, not alone then will the import of goods have decreased, but the export also.

"IF"

If the Government had any foresight, worth mentioning, it would make provision for absorbing the men who, as a result of the new policy, may find themselves unemployed. But such is not the way of Capitalist Governments. Their motto is "Every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost."

Lower Standard of Living.

The increase in the cost of living coming with the increase of prices will not be counterbalanced—if the capitalists can help it—by increases of wages. For the next year the makers of Irish boots and confectionery will, most likely, have a fine time of it. Fifteen per cent. may not be a very great increase in the price of a twelve-shilling pair of boots or a bar of chocolate, but it is a handsome addition to the incomes of shareholding gentlemen in Ireland. Under the most favourable circumstances the increased cost would be divided between workers and capitalists in, say, the proportion of 80% to the workers and 20% to the "bosses," but, even at that, the workers in general would come badly out of it, for, whereas the general body of bootwearers

and chocolate eaters—not including those engaged in the boot and shoe and confectionery industries—would have to pay more for these articles, without increased wages, the shareholders in these concerns would have an extra dividend for themselves—without increasing their capital.

Down With Strikes.

One of the advantages to British capitalists in starting industry in Ireland is that they can always, without any loss to themselves, stand up to strikes. If Messrs. Players are bothered with a strike in their Glasnevin factory, they can import cigarettes and tobacco from their Nottingham factory—Senators and Aldermen would never think of objecting—and in the process the Free State Government would gain additional revenue. Lest the Government might overlook it, we would remind them that encouraging strikes of this kind, within reasonable limits, would help to make the Revenue Returns look more the thing.

England v. Ireland.

In considering trade relations between England and Ireland, under a Protection policy, it should be said that, in the ordinary course, a greater number of persons would be employed in creating and carrying on new industries at home than would be disemployed by a decrease in imports, because, where before only the transport, wholesale and retail end of the business was in Irish hands, now the whole process of manufacture would be carried on at home—albeit a large share of the profits would go back to the "Mother" country. But there is the other side—about which, later.

How to Wangle.

If "our" Government had plunged headforemost into a whole-hog policy of Protection, the beautifully conceived scheme to increase the volume of capital in Ireland, at the expense of the workers, would never materialise. The game, however, probably devised by England's financial experts—is as follows:—

I. The imposition of a comparatively small duty on a few articles to increase Government revenue and provide the capitalists engaged making these articles at home with an excuse for raising prices without increasing wages.

II. British capitalism to have free entry into Irish industrial life and to have the same rights as Irish capitalism.

III. Manufacturers at home of other goods—from a needle to an anchor—to be allowed to increase gradually the price till they would be on a level with those of the boot-manufacturers and confectionery makers; the "Protection" in their case being in the form of a reduction in super-tax. The reduction in super-tax would provide a means of reducing the cost of goods to meet British competition, without any loss to Irish capitalism. So, dear worker, when the Press promises a heaven on earth with the advent of Protection, you won't forget to take off your cap and throw it up in the air—Good Boy!

Business Not Philanthropy.

"Economists" may rant about the value or otherwise of Protection, but when it comes to rock-bottom the matter is determined by a few simple principles. In the case of England and Ireland it happens—at the present moment—that England provides us with most of the "manufactured" goods we need. We don't pay her with smiles, but out of the cash we receive for the goods we sell, mainly to her. It is a fairly equal exchange. Our national poverty—evidenced by our small population—can be largely ameliorated, even under a system of capitalism, and it is not inherent in our being an "agricultural" nation. In passing, it may be said that we are not an agricultural

nation in the sense in which the word should be used. We are merely a nation of bullock raisers and sheep and pig exporters on a small scale, and we also export eggs and butter—on a small scale; an "also-ran" among the nations.

Agriculture.

There are people who have a dread of "industrialism," having in mind penicillaries of the English Black-country. They do not see that the condition of many Irish country workers, particularly on the Western seaboard and the mountain districts is as deplorable as that of many Black-country men and women. Poverty is poverty, whether in England or Ireland, and in both cases it is due to the one cause—Capitalism. You cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear, nor a free people out of a capitalist state. There is no more wrong with "industrialism" organised on human lines and for the common good, than there is in "agriculture" similarly organised and directed.

Emigration.

The continued existence of the emigration problem despite our "Sovereign" (!) status, is not due essentially to Free Trade, or Protection, but to the lack of intelligence in the members of the "Government." Nothing has been done to make the owners of the soil till it and enable Irish men and women to stay at home and thereby increase production—the correct form of "Protection" at the present time. "We" have been too busy Broadcasting and what not, to bother "our" minds with the real affairs of life, and so we have, the emigrant-ship "industry" once again coming into favour, and the saviours of their country running up the price of chocolates.

The problem of unemployment can be solved, and our success as an agricultural and "industrial" nation assured with the use of ordinary intelligence and industry. But, while doctrinaire Protectionists, Free Traders, dividend-hands and job-hunters—the last-mentioned, perhaps, the most doctrinaire of all—fill the seats of the mighty, the dawn of the new day will not break. Are the common people waking to realities? Wait and see!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TIPPERARY ON THE TOES.

Bill Gleeson—the Lad from Nenagh—Just Out of Gaol, Sends Greetings.

Rathnaleen, Nenagh.

Jim Larkin,

17 Gardiner's Place,
Dublin.

23/4/24.

A. Chara.—I suppose you have heard by this time that I have been released. Well, the term of imprisonment has not deterred me against still fighting those so-called Labour Leaders. I think, according to what I have heard, that their term in office is very short. They are beginning to be found out all over the country. It is surprising to me how those paid officials of theirs are so foolish to still keep carrying out the orders of this clique, but it is my opinion that they are giving their last kick. The Committee of Nenagh Workers have instructed me to invite you to address a meeting at Nenagh on Sunday, May 25th. They are arranging a hurling match for that date and a large crowd is expected.

The Executive are again bringing forward the same charge against me, as my solicitor has received a letter to this effect from the solicitor for the Executive. I think we ought to defeat them this time. The Committee would like to have your opinion on this matter. Please let me know as early as possible whether you can come to Nenagh

(Continued on column 1, Page 8)

A NIGHT WITH THE "WORKERS" ARMY.

One night last week the "Committee" of Dublin No. 1 Branch found themselves in imminent danger of being outvoted by the duly elected representatives of Dublin Port (the Port Section), so, headed by Platoon Commandant Jno. O'Neill, they packed up the official books and office effects and decamped. They have since taken up headquarters at Head Office, Parnell Square, where they hope to continue their "labours" in the absence of the workers' representatives.

The position is much like that in the political world, but instead of Leinster House, Cosgrave and an oath of allegiance being the barrier to entry, it is two or three doors (see Mr. O'Brien's evidence in recent law case) plus a couple of toy gunmen.

Pea-Shooters.

If you should pass by No. 35 Parnell Square any night you will hear all that is not demobilised of the "Workers Army" clicking their pair of revolvers, between spells of reading the "Union Jack," to get their courage to the point of perspiration. Sometimes they sing:—

"Oh! a life on the ocean wave,

A home on the rolling deep,

With the good ship O. B. U.

And three pound ten a week."

The dispenser-in-chief of the "three-pound ten a week," with Headquarter Staff sit in what is usually termed the "two-pair back," endeavouring to force the hand of fate. We are not in the confidence of the Army Council but we can say that they are looking forward to victory "at a no far distant date." The newly born optimism is the result of careful study of "Old Moore's Almanac" which promises, in this month, that "virtue will be in the ascendant" and that "law will not suffice to thwart deeds of 'derring-do'."

Strategic Retreat.

The retreat on Parnell Square, already referred to, was carried out without the loss of a man, though difficulty was experienced in carrying the office safe up the slope of the Square. The Army authorities at No. 35 had not received notification of the strategic operation and were not ready for the unexpected descent on Head Office. It almost came to being a hostile reception, owing to the men detailed to carry the safe dropping it on the pavement when climbing the hill. The noise created by the fall alarmed the Army of Occupation and forthwith the hall-door was slammed to and the bolt shot home. In less than two minutes a screen of sand-bags was built up behind and typewriters and other ordnance were placed in firing position on the top-room window sills.

The Field-Marshal in Action.

Field-Marshal O'Brien was engaged studying Mackensen's "War on the Roumanian Front" when the fall of the safe woke him to present realities. Springing to his feet he rushed from the room and slid down the banisters to the hall. Taking up position behind the second door he issued directions to the troops, and before the safe was dropped the second time he was back in the Council chamber and in telephonic communication with Portobello.

We are in a position to give the later events of the evening.

Portobello, Please!

Field-Marshal O'Brien—Is that Portobello

Voice—What do you want to know for?

F. M. O'Brien—I am Field-Marshal O'Brien.

Voice—Sorry, sir, I thought it was Joe McGrath. I'll put you through to the G.O.C.

(Interval of five minutes.)

Field-Marshal O'Brien—Hello! Hello! H-E-L-L-O!

Voice—Yes, sir; is that Field-Marshal O'Brien?

F. M. O'Brien—It is; who is speaking?

Voice—The G.O.C., sir; what can I do for you, sir?

F. M. O'Brien—Can you confine the troops to barracks to-night; there has been a fearful explosion in Parnell Square?

G.O.C.—Anything you like sir.

F. M. O'Brien—Have it done at once!

G.O.C.—Alright, sir. Is Tom Johnson in on this?

F. M. O'Brien—No, he is away in York,

but I will wire him; he is dyin' for a scrap.

G.O.C.—Alright, sir; good-night.

Number 35 is the Number on the Door.

By this time Commandant O'Neill and his party had reached Head Office and were endeavouring to parley with General Gurra Byrne. It was difficult to make progress as the besieged could not be convinced but that it was a trick to get the hall-door open. "For the love of Mike let us in or the Port Committee will get us," the Commandant roared. "Nothin' doin'," said General Byrne; "if yeh don't clear away I'll send for the police." "Get out of it," Field-Marshal O'Brien has now finished his conversation with the G.O.C. and was once again in position behind the second door. "Who is that crowd kickin' up the row?" he whispered to the General. "They says they is the Committee of No. 1 Branch, sir." "Have they got the password?" asked the Field-Marshal. "Gorra, I never thought of askin' them," said the General. "You ass; for this stupidity I reduce you at once from General to Major; ask them now, Major Byrne," roared the Field-Marshal.

Major Gurra Byrne—Who goes there?

Voices—Friends.

Maj. G. B.—Give the password.

A Voice—"Safe" at last.

Maj. G. B.—Pass friends, all is well.

In a few minutes things had at Head

Office, to all appearances returned to normal, but upstairs an Executive meeting of the Army Council progressed fast and furious. The retreat from Liberty Hall having been described, it was decided to hold a council of war and decide as to "drastic action."

On the roll being called the Army Council got down to business. As a precaution against surprise it was ordered that the services of two policemen should be requisitioned, and this was done.

Council of War.

Field-Marshal O'Brien—Are you legally

entitled to sit on the Army Council, Mick?

Gen. Mick McCarthy—I don't know;

what does the Rules say?

Field-Marshal O'Brien—It's not in the Rules.

I think I'll ring up the Master of the Rolls

and ask.

Field-Marshal O'Brien (on telephone)—Hello!

Is that Charlie O'Connor?

Voice—Yes; who is speaking?

F. M. O'Brien—Field-Marshal O'Brien. I

want your legal opinion on a very important

matter.

C. O'Brien—Righto, old toff!

F. M. O'Brien—Charlie, you're a gentleman

C. O'Brien—Same to you, Field-Marshal.

F. M. O'Brien—You remember our old pal,

Mick McCarthy?

C. O'Brien—Good old Mick!

F. M. O'Brien—Can you say, privately, if he

is legally entitled to sit on the Army Council?

C. O'Brien—What Army Council?

F. M. O'Brien—Oh, you gay old Salamander,

don't you know there is only one Army

Council.

C. O'Brien—Ha! Ha! of course; of course.

I thought you were referring to the Porto-

bello crush. You mean "our little army,"

the £100 aggregation of military precocity.

To be sure, Bill; you can do what you like

with your own private property. Certainly,

Bill. Anything else?

F. M. O'Brien—Not to-night. Watch the

papers in the morning. Good-night!

(Rings off.)

F. M. O'Brien—It is alright, Mick, you're

legally entitled to sit.

Gen. Mick McCarthy—"Let me like a

soldier fall," that's my sentiment.

"Ring out the false, ring in the true;

To-night we man the Barney Bwale;

Pop! goes the weasel." (Snape).

F. M. O'Brien—Gentlemen; we of the

Workers' Army are faced to-night with a

situation which may demand of all of us

the supreme sacrifice—

Gen. M. McCarthy—The s'preme sa rifice.

F. M. O'Brien—and with the dauntless

courage of heroes we will go forth to meet

the enemy of our race—

Commandant Tom Kennedy—Aisy, Bill.

F. M. O'Brien—We will not flinch in

the great moment that faces us, despite the

odds. We will not bend before the storm,

let it break us, if it will. We know that

destruction faces us; we will meet it with

a smile. In such a moment we count not

the odds; let them be five to one, ten to one—

General Forat—They're thirty-three to

one, Bill!

F. M. O'Brien—or thirty-three to one.

I have lived in the belief that the cause of

freedom for the workers would only be

achieved over my mangled remains. I feel

the moment has—

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!—!!!

F. M. O'Brien—We are attacked. Where is

Major Byrne?

Major Byrne—Here, sir.

F. M. O'Brien—Major, we are attacked.

On the field of battle and in sight of the

enemy, I promote you to Acting Commander-

in-Chief. Make preparations at once to

return the enemy's fire.

(Exit C.I.C. Byrne. Silence for a few

minutes.)

C.I.C. Byrne re-enters—Field-Marshal, I

have to report that the hall-door knocker

has been wrenched off by a mischievous boy.

He said he saw two policemen asleep on the

steps and that they ran away when he

knocked at the door.

F. M. O'Brien—Oh! what a relief. In view

of this base desertion by a section of our

protective columns I adjourn the conflict,

sine die. Let the Army Council disperse.

THAT-A-BOY!

Roscrea I.T.G.W. Union has established a Co-operative Milk Supply for the town and district and is retailing milk at 1/4 per gallon. Present rate operating in the towns 2/- per gallon, and we are paying trade union wages for delivery to customers while the other milk sellers deliver it with children before they go to school. We are paying the rent for some of our members owing to the cheap article we have put on the market. We are also starting a small Co-operative Store with a butcher's stall attached, will sell beef and mutton 4d. per lb. under the present prices charged at stalls.

M. CUNNINGHAM, Sec.

Roscrea Branch, I.T.G.W. Union sends Mrs. Tierney, mother of Leo Tierney, their heartfelt sympathy on comrade Leo's recent accident at Maryboro' and wish him a speedy recovery.

Is mise le meas,

MARTIN CUNNINGHAM,

Sec.

I.T.G.W. Union, Roscrea.

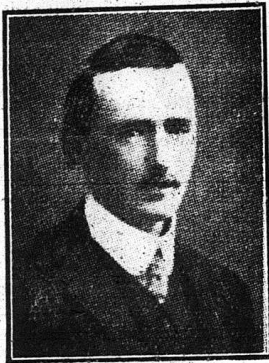
Members of Irish Worker League should patronise the excellent interpretation given to Ira Allen's historical play—
"FATHER MURPHY"
now playing at
National Theatre, Rotunda, Parnell Square

IN MEMORIAM

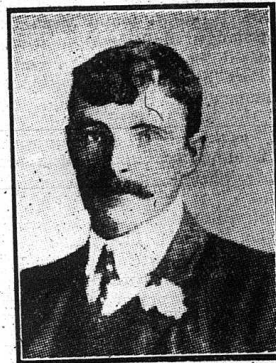
COMRADES ALL! Men—Unionmen—Who Went Out to Die for Liberty and a Workers' Republic
EASTER WEEK, 1916



PHILIP CLARKE
IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Killed in Action
EASTER WEEK, 1916



JAMES CORCORAN
IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Killed in Action
EASTER WEEK, 1916



JAMES McCORMACK
IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Killed in Action
EASTER WEEK, 1916



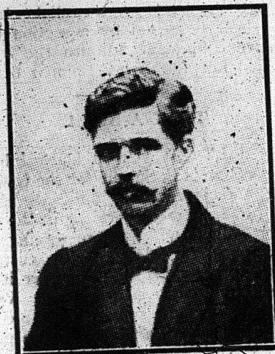
SEAN CONNOLLY
CAPT. IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Died in Action
EASTER WEEK, 1916



JIM CONNOLLY
Acting General Secretary, I.T. & G.W.U.
Irish Citizen Army—Commandant Irish Republican Army
EXECUTED MAY 12th, 1916



WILLIAM PATRICK PARTRIDGE
Anal. Union of Engineers, Organiser I.T. & G.W.U.
COMMANDANT IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Died from Wounds received during
EASTER WEEK, 1916



MICHAEL MALLIN
The Weavers' Union, Organiser I.T. & G.W.U.
CHIEF OF STAFF, IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
EXECUTED MAY, 1916



CHARLES D'ARCY
IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Killed in Action
EASTER WEEK, 1916



MICHAEL DOUGHERTY
IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Died 1920 from Wounds received
EASTER WEEK, 1916



J. F. ADAMS
IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Killed in Action
EASTER WEEK, 1916



JOHN O'REILLY
IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Killed in Action
EASTER WEEK, 1916



GEORGE GEOGHEGAN
IRISH CITIZEN ARMY
Killed in Action
EASTER WEEK, 1916

JAMES CONNOLLY

AND HIS EPOCH.

CHAPTER V.—"THE PIONEER" (concluded.)

Preamble of the Industrial Workers of the World.

"The working class and the employing class have nothing in common; there can be no peace as long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people, and the few who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organise as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system."

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trades unions unable to cope with the growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping to defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed, and the interests of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lock-out is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto: "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword: "Abolition of the Wage System."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the everyday struggle with capitalists but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old. The above is worth reading twice.

* * *

It seems hard to realize that the United States of America were born only 150 years ago. The 17th century saw the first white settlers reach North America, about when the Plantation of Ulster was being perpetrated. How varied and strange is the story of man! 1600,* nomad clans of red-brown Mongolians. 1625, refugees from religious persecution farming in a new Arcady. 1650, white masters, black slaves; and the sons of the conscience refugees persecuting each other for their religious heresies! 1750, a thriving British colony of farmers, small leaders and many negro slaves, with a purely parasitic Imperial Government. 1800, the infant American Republic. 1870, the end of chattel slavery, the United States from the Pacific to the Atlantic and a remarkable new industrial expansion. 1900, the super-capitalism directing the lives of 100,000,000 whites and blacks!

Now, whereas craft unionism was forming in England even before the dawn of the 18th century, one hundred years ago the U.S.A. had no city proletariat as we should understand the term. It was the generation that saw the Civil War of the sixties which also saw American industrial capitalism grow to resemble that of its racial parent, the Continent of Europe. During the last two generations the most marvellous growth of a people and spread of an industrial system that has ever taken place in world

*Omitting the abortive settlement of Virginia some years earlier.



PEADAR MACKEN
Irish National Painters' Society
I. R. B.
Killed in Action, Boland's Mill
EASTER WEEK, 1916



RICHARD CARROLL
Secretary Brick and Stonemasons Union
I. R. B.
Died from Wounds received in action
MAY, 1916

history has altered the whole body, mind and soul of the American people. It has suddenly created a motley cosmopolitan proletariat, heterogeneous in language, temperament, standard of education and ideals. How the workers there fared, and still fare, and how they began to organize, is most vividly described by Upton Sinclair in "The Jungle."

On the one hand Connolly saw the "reforming" American Federation of Labour, reactionary, purposeless, jingo patriotic, hoping to Americanize the immigrants. On the other, numbers of independent Unions and Brotherhoods, of several kinds, and a vast army of the unorganized, principally newcomers speaking strange tongues, and neither attracted to nor welcomed by the A.F.L., the atmosphere of which is impregnated with English-Welsh-Scottish-Irish-American nationalism.

Seeing nothing to his liking already in being, he took an active part in building the I.W.W., the preamble to whose constitution is set out above.

For several who understood Marx and European Socialism had been appearing in the thick of every industrial fight, helping, advising, directing, and all the while showing the need for the One Big Revolutionary Union constructed industrially and controlled from the bottom.* Chief of these was Daniel de Leon, an orator and writer who somehow seemed to be able to make large numbers think. It is in the power of legions of platform speakers to make a crowd cheer. It is less easy to make a multitude weep, but hardest of all is to cause the thousands seriously to think.

De Leon, however, so moved the strikers and more class-conscious workers whom he addressed, that steps were actually taken at last which resulted in a delegate conference that, on July 7th, 1905, definitely

*See Chapter IV—"The Mind of Connolly."

agreed upon the structure of the I.W.W. so that the inflexible agitator and logical student was privileged to witness in his old age the fulfilment of the desire which he treasured nearly all the years of his manhood. James Connolly became one of the first organizers for the I.W.W., and also assisted more than one American revolutionary newspaper.

* * *

In 1907 he sponsored yet another movement. This was the Irish Socialist Federation, an auxiliary to the I.S.R.P.

It may seem to some anomalous that this internationalist, who knew that Ireland's freedom would be achieved in conjunction with the world revolution, should strive to build in America an association to aid the Irish Socialists 2,000 miles away, and one which would cause many Irish Americans to spend more of their energies in connection with Irish affairs than with the American struggle.

Let us review Connolly's reasons for this step. He knew that the Irish are not merely a European nationality, but also a world race, with a natural patriotism or pre-natal influence causing them to desire to aid the regeneration of the subject nation from which Imperial economic had driven them or their ancestors. He meant to direct their interests in home affairs into channels leading to support of the I.S.R.P. Irish Socialists abroad should be linked directly with the movement in Ireland, and thus render especial assistance as an organized body, as well as being always prepared to use their influence within the workers' movements everywhere on behalf of the coming revolution in Ireland and its prelude, the defensive struggle under capitalism.

The race movements throughout the world, and particularly in the U.S.A., wield some political power and react upon world politics. They have been always, and are still to-day, either led by social reactionaries, or else by persons with conflicting or nondescript views on the issues of the Class War.

Any movement in politics that is not professedly anti-capitalistic is, ipso facto, reactionary, since, in refusing to line up with the international revolutionary movement, it delays and impedes the overthrow of bourgeois ideas and bourgeois polity. Hence those Societies like Sinn Fein and the others affiliated to the Fianna Gaedhael stand in the way of advancement by saying that the social issue is of secondary importance until after the Republic has been achieved. Their success would mean a Republic based on the economic status quo, and therefore upon capitalism. Thus they seek merely to change the forms of oppression superficially.

Now James Connolly aspired to help to win a Workers' Republic. He therefore asked himself two questions:—

(a) What will such bodies as the A.O.H. of America, the Clan na Gael, and the U.I.L. do while the class war is becoming intense; and

(b) What will they do if and when a Workers' Republic is established?

Regarding (a) he found that the U.I.L. and the rest gave no assistance to the movement of the workers. They did not subscribe to the strike funds, and they usually deplored "industrial unrest," and falsely attributed it to the vile Sassenach. Perhaps there was some little help given from the Clan na Gael, but even there the leaders were predominantly bourgeois and concerned with using the Irish vote on behalf of one or other of the master-class parties of the U.S.A.

And when he thought of a Workers' Republic with the race organizations ignorant of its root principles, and prevented by unsympathetic leaders from joining up with the working class at home, when it should be attacked by the agents of the Irish master-class and the foreign upholders of

law and order, who always try to crush a social revolution wherever it takes place, he realised the necessity of standing aloof and organizing apart from the existing separatist associations.

So the I.S.F. of the U.S.A. set out to interest the American-Irish in the real battle at home, and thus to bring them also into line with the American workers, for it is much easier to secure an audience for a Socialist who is "one of their own" amongst Irish exiles than of any other nationality. Said the moving spirit of this enterprise in the first issue of the organ of the Federation: "We propose to advise the Irish who are Socialists now to organize their forces as Irish and get into touch with the organized bodies of literary, educational and revolutionary Irish; we propose to make a campaign among our countrymen and to rely for our method mainly on imparting to them a correct interpretation of the facts of Irish history, past and present; we propose to take the control of the Irish vote out of the hands of the slimy scoundrel who use it to boost their political and business interests to the undoing of the Irish as well as the American toiler."

The organ of the I.S.F. was called "The Harp." Connolly was its editor and chief contributor, publishing "Labour in Irish History" and much else in its pages. He had previously resigned his post as organizer for the I.W.W., that great union having now become a feature of U.S.A. society. When "The Harp" was on its feet, Connolly devoted more time to the education and political work of the Socialist Party of America, in 1909 became organizer for that Party and toured the States for a year lecturing with success in the great centres. His contributions to "The Harp" continued, however, and he kept in touch with Dublin. A certain revival had taken place in that city, and the I.S.F. agreed with the Dubliners to publish "The Harp" from the Irish Metropolis, under the editorship of Mr. James Larkin, Connolly retaining partial control and the title of Editor, although doing little else beyond despatching occasional articles and the weekly leader.

This condition of affairs was created because Connolly was already planning to return home and to help to lend a hand in the large scale operations which were obviously due to commence. With great eagerness he voyaged to Dublin, composing on route the verses "She is Calling," inspired by the peculiar home-hunger of an Irish exile implanted in us all generations ago by the Sean Bhan Bhocht.

(Should the remarks above re the Irish Socialist Federation meet the eye of a class-conscious reader who is a member of Sinn Fein, the A.A.R.I.R., Irish Freedom League, or a similar body, may I hope that he or she will see the logic of the argument and transfer allegiance to the cause of the Workers' Republic by getting into touch with the Irish Worker League, the successor of the I.S.F.? Otherwise is not the reader unconsciously and passively supporting class rule in Ireland, as explained?)

EXILE.

I very much regret that owing to circumstances which I am unable to control I shall not be able to write the last two or three chapters of this review until next month. The above is the last article for four or six weeks.

Re the I.W.W. Perhaps some readers may not be aware of the position of this body in history.

Its preamble explains its *raison d'être*. It has united a great mass of workers in U.S.A., and in Australia, into one industrial association, embracing all trades, grouped according to locality, and subdivided industrially. The whole is built upon the committees of men in their places of work, linked into one national body—in the future possibly internationally—with rank and file

control absolute over administrative officials, and the maximum local and industrial autonomy and power of initiative, combined with complete cohesion of the whole body as a fighting force.

The I.W.W. has been bitterly persecuted in both countries mentioned, because the ruling classes fear it more than any party or International. Even to-day there are some of its members in jail in the U.S.A. The heroism shown by its protagonists for many years is unsurpassed by anything noble in the history of human struggle. In spite of varying fortune, the inspiration of the I.W.W. has never ceased to spread abroad still further and deeper into working-class minds.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE CONFERENCE

Mansion House, Dublin, 27th April, 1924.

A Conference of members of the Irish Worker League, to consider and approve a Constitution for the League, was held in the Mansion House, Dublin, on Sunday, 27th April, 1924. The draft constitution submitted to the members was drawn up by a provisional committee consisting of Councillor John Lawlor, Councillor Daly, H. Williams, Ed. Tacker, D. Stewart, B. Conway, V. Atkinson, W. A. Robinson (London Delegate), J. Dempsey, J. Ralph, and J. Larkin, with M. S. Sheppard as Secretary to the committee.

Jim Larkin was moved to the chair. Following introductory remarks explaining the purpose and scope of the meeting, the draft constitution was put, clause by clause, to the meeting, discussed and voted upon.

The draft constitution, with various amendments, are as follows:—

Draft Constitution of 'Irish Worker League.'

1. TITLE.

The name of the organisation shall be "Irish Worker League."

It was proposed and passed unanimously that "Irish Worker League" be the name of the organisation.

2. OBJECTIVE.

The establishment of a Workers' Republic in Ireland.

Proposed and carried unanimously that the objective of the organisation be as stated.

3. METHODS.

Education and Organisation—Industrial, Economic and Political.

Proposed and seconded and carried unanimously that the objective to be achieved should be reached through Education and Organisation in the Industrial, Economic and Political fields.

4. MEMBERSHIP.

Membership shall be open to all Workers above the age of 18 who shall accept the principles defined and the objective to be achieved.

An amendment to delete the age limit was moved by P. E. Breslin and seconded by Daniel O'Loughlin.

A further amendment to fix the age limit at 16 was also moved and seconded.

On a vote the two amendments were lost and the original proposal, making the minimum age 18, was passed with 4 dissentients.

5. ENTRANCE FEE AND SUBSCRIPTION

The Entrance Fee to the "Irish Worker League" shall be One Shilling.

Proposed and seconded. Carried unanimously.

6. Proposed and seconded that the rate of subscription be threepence per week. Carried unanimously.

7. MANAGEMENT.

An Executive to be elected for one year, who shall have full power to define principles, tactics, methods, policy, predicated on the purpose to be achieved.

Clause 1. That the Executive be elected yearly. Passed unanimously.

Clause 2. That the Executive shall have full power to define principles, tactics, methods, policy, predicated on the purpose to be achieved. Carried unanimously.

Clause 3. That the Executive consist of Ten persons, to hold office for one year, subject to recall by the members at the end of each Quarter. Carried unanimously.

Clause 4. The E.C. shall have power to summon special meetings, define policy, issue instructions as to tactics in any given crisis. Their action to be accepted as the Party's, their instructions to be carried out without hesitation and such actions or instructions can only be questioned at a specially summoned meeting of members, in each separate area, by a requisition signed by twenty-five per cent of the paying members in such area.

Proposed and seconded. Carried unanimously.

Clause 5. An Annual Meeting shall be held on Easter Monday of each year, in Ireland, under any and every circumstances.

Proposed, seconded and carried unanimously.

Clause 6. There shall be Quarterly Meetings in each area, each E.C. member to report to his constituents as to his activities at such meeting; members to have power to recall an E.C. member. Each E.C. member shall be obliged to keep in close touch with those who elected him to office.

Proposed, seconded and carried unanimously.

8. ALTERATION OF RULES.

No alteration of Rules governing the organisation, defining immediate programme, outlining tactics, associating in effort with any other movement with the same objective, nor, no International affiliations can be acted upon/without submission to the Annual General Meeting; any action of Executive to be only tentative in character.

Proposed, seconded and carried unanimously.

Notice of proposed alteration of Rules must be sent to the Secretary, not less than 28 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Addendum seconded and carried with one dissentient.

The above articles having been carried, clause by clause, were put to the Conference en globo and carried unanimously.

On a motion of R. Murray a motion was carried, deferring the Election of the Executive to Sunday, 4th May, 1924.

On the motion of J. Doyle, seconded by J. Logan, it was carried unanimously that the "Irish Worker League" bear the funeral expenses of late Comrade Padraic (Ruggy) McLoughlin, and that Tom Doyle, Tom Healy, Barney Conway and Jack Dempsey be appointed as Committee of Arrangements.

AMUSEMENTS OF THE RICH.

The circus wasn't in it at a recent party given by Mrs. William Vanderbilt II., where a trained seal stood on his tail and kissed and was kissed by many daughters of the idle rich. These sensation dinners are one way of spending unearned money. In the fashionable news clubs' banquets, a very large pie is often the centre piece, out of which a dancing girl, clad only with a smile, will leap. At a recent Society party a monkey clad in special tailormade suit was the guest of honour, ate all the courses and afterwards smoked a cigar. Many children are hungry in this country while the rich squander money they did not earn.

JOIN THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.

Entrance Fee, 1/- . Subscriptions Voluntary

IN THE UNITED STATES

(From our Correspondent)

New York, 19th April, 1924.

The "Dawes Plan," the latest scheme to get back the money that American capitalists loaned to the Allies is now filling the newspapers.

J. P. Morgan, of Wall Street, backed the British to the tune of billions of dollars, getting 10% for the money lent and 2½% from all the money spent by England in U.S.A. The money was then loaned by London Bankers to France, Italy, Poland, Czarist Russia and other pure-souled "democracies" who fought to free Europe from the Huns. Millions of workmen in various uniforms, serving under different flags, their souls (?) quickened by hundreds of brass bands, being turned into so much fertiliser in process.

Hundreds of Dublin men lie shrivelled and mummified in the sodden battlefields of France, the parched sands of the Dardanelles and Egypt.

Germany fought so hard and so long that she bankrupted or crippled the victor nations. Then these nations combine asking "Uncle Sam" to forget the debts. The craftiest of old-school diplomats came over here with the view of "wiping the slate clean."

But the American banker is no fool. Wilson, the tool of these bankers, at their suggestion started his League of Nations so that American financiers could control the rebuilding of Europe, also the trade of Europe, and have an agency to collect what Germany could pay in the way of "reparation."

But the League of Nations was, and is, a failure, despite the idiotic trips of little-posturing men like Bill Cosgrave, Desmond Fitzgerald, and the Solicitor-General to Geneva, to sign up "Ireland" as another nation in that group, organised by American and London bankers in their vain effort to collect what Germany cannot pay.

The farmer of America and a few thinking Senators who represent them killed the League of Nations by preventing the entry of the United States.

Then France did not play the game. She spent the resources in building aircraft and oppressing Germany instead of paying back her money, borrowed via Morgan's Bank in New York.

France in her "l'avanche" or "revenge" spirit overstepped the mark; her money started falling like German paper currency. The bankers then made an arrangement with Poincaré—France would get a large Morgan loan, on conditions she would abide by the "Dawes Plan" which would be put full on the solution.

And the "Dawes Plan" is to give a huge loan of money to Germany, a "moratorium" for a few years, so that the newer Stinnes can reshape the German industrial machine and sweat the German workers until they produce the money loaned to Europe for the Morgan Banks. American bankers will reside in Germany and direct this enslavement of the German working-class, also collect the money it produces.

There is also a string attached by which disputes are to be arbitrated by the League of Nations, another effort is being made to tie the United States to the League of Nations which the Senate here will not endorse.

How long will the German workers submit? How long will they lie like beaten dogs? How long before they rise and submerge the finance capitalists in their own country who have sold them into economic slavery and racial subjection and shame?

Fitzgerald's "Hot Air."

The "New York Times" on Wednesday last prints a cable dispatch from its Washington correspondent, stating that no application has been made by any representative

of the Irish Free State for any separate Consular treatment, and that the United States Department would only consider such a request if it came through the British Colonial Office.

This gives the deliberate lie to Desmond Fitzgerald, whose statement to the Dail last week, cabled here, caused the newspapers to ask Washington how it received his request. ("Irish Times" and "Independent" please copy.)

Tammany.

This is election year and Charles Murphy, to get the Irish vote for whatever Oil-tainted nominee the Democrats put up, is now playing this tune on an Irish fiddle. De Valera who would resent his affairs being a vote-catching game for cheap Tammany politicians, has been discovered by them and they demand his release on the grounds that he is an American citizen. A citizen here loses his franchise for a grave offence, or if he renounced his allegiance by taking another oath of allegiance. The Irish Republic was never recognised here, and if politicians get the States Department moving it may lead the Courts into considering if an Irish Republic was in existence and if an oath to it cancels United States citizenship.

Our correspondent—by this writing—will know that Silent Charlie Murphy—Boss of Tammany—has joined Croker. Al. Smith is now in charge. Wow!

"Scelig."

We have been shown correspondence signed by J. J. O'Kelly, an envoy of the Irish Republican Party here, in which he admits closing down the Washington or national headquarters of the Irish Republican Association on the score of expense. We also note that the main paid office of the New York Branch is an ex-taxi-driver, who has been charged with designs on a Tammany or political job, but still retains his office and salary. The opinion in Republican circles is that the Branch was spared while the tree was killed. It is also common knowledge that De Valera instructed Austin Stack and "Scelig" before they came out to open an independent office and to keep clear of the American organisation and groups.

The probe into the governmental graft continues and the highest officials stand convicted. Every department of Government, interior, military, naval, legal and even the churches were obviously controlled by men who had their price. The reaction is hastening the butt of a new party that will enter the Presidency Lists. The forward elements, the bourgeoisie, the intellectuals, the Trade Unionists, the dissatisfied farmers of the Middle West and the Communists will doubtless form a sort of Liberal or Gladstonian Party and run some sort of "advanced" politician such as Senator La Follette for President. So far there isn't as much as one lone "Red" in the American Parliament. Most of the legislators are bourgeois in the pay of the big financial groups whose purpose is to promote legislation favourable to the big trusts and capitalists and also other "protective" legislation such as arming the police in large cities with Thompson and Machine Guns to keep strikers and pickets quiet and in other ways strengthening the grip of capitalism on the lives of the workers.

This government is as reactionary as your Irish Senate and composed of similar types whose riches were created by inarticulate workers living in slums and who labour to produce fortunes and comfort for others.

The Irish Working Class have an excellent opportunity to study and observe the type of government produced by the capitalist system. You know one can measure your own Milroys and Negises and Bill Cosgraves and Goreys and others. Add in your Tom

Johnsons and his diminishing band. They represent the type of government that the capitalists have produced both here and there. Behind the government of these Bills, and Darrells, Seafis and Toms, stand the British Fleet and all the power of Empire. Behind the Fleet sit the London Bankers and Financiers with their branches in Ireland and brethren in the Senate controlling Irish trade.

If you, Dubliners, strike or riot for food or burn down some of the Dublin tenements the strikers are the worst in Europe. This "Government" you regard as a joke or "good gas" would promptly shoot down just as seriously and constitutionally as the United States troops and militia shoot down strikers or rioters with machine guns.

The United States experience with government by the rich, of the rich for the rich, and the capitalist-bully "government" whose birth pangs you witnessed in Dublin (it is receiving nourishment from so-called "Labour" men) point but one moral—a Workers' Republic. Some day the Irish workers and labourers and small farmers must take over the control of all Ireland. It is not too soon to be thinking over the ways and means.

SAND HOGS.

They are digging a tunnel under the river to connect New York and New Jersey. To prevent the hole breaking in, a terrific force of air is pumped in continuously. So great is the pressure that it blew a hole in the top that caused a water spout in the river that almost drowned some sailors on nearby tug-boats.

Men, of course, work in the tunnel. They are on strike for shorter hours because one-fourth of the working force were removed to hospital within forty-eight hours with the "stagers" due to the compressed air pressure which stops the heat action. The contractors refuse and contend that the men first got the "stoggers" or some other job before entering his employment.

On the completed subways in this city three million passengers ride daily, paying five cents. The profits go, like Guinness' profits, to make good church people and others who never think of the number of men sacrificed in the construction, or of their hungry dependents.

CLIPPING THE CUCKOO'S WINGS.

RESOLVED—

"That we, the Branch Committee of No. 3 Branch, I.T. & G.W.U. having received, through the Secretary, a letter purporting to be a communication from Head Office, and signed by some persons styling themselves Finance Committee, ordering our Secretary to conform to certain Rules in regard to Entrance Fees, hereby instruct our Secretary to reply as follows:—

That he is instructed to adhere to the District Rates for Entrance of Adults, Juveniles and Females, which have been in force under "Old Rules" and which have been endorsed by the members of the Branch and approved of by the Executive of the Union.

This decision is based on the fact that the proposed Rules have never come before the members of our Branch and have never been adopted by them and consequently we would be acting illegally if we permit our Secretary to act on them.

Further we resolve that we will not act or recognise the alleged Rules until such time as the legal matters now before the Court be finally settled.

We also instruct the Secretary to inform Finance Committee that we regard their order as illegal and warn him on no account to act on their order.

Copies of this Resolution to be forwarded to E.C., I.T. & G.W.U., Voice of Labour and Irish Worker.

Proposed by Patrick Carroll, seconded by J. Davis.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from column 3, Page 2)

on May 25th, and if not please mention the date convenient to you. Send me Statement of Account for Irish Workers as I want to square up matters. Only thirty-five members attended a general meeting called by the E.C. party last Sunday in Nenagh.

Yours fraternally,
W. GLEESON.

I. T. W. U.,
Limerick.

Jim—Send Daly down at once. You must come through. The grafters are discovered. We have them on the run. Seumas O'Brien is discovered. Ballot being taken to deal with him. The Bould Fitzmaurice, who has been masquerading under the name of Seumas O'Brien will join the Injunction Executive shortly in one of His Majesty's Free State sanitoriums. Don't disappoint us Jim. Greeting from all the boys.

1907 UNION MAN.

Irish Transport & General Workers' Union.

Head Office:
35 Parnell Square,
Dublin.
26th April, 1924.

Mr. Martin Cunningham,
Streamstown, Roscrea.

A Chara,—We have been expecting to hear from you in reply to our letter of the 15th inst. requesting you to hand over the Books of our Roscrea Branch and all monies due to this Union which you have collected. As you have failed to carry out this instruction, and as apparently the Branch Committee support you in the attitude which you have adopted, and as no steps have been taken by the members to comply with the Rules, we have now to inform you that the Roscrea Branch has been officially closed, and cannot be recognised, therefore, as a Branch of the I.T. & G.W.U. You will please convey this information to the members of the Branch.

You are hereby warned not to collect any further contributions purporting to be on behalf of this Union.

Sinne,
IRISH TRANSPORT AND
GENERAL WORKERS' UNION.
Per Wm. O'BRIEN.

6/6B.

5 Gray St., Dublin
1st May, 1924.

A Chara,—Before the Irish Worker of next week is in print the order of Police Magistrate Collins (K.C.) will have been executed by Mullens and his bailiffs and "Joe Cleary" known to all workers in his native city as a man who always, out of his slender means and also by voice and pen, helped on the cause of the workers, will have his apartments severed by being evicted from his front room not for non-payment of rent—but because he would not tamely surrender to his excellency after being in occupation over 22 years. About seven years ago, "Odd Eye Mullens" and his wife were in a bad way, when Mr. and Mrs. C. secured for them a shop and parlour, two kitchens in the basement, also parlour off hall for the modest sum of nine shillings weekly. Now this plumber of the D.B.C. who, like others of his ilk, was swept in with the tide, when England under the now "Blizzard of Wales" was engaged fighting for freedom for small nationalities—moryah! At this time Joseph Mullens, for the first time, became a member of the legitimate Trade Union of

Plumbers, etc. This creature who also acts as an electrician, in fact apes the roll of small contractor (after his eight hour day is ended in the Dublin Bread Company). He boasts of having amongst his proteges the following property owners:—Solicitors, Publicans, Provision Dealers, Pork Butchers and even an Irish Ice Cream Maker. It is time the "Eloquent Dempseys" got a move on to veto the nefarious system of permitting members of trades unions to inflict such incalculable injury upon their unemployed members and their families. The paid walking delegates should be made wake up.

Mr. Cleary was also an ardent and energetic supporter of Sinn Fein and took an active part in the election campaign in St. Patrick's Division in 1918, when the Countess Markievicz was triumphantly returned although a prisoner of the British Government at the time. This man was also well known to many of the boys who were on the run in 1916 and 1918, to whom he rendered signal service by securing them safe shelter in respectable places. This former tenant of 50 High Street, Joseph Mullens, has now become a full-blown owner of the tenement, although when the adjourned hearing of this case came off on Wednesday 23rd, in the Southern Police Court, which our daily sheets omitted to report, the case had to be further adjourned till the next day, Thursday 24th inst., to allow of this creature, through his solicitor, Mr. Fottrell, for whom he jobs, to release his title deeds from the Royal Bank of Ireland, where, of course, they were safely in pawn. This city is infested with a crowd of similar sharks masquerading as mushroom landlords.

Truly yours,
JOHN MARTEN.

Editor, Irish Worker,
Dublin.

MOTOR BUSES v. TRAMS.

In last week's issue a short article appeared on the question of the bad and dear trams operating in and around Dublin and advocating a service of Corporation-owned motor buses to be run frequently, at popular fares. Buses are ousting electric trams in English towns, and wherever the bus appears it quickly finds favour with the travelling public.

An instance of this exists in our midst in the case of the Dublin-Lucan route, where the electric tram company had everything its own sweet way till quite recently. A few weeks ago a new company inaugurated a service of motor buses which found instant support, with the result that this new and enterprising company is reaping a good harvest. The Lucan Tram Company has now abolished the First and Third Class system, provided special accommodation for smokers, reduced the fares considerably and introduced a thirty minutes' service for the former sixty minutes' service.

The Bus Company is now considering the question of larger buses at an early date and a twenty or thirty minutes' service is also mooted. All of which goes to prove once more that competition if the life of trade.

The Dublin Tram Company has a monopoly and treats the citizens accordingly. The fares are arranged on an extortionate basis and the services on the various routes hopelessly inadequate in the hours when travelling facilities are most required.

This intolerable state of affairs must be ended as quickly as possible by the introduction of a fleet of competing buses which will help to solve the important matter of rapid, popular locomotion at reasonable fares.

Will the Corporation rise to the occasion and take the necessary preliminary steps?
LIAM ESSE.

Dublin Trades' Council and Irish Worker
League

EXCURSION

TO

WEXFORD

Sunday, May 18th

leaving Amiens Street Station at 9 o'clock, Westland Row 9.5 a.m., Dun Laoghaire 9.15 a.m., Bray 9.35 a.m. Returning from Wexford 7 p.m.

Football Matches and other Sports, Details later.

Fintan Lalor Pipers and No. 5 Branch Fife and Drum Band.

TICKETS—ADULTS

DUBLIN....	....	....	....	7/-
DUN LAOGHAIRE	....	....	....	6/6
BRAY	....	....	....	6/-

Children up to 14 half price.

Tickets may be bought at Trades' Hall, Capel Street, 74 Thomas Street, 17 Gardiner's Place.



SERVICE QUALITY

UNITED TEA COMPANY

(E. ROBERT MOONEY, MANAGER)

We are selling Tea at 2/6 per lb. that cannot be purchased in any shop in Dublin at 3/6.

Send your orders to Box 1328.
Prompt and personal attention given to all orders.

"AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS STOMACH."

We are helping to fill the stomach of the Irish working class, so that they also may march forward.

We offer all members of the Irish Worker League the following bargains:—

PRICE LIST.

Sardines	....	....	3d. per tin
Oatmeal (Fine Scotch)	....	....	3d. per lb.
Tinned Milk (Sweetened)	....	....	10d. per tin
Rice	....	....	4d. per lb.
Tinned Peaches (1lb. tins)	....	....	8d. per tin
Linoleum, 2-yards wide	5/-	per lineal yd.
Soap (3 lb. bars)	1s. per bar
Herrings in Tomato Sauce (tinned)	6d. per tin
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THE IRISH WORKER

AN T-OIBRÍOĒ SAOULAC

Edited by JIM LARKIN

No. 44. NEW SERIES.

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

SATURDAY, MAY 10th, 1924

TWOPENCE



HIS MASTER'S SHADOW

DRILLING DOCKERS ON DUBLIN DOCKS

The members of No. 1 Branch of the Transport Union are being robbed in order to pay Paddy Nolan and "Jailer" Redmond a weekly wage supposedly to look after their (the members) interests on the Quays of Dublin. How they look after those interests had better be imagined than related. But to get to the point. For a long time the stevedores have found it impossible to make a "read," that is, pick men from the gangs for working the ships, because of the rushing and crowding that goes on at Alexandria Gates. Not only was it troublesome for the stevedores, but it also was bad for the men, because it was the man who could push most that got picked first and not the man who was on the spot first.

Finally the men decided to take matters into their own hands, knowing that it was useless to expect Nolan and Redmond to do anything. A resolution was put forward and passed at the Port Committee, ordering that the men form up in line and await their turn. So now if you go down any morning along the quays you will find General Harry Fitzsimmons and Admiral Pat McGuinness forming their army into column of fours at Alexandria Gates.

And that's the way everything should be done. Don't mind the officials, move yourself and take matters into your own hands.

PARTITION.

We deny the right of any person, party or people other than the Irish people to dismember our country. The one and only body on this earth which has any right or power to partition Ireland is the people of Ireland, North, South, East and West. We refuse partition and throw it back in the teeth of Ramsay MacDonald and Jimmy Craig. To Hell with Partition, we want our country—the whole of it and not the remains of Jimmy Craig's butchering.



THE SECOND DELUGE

RED FLAG AND FREEDOM.

Highest and best of the thoughts of Life's morning,

Breathe o'er our wak'ning and thrill us with pride;

Red Flag of Freedom the fair East adorning,
Float thou securely whatever betide.

Truest of words by the lips of men spoken,
Fall on our hearing, take root in our brain;
Red Flag of Freedom, forever betoken
Banishment final of sorrow and pain.

Fondest of hopes by the human heart cherished,
Help to inspire us with courage and joy;
Red Flag of Freedom, when evil has perished,
Be thou a sign that shall falsehood destroy.

Bravest of parts in the conflict of classes
Shall the downtrodden be called on to bear;
Red Flag of Freedom, enfolding the masses,
Be thou supreme in true equity there.

Dear is our cause to the hearts of the lowly,
Famished by want and for ages oppressed;
Red Flag of Freedom, we trust in thee wholly,
Be thou the emblem of Labour's meet rest.

—St. Jean.

There used to be an idea that Unions protected the working man. I guess we've got over that nonsense now.

ROLLS—TURN-OVERS—AND TWISTS.

It looks as if the Master of the Rolls is going to have a busy time. Readers will remember his decision that a meeting of a Branch Committee was, for "practical and commonsense purposes" a meeting of members of a Branch. Hence the "legality" of the I.T. & G.W.U. 1923 Rules—submitted only to Branch Committees.

The I.T. & G.W.U. "Executive" are fearful that Dublin No. 1 Branch will send the "jaw-broken" one and the bread-van seraph, and others, about their business, so, rather desperately, they are ignoring their own fake 1923 Rules, lest, even with them, the members should do the needful. Instead of having nominations for No. 1 Branch Committee taken at a public meeting of the members, they are—per advertisements in the capitalist press—to be submitted in writing to the Secretary. Thus the 1923 Rules are broken by the schemers who drafted them. They will be hoisted with their own petard, or, in other words—they're goners.

In American Courts of Justice the axiom is—"The less you do the more you get."

Honesty is the best policy—but that doesn't say it is a business policy.

The less work you do the more money you get, i.e., Johnny Rockefeller and Lord Iveagh.

AMERICAN NEWS

From our Correspondent.

New York, April, 26th.

The Law for the Rich.

A murderer of the most brutal type, but of the millionaire class, that rises superior to the law of all capitalist countries is about to be released from an asylum where he was sent by a friendly judge, who had sent many workmen to death in the electric chair for less heinous crimes.

Harry K. Thaw, who never did a day's work in his life, has been pronounced sane. Incidentally the "interest" on the money left him by his father has increased by about five millions in the seven years he has been resting.

Thaw shot and killed a well-known architect during lunch hour on a roof garden here, because White, the architect, had won the affections of a dancing girl that Thaw travelled over Europe with.

Thaw's millions saved him from "the chair." Released from the asylum four years later he was again arrested for an unmentionable crime—one of those pleasures of the idle rich. He was also spared trial on this crime by being re-committed to the asylum.

Such is the law for the rich. As to the poor. Tom Mooney, a labour leader, proved innocent by a report of the Dinsmore Commission appointed by President Wilson, is still serving a life term with four others on a framed up charge of throwing a bomb at a parade of flag-wavers who wanted the United States to enter into the World War. Every judge and newspaper editor in America knows Mooney is innocent. Photographs and witnesses showed him to be miles away at the time of the explosion. But he is held in jail because the Californian capitalists hate him as Martin Murphy hated Larkin when the latter preached to the former's slaves and cut down the "profits." That also was Mooney's only crime.

Socco and Vanzette are also in jail for life because a local manufacturer was shot. They were two labour leaders or "reds," consequently they must be the murderers. They were speedily found guilty and in the death house when a storm of protests from all parts of the country against the flimsy evidence reached the Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce, which body meant to murder these two innocent workers judiciously of course. Like Mooney, they are now in for life. There are many other innocent men in jail in this "Republic" where capitalism rules. And some in Ireland have fought and died and others languished in prisons to set up a Republic fashioned on the American model. Connolly and Pearse stood for a Workers' Republic—the Russian type, not the American.

Paderewskie's Pup.

Pages of the papers last week were filled with the bulletins of physicians who watched the little satin-sheeted bedside of a dying pup given by an Empress of China nine years ago to the famous piano-player's wife. But despite modern science the pampered pup died of indigestion—of a too-full stomach. The sorrowful event took place in a special private railroad coach reserved for the ex-President of Poland, who is again on tour here, piano playing being more remunerative. The directors of the railroad sent out silence orders to all engine drivers so as to give the pup a chance for life. The leading Chicago newspapers had a reporter east and a cameraman on two days' vigil sending news and pictures of the heroic struggle for life made by Paderewski's pup.

Sacrifice.

Far less newspaper space was devoted to the one hundred and sixty-six workers killed at work in New York during the month of March. The death of a pup in a satin bed

is very important. Workers and wage-slaves are plentiful, they stand in the labour mart every hour, but a dying Pekingese pup bestowed by a Chinese Empress is real live news with a punch. Most of the deaths were railway workers, and the directors gave no silence order. Just picked up the pieces and hired another man at the gate to fill the dead one's place. Eighteen fell off new buildings; three window-cleaners dropped about thirty storeys off skyscrapers; seven died from strain of lifting heavy objects. All are gone, so many sacrifices to create the wealth of men like Thaw. And widows here chase around among the neighbours for money to bury their dead. New York and Dublin have that much in common.

Keep Out the "Reds."

A new immigration law is being enacted that is designed to shut off immigration from Southern Europe, the Balkans and Russia, in favour of the "Nordic race," which, by the way, includes Ireland.

Capital is getting alarmed here. Communism is rearing its head, and red flags are paraded at times. Papers in foreign languages are published in many cities giving news of Russia and of the growing class war in all countries that the well-edited and censored capitalist paper do not print. These "foreigners" also hold street meetings and deny that local police czars have a right to limit or suppress free speech. They also strike and picket and go to jail for better wages and conditions.

A big Jew firm advertising for workers, state "No Jew Need Apply." They find Christian girls more docile and less fiery in demanding organisation and better conditions and pay. This puts the Jew exploiter and capitalist on the same level as the Gentile capitalist.

The new immigration law is an attempt to erect a barrier against the oncoming tide, to keep out the infection from the Robots manufactured here.

"Man and the Masses."

Quite a sensation has been caused by the production of Ernest Toller's play, "Man and the Masses," which is admirably staged by the Theatre Guild. Toller is a young Communist in a Berlin jail for his part in the Spartacist revolution. He shows in seven acts how the capitalist system functions. Men starve and are sent to war to kill each other, while the Church, despite the Galilean teaching, bless the cannon and swords that go out to murder. The Stock Exchange, the same in all countries, is also shown with brokers bartering and selling the labour of men, or of farmers who grow food or cattle. Every dramatic critic and paper attacked the play, but it is playing, like Casey's in Dublin, to crowded houses.

A whole column was cabled over to the "Evening Post" regarding Seap O'Casey and the success of his plays cast among the Dublin tenements and workers.

Figgis's bold bid to be a statesman also reached this side, by mail, and was published in the weekly Irish papers.

The incident of the shaving of Darrell's locks was cabled at the time by the rest of American correspondents in Dublin and was treated as a front page joke, several papers devoting editorials of a light nature to Darrell and his treasured beard.

Now that Casey has made a start other workers who have trod the "purgatorially paved quays" might try their hand at drama or comedy and show the antics of the Darrells and the Milroys and the Tims and the Kevins as they strut across the stage for their few brief acts. The petite bourgeoisie "intellectuals" have had a long innings and Figgis shows the stuff they were made of.

Ireland and Canada.

Canada has received a Soviet trade representative and will shortly confer full recognition on the Russian Government.

Cosgrave and Desmond Fitzgerald, who seem to think the Free State is a Dominion, could do worse than follow Canada's lead and enter into trade relations with Russia. Russia supplied Guinness with many cargoes of barley. It also supplied flax that kept hundreds of Irish workers at the looms. Russia has a new type of peat-cutting and pressing machine that would cheapen fuel in Ireland. Relations with Russia would do much for Ireland. Will Desmond do it, or must he first get permission of the Irish capitalists. Guinness would doubtless favour relations with Russia as only about one-tenth of the barley they use in their porter can be obtained in the two Irelands.

"BOYS IN KHAKI—BOYS IN BLUE"

Speaking at a display in the Theatre Royal by Dublin Boy Scouts Association in aid of the Free State contingent to the Wembley Exhibition and Copenhagen Jamboree, Lord Powerscourt said he wanted to be able to tell with pride that when their contingent was seen at Wembley, the people of other countries would say: "There go the Free State boys!"

Lord Powerscourt needn't worry. With the D.M.P. now champion tug-of-war team of the h-Empire, and the Baden Powell Boy Scouts of Ireland Jamboree-ing in Copenhagen, the future of the Independent-Dominion-Home-Rule-26-County-nation is assured—we don't fink. Yes; soon other nations will be saying "there go the Free State boys"—going with a vengeance.

TOMFOOLERY!

Mr. Cathal O'Shannon, speaking at a "Labour" demonstration at Athlone is reported to have said: "If there was a conflict to-morrow between the rest of Ireland and the Six-Counties, you would be walloped, because you are split from one end of the Twenty-Six-Counties to the other." But, if they had a Labour Government, instead of Sir J. Craig saying he would not budge an inch, he would have to budge a good many counties, in fact a whole province.

Yass! We can fancy the British Government and the Six-Counties' Government running away from O'Shannon, Johnson, O'Brien and the "Workers' Army." Would Senator Foran get his gun and the Alderman his war-horse, and Johnson his snicker-snee, and O'Shannon his—we don't know what weapon would suit him, or, would it be a fight with moral suasion weapons?

Seeing that the present situation is the direct result of "implementing the Treaty," a la If-it-cost-as-much-more-Johnson, it is not easy to see why these "honourable gentlemen" are not satisfied. Fancy the "Labour" Party "implementing the Treaty" and making "Ulster" come in at the same time.

QUACK! QUACK!

Senator Oliver St. John Gogarty's gift of two swans to the Liffey is not appropriate. Why not a pair of ducks? Did he not get a ducking on the occasion of his historic feat, and was he not successful in "ducking" the hail of bullets supposed to have been directed at him? To be sure.

When on the subject may we make a few suggestions for gifts to the National Gallery and Museum.

"President" Cosgrave—A Statue of Ananias.

Tnos. Johnson, T.D.—A Back-Door in Miniature.

Ald. O'Brien—A Ballot-box with sliding bottom.

C. O'Shannon—A Blank Cheque.

Senator Foran—A Stud.

REVOLUTIONISTS THRILLED WITH ERECTING OF SIBERIAN PLANT.

BY RUTH EPPERSON KEIMELL.

(American Secretary and Librarian at
Kuzbas)

KEMEROVO, Siberia, Feb. 11 (by Mail).—
"The first chemical plant will start in a few
days. It seems thrilling that dead frame
coming to life!" Such was the greeting
that accorded an event of world importance
—the first step towards the industrialization
of Siberia.

Center Mining Operations.

Kemerovo is the center of the mining
operations in the Kuznets basin and is one
of the most valuable properties of the Soviet
Government. A few months ago an extension
survey of this was completed and it
was reported that probably one-fourth of
the total known coal reserves of the world
are here.

In 1915 the Czar granted a concession
to a Belgian company for the exploitation
of the basin. The company employed
Austrian war prisoners to erect a huge
chemical plant to convert by products. This
plant was three-fourths complete when the
revolution started. Kolchak occupied Kemerovo
for three months. Since it has been
under the control of the Moscow government,
this project has been cherished as the first
great move toward the industrialization of
Siberia. For over two years it has been
in the hands of American experts—the
Autonomous Industrial Colony, Kuzbas.

Marks Milestone.

Under the direction of S. J. Rutgers,
the Government's manager at Kemerovo
and Dr. Wm. Mahler, superintendent of
the chemical plant and a chemist of international
reputation, the hard discouraging
work has at last been completed. When
Dr. Mahler started to complete the chemical
plant he found important parts missing,
pipe and flanges so badly damaged that they
had to be replaced and even many of the
plants were lost. Dr. Mahler, together with
some of the chemical engineers, went to
Germany to buy the parts that were needed
to complete the plant. The completion of
the chemical plant at Kuzbas marks a mile-
stone in the history of the Soviet Republic.

CHRISTIANA, Norway.—The lock-out move-
ment in Norway is assuming larger dimen-
sions. On February 28th, 12,000 additional
workers were locked out by employers.
The total locked out March 1st was 70,000.

"In accepting the Ten Commandments
too many make one or two reservations."
They are merely following the example
of Governments who suspend all ten when
they think they are in need of a war.

"Ignorance and poverty are the two
greatest evils."—The more harmful of the
two is ignorance, because it fights for the
things that perpetuate poverty.

"We all declare for liberty, but in using
the same word we do not all mean the same
thing. With some the word liberty may
mean for each man to do as he pleases with
himself and the product of his labour,
while with others the same word may mean
for some men to do as they please with
other men and the product of other men's
labour."—Abraham Lincoln.

PRODUCE SCANDAL

A Chara.—Can not some action be taken
in respect of the gross profiteering and wilful
dilution in connection with the distribution
of Dairy, Garden and Farm Produce in the
city?

In the early part of last winter an anti-
profiteering demonstration was organised
under the auspices of the Dublin Trades'
Council to protest against the high prices
of the various necessaries of life, but the
effort appears to have been wasted as regards
any improvement in respect of milk, veget-
ables, etc. Considering the vital importance
of the matter, the Trades' Council should
apply themselves specially towards effecting
the general and permanent removal of the
gross and criminal abuses which have been
allowed to develop and exist. The workers
in other parts of Ireland being also immedi-
ately interested and affected, can render great
assistance by giving particulars as to the
prices of the various commodities in every
district, also to what extent their production
can be developed considering the facilities
for marketing.

Of course it would not be desirable or
necessary that all readers should get into
direct communication, which would entail
much trouble and delay on the part of a
Central Committee. The various particulars
could be sent by a Committee in each County
and local and district committees could
arrange as to collecting and forwarding in
their respective areas.

The particulars should specify and refer
to the price, quantity available, quality,
means of marketing, supply at different
seasons of new milk, buttermilk, separated
milk, skimmed creamery milk, cream, butter,
cheese, eggs, pork and bacon, pigs—alive
and dead, potatoes, turnips, onions, cabbages
and other vegetables; fruit, peas, beans;
also beef, mutton, retail and live weight
prices. It should be possible also to ascer-
tain the average return the dairymen and small
farmer obtains per cow, including price
received for calf, and other current rates
per acre for grazing, meadow, tillage, bog, etc.

These details are essential to the success
of any concentrated effort to effect an
improvement in economic conditions, local
and general.

"INTERESTED."

29th April, 1924.

We will be glad to receive any such
information and assist in relating price paid
to producer and price charged to consumer.

A LITTLE FORGETFULNESS.

In the "Evening Herald" for Wednesday
7th, a bright young man says he is pleased
to see that there are some men energetic
enough to work two jobs, because what is
killing the country is that a lot of wasters
watch the clock to see how little they can
work per hour. He forgot to add that besides
wasters there is another section of people
who are killing the country, and that section
is composed of those who forget that a
question was once asked: "Am I my
brother's keeper?"

A NEW DISCOVERY.

Sir Michael Dwyer, the bould soldier of
Annrsar fame, when examined in his libel
action regarding the Hunter Commission
said: "I went there as a witness and was
treated as a criminal."
Damn it, how did they find out?

REMEMBER.

A shopkeeper named Durney was fined
ten shillings for selling pork which was
unsound for human consumption. His
address is 142 Francis Street. We suggest
that he be allowed to keep his pork. Dublin
people are not exactly particular in their
grub, but they'll hardly desire to eat bad
pork.

THE LETTERKENNY ASYLUM STRIKE.

THE WORLD GRINS.

The Letterkenny Asylum Strike, has
created a stir all over the world. As far as
America and Australia daily papers have
commented on the fact that inmates of a
hospital for the mentally afflicted should be
allowed to look after themselves for an hour,
never mind for a matter of days, and then
to bring in untrained men and women
and appoint them as certified nurses and
attendants over these inmates came as a
fitting end to that reign of the ridiculous.

There is no need to recount the facts
about the strike. Every man and woman in
Ireland has a good working knowledge
about that little interlude in Donegal.
But to give our readers the workers' point
of view we will publish a special article
by M. J. O'Connor on the strike, what led
up to it and what followed it. Comrade
O'Connor is Secretary of the Mental Hospital
Workers' Union and can speak officially
on this matter.

One little point we wish to mention.
In nearly every strike that has taken place
in Ireland lately the cry of "Stand by Agree-
ments" has been raised by the employing
class. Now we see how agreements work
and their value. The Committees of all
the Mental Hospitals in Ireland met the
Mental Hospital Workers and agreed to
certain conditions. The workers have abided
by the agreement, but when the Committee
of Letterkenny Asylum felt hampered by it,
they quickly threw it overboard. So much
for agreements. When the workers feel
hampered by agreements they also will know
what value they hold, and they can follow
the lead of the Committee of the Letterkenny
Asylum.

GOING GOING GONE

BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.

Some time ago we suggested to the
members of the N.U.R. that it would be
advisable for them to place the neck of the
Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas, M.P., Colonial
Secretary to His Britannic Majesty, King
George V., in close proximity to a railway
track when the London Express was due.
But this was not necessary, because when
Jimmy was made a Cabinet Minister it was
announced that he would resign his trade's
union position. But some one told a lie.
Jimmy was too wise. He didn't resign.
No, he was given leave of absence by his
obliging friends, the Executive of the N.U.R.

It was nicely arranged and nicely carried
through, and no one knew much about it.
But the members of the N.U.R. know about
it and as they are about tired of Jimmy they
have respectfully suggested to the Congress
of the N.U.R. that Jimmy should not only
be given leave of absence during his term of
political grafting, but that he be given leave
of absence altogether, in fact the order of
the boot.

Now that Jimmy is between the devil
and the deep sea he should ask the advice
of his comrade in graft, "Ole Bill" O'Brien,
what to do. "Ole Bill" has been holding
many jobs for much time (and much money)
and he got leave of absence from the Trans-
port Union, but being a smarter guy than
Jimmy he managed to keep his salary
(£8 per week), a thing Jimmy couldn't do.
Well, Billy was too smart and he slipped—
and so has Jimmy slipped. They're going—
going—gone, and then us poor guys will
have a chance of becoming Colonial Secre-
taries and City Aldermen. Speed the Day!

Drink is the result of Poverty—or is
Poverty the result of Drink? How about
Guinnesses? They have a lot to do with
drink and they don't have to visit "Uncles"
on Monday morning.

"An Injury to one is the concern of All."

IRISH WORKER

EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

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PORTER AND BEER!

THE PRICE OF A JOB!

Many years ago there used to be a custom prevalent along the quays of Dublin of paying men their wages in the public-houses. It was a good custom—for the publicans.

Another little habit the men themselves had was to leave the price of a pint or two in some pub for the convenience of the stevedore or foreman. It also was a good habit—for the publican.

Of course the men thought it was good for them because it helped to keep their job, and the stevedore thought it was good for him because he got plenty of porter from it. But they were all mistaken—except the publican, he was right; both customs were good for him, or rather his bank balance.

Then some years elapsed and the men and the stevedores found out that both customs were bad for them and they stopped them. The first custom was bad for the men because when they were paid their wages in the pub they never had enough guts to walk out of the pub without drinking a couple of pints for the good of the publican, and as all good things follow one another, they always walked out of the pub with only their hands in their pockets. The stevedore found the custom was no good to him because if he continued to insist on paying the wages in the pub he was likely to get his jaw broken—a thing which is good for no man.

About the second custom the men found that they could keep their jobs without selling their manhood, by standing together and insisting that the first man employed should be the last man to be sacked. The stevedores found that the second custom was bad for them because they got too much beer and the result was D.T.'s. (not terrible devils but delirium tremens) and lots of doctor's fees.

So it was generally agreed that these two customs should be stopped. We all know who was the cause of making the men take the first step and who insisted on them taking that step. But let it be. It suffices that the step was taken and the first men to take that step were the members of the Transport Union who worked on the quays of Dublin.

More years elapsed. The men grew careless, the stevedores arrogant. These two ancient customs returned and the first men to return to them were members of the Transport Union. Now, in this year of grace, 1924, these two customs are in full swing, and every day upon the quays of Dublin men are making beasts of themselves and selling their manhood for the price of a job.

In one public-house alone there were

39 pints of porter waiting for a stevedore. Just imagine 5 gallons of beer, the price of a man's soul and honour, or maybe the price of the manhood of 39 men!

In a building job on the north side of the city one of the foremen has been three weeks in hospital with delirium tremens, brought on by the amount of beer, porter, stout, whiskey, brandy, etc., given to him by the men under him for the purpose of winning his favour. On another job the foremen are drunk before they reach the job, through the numbers of men they met on the way to work with full flasks in their pockets and a strong desire to be friendly with the foreman.

And such is Dublin life-to-day. Such is the great results achieved by the O.B.U. with its 100,000 members. Temperance, sobriety, decency—they are noticeable by their absence. We see how much temperance there is in Ireland when we look at Guinness' profits. 'Twas well said that "Ireland would need a thousand Father Mathews to make her temperate again."

"The Land of Saints and Scholars."

OUR SHAME!

In Monday's "Independent" appeared an article headed "Honouring the Dead—Tribute to Easter Week Leaders," and there followed an account of how the human lice, masquerading as the Free State Government, desecrated the graves of the men of '16 who were butchered in Arbour Hill Barracks and buried in quicklime graves.

Think of Cosgrave, the bosom friend of Lloyd George and Jimmy Craig, daring to even approach those graves. If ever dead men turned in their graves surely Pearse, Connolly, Clarke and their comrades will, at this barefaced hypocrisy.

Eoin McNeill was absent. Why? He would be in worthy company. (Shame did not deter him, or remorse. Those feelings are only possible in a man. Well, the men of '16 faced death for Ireland. We wonder would they have hesitated if they had known who would "honour" them and "pay tribute at their graves" in May, 1924. We wonder.

INDIA.

The Irish people suffered intensely during the Black and Tan regime in this country, but as compensation they were given a so-called Treaty; yet, much as Ireland suffered during those purgatorial years, her pains and anguish were infinitesimal compared to the tortures and terrors undergone by the people of India since the day England first set her foot in that country.

Every year millions of Indians die from starvation alone, while almost as many die from epidemics of different diseases due to the underfeeding and insanitary methods of living. And not content with that, England must send aeroplanes to bomb villages filled with innocent women and children, or order her soldiers to shoot up peaceful gatherings of unarmed men, women and children and then methodically end the ghastly work with the point of the bayonet in the good old British style.

Such is Indian life to-day.

England owes India a debt she can never repay, but she can try and remedy some of the wrongs. There is a so-called Socialist Premier in charge of England to-day. He has his opportunity of proving how much he disagrees with the Imperial policy of murder and rapine. And what has he done? His first official message to India was one of barefaced aggressiveness and a warning against attempts to make known India's demand for national freedom. Well, such things happen. Some day we hope and believe that it will be impossible for one man to dare to give his personal opinion as the opinion of the working-class of England.

ONE MAN—TWO JOBS.

Before giving this week's list of our "Trade-Unionist" Brothers ("Ole Bill" type) let me draw your readers' attention to a Friendly Society Balance Sheet published in the "Irish Times" last week, with the following advice pushed into the said Balance Sheet by the Manager, who must have had a brain wave. He says—"Unemployment is rife" and then he announces that he wants spare-timers and asks for Civic Guards, Civil Servants, School-teachers, etc., etc., to take up insurance work in their spare time. How this is going to solve the problem of unemployment he forgets to tell us, but we full-time men now know that our means of livelihood are in danger and we also know that the Unions are assisting in protecting the spare-timers. So long as they are able to take one night off per quarter to vote their officials to their various positions then all is lovely in the garden.

Guinness supplies a good number of spare-timers. One man who works in the above firm built a book in an Insurance Society, the Manager of which is in a Trade Union, and who incidentally interests himself in Co-Operatives as a pass-time. This man transferred his whole book to another Society some two years ago, now he is busy transferring the same book to another Society (all for the love of Ireland), whilst the poor worker who pays the premium is being robbed of his proper benefit. In the same Trade Union there are four other agents (all Union men) wearing the Union badge who can be depended upon to vote as instructed even on a reduction of ten shillings per week for themselves. This little crew ran, until recently, a coal depot for the love of the poor—and of course themselves—and to prove they belonged to the "Ole Bill" flying-squad they had a Red Flag floating over their depot. However, something happened and the Red Flag is torn down and the name of S. Irwin & Co., Ltd., appears. It would be interesting to know why the change took place. One wag says Larkin is to blame.

Another gent runs a couple of shops, does a bit of money-lending, collects rents and is credited with being so mean he would not tell a blind man the time. The Union has proved beyond a doubt they are protecting the Boss and the more one man two jobs, the cheaper the labour. The slogan must be "One Man One Job" no overtime until every unemployed man gets work and can secure for himself, his wife and children the full needs of life. Those crawling, sneaking, lick-spittles who hold two jobs and Union officials who permit it must go—no matter how. Our business, as men who have fought against this kind of blacklegging, is to put our full force into the fight, and if every honest rank and file refuses to pay spare-time collectors our fight will be short, both with those so-called officials and the bosses.

Yours,

"A Workers' Republican."

RELEASE THE PRISONERS.

Perhaps Mr. Thos. Johnson, T.D., Ald. Wm. O'Brien, Senators Foran, Farren, Duffy and their accomplices hope that the "Release the Prisoners" campaign is a storm in a teacup and that their "wait till the clouds roll by" tactics will not be taken notice of. Keep at it, merry-men. Your treachery is mounting up and the day of reckoning approaches. Johnson, Foran, O'Brien, Farren, Duffy and the rest are keeping in the prisoners—not Cosgrave. Take note, electors—Johnson and O'Brien must go!

JOIN THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.
Entrance Fee, 1/-. Subscriptions 3d. Weekly

JIM LARKIN TALKS TO THE ENGLISH MINERS.

Our Editor has been away this week in England. He was invited to speak at Spen, Co. Durham, England, at the Annual Labour Day Demonstration on Monday, 5th May. We give a résumé of the proceedings and we reprint the appreciation, contained in the printed programme, of Jim Larkin, his works and labours on behalf of his class.

PROGRAMME.

The audience sang the "Internationale." Chairman's remarks. Speeches by James Stewart, Jim Larkin, W. Whiteley, M.P. Presentation of Medallion to School Children by W. Whiteley, M.P. The demonstration closed with the singing of the "Red Flag" by the audience.

The appreciation is as follows:—

OUR CHIEF SPEAKER,

JIM LARKIN.

Jim Larkin needs no introduction to our people, as many will remember his visits of pre-war days. His name is a household word in the International Labour and Socialist Movement, and for many long years he has been voicing the aspirations of the common people.

Jim Larkin's life has been lived in trying to uplift his own class, and he has never been afraid to take up the cudgels on behalf of the worker. Larkin is truly the Spirit Incarnate of working-class revolt.

To many of us he just came into prominence in 1913, but long before that Jim Larkin had been an agitator on behalf of the bottom dog. In far away 1890 he was a member of the S.D.F., and was one of the original members of the I.L.P. That was in the days before Ramsay MacDonald, Philip Snowden, or that immaculate lady, Mrs. Snowden, had been discovered. Yes, Larkin may be looked upon as a comparatively young man, but he was in our movement when the great Keir Hardie was still a Liberal and a Temperance Reformer.

He founded the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union in 1909. This was one of the most militant trade unions of pre-war days, and was engaged in many struggles to try and improve the terrible lot of the Irish labourer. This militant organisation improved the wages and conditions of its members to such a degree that Irish capitalism decided to smash it.

The Dublin employers, led by "Boss" Murphy, introduced the "Document"—refusal of employment—to any man or woman who was a member of the Industrial Union, so ably led by Larkin and Connolly. Lock-out notices were issued, culminating in the greatest and fiercest struggle in the annals of modern trade unionism—the Dublin Strike of 1913. In this long and bitter struggle the Irish workers appealed to their British comrades for support.

A shipload of Co-operative foodstuffs was sent from this country to feed the Dublin fighters, but the old school of British trade union leaders were not prepared to support such a militant leader as Jim Larkin, and to their eternal disgrace they withdrew their support. Undaunted, Larkin, Connolly, and the men appealed to the rank and file of British Trade Unionism to help the Irish worker in his hour of need. It was during this appeal that our speaker was given a welcome among us in the fall of 1913. Our area did much to help the Dublin people, but after a long-drawn out struggle the fight was brought to an unsuccessful issue through lack of general support. Mention must be made of the wonderful help given to the Irish workers by the "Daily Herald," then a fighting daily. Will Dyson, in his biting cartoons, caricatured the Dublin bosses, and the "Herald" published his celebrated cartoon depicting the forces of "law and order" battoning the Dublin workers with

the swatchword "Women and Children First."

We again had Larkin with us at the memorable Miners' Gala at Durham in the latter days of July, 1914. Since then much water has passed beneath the bridge. One of the greatest men the British working-class movement has produced—Jim Connolly—comrade and co-worker with Larkin, was foully murdered by the representatives of British capitalism on the 12th May, 1916, for the great part he took in the Easter Rebellion.

Larkin was now in America, still carrying on the age-long fight of the oppressed and down-trodden people. In this "land of liberty" Jim Larkin received sentence of five to ten years for "criminal anarchy."

Capitalism has not yet learned that it cannot stop our movement by imprisoning our leaders. Nay, prison doesn't kill men of the calibre of Larkin. I remember him writing from his American prison as No. 5,909:—"Never fear, I will be in line when the order comes to march."

"All that we know who lie in gaol—

Is that the wall is strong;

And that each day is like a year,

A year whose days are long."

The long years have rolled by, the call has been made to march, and we give our Comrade, Leader, Veteran, a welcome to this our International Day.—S.L.

When the time came to address the meeting Jim spoke as follows. It is only a portion of his speech and we reprint it from the "Illustrated Chronicle." Although we have a Labour Daily in England we found no mention of his talk in it.

"England called upon Russia to answer as honest business men a debt entered into, but they never suggested that England should pay her debts first. What had Russia to pay to England? Did she owe them anything? Mr. Ramsay MacDonald talked from the bankers' point of view. Let the bankers go to hell and get out. That was money lent by the English capitalists. Russia has given us more than we can ever give them. They have given us a revolution. They have given us a slogan—"All power to the workers." Then why quibble?"

Talking about salvation of humanity, Mr. Larkin said it was the rebel element in the British Labour movement which would bring that about—those who were prepared to make sacrifices.

Next week we will carry the full story written by Jim himself.

LIMERICK NEWS.

Jimmy O'Brien Gets the Order of the Boot.

In the "Vices" for May 3rd appeared an alleged report of the Annual General Meeting of the Limerick Branch of the I.T. & G.W.U. Many things were mentioned, such as the large amount of "Vices" sold and what a great man Jimmy O'Brien (no relative of B.J.s, but the same breed) was. However, the report missed one little item of information and we give it herewith.

The following resolution was proposed by Con Ryan and seconded by John CroTTY:—"Resolved:—That we, the members of the I.T. & G.W.U., Limerick Branch, assembled at an Annual General Meeting at 91 O'Connell Street, 27th April, 1924, call on the National Executive, Head Office, Dublin, to remove Organiser Seumas O'Brien from this Branch on the grounds that the members have no confidence in him and that his attitude and failure to even advocate protection for several old members in good standing at present victimised is subversive to the maintenance of reasonable working conditions and wages."

Several members supported this resolution and gave particulars of these cases of victimi-

IN MEMORIAM.

In Proud and Loving Memory of
Commandant-General James Connolly, I.C.A.
Commandant Michael Mallin, I.C.A.

Sean McDermott, I.R.A.

who died in May, 1916 for the Irish Republic at Kilmainham Prison; and also the soldiers of the Irish Citizen Army who fell in action during Easter Week, 1916, fighting for the Republic.

Far dearer the grave or the prison
Illumined by one patriot name
Than the triumphs of those who have risen
On Liberty's ruin to fame.

'Tis sweeter to bleed for an age at thy shrine
Than to sleep but a moment in chains.

Mass will be offered for the repose of their souls in the Carmelite Church, Whitefriar Street, 11th inst., at 11 o'clock.

Inserted by Officers and Men, I.C.A.:

Dein Trochaire ortha, a Thighearna.

sation. The Chairman (Sheehan) called for a show of hands on an amendment to the resolution, and discouraged by the result declared that a ballot vote would be taken.

Another proposal carried was that "the £100 election deposit he (Seamus O'Brien) used out of the funds was illegal and open to further question."

After these little interludes the meeting became slightly boisterous, and Messrs. Bill and Jimmy O'Brien, with their friend the "Red Heron," departed from the Hall.

There's some bright boys down in Limerick.

Irish Transport & General Workers' Union.

NO. 3 BRANCH—74 THOMAS STREET.

Grocers' Porters' Section.

4th May, 1924.

RESOLVED:—

"That we the members of the above section Committee desire to pass a vote of sincere confidence in our worthy General Secretary—Jim Larkin.

And we hereby pledge ourselves to sustain him in his fight for the uplifting and betterment of the workers.

We call upon the general body to rally to his support."

Signed—

CHRISTOPHER MCCORMACK.

PATRICK SWEENEY.

JAMES NAUGHTON.

MICHAEL KAVANAGH,

Section Secretary.

Copies to be sent to the "Irish Worker" and "Voice of Labour."

THE STRENGTH OF IRISH LABOUR.

At the Annual Conference of the Postal Workers' Union the President complained of the wholesale dismissals of long service men who were prominent in the Postal Strike in 1922. These dismissals have been going on for over two years, and yet we are told that we have an organised labour movement in Ireland. Preserve us from an unorganised one.

America refuses political independence to the Philippines on the grounds that they are unable to govern themselves. Perhaps Washington could lend them some "oil" to grease the wheels of government with.

The more wages a man gets, the more he can buy, therefore there's more trade. Trade depends on high wages. Pay high wages and have good trade.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION 100 Fifth Avenue, New York.

April 14th, 1924.

Support of the Philippine Independence movement is voiced in a resolution sent yesterday by a group of prominent American liberals to the officers of the Senate and House—“immediate and unconditional independence” to the islands. The resolution was prepared at the instance of the American Civil Liberties Union as an expression of “the principles of civil and political liberty on which this nation is founded.” It bears the signatures of well-known lawyers, social workers, editors, labor leaders, ministers and writers.

Among them are Moorfield Storey of Boston, former President of the American Bar Association; Jeannette Rankin of Montana, first Congresswoman; Dr. John A. Ryan of Washington, director of the National Catholic Welfare Council; William H. Johnston of Washington, President of the International Association of Machinists; Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of New York; Frank P. Walsh of New York, former Joint Chairman of the War Labor Board; and Zona Gale of Wisconsin, author and magazine writer.

Dr. Harry F. Ward, Chairman of the American Civil Liberties Union, in making public the resolution said that the signers represented only a small fraction of liberals supporting Philippine Independence in the United States. His statement reads:—

“This seems to us an appropriate time for those who believe in the principle of self-government to testify to it as it applies to the Philippines. Congress deserves to hear from those active in American public life who have convictions on this issue. The Philippine people ask for their independence and interested Americans owe them as well as Congress a statement of opinion.

“In preparing this resolution, we encountered only a few objections to Philippine Independence, and those were due chiefly to the fear that if we let them go some other imperialistic nation would seize them. That is a fear which need not now concern us. Those who object on the ground that the natives are not capable of self-government repeat arguments which might be applied with equal force to many American communities. Some refused to support political independence because it would not free the Philippines from the grip of the financial interests who are exploiting their resources. These objections all seem to us quite aside from the present chief issue. Political independence is a matter of principle. It is on that the statement to Congress is based.”

The resolution in full reads:—

“We urge that the Congress of the United States issue a declaration of complete independence for the Philippines effective as soon as the civil and military representatives of the United States can be withdrawn. On several occasions since 1899, the Government of the United States, speaking through the President and Congress, has specifically pledged itself to grant Philippine independence as soon as a stable government is established in the Islands. The practically unanimous demand for independence by the Philippine people shows their own estimate of their ability to conduct their affairs. But quite irrespective of their competence for self-government, we would urge their right to independence.

“If the principles of civil and political liberty on which this nation is founded mean more than a revered tradition of easy phrases, their vitality can be tested only by applying them generously to the Philippines. May Congress insure further relations of good-will and co-operation between the American and Philippine peoples by an act of honest recognition of the justice of immediate and unconditional independence.”

The signers of the resolution expressing their personal views, not the official stand of organizations with which many are connected, are:

Dr. Harry F. Ward, New York City; Dr. Edward T. Devine, New York, member of the recent U.S. Coal Commission; Frederic C. Howe, former U.S. Commissioner of Immigration at New York; Rev. John Haynes Holmes, of the Community Church, New York City; William H. Johnston, President of the International Association of Machinists; Bishop Paul Jones, Secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation; Francis Fisher Kane, former U.S. District Attorney at Philadelphia; Prof. Robert Morris Love of the University of Chicago; Basil Manly, former Joint Chairman of the War Labor Board, Washington; James H. Maurer, President of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor; John F. Moors, Boston banker and overseer of Harvard College; Prof. Henry R. Mussey, Wellesley College; Jackson H. Ralston, Attorney for the American Federation of Labor, Washington; Jeannette Rankin, former Congresswoman; Dr. John A. Ryan of the National Catholic Welfare Council, Washington; Moorfield Storey, former President of the American Bar Association and of the Anti-Imperialist League, Boston; Oswald Garrison Villard, editor of the “Nation”; Lillian D. Wald, head of the Henry Street Settlement, New York City; Frank P. Walsh, former Joint Chairman of the War Labor Board; Rabbi Stephen S. Wise of the Jewish Institute of Religion, New York City; L. Hollingsworth Wood, New York Attorney, President of the National Urban League; Gilson Gardner, of the Scripps-Howard newspapers, Washington; James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Mrs. Elizabeth Glendower Evans, of the League for Democratic Control, Boston; Alice Stone Blackwell, writer, Boston; and Zona Gale, Wisconsin, author and magazine writer.

“FELIX” KEEPS ON TALKING

So Thomas Johnson, T.D. (not M.P.—“I suppose one must be in the fashion, a Chàra!”) has succeeded in dragging the intellectual rag-bag that styles itself a Labour Party at the heels of British and Irish capitalism. Johnson “spies the enemy on the hill,” as we used to say in the days of our boyish military exploits, and the enemy is British capitalism—(Bang hard on the drums there, brother). T. J. is in favour of such Protection for Irish industries as will safeguard them from British competition—here the “honourable gentleman” arranges his tie and registers a chuckle—and therefore he agrees with the F. S. Government and the F. S. Government agrees with him, and, the agreement being mutual, everything is right as right can be.

Felix Keeps on Talking.

There is no mention of the fact that one of the results of the present “Protection” policy will be the further establishment of British industries on our shores. Mr. Johnson may protest he is in favour of Protection for Irish industries and that he is not necessarily in favour of the F. S. Government Bill. Let him put his professions to the test: What about the referendum? The “Voice of Labour,” subsidised organ of O’Brien-Foran-Johnsonism, may pretend it is against the Bill, inasmuch as it does not prevent profiteering. Let the subsidisers put their sincerity to the test. Head Office Staff at Pargell Square and the army of scribes at 32 Lj. Abbey St. have plenty of time to despatch circular letters to every Trades Union and Branch of Trades Unions in the country. Let them do it. But, no! Felix keeps on talking!

Only That and Nothing More.

Felix the tile-walker has been giving an

interview to a representative of the “Daily Herald.” Quite accidental, you know—met him in Woolworth’s, at the stand-stand-can lunch counter. “Awfully glad to meet you, old bean,” says Felix. “How is the old gas-leak at Westminster-on-Thames. Haven’t heard from the carbon-dioxide factory for ever so long, ha! ha!”

We Told You So.

Mr. Johnson is proceeding, according to plan, with the partition policy, and the excursion into print in the “Daily Herald” is part of the game to definitely partition the country. Mr. Johnson assures the Ramsay MacDonald Government that Irish Labour demands the settlement of the Boundary Question, but Irish Labour does not know the mind of Johnson. Johnson “regrets” the country will be dismembered, and, though he prepared to “implement the dismembering Treaty” even “if it cost as much more,” he is not prepared nor has he been at any time, to strive for unification of the country. Johnson is playing the game and Ald. O’Brien, Foran, Farren, Duffy etc., are watching eagerly. If the Treaty lives they hold their jobs—“IF.”

TWICE ONE ARE TWO— TWICE TWO ARE FOUR.

The Free State Government have fooled the teachers. They do not get a halfpenny notwithstanding the height of generosity of the “O’Connell” Monument in giving away £15,000 of their Union funds to the Free State Government. When the teachers made a show of fighting—or of talking—the “Government” promised things; now, the mask is off and the most benighted of pedagogues must see daylight. The reputation of Irish teachers for servility and sumpiness is such that the next move to suggest itself to an ordinary outsider is another presentation to the linear measurement that functions as Secretary to the Teachers’ Organisation. As an alternative, perhaps, another purchase of Free State Victory Loan would do.

The Minister for Education is “Sharpecurve” McNeill; a “sharp” unit certainly, and sufficient of a “curve” to indicate he is not straight. Bearing in mind the sanctimonious record of the man, his continual preaching in the old days of high-moral-purpose-don’t-get-off-the-rail stuff, while all the time he kept his sleeve convenient to laugh up, it is not surprising that he has lent himself to reducing the teachers to slavery. The teachers of Ireland have nothing to hope for until they remove O’Connell of the Salaries and decide to join with the militant labour movement—in sending the McNeills where they belong.

Irish Transport & General Workers’ Union.

SPORTS COMMITTEE.

At the usual weekly meeting of the Sports Committee, Irish Transport and General Workers’ Union, held at Liberty Hall, Dublin, on 4th inst., the following resolution was proposed and passed unanimously (all standing), viz:—“That we the members of this Committee beg to tender our deepest and most sincere sympathy to our Hon. Secretary, Mr. Patrick Lennon, in consequence of the lamented death of his distinguished brother, the Very Rev. John Canon Lennon, P.P., V.G., Wexford.

We also direct that a copy of this resolution be inserted on the minutes and that copies be sent to Rev. Albert Lennon, C.C., Galbally, Ennisworthy, to Mr. Patrick Lennon, and to the “Irish Worker.” The meeting then adjourned.

POLICY OF PROTECTION

In last week's issue it was suggested that the correct line of advance towards industrialism in Ireland should be through special concentration on the development of the agricultural arm. The reasons for this are that (1) it is the way that lies to our hand; (2) it is the agricultural population that is filling our shores; (3) a policy of tariffs on imported manufactured goods would largely result in bringing in foreign capital to the country, thereby defeating the very purpose of such tariffs, with the very particular result that the profits of foreign-financed industries would go abroad to foreign investors.

The Only Way.

In saying that "it is the way that lies to our hand," the following are the implications: (1) the development of agriculture would result in the tide of emigration being stemmed at once and without the delay involved in "industrial" constructiveness; (2) the increased production of beef and mutton would mean an increased supply of leather, horn, etc., and wool for our boot, woollen and other manufacturers; (3) the stoppage of emigration would result in a greater demand for foodstuffs and manufactured goods at home and a supply of man power capable of increasing our exports of cattle, butter, eggs, etc., without prejudice to industrial development at home; (4) the increased export of foodstuffs and raw materials, principally to England, would give us increased purchasing power in foreign markets to meet our demands for new and more modern machinery, etc.

Some War Methods Applicable to Peace Time.

The late world war witnessed the recognition by capitalist governments of methods which, in the more sober times of peace, are usually attributed to "Bolsheviks," Socialists and other "disrupters" of Society. The lustful flame of so-called nationalism, lighted in many countries in the late war, was the cause and justification for these newer methods, and they received legal recognition and sanction, and their spiritual guardian was St. "DORA." It is well the people should look back on these things when time has cooled the passions of war, and, as they have a distinct bearing on events of to-day and contain a lesson for to-morrow, an examination into them is well worth while.

Defense of the Realm.

What a strange thing that the "Realm" needs defending only in time of war! Curious, isn't it? How remarkable that Governments only seek out the unemployed when there is killing to be done or munitions of war to be manufactured! A tramp may tramp the roads in "peace" time and fall by the wayside and all the attention governments pay is to provide him with a workhouse or a coffin. But, when the drum beats to battle the recruiting sergeant gathers him in and puts a gun into his hand and sends him out to kill his fellow, for the love of Christ, or sends him to explore the mysteries of T.N.T. so that his brother may go to heaven the quicker. Even the jails are cleared to speed the day when the world shall be made safe for "civilization, Christianity and small nationalities," and we know it!!

Capitalism in Danger.

When capitalism in any country is endangered it discovers a way to buttress itself against the winds of adversity, and an appeal to the (sound) social instincts of the people as expressed in the (usually sound) creed of "Nationalism," is the way. To deflect somewhat the current of prevailing opinion let us say, that the one and only justification for government is the welfare of the governed; that there is no more reason

for providing a man with work in time of war than in time of peace—a good deal less in fact; that a hungry and workless man is a greater menace to the "Realm," or the nation, in time of peace than in time of war; that, therefore, it is the primary duty of Government to find work for him that will react to the common good.

The Free State.

The Free State, like other capitalist governments, could find work for unemployed even to the meanest corner-boy, when there was fighting to be done. In the present stressful time of "peace" starvation sits on many doorsteps and the army of unemployed grows apace. This is the time chosen for an ill-considered policy of "Protection"—Protection for vested interests, British and Irish. There is no reason why the problem could not have been tackled in a bold and intelligent manner—except that boldness and intelligence are rapidly vanishing quantities in "our" Government. For that reason nothing need have been expected and nothing need be expected. Nevertheless, by consideration of what might have been done, we can determine the culpability of the governmental capitalist jobocracy that batters on the National misfortunes and thereby prepare the ground for their undoing.

Compulsory Tillage.

During the late World War the British Government brought into operation, in England and Ireland, a Compulsory Tillage Act. It fixed the price of certain produce, barley, oats, etc., and to meet the additional cost used inflated currency. At the other end it fixed the retail price of certain goods, though taking care that the farming and business classes would come well out of it. We are not concerned with the actual operation of the Act as much as with the principle involved, and that principle has as great application this moment as during the Great War.

In drafting the Compulsory Tillage Act the British Government took care not to limit the price or rent of land, and thus provided a loophole for profiteer farmers and land speculators to make fortunes at the expense of the agricultural workers. For, beyond a certain price farmers could not go, if they were to make a "war" profit, unless the agricultural workers' wages were brought down to a certain limit.

How To Do It.

The enactment of a compulsory tillage act is an economic necessity in Ireland to-day. The fact that the vast majority of Irish farmers are paying a very low purchase annuity to the Land Commission disposes for the greater part, of the necessity to fix rents, but whatever may be needed to meet the case can easily be given the force of law. If a farmer should, for one reason or another, be unable to till the amount required, he could have the option of renting his land at a statutory rent, based on actual valuation, and any other farmer or any association of workers or farmers should have the right to take his land, at the statutory rent, for tillage purposes.

The fixation of prices and the limitation of exports follow naturally the enactment of a compulsory tillage measure. It is easily understood that if a certain acreage is put under crops there must be some sort of guarantee that those crops will be disposed of. Under capitalism a glut in the market means a fall in prices, usually to the disadvantage of the producers of the "glutted" goods. If there were no limit to the amount of agricultural produce exported, say, to England, the supply to the English market would fall below its true value and Irish agriculture would have to bear the loss. For still another reason export of agricultural produce should be limited, i.e., to produce a partial glut in the home market so

that growers of barley, oats, etc., would find themselves compelled to breed cattle, etc., and thereby ensure that manufacturers of leather, woollen and other goods would have an adequate supply of cheap material in due course. To prevent profiteering the Government could fix the retail price of goods manufactured in Ireland and imported, and this price would almost invariably fall below the price of similar articles imported from abroad, owing to the cheapness of food at home. Lastly wages should be fixed.

Initial Difficulties.

The obstacle to the introduction of compulsory tillage is the extra cost of converting grazing into tilled land and the implied payment of wages to agricultural workers, between the time of sowing and the disposal of crops, as well as the cost of manure, seeds and machinery. It is here we can take another leaf out of the War-makers' book. England, faced with the situation of having to convert gramophone, sewing-machine, cycle factories, etc., into factories for the production of army equipment and munitions, promptly commenced to issue paper money to pay the cost. Like other paper money—though worth less than the face value of the "Irish Worker"—it was good for the purchase of twenty shillings worth of goods. We do not suppose any of our readers know a shopkeeper willing to give them £1 worth of goods for the "I.W."—we are looking for him ourselves but you would insult his "intelligence" if you suggested that the "Irish Worker" is intrinsically of more value. Such is confidence and credit.

Implementing the Treaty.

If the successors of the late Griffiths and Collins would face the problem of "implementing the Treaty," as Mr. J. would say, at a cost to the nation of scores of millions of pounds, the Government of Ireland surely could find the necessary credit at home to pay the wages of as many agricultural workers as would require them from that source for the four or five months during which the crops are growing, and could purchase also seeds and fertilizer or advance loans for their purchase.

If it be considered that the wages of agricultural workers are spent ninety-nine times out of every hundred the week in which they are earned and therefore, would go back into circulation at once, the solution of the problem is apparent. During the late "civil" war "we" paid an army of 50,000 men for shooting their fellow-countrymen; suppose we paid an army of 50,000 (or 100,000) agricultural workers for tilling the land, not for eighteen months, but for a mere five, it would be no time till—Hush! Bolshevism!

A necessary condition of inflating the currency for purposes like the one stated is, that prices of all sorts of goods made at home or imported should be fixed not later than the date at which the inflation of the currency would begin. This would only be subject to variation to meet the changing prices of goods imported.

To Be Continued.

It is not possible to deal properly, in one article, with a subject like the present one. As occasion arises it will be further dealt with.

"THE LABOUR BULLETIN."

We advise our readers to buy a copy of the "Labour Bulletin" published by Comrade Dunne. It's got the goods, as the Yank remarks. When finished with it you should hand it to a fellow worker or better still stick it up on some wall where the ordinary man in the street may read, mark and learn. We congratulate Comrade Dunne on his clear and concise statement of damning facts against the O'Brien clique.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.

At the Conference held in the Mansion House on Sunday, 27th April, it was decided to hold the election of the E.C. on the following Sunday, May 11th. Unfortunately this was impossible. The Mansion House was not available and the Trades' Hall was engaged, therefore, we were forced to postpone the meeting. The elections will take place as soon as arrangements can be made. Watch for announcements. We wish to remind members that the nominee, the proposer and seconder must be prepared to show their membership cards when called upon to do so. This is of vital importance, and should not be overlooked.

Members must bear in mind that the weekly contribution has now been fixed at 3d. per week and is compulsory, and therefore there will be such a thing as falling in arrears. At present that will not entail any loss of benefits, but in the near future it will mean a serious loss to members in many ways. So keep your cards clear.

LONDON BRANCH

The London Branch of the "Irish Worker League" marched behind its own banner to Hyde Park on May Day. The banner was inscribed "Release Irish Prisoners." In the Park Captain J. R. White spoke at one platform and a member of the Branch at another. Besides these two speakers several other English comrades spoke about the prisoners. A deputation from the League waited on the Chairman of all thirteen platforms and secured the carrying of a strongly-worded resolution demanding the release of prisoners and cessation of grants to Craig's Government.

MOUNTJOY SQUARE.

The following letter is the reply received from the Commissioners of Mountjoy Square in answer to the public demand for the opening of that Square as a public playground for the children of that vicinity. Evidently it is of more value to the nation to have good tennis players than to have healthy and happy children.

Mountjoy Square, Dublin.
April 29th, 1924.

Sir,—In reference to your letter of March 24th, 1924, which was considered at a recent meeting of the Commissioners of Mountjoy Square, I beg to inform you that the Commissioners regard Mountjoy Square as the property of the owners and ground-landlords of the houses forming the Square and that they (the Commissioners) are merely trustees for the owners, and have only the powers conferred by the Act of Parliament under which they are appointed.

Believe me Sir,
Your obedient servant,
ESMONDE W. LITTLE.

Hon. Sec. Treas. to the
Commissioners of Mountjoy Sq.

Michael O'Mullan, Esq.,
Hon. Sec., Mountjoy Sq. Com.,
Mountjoy Square.

OUR COMING EXCURSION TO WEXFORD

As you will see by our advertising columns the Irish Worker League is running an Excursion to Wexford on Sunday, May 18th. Seven shillings is the fare charged from Dublin, with suitable deductions for those travelling from Dun Laoghaire and Bray. Those of our readers who made the journey to Roscrea with us know that they will receive value for their money should they decide to follow us to Wexford.

Wexford has long been the Mecca of Dublin

excursionists and for many reasons. First, there are many Wexford people in Dublin who avail of each and every opportunity to return to the "ould spot"; secondly, Wexford has much historic interest and many beauty-spots in the vicinity which are worth visiting.

Two bands will accompany the excursionists. In Wexford we will have sports, football match, and speech-making. Judging by the arrangements we will have "good gas" as the Dublin Jackeens say.

Irish Transport & General Workers' Union.
No. 3 BRANCH.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

of the Members of No. 3 Branch,
will be held in the

MANSION HOUSE.

ON

SUNDAY, 11th MAY, 1924

at 12.30 p.m.

All Members of the Branch are urged to be in attendance.

BUSINESS:

To deal with Circular Letters received from Head Office and Delinquent Officials.

The E.C. Members are invited to attend

ADMISSION BY CARD (1924) ONLY.

By Order of Committee,

J. BOHAN, Secretary.

FINTAN LALOR PIPERS' BAND.

JAMES CONNOLLY

COMMEMORATION CONCERT
MANSION HOUSE

MAY 12th, 1924, 8 p.m.

ORATION BY JIM LARKIN

Dublin's Leading Artists will appear

ALSO

FINTAN LALOR PIPERS

AND

No. 5 Branch I.T.W.U. Fife & Drum Band

ADMISSION ONE SHILLING

During the Concert there will be a Draw for a £1 Note, all Ticket Holders participating.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE

LONDON READERS PLEASE NOTE.

A London Group of the Irish Worker League has been formed. Open meetings, Sunday, 7.30 p.m., at Central Southwark Labour Centre.

"Irish Worker" is On Sale:—

NEWSAGENTS

Battersea—A. Toleman, 54 Battersea Rise.
W.C.—Communist Party, 16 King Street.
E.C.—Workers' Dreadnought, 152 Fleet Street
Plumstead—O'Sullivan, 154 Plumstead Road.
East Greenwich—Johannes, 11 Blackwell Lane
Deptford—Latter, Catholic Church.
Lewisham—Catholic Church.
Bermondsey—A. Mallandain, 19 Parker Row, Dockhead.

Voluntary sellers wanted. Also members.

Write:—Hon. Sec., Irish Worker League, above address.

Dublin Trades' Council and Irish Worker League

EXCURSION TO WEXFORD Sunday, May 18th

leaving Amiens Street Station at 9 o'clock, Westland Row 9.5 a.m., Dun Laoghaire 9.15 a.m., Bray 9.35 a.m. Returning from Wexford 7 p.m.

Football Matches and other Sports. Details later.

Fintan Lalor Pipers and No. 5 Branch Fife and Drum Band.

TICKETS—ADULTS

DUBLIN.....	.....	7/-
DUN LAOGHAIRE .....	.....	6/6
BRAY .....	.....	6/-

Children up to 14 half price.

Tickets may be bought at Trades' Hall, Capel Street, 74 Thomas Street, 17 Gardiner's Place.



SERVICE **QUALITY**

"THANK YOU"

UNITED TEA COMPANY

(F. ROBERT MOONEY, MANAGER)
47 PARNELL SQUARE

We are selling Tea at 2/8 per lb. that cannot be purchased in any shop in Dublin at 3/6.
Prompt and personal attention given to all orders.

"AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS STOMACH."

We are helping to fill the stomach of the Irish working class, so that they also may march forward.
We offer all members of the Irish Worker League the following bargains:—

PRICE LIST.

Sardines .....	.....	3d. per tin
Oatmeal (Fine Scotch) .....	.....	3d. per lb.
Tinned Milk (Sweetened) .....	.....	10d. per tin
Rice .....	.....	4d. per lb.
Tinned Peaches (1lb. tins) .....	.....	8d. per tin
Linoleum, 2 yards wide .....	.....	5/- per linear yd.
Soap (3 lb. bars) .....	.....	1s. per bar
Herrings in Tomato Sauce (tinned) .....	.....	6d. per tin
Kipper Herrings (tinned) .....	.....	5½d. per tin
Kipper Snacks (tinned) .....	.....	2½d. per tin

To be had any time, any day, at—
THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE
17 Gardiner's Place, Dublin.

CUP AND SPOONBILL RESTAURANT

6 NORTH EARL STREET

[10 Seconds from Pillar]

Table d'Hote Luncheon—2/-.
Roast Beef and Yorkshire—1/-.
Tea a Speciality—Hot Scones and Potato Cakes.

OPEN ON SUNDAYS

THE IRISH WORKER

AN T-OIBRÍDE ZAOLÁC

Edited by JIM LARKIN

No. 45. NEW SERIES.

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

SATURDAY, MAY 17th, 1924

TWOPENCE

GAS WORKS STRIKE

We are glad the organ of the Employers' Federation and the mouthpiece of every reactionary in the country—the "Freeman"—has come out into the open. The subsidised felon-setter and British Government organ calls for Government Scabs to be enrolled to break the strike of the men, who, after months of negotiations, have been forced to withdraw their labour from the premises of the Dublin Alliance Gas Consumers' Co.—Dublin Gas Co.—Moryah! controlled and directed as all other industrial plants and public utilities from London and by absentee profiteers. The paid hiring of British capitalism, the "Freeman," demands that the agents of Great Britain—the Free State Government—employ hired strike-breakers and hired thugs to protect them. Not content with this foul appeal to armed industrial conflict, they deliberately lie about the attitude of the worker on strike. They know, and the public knows, how the public of this and adjacent towns have been exploited by this same philanthropic Company—Bad Gas, High Prices, Bad Service. In fact the plant should have been taken over by the people long years ago in the interests of public honesty and public need. Further, the "Freeman's" paid liars know that the strike was forced on the men by the action of the Company due to the tyrannical methods of the management, and to the violating of every clause of an agreement voluntarily entered into by the Company with their workers in December, 1923, and their statement that the men refused to submit their case to a Court of Inquiry is a lie. The men not only agreed to submit their case, but volunteered to resume work on Thursday on three conditions—that the men victimised be reinstated pending the finding of the Court of Inquiry, and that the agreement entered into in December, 1923, be the basis of discussion at the Inquiry, and that the mediator issue his finding on or before May 28th. This offer was turned down by the manager and engineer. The "Freeman" wants armed intervention. Good! What do the Union printers and the members of other unions working in the scab-herding "Freeman" think of this strike-breaking proposition? Are they going to be classified as strike-breakers—set up and distribute appeals for strike-breakers and armed intervention in industrial disputes? What kind of Union men are they who submit to this appeal to passion and force.

THE INJUNCTION EXECUTIVE DESERTS THE ROAD WORKERS.

The instructions of the "Injunction" Executive are being carried out by their loyal tools. Last night (Thursday) a Conference of the County Dublin Branches was held at Eden Quay to discuss the proposal defeated months ago, to force the acceptance of the £2 a week wage by Road Workers. Last night's meeting carried,

with only one dissentient, the motion of Gurra Byrne, (seconded by the imposition Secretary of Dean's Grange Branch—Mullvany), to compel the Road Workers to accept the totally inadequate £2 wage. The resolution of the Dublin County Council refusing to accept dictation from the Government as to what wages the Road men should be paid still stands, and we have now the picture of the I.T. & G.W.U. compelling that body to pay its workers at the slavery-rate. O'Brien's and Foran's lickspittles have learned their lesson well.

GAS WORKS STRIKE.

O'Brien-Foran-Cosgrave Coalition Again At Work.

The representative of the Free State Government has refused to allow the men's chosen representative (J. Larkin) to attend the Court of Inquiry. Negotiations have broken down.

This is further proof of the collusion existing between the Government and 35 Parnell Square.

Official Reply Received by the Gas Workers' Strike Committee from the Court of Inquiry.

As the main question at issue is the continuance or non-continuance in the Union of an employee of the Gas Company which question is stated to involve an important principle of trade-unionism rather than an effect upon the internal duties of the employee, it is considered by the Minister that it would be difficult for the Inquiry to arrive at practical results on the issue referred to without the official assistance of the Union and that it is not desirable that the terms of reference should be amended.

"TARGETS."

Sir Michael O'Dwyer:—He had suggested that aeroplanes should not drop bombs on cities or in congested areas unless they were absolutely sure of their target.

A Juror:—By "target," do you mean a building or a crowd?

Sir Michael O'Dwyer:—A crowd. (Dwyer Libel Action in London.)

"A NECESSARY ATROCITY."

Sir Walter Schwabe said he was going to show that what took place was an atrocity.

His Lordship, the Judge:—Do you mean an atrocity without a necessity? It may be necessary to do things to save the Empire, which might be justified in such a serious position as this. But which would not be justified perhaps in other circumstances. (Dwyer Libel Action.)

IRISH INDUSTRIAL REVIVAL.

We find the firm of Williams & Woods, who profess to be interested in the development of Irish industry, have a peculiar sense of fair play. Employees who have worked in the firm for years are turned away owing to an alleged slackness in demand for the firm's sweetmeats, confectionery and jams, but, sad to relate, they can find work for members of the Young Men's Christian Association. A minister (Christian)-speaking in the Metropolitan Hall, Abbey Street, at a concert said: "there are a lot of employers here to-night, and you should look after and provide jobs for your own first, before employing others"—others being poor Papists. Messrs. Woods, conscience-stricken, took the advice to heart and immediately employed two of our own, to the exclusion of two others (Papists), and "our own" two, of course, are not Union men; but of course they are members of the Young Men's Christian Association.

Say! you Gaelic Speakers, Irish-Irelanders, Anti-Partitionists, Free Staters, Dark Brethren and Trades Unionists (Workers' Council brand), cheer and sound the loud timbrel; Brother Burton, Master Tailors has opened a web for flies at the corner of Earl Street and Sackville Street (vide "Irish Times"). This is a real classy Emporium. "No Irish need apply" is the motto of this philanthropic firm; except you want to buy clothing manufactured in Leeds. The managers and assistants are imported; the be-spoke tailoring is imported, everything necessary to carry on the business is imported; the shop front is imported, the slim business methods imported, the damned audacity of the so-called Burtons is imported; but they take good care the profits are exported to Leeds and London, to the Jads who, trading as Messrs. Burton, laugh and grow fat at the stupidity and selfishness of the common Irish. These common Irish are easy; they order and pay for bespoke suits and coats. Messrs. Burton's well-trimmed English managers measure the mugs, charge the highest prices and then send the measurements to Leeds; the slaves there pick out the numbered, ready-to-wear suits, according to measurement and pattern sent, and the mugs accept same, pay their money and have no choice. How long is this business to continue? Protection, ay! we want protection—from this kind of business.

The "no Irish need apply" policy is the heart and soul of Burtonism—except there is clear money in patriotism and an extra dividend. The vicious "Protection" policy introduced by the Free State Government, and endorsed by that other English importation—Mr. Thomas Johnson of the so-called Irish Labour Party—is bearing fruit. Mr. Johnson, being an Englishman, cannot be blamed for carrying out the traditional policy of his race—"dominion over pain and pine," though he seems to have run away from the discussion in the Bakers' Hall

"IMPLEMENTING THE TREATY."

In the British House of Commons Mr. J. H. Thomas has announced that it will not be possible to state the liability of the Free State in regard to the Public Debt and War Pensions of Great Britain until the Free State Boundary Question has been settled. In other words, a partitioned Ireland must soon foot its "share" of the bill for the late European War, and incidentally help to pay the U.S.A. the interest on British indebtedness to that country. Freedom!!

No wonder Mr. Thos. Johnson, T.D., is anxious to implement the Treaty. What is going to happen? Knowing he has no future in Ireland, but anxious to prolong his stay for such period as the Irish people will provide him with a salary, Mr. Johnson will press, in and out of the Dail, for "settlement" of the Boundary Question, so long as his activities will not precipitate a dissolution of the Free State Government. That way lies the Unemployment Bureau for him. Ramsay MacDonald and J. H. Thomas will back up "Ulster" in her defiance of the Treaty until Cosgrave gives guarantees to pay "Ireland's Share" of England's Public Debt. Failing such guarantees, the English "Labour" Government will wreck Cosgrave by leaving the "Boundaries" practically as they stand. What England will give with one hand (an extension of Free State Boundaries) she will take back with the other (Ireland's "share" of English Public Debt)—and if the Free State pays tribute to England, "Ulster" will get a share of the robbery. If Cosgrave tries to evade responsibility for the latter, "Ulster" will retain, indefinitely, her present boundaries. A suitable ending to the war dictated by Winston Churchill.

HEAD OFFICE NOTES.

By No. 35.

The question of establishing a Super-annuation Fund for Head Office Staff came up for discussion at a meeting of the Staff last week. The proposal of Gurra Byrne to bring the age limit to 38 from 65 in the case of gun-men, because of the riskiness of their job, was scouted on the ground that the risk to Head Office Staff in case of attack was as great as to the gunmen, the latter not being holders of certificates of marksmanship.

* * *

The change in editorship of the "Voice of Labour" is keenly resented by the clerical staff at Head Office. It has been unanimously decided by them to strike the "Voice of Labour" off their list of free papers.

* * *

Head Office Staff, Branch Secretaries and Organisers will hold a meeting on Saturday to discuss the order of the E.C. that all full-time officials must take an oath of allegiance. A proposal will be made that the form of allegiance be made more elastic, and that an addition of the words "or such persons as shall be lawfully and legally elected" be made after the names of Wm. O'Brien, Thos. Foran, etc.

* * *

The E.C. invitation to Head Office Staff to the Easter Week Commemoration Dinner eventuated in a very enjoyable evening on Wednesday last. Following the usual toasts Messrs. Wm. O'Brien and Thos. Foran described, amidst uproarious laughter, their activities during that week. An enjoyable sing-song terminated the proceedings. Each of the guests took away a souvenir of the event in the shape of a gilt racing-card and a reproduction in miniature of the steps of Liberty Hall. The latter was presented by Mr. Wm. O'Brien.

FINTAN LALOR PIPERS' CONCERT.

The "Connolly Commemoration Concert" held in the Mansion House on Monday night last was a great success. The short notice given to the public led the promoters to believe that it would not be as well attended as might have been, but those present at it can bear evidence to the contrary.

It is a tribute to the newly-awakened spirit among the workers of Dublin that any event organised in association with the Irish Worker League or in which the League is in any way interested, secures instantaneous success. The Fintan Lalor Pipers have been generous with help whenever the League needed assistance; those who came with the recent excursion to Roscrea, organised by the Dublin Trades' Council and Irish Worker League, know that, and for this reason the Fintan Lalor Pipers deserve the success attending the concert in aid of the unemployed members of their band, held on Monday night last.

The only difficulty—if difficulty it may be termed—met with by the Committee that organised the concert was that the number of artists was greater than could be arranged for on the programme, but it is the sort of "difficulty" on which the organised workers of the country will build up an educative and educated organisation for their own intellectual welfare and enjoyment.

The concert opened with a march-selection by the Pipers' Band, after which song, dance and "entertainment" followed, in appropriate succession. To make mention of any particular item is to render necessary appreciation that must go beyond the limits of space which the "Irish Worker" can afford, so, it must suffice to say that the concert was worthy of the occasion.

The interval was devoted to a brief address by Jim Larkin. Reviewing the present situation in the country and its causes, he put the blame for the treachery against the nation on the proper shoulders. The retention of the prisoners by the Imperial Government and its offshoots in Northern and Southern Ireland was primarily due, he said, to the "Government" functioning in Dublin. Ireland must bear the cost of the Treaty, and the cost is such as the Cosgrave "Government" determined.

The statement recently published in "Eire," the organ of the Irish Republican Party, to the effect that the recent demonstration in London, demanding the release of the prisoners, was organised by Free Staters, received emphatic condemnation and was characterised as a deliberate lie.

It was organised by Capt. White and J. R. Murray, two men who, under no circumstances, could be regarded as upholders of Free Stateism.

The Fintan Lalor Pipers are to be congratulated on the success of their concert, and it is hoped the No. 5 Pipe and Drum Band, who contributed to it, will have equal success when their turn comes later in the year. In the interval, let the readers of the "Irish Worker" keep the fixture in mind and, when the date is announced, make up their minds to be there.

The winner of the Draw for the £1 Note was the holder of Ticket No. 22.

ON TO WEXFORD.

We go on tour on Sunday next, not unaccompanied. Comrades, faithful in all things, will entrain at Amiens Street Station, Westland Row, Dun Laoghaire and Bri Cualann (Bray). A hundred pipers and awa'—the Fintan Lalor Pipers, the 5th Battalion Band (the Old Toughs), the Pipe and Drum Band—No. 5 Branch, the St. Mary's selected football team (Dublin County), who will show the Boys of Wexford how to score goals; and all for Wexford town to see old comrades, renew old associations, extend a word of greeting.

BUSES AND TRAMS.

While Dublin citizens are awaiting the advent of a system of motor buses, to be controlled by the Corporation, there is no valid reason why the Tramway Company should not be made rearrange its schedule of fares on lines of honesty and equity. It is a good business axiom to make a fair and square deal and give honest value. The Dublin Tramway Company appear to have little scruple for giving value in return for money received. One has only to ride a penny stage in one of their cars to know all about it. For instance, Dorset Street to Nassau Street costs one penny, but Dorset Street to Dawson Street will cost the passenger twopenny. Why not three halfpence? Of course the Tram Company will explain that the twopenny ticket in this instance will take you further than Dawson Street, but to a man who wants to alight in Dawson Street this is of little use. There are cases galore of this kind on all the routes. A dairyman is prosecuted and fined for giving short measure, and if the law requires good measure with milk isn't it only logical to conclude that we should get good measure in our miles also.

On most if not all of the through cars which connect South Dublin with North Dublin a passenger needs to be wide awake when paying his fare, that is if he wishes to get good value. From Tetenure, Rialto, Clonsilla, etc., etc., to any place beyond Nelson Pillar costs fourpence in the ordinary way. But a better way is to buy two tickets on route and so save one penny on each journey. For instance the Rialto passenger should buy a three halfpenny ticket to Heytesbury Street and then get a twopenny ticket from Heytesbury Street to Phibsborough; total Rialto to Phibsborough this way 3d., while the Company way of doing it costs 4d. Until the Corporation wakes up and protects its unsuspecting citizens it is worth while exposing this extraordinary system of fares, as the halfpennies mount up in a year. The Corporation should appoint a Committee to look after the citizens' interests in matters of this kind.

LIAM ESSE.

MOTOR BUSES V. TRAMS.

To the Editor, "Irish Worker."

Sir—The article appearing under above heading last week is one that could not be expected to appear in your paper which is supposed to be a champion of the workers. A couple of buses owned by a family and worked by them mainly, to poach the traffic from a firm which is employing nearly 50 hands—all trade union labour. Are these people to be thrown out of work to satisfy a few? Will this Bus Company be able to cater for the traffic twelve months of the year as the Tram Company has done since 1884? Is the "Irish Worker" to support a project which will rob many of their livelihood?

Your correspondent is mistaken when he says buses are ousting trams in England. May I be allowed to state that buses are not allowed to compete against the trams, which are owned by the Corporation in all cases, but must run on routes other than those served by the trams. The idea of the Dublin Corporation putting buses on the streets is one which the ratepayers will not like, as the present rates in Dublin are sufficiently high without the Corporation launching forth into any further expense.

Lastly, the Dublin United Service is one second to none in the four countries. The working class at least will know who to support.

Yours truly,

TRADES' UNIONIST

JOIN THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.
Entrance Fee, 1/- . Subscriptions 3d. Weekly

LETTERKENNY ASYLUM DISPUTE.

Official Statements Exposed.

The following has been issued by the Letterkenny Branch of the Mental Hospital Workers' Union:—

In view of the misleading "Official Statement" in the Press that at no time was there a national agreement arrived at, and hence there has been no breach of any agreement on the part of the Tirconnell Committee, we have only to simply and plainly brand this as a falsehood—on a par with other inspired "official statements" which are communicated to the Press for the purpose of bolstering up the Committee's unjust attack on the staff and pandering to the vanity of the author of the "official statement," who has become the standard bearer for the Committee in their onslaught, and has been hailed by the English anti-Irish Press as the "hero of the Asylum strike."

A national agreement as regards wages and hours was come to, as already pointed out, at a joint conference of representatives of Mental Hospital Committees, and of the Irish Mental Hospital Workers' Union, in Dublin in January, 1920, as is testified by the signatures of Very Rev. Canon Rossiter, Enniscorthy; Alderman Whittle, Waterford, and Alderman Jinks, Sligo, on behalf of the Committees, and the President, Treasurer, and Secretary on behalf of the Union. The mere fact that all other Mental Hospital Committees in the Free State continue to recognise the agreement and refuse to break it is in itself sufficient proof of its existence.

Apparently the compiler of the "official statements" has become so accustomed to repeating the denial of the agreement that his denial has become a belief with him, and he mistakes falsehood for truth.

The same line of reasoning, or perhaps a disordered imagination, is responsible for the false assertion that "the strikers now admit that the former staff would return to work at the reduced wages if the Committee threw over the recently appointed Head Attendant, Michael Blake." Trying to make it appear that the Union wants to manage the institution and take control out of the Committee's hands is merely camouflage to put a face on the Committee's despotic action in this dispute. It will mislead only those who cannot form their own judgments and mistake assertions for facts.

The public will note that the agreement standardising wages was come to at a Joint Conference in 1920, and the attempt of the official statement to apply to this agreement the interpretation applied solely to the word "agreement" in a resolution of a Committee Conference two years later (1922) dealing with rent allowances does not, despite the "official statement," prove that no national agreement existed. As a matter of fact, at the 1922 Committee's Conference consideration of a resolution to discuss and revise the national agreement scale of wages was postponed.

The Committee, as a reason to justify the forced resignation of Doctor Moore, R.M.S., and the Head Attendant, say they had over thirty years' service, and the Union sought to have it made law that a member should be entitled to resign at the termination of twenty-five years' service. The Union has no control over Medical Officers, and while in favour of a full pension after twenty-five years' service, it holds that a member who wishes to continue in the service should be free to do so. The R.M.S. Matron, and Head Attendant were all forced out on pension against their wishes, at an extra cost to the ratepayers of about £700 per year, and a new R.M.S. (Dr. Martin) was appointed who was "able to apply himself with energy to restoring discipline and effecting retrenchment"—in other words, a new regime was inaugurated in which well-laid plans to crush the staff

were put into force, including the appointment of an R.M.S. and Head Attendant who could be relied on to carry out the Committee's attack.

If the cost per patient in Letterkenny Mental Hospital is higher than in any similar provincial institution—and three have been mentioned (Omagh, Sligo, and Youghal)—the fault lies not in the wages paid, as they are the same standard rates in these institutions. The cause must be mismanagement, and the Committee alone are responsible for this.

The branch hope that the member of the Committee who compiles the "official statements" and communicates them to the Press, without being considered by the Committee, will put aside his bashfulness and reveal his identity. It is already well-known to the Branch, but when the general public realise who he is they will very quickly and very naturally ask should he not, by virtue of his calling, be primarily a man of peace, and do everything possible to try to reconcile conflicting interests and narrow the breach rather than widen it.

* * *

The Committee are Squandering the Ratepayers' Money and Neglecting the Patients, who are at the mercy of an Unqualified and Inexperienced "Scab" Emergency Staff.

LETTERKENNY ASYLUM DISPUTE.

Our readers will be fully conversant with the circumstances which led up to the lock-out from the article which we published in a recent issue.

The Board of Management in their attempt to reduce wages and break the National Wage Agreement (which all other Asylum Boards in the Free State are loyally abiding by) have called to their aid scab Head Attendant Blake and other scabs of a very low type, some recruited from the ranks of the Free State ex-soldiers in Dublin through ex-Commandant Flood of the Labour Exchange, and more from distant parts of County Donegal. These latter scabs, men and women, have been secured through the instrumentality of members of the Board of Management, principally Fr. Doherty, Letterkenny; Fr. Burns, Doc; Bailiff Kelly, P.C., Glen; and John O'Flaherty, Killygordons, who poses as an 18 carat Republican.

These Board members have had valuable assistance from Fr. Deeny and Mother Eunan, Mercy Convent, Ballyshannon, as some of the scabs admitted last week in a case against six of them who were fined 10/- each for assaulting the ex-Head Nurse.

These unqualified and inexperienced scabs have become a source of great weakness to the Board and they are proving to be the weapon which will serve to beat the Board. A local R.C. clergyman, when called to attend a dying patient, had to return without seeing the patient as there was no one to bring him to the patient; the scabs were dancing and otherwise enjoying themselves, the patients being left to their own fate.

The Civic Guards have outclassed themselves since the dispute started and have done attendants' duty in helping the Board and the scabs. They have gone out with Sean O'Farrell, Local Government Board Inspector and other scabs joy-riding on the Asylum lorry. In fact, these new police, in their zealotness, have gained an unenviable notoriety. The old R.I.C. were gentlemen compared with these latter day Peace Preservers.

As usual the capitalist press are throwing their weight in with the Board against the workers. All kinds of dope have appeared from the other side, or rather from their champion, Fr. O'Doherty, whose time for the past five weeks has been devoted to making out inspired statements for the Press and helping the doctors, Martin and McLoughlin, and the remaining scabs to carry on.

The Derry workers are giving every

THIEVES HA! HA!

"Since Mr. Blythe introduced his Budget last week . . . the profiteers have seized the opportunity to still further rob and steal from the consuming public. . . . In more hot-headed communities such thieves have been used to decorate city lamp-posts—in this state they should be forced to disgorge their ill-gotten gains and placed under lock and key." ("Voice of Labour.")

Shades of "Safe" openers, "honourable gentlemen," and bread-van servers. "In more hot-blooded countries . . . What a pity we are a cold-blooded race. Further— "If the paid guardians of the law fail to enforce the law then the workers themselves should take that law into their own hands and enforce it, cost what it may"; or "If it cost as much more" as Mr. Johnson would say.

This is the sort of stuff the Injunction "Executive" are publishing in the "Voice of Labour," and, for which the members are paying out of General Fund. These incitements to "take the law into their own hands" are the inebriate vapourings of one of the £6 a week "honourable gentlemen." When the moment for fighting comes they will look up their racing engagements, or go picking daisies in the Botanic, while the "mugs" get their heads broken. If the workers should take the law into their own hands they will make a good beginning by commencing operations on those who, by encouraging the war waged by the New-Britons in Ireland—Cosgrave and Co.—even "if it cost as much more," have plunged this nation into bankruptcy. But, let us see.

When the Irish dockers last year were locked out by the bosses, and the latter hired Free State Gunmen to protect the scabs, did the Injunction "Executive" encourage the men to "take the law into their own hands . . . cost what it may"? On the contrary, they stopped Dispute Pay, and forced the men back to work at reduced wages. The men did take the law into their own hands, but the Foran-O'Brien-Barry combination against them was too strong, and they had to submit.

The case of the Roscrea Road-workers' strike is another in point. Using the starvation threat—"no Dispute Pay"—the O'Brien-Foran Injunction "Executive" thought to compel the road-workers to put up their hands. The game did not work. After a four months' fight, and in spite of Head Office, the roadmen have won out. Sequel—For defying Head Office—"taking the law into their own hands"—Roscrea Branch has been suppressed. So much for the preachers of the "take the law into your own hands" doctrine. By the way, the Injunction "Executive" are not merely "taking the law into their own hands" over the coming I.T. & G.W.U. elections, but are devising laws to save their own bacon. Good! The end is in sight—and we will not need any lamp-posts.

Irish Transport & General Workers' Union.
No. 1. Branch—Motor Section.

Proposed by W. McCarthy, seconded by C. Darcy—

"That this Committee on behalf of the Motor Section tender to Comrade J. Devine our deepest sympathy in his great loss sustained by the recent sad demise of his mother."

Dein troider ar a mianam.

support, geographical boundaries notwithstanding. Local firms that supply the Asylum are feeling the pinch as their supplies have been held up in Derry, the dockers and carters there refusing to handle them.

The latest reports to hand go to show that the locked-out staff were never in better form and are working wholeheartedly for victory which cannot now be long delayed.

"An Injury to one is the concern of All."

IRISH WORKER

EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

THE IRISH WORKER will be published weekly—Twopence—and may be had of any newsagent or newsboy. Ask for it, and see that you get it.

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FRATERNAL GREETINGS

We have been renewing old friendships and forging new links of the Fellowship throughout England, fulfilling a long-standing engagement to meet old comrades in the Durham coalfields. We were one of three speakers at a May Day Demonstration in the Spen and Chopwell district.

It was strengthening and inspiring to feel the outpouring of revolutionary spirit and sense, the solidarity and determination of the miners of Durham to realise, in our own time, a new system of society. It was born in on one that these sturdy men and their intelligent woman and bonny children have seen the vision beautiful and mean to enjoy the material benefits of the dream of the pioneers and builders of a new social system; not a question of wages and conditions of labour, but a determination that the accursed wage system must pass into oblivion and a new social consciousness be accepted, if the world's peoples are to live as human beings.

To-day, stand on the hillside of that village of Highfield and see rank after of sturdy miners, their women and children, march on to the rendezvous with their banners waving, their voices uplifted in a song of challenge, their banners symbolising their intent and purpose, their bands playing the Internationale—The Red Flag—their kindly, comradely greeting, their keen appreciation of any reference to the solidarity of the earth's people, denunciation of the tyrants that degrade the earth. The expression of their sympathy with the oppressed peoples of the Empire and wholehearted condemnation of the wrong-doers, within and without the Empire, gave me courage and hope. After a lengthy address the chairman moves a resolution calling upon his comrades of the Labour Party to release all Irish political prisoners and, supporting that resolution in language that breathed sincerity, and sending greeting to the comrades in Ireland and to the workers of all countries, was to realise our hope is near of realisation, "Workers of the World Unite." The world's yours for the taking.

Then on to another mass demonstration in Anfield Plain; same good comradeship, same spirit of revolutionary solidarity; again greeting extended. Resolution demanding Labour Government live up to the principles of Labour and release all Irish political prisoners; then three miles walk through the woods in the deepening twilight, to rest in the home of an old comrade of thirty golden years. On, the next day, to Newcastle, to speak at a mass meeting of unemployed comrades. In the evening a further mass meeting, hurriedly summoned, on Newcastle moor; a criticism of the Labour Government, a hope expressed and a demand made and resolution again

carried, calling upon Labour Government to release all Irish political prisoners; then, on to modern Babylon to foregather and arrange for action in the future. Then, on Sunday evening, to meet the exiled and to listen to the pregnant words of wisdom uttered by our Indian comrade, Saklatvala, to speak a few hurried words of counsel and advice to our comrades of the Irish Worker League domiciled in London. And, we had almost forgotten to record our deep appreciation of an invitation to renew our comradeship with our old friend, Dr. O'Duignan, late Gardiner Street, his good wife and daughter, a militant comrade. Comrade Weston, a most interesting, well-informed professional man and a young Irish rebel, who wants to be in Dublin, now that spring is here, heart-hungry for this old city. It was good to speak of old friends, old times, old places, with that brave old rebel, old in years and service, but young in heart. The hours sped with golden wings and one had to pass on with memories pleasant and refreshed in the knowledge that the message is being accepted.

The cause goes ever onward till the good day brings the best. We speak not of other pleasant interludes. We speak not of the kindness extended to an unworthy one; none the less, the unspoken appreciation will be understood.

ONE MAN—TWO JOBS.

National Amalgamated Society of Operative House and Ship Painters and Decorators.

Dublin, 8th May, 1924.

Dear Sir—In last week's "Irish Worker" you refer to a Union Painter working an Insurance Book after hours.

I wish to inform you that our members employed by the Tram Company deny having an Insurance Book.

Fraternally yours,

JOSEPH FARRELL, Organiser.

James Larkin, Esq.,
"Irish Worker,"
17 Gardiner's Place.

The above letter from Joseph Farrell Organiser, proves that he is only another official who either does not know or shuts his eyes to facts. We again repeat that a painter on the Tram system collects an Insurance Book after 5.30 p.m. If he is not in his (Farrell's) Union it proves he is only a job-hunter and not a class-conscious organiser for the men he is supposed to represent, for this man has been employed painting "Poles" for the past eighteen months. And if Mr. Farrell's statement is true, this individual is not only scabbing upon the Insurance Workers but upon the Painters as well, and it is up to Mr. Farrell to prove his worth as an organiser by not allowing his members to work so long as a scab is employed.

However, this is not the only man who holds two jobs, and we thank Mr. Farrell for his reply.

However, it is quite evident from what has been published about the "One Man—Two Jobs" in the "Worker" that the real offenders are keeping quiet in the expectation that by so doing they will save their faces to some extent. However, I can assure them unless they show the same courage in the open as they do in secret they can look out for a hell-of-a-time, for we can't forget that there are thousands of unemployed men in Dublin who are willing to work. And we can't forget that there are thousands upon thousands of children suffering hunger through the said unemployment. And we say now that the man who holds two jobs while he sees another comrade walking the streets in the vain hope of finding a master is a coward and a 21ct. scab. The very

foundation of Trade Unionism is "one man one job and an eight hour day." No man has a moral right to hold two jobs while another man is idle—and further, no idle man has the right to look for support so long as he meekly allows the bread to be taken from his dependents by the one man holding two jobs. Of course we don't blame the workers as a whole, for their "Leaders" ("Pink" brand) all support this sort of scabbery—for the simple reason it gives them less trouble; and as they say, a well fed slave is always content. Of course, Mr. Worker, (you and me) are not allowed to think; we are asked to do is to make a great effort and swallow all the dope those bouncers fling off, and of course hypocrisy delights the most sublime speculations; for never intending to go beyond speculation, it costs nothing to have it magnificent, and the touts of the "Pink Leaders" are even worse!! Long-haired, well-groomed prigs who never did a useful day's work in their natural life nor never will—living upon the reputations of others—they spend their time on "graft" and organising what they call the "back-wash," that is, you and me, Mr. Worker. When an election is on—with the off chance of getting into the "Dail" themselves, all of them can change their politics quicker than we could change our shirt. In fact to be a real expressing scab, Mr. Worker, you must join a Union and that Union must be attached to the Workers' Council (?) where "Ole Bill and the Bugs" rule. And remember, Mr. Worker, the worst hindrance in the race of life is the barrier that you yourself build up. Do you get that? We write "Fins" for this week by inviting the guilty ones to reply; also with the following dictated to the official hacks:—

Would you, see them hanging around "Ole Bill"

In hopes to get salvation.

If such curs as those in Heaven may be,

Then welcome—Hail—Damnation.

A WORKERS' REPUBLICAN.

REQUIRED—A LITTLE INFORMATION.

We want a little information, and in order to get it, pure and wholesome, we will address our queries to the fountain head, a gentleman—by name, ex-Sergeant McNally of the D.M.P.

We would inquire from the "Bould Sergeant" whether he is a D.M.P. pensioner, and if so, is his pension in the neighbourhood of £4 per week? Is he employed by the Senate of the Free State to clean the Senate Chambers, and what are the wages attached to such employment? And is he allowed to employ a woman to do the cleaning, and are her wages also paid by the Senate?

Does he obtain leave of absence when race meetings are held in the vicinity of Dublin, and does he use such leave for the purpose of acting as steward or attendant at said race meetings, and what money he receives for such work?

We do not desire to cast any aspersion on the clean and upright character of the "Bould Sergeant." As we said in the beginning, "we only want information" and of course we always go to the fountain head.

"SUPPORTED BY IN-VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

The one-time (so-called) Dublin No. 1 Branch Brass and Reed Band, alias Kelly's Band, has struck rock-bottom with a bump. Last night No. 1 Branch "Committee" made a grant of £70 towards its upkeep, it being the only way in which it was possible to "raise the band," so essential to the proper blowing of instruments.

The least the Band owes to the Branch "Committee" is to play as far away as possible from the Branch premises.

"TAMMANY OUT-TAMMANIED."

Obviously the Postal Workers are reaping the crop sown by their weak-minded and time-serving Executive. The Conference of Irish Post Office Workers held this week in the Mansion House is a recital of betrayals. "Tammany out-Tammanied" is how one of the delegates describes the system of appointments and promotions within the Postal Service, and with the record of the Free State "Government" in the field of job-making before us, it is probably an exact description.

When Governments make war with the pretence of creating a heaven on earth for the dupes who shoulder guns for them, they must, perforce, fling sops to the more disgruntled of the paradise-hunters. The Free State, like other capitalist governments, having made full use of the "mugs" for their own ulterior purposes, must now find a living for such as may be in the way, or may be useful in future emergencies. Hence the job-making.

Looking Back.

The postal strike of a couple of years ago is still within the recollection of the Irish Postal Workers. The present Postmaster-General was still in office when it was precipitated, and like a lot of other workers, who, from time to time, have crept into power on the shoulders of the "mugs," he could see nothing more (Moryah!) in the strike-protest of his former colleagues than an attempt to disrupt the State. The Executive of the Postal Workers were, undoubtedly, faced with the vile propaganda of the Free State "Government" at that time, and the line of attack was that "the Postal Strike is an attempt to take advantage of the activities of the 'Irregulars.'" If the Postal Executive had been men enough to come to grips with the Government schemers and to denounce the Treaty "implementing" Labour fakirs in 32 Lower Abbey Street, who could have brought the ramshackle "Government" to their knees, all would have been well. "Solidarity," O'Brien, as the Alderman came to be called by the Postal Workers, and the Johnsonian feline, however, made it plain, as the J. H. Thomases in similar circumstances made it plain to the English workers, that "it really would not do," and under the pressure of desertion by the fakirs the Executive of the Postal Workers crumbled into their native dust.

The Aftermath.

Creatures, who in more sober times had been dismissed the Postal Service for drinking and being drunk during official hours and for taking other people's money for their own, were welcomed to the bosom of the Postal authorities when the strike came along. Like many folk who, in post-war days, found themselves on the wrong side of the law, their peccadilloes were forgiven because they had offered their lives on the altar of their country at so much a week. The only difference in the case of the Postal Workers was that the returned prodigals got the fatted calf without any pretensions to such "sacrifice," unless they regarded the few shreds of reputation left to them as a due propitiatory offering to the god Scab.

The Same Old Song.

Like the workers in other Unions the men and women of the Postal Service have their future in their own hands. If they elect known fakirs to their Executive the Postal Union will become a tool of the boss class, to be used against them whenever the necessity arises. A cleaning-out process is now in operation in a Union which shall be nameless, and soon the collectors of dust and rubbish will have their hands full. Whether the Postal Workers are going to spring-clean the Postal edifice is a matter for themselves. If they choose to live amidst the dust and cobwebs, they will sooner or later become the prey of official spiders.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.

LONDON BRANCH.

OUTING ON JUNE 1st.

The London Branch of the League, which is still very small in numbers, and has so far not done as much as its members expect of it, is endeavouring to initiate a good social spirit amongst its supporters, by planning an outing on Sunday, June 1st, to the Red Cottage, Woodford-Wills. The members, being widely scattered, will arrange for themselves their mode of travelling, but a number will go down together by rail from Liverpool St. (1/- return only). A reasonable lunch will be ready in due course, and the revellers having laid in the necessary carbohydrates and nitrogen, they will be free to ramble in Epping Forest, amidst fawns, satyrs and mosquitoes. It is expected that the unaccustomed influence of the sylvan glades and leafy bowers may soften the moods of our economic determinists, even of E.W., our strong, silent man of few words, and that forthwith they will burst forth into soul-animating strains. To cope with the possible output of verse, the wanderers will be issued each one with a note-book and pencil.

No doubt we shall find the ancient oak-tree, progenitor of the oak on the boughs of which King Charles II. imitated the manner of living of our ancestors, and also that sapling that brought George Washington his reputation for probity, for, like many other forests, this one is hallowed by real or pretended historical associations.

After tea there will be a Ceilidh under the canopy of heaven, and when all are sufficiently weary, tracks will be made for home.

For the use of the cottage, lunch, tea and dancing to music, the charge will be 3/-. A small profit per head from the large numbers attending will solve the financial problems of the Branch for some time to come. It is expected that every London sympathizer will write at once for a ticket and particulars to the Hon. Sec., I. W. League, 121 Walworth Road, S.E., 17.

Let us bind the stone economics of the Workers' Republic with the cement of good fellowship.

EXILE.

STATEMENT MADE BY JAS. GALLIGAN

40 NORTH SUMMER ST., DUBLIN.

14th May, 1924.

Galligan was employed by the Midland Railway Company for the purpose of weeding the Canal from the first to the twelfth locks. He was employed for two seasons, from May to August in 1922 and 1923. The rate agreed upon was £2 9s 5d. However, after the first week the Company deducted 5/-. On the casual men complaining of this reduction the Engineer of the Company undertook to see that they were paid when the permanent hands would get the refund of the money. When the permanent hands were paid the money the casual men were not included and Galligan again interviewed the Engineer, who requested him to send in his claim in writing. Galligan did this, making a claim for £7 10s, i.e., 15 weeks at 5/- per week for each year, being allowance due as dinner money. Claims were also made on behalf of T. Leach and T. McDonald. After three weeks consideration the Engineer decided that the casual hands were not entitled to the money. Galligan then went to O'Toole, Sec. Railway Branch, I.T.G.W.U., who stated that the Union Funds could not be spent fighting this case. O'Toole agreed to attend Court last Friday week and bring the documents which he had along. O'Toole did not put in an appearance, and the case was adjourned until Friday, 15th May, at 11 o'clock, in the Northern Police Court, and O'Toole and Leach have been summoned to attend the Court.

THE "WU-R-R-KERS" ARMY.

A few months before the attack on the Four Courts was launched and when the attempts by Alderman Field-Marshal O'Brien, C. O'Shannon, Senator Foran and T. Johnson, T.D., to disrupt the Irish Citizen Army, had been frustrated, these modern "Playboys of the Western World" took council with themselves as to how the I.C.A. could be put out of business. The result was the formation of the "Workers' Army" (!) The history of this militaristic abortion is not well enough known; so a few of the facts concerning its formation will not be amiss. The "plans," drafted by Cathal O'Shannon, provided for an "Army Council" to consist of Field-Marshal O'Brien, Thomas Johnson, T.D.; O'Shannon and the hard-boiled Racing "Card," with Teresa James as ammunition-carrier and general donkey-man. The morning that saw the completion of the plans also saw the denouement (that is the French for "get-off-the-map"). It happened that O'Shannon, full of the glory of things, opened the flood-gates of verbosity on the Field-Marshal, quite unconscious that the door of the room was open, and that a little bird, fluttering up the stairs, overheard that the plans were in Mr. Cathal O'Shannon's desk. This explains why said little bird flew out of No. 35 a few minutes later, with the plans in his beak, to the dismay of the amateur trigger-pullers who occupied the doorway. Where the "plans" went to, or where they are, need not be stated, but of this more, perhaps, anon.

Notwithstanding the loss of the "plans," the scheme to organise the "Workers' Army"—or rather the horde of baton-men, after the style of John D. Nugent's Hibernians of ten years ago—struggled on for a month or two. It was necessary to cool-off the many simple-minded folk who wrote to Parnell Square for guns—men who believed, in their innocence, that the "playboys" were in earnest—and that is why the hot potato was not dropped at once, and why some people's hands got blistered.

The attack on the Four Courts determined, finally, the fate of the "Workers' Army." Seeing that there was fighting to be done, the "Army Council" dissolved like an ice-cream on the Sahara, and the Field-Marshal and Felix Johnson (the Chief Miaouw-Miaouw) entered the lists with the one-day mock strike against militarism. This is history.

It has been stated already that the intention of O'Brien, Johnson & Co. in formulating the "Workers' Army" stunt was to put the I.C.A. out of business. There was another reason. The I.R.A.—all over the country—were, and are, 80% workers. If the "Workers' Army" fraud had succeeded both I.C.A. and I.R.A. would have been seduced from their, then, allegiance and sufficient numbers would have gone over to the playboys who mouthed "Workers' Republic" and meant "Free State" to have broken both I.C.A. and I.R.A. in pieces. These organisations being smashed, Free State Johnson, O'Brien, Foran and O'Shannon would have had the country to divide between themselves and the Collins-Griffith-Cosgrave-McNeill-O'Higgins traitors. Great is the truth and it will prevail.

THE WAR TO END WARS.

PARIS. "War on War" is seditious when placed as a motto upon a monument to soldiers who fell in the world war, according to the French courts.

In one of the Communes of the Department of Yonne, the city fathers, with the approval of the population, voted to have the inscription War on War (Guerre contre la guerre) placed upon the soldiers' monument. The police ordered the motto to be removed. The town council voted unanimously to pay no attention to the order.

Thereupon the mayor was arrested and fined, besides being ordered to remove the inscription.

HOWTH RED-HERRINGS.

Mr. Kevin O'Higgins, full spiritual brother to his namesake, whose remains lie in Kilbarrack Churchyard (the Sham Squire), has been having a sniff of the Howth air and has unburdened himself to the herrings. Not so long ago he used blame the misfortunes of our country on the "Irregulars"; now he is hiding behind the skirts of the late John Redmond, also a despiser of "Irregulars," Rainbow-Chasers and puller-down of Imperial moans, and his opinions, as delivered to the finny tribe of Ben Eadair, have quite the old-time touch of that hardened politician.

Mr. O'Higgins is trying to have people believe that Partition is the keystone of Irish Nationalism, and, for the purpose, he is rattling the bones of a politician, who, whatever his shortcomings, and they were grievous, has still a lot to learn from the tribe of the O'Higginses. Perhaps the people have forgotten that John Redmond went back to Westminster with the Imperial Government's original Partition proposals, torn into pieces by the Irish nation. Perhaps they have forgotten that the Republican political campaign, following on 1916, had, as one of the planks in its programme, the scrapping of the Partition policy in every shape and form. Perhaps they do not remember that, a few months prior to the "implementing" of the Treaty, Mr. O'Higgins declared that if England offered 99 per cent. Independence to Ireland he would hurl it back in the teeth of the "base, brutal and bloody Saxon."

Before and After.

All this was prior to the time when "King, Lords and Commons" Griffith came out openly with his Twenty-Six-County-Imperial-Republican solution for the national problem, and before the "Irish" press had worked up to the dimensions of a campaign the subterranean workings of the so-called Republicans who followed Griffith and Collins. In the fulness of time the rascality revealed itself and the nation found itself committed to partition, without regard to the political views of a large section of the population, and to a war which, as Winston Churchill declared, saved Britain the cost of a campaign. What John Redmond could not achieve when demanding Dominion Home Rule, Mr. O'Higgins and his fellow-miscreants have brought to pass in the name and in pursuit (!) of a Republic.

Scores of men have been murdered and thousands imprisoned that Mr. O'Higgins and the political rag-tag-and-bob-tails associated with him may traverse the country preaching a policy that the late great Irish Party could not uphold.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE

LONDON READERS PLEASE NOTE.

A London Group of the Irish Worker League has been formed. Open meetings, Sunday, 7.30 p.m., at Central Southwark Labour Centre.

"Irish Worker" is on Sale :-

NEWSAGENTS

- Battersea—A. Tolman, 54 Battersea Rise.
- W.C.—Communist Party, 16 King Street.
- E.C.—Workers' Dreadnought, 152 Fleet Street.
- Plumstead—O'Sullivan, 154 Plumstead Road.
- East Greenwob—Johannes, 11 Blackwell Lane.
- Deptford—Latter, Catholic Church.
- Lewisham—Catholic Church.
- Bermundsey—A Mallandain, 19 Parker Row, Dockhead.

Voluntary sellers wanted. Also members.

Write :- Hon. Sec., Irish Worker League, above address.

COMMUNIST FOR KÉLVINGROVE.

Scottish Labour's Chance.

Strike a Blow for Bold Working Class Policy.

The good wishes and support of all readers of the "Irish Worker" must go out to Comrade Aitken Ferguson, who has been unanimously adopted as Labour candidate to fight the by-election in the Kelvingrove Division of Glasgow.

Comrade Ferguson is a member of the Boilermakers' Union and Glasgow District Organiser of the Communist Party.

At the General Election he came within a thousand votes of winning the seat, although only entering into the contest in a whirlwind campaign within a fortnight of the ballot. The figures were :-

Hutchinson (U)	11,025
Ferguson (Lab)	10,021
Grieve (L)	4,662

Unionist Majority

This time he is going to win the seat.

The only other proposed candidate, P. J. Dollan of the F.L.P., withdrew his nomination in favour of Ferguson; and Ferguson's unanimous adoption means that all the united forces of the working class are behind him.

Ferguson's return will mean a stimulus to the whole Labour Left Wing in Parliament. This is the first by-election in Scotland since the formation of the Labour Government, and gives an opportunity to the Glasgow workers to proclaim their united determination with an overwhelming voice.

The workers' candidate will fight an uncompromising fight. At the General Election his programme was plain and direct. He stands squarely and simply for the working class and against the capitalists.

The planks on which he is fighting this by-election are :-

(1) **Capital Levy.** Imposition of Capital Levy on all wealth above £5,000 to finance schemes of social reconstruction.

(2) **Unemployment.** Full work or maintenance at trade union rates along the lines of the Six-Point Charter adopted by the Advisory Committee of the T.U.C. General Council and the Unemployed. State schemes of public construction work, including a State shipbuilding scheme to replace existing rotten shipping, and make the whole shipping service a national monopoly.

(3) **Housing.** Provision of houses on the Wheatley scheme under full guarantees to the building workers, and safeguards against industrial-peace proposals, and with rigid price fixing for all dealers in materials. No evictions for unemployed workers.

Requisitioning of empty houses until the house shortage is met.

(4) **Reparations.** Repudiation of the Experts' Report and all punitive reparations. Scrap the Versailles' Treaty, withdraw the Army of Occupation, cancel all debts, and call an International Conference, including Russia and Germany, to settle the affairs of Europe and promote disarmament.

(5) **Anglo-Soviet Conference.** Cancellation of all claims for debts and private property. British-Russian Treaty and £100 million credits to Russia to restore trade. Immediate appointment of Trade Unionist, nominated by General Council, as Ambassador to Russia.

(6) **Empire.** Full right of self-determination for India, Egypt, and other countries in the British Empire. Full political and industrial freedom for all workers in India and other colonial countries.

The E.C. of the National Amalgamated Furnishing Trades Association has written to the General Council of the Trades Union Congress, urging them to take up the case of the nine trade unionists who are still in South African prisons for advocating the right of organised labour.

IRISH INDUSTRIAL REVIVAL.

(Continued from column 3, Page 1)

framed-up by himself and "Professor" Mortished on the subject of Protection. The Free State Government Protection scheme has already been the means of bringing an influx of British capital into the country, and after the manufacturers of tobacco and cigarettes we have the spectacle of the Burtons looking round for suitable sites for clothing factories. Judging by appearances, Ireland will sometime in the future become a second India. Up to this England made her profits out of her Irish trade by exporting goods to Ireland. The new policy—erecting and financing industries in the country—will leave her the profits of industry, while the Irish mugs do the work for a wage. That has all along been the British policy in India. England does not export much to India, but she has been making fortunes out of the toil and sweat of the dispossessed Indians.

It is now up to Irish Trades' Unionism to make a protest that will be effective against the Johnson-O'Brien-Cosgrave-Blythe system of international exploitation financed from England, and to see that short shift is dealt out to the finance-sharks who are making of Ireland, in a new sense, a shire of England.

IMMEDIATE 6s. INCREASE.

Shiprepairers Accept Offer.

The London workers on ship repairing have accepted the employers' offer by 1,159 votes to 1,103.

This offer is an immediate advance of 6s. plus any amount over 6s. given by a national award in the future.

The strong opposition to these terms came from those who wanted to hold off for the full £1 increase being demanded by other metal workers.

The offer was in fact only accepted because the negotiations for this £1 increase have dragged on so long, and show no signs of coming to an end. The men wanted something to be going on with.

MAY-DAY ECHOES.

At a May Day meeting at Leigh, Com. Webb got the platform to announce that the WORKERS' WEEKLY was on sale—and sold out.

At Newcastle, no May Day meeting of any description would have been held if it had not been for the Communist Party, and the speakers were Communists.

At Manchester the invitation to speakers said: "As this is a joint demonstration all speakers are respectfully requested to refrain from indulging in personalities or criticisms of parties or policies concerned. The chairmen have instructions to insist on this being observed."

THE PEARSE STREET WINDOW-CLEANING COMPANY.

24A ERNE STREET. Tel. No. 4843.

The Company is composed of released prisoners who would be glad to receive orders. All men are insured and all work is guaranteed. Terms on application.

THE PHONE DUBLIN 314

GAELIC PRESS

National Printers and Publishers

21 Upr. Liffey St., Dublin

IN THE U.S.A.

New York, May 3rd.

May Day.

The capitalists ruling this Republic get anxious around May Day and have extra police guards for their person and large estates. An attempt was made generations ago to institute May Day as a Workers' Holiday, but Congress passed a special law making September 4th a Bank Holiday, naming it "Labour Day." The legislation felt safer, felt that they had delayed the revolution a few months.

May Day of 1886 in Chicago is still remembered. The "bolshheviks" of that time were agitating for an eight-hour day and contending that the ten and twelve-hour day worked by the wage-slaves was out of reason. The Government, the press, the churches and the "educated" people were aghast, and feeling was so high against the "reds" that the police were ordered to break up the Chicago May Day meeting called to demand an eight-hour day. The police obeyed and killed four of the persons assembled.

A meeting to protest at the police savagery was held the next day, which the police, mounted like Cossacks and armed with guns, charged. A bomb was thrown and many police were killed.

This initiated a determined fight to stamp out the eight-hour movement, and with it the young trade union movement. Of course the Tom Johnsons of the day sided with the Government and against the "reds" and agitators, believing only in the "Constitution." Four of the labour leaders were hanged, one committed suicide in prison—the first five martyrs of the eight-hour day.

This is perhaps the cause why May Day here is dreaded by the rulers. An attempt was made this year, in some centres to observe it like the rebels do on the Continent, but most of the meetings were held indoors.

Scabs Sacrificed.

Eighty-seven women were widowed and two hundred and seventy-five children made fatherless by another mine disaster during the week in the Virginia district, near where Charles Stewart Parnell and other members of the Parnell family had large holdings in coal mines.

One hundred and fourteen corpses, some blown into several pieces by the explosion, have been brought to the surface.

The mine had been closed down—due to a strike, the men being out against a wage cut, and in protest for the installation of safety devices. The victims were ex-soldiers, farmers and others tempted to scab, and sent to their death by mine owners and shareholders who don't care a brass farthing about the cries of the hungry children orphaned by their greed for wealth and profits.

The West Virginia coal section for three or four years has been the venue of a bitter struggle against unionism that recalls Dublin of 1913. The mine owners set out to break the unions, and the State military forces assisted them to "restore order." Thompson guns, such as the I.R.A. purchased were made in large quantities for the mine owners. In fact they received a consignment meant for Ireland, because they doubled their purchase price to secure them. Pickets were shot down if they came within half a mile of the mines. The native "mountain men," from which stock the miners were recruited, always possessed rifles and knew how to use them. They sniped from long range and took more than a tooth for a tooth. A guerrilla warfare developed and the Federal troops were mobilised and moved into the area. Many miners were later arrested but none executed, because the "war correspondents" sent by the papers had educated the public to the fact that the mine-owners considered themselves above

all law, and had armed their "White Guards," a Fascisti who had shot down unarmed men and women for the pure lust of killing.

A Government report has just been issued protesting against the continued use of black blasting powder in mines because of its danger. It also stresses that during the period 1908 to 1923, 857 miners were killed by explosions of this powder, and 173 injured. The black powder is cheaper than the safe explosive, but the mine owners buy the cheapest. Miners and all workers are cheap anyway. To save the few dollars difference these last two hundred victims have been sacrificed.

Friday's Fish.

The tin of salmon bought in Dublin for Friday's dinner may take another jump.

Hoover, whose name echoed over Europe as the American famine relief administrator, and who holds a high public position here, has been arranging to give entire control of the Alaskan fishing banks to the Salmon Trust—a huge combine owning many canneries and big fishing and trawling fleets. Protests from small fishermen, that they have been warned off the sea by the big Trust—which of course has its own armoured cruisers and patrol boats—has revealed the latest graft.

Hoover also took sides against Soviet Russia, and sent trainloads of food voted by the Red Cross for the starving children of Russia, to the White Armies of Yudenich and the other Czarists who have operated against the Workers' Government of Russia.

The Red Cross contributions were made for charitable not militaristic purposes, but this did not deter the great American philanthropist from taking sides and attempting to overthrow the new Russia. The matter has been put up to the Red Cross officials but has been ignored, as they, too, are now a big capitalist corporation.

If tinned salmon takes another jump upward the Dublin housewives can realise that Hoover's greed for the same gold that Figgis and his breed hunger for, caused the jump.

The grafters and would be grafters of the Free State Government are but puny examples of our American Government grafters. They are the same in all capitalist States and the Free State is just a vest-pocket edition of the ordinary capitalist State.

Ireland will only know Freedom under a Workers' Republic.

THE COST OF COAL.

FIVE MINERS PER DAY.

In giving evidence before the Coal Wages Inquiry, Mr. Herbert Smith, President of the Miner's Federation of Great Britain, gave the following statistics of casualties among miners during 1923. He said:—**212,256 men received injuries disabling them for more than seven days.**

In addition 1,297 were fatally injured. Every working day more than five persons were killed.

Every five hours, the clock round, a life was lost.

Every 215,000 tons of coal raised was stained with the crimson of one man's blood.

Every working day 850 men were injured. Every hour, the clock round, 32 were broken on the wheel and injured.

Every ten minutes more than five poor fellows were maimed.

If the victims of accidents in the mines in 1923 were marshalled in one huge procession—four men in a rank—each rank one and a half yards apart—they got a procession of injured men stretching a distance of forty-five miles.

Every nine yards of that tragic march

THE BOUNDARY CONFERENCE.

To the Editor "Irish Worker."

A Chaga—The government of twenty-six Irish counties entitled "Irish Free State Government" has met with the fate it deserved at the hands of Sir James Craig's Northern Assembly representatives in London on the so-called "Ulster" Boundary Question.

So far as the British Government is concerned it is apparently satisfied that the boundary resulting from the operation of "The Partition Act of 1920" should stand. That Act was embodied in the Anglo-Irish Treaty after skilful and legal handling and consultation on the part of the British authorities, leaving a way open for repudiation of the Treaty at a given time, i.e., on the intervention of "Ulster" acclaiming coercion.

"Ulster" has, with the rejection of the Conference, given a sharp reminder and taste of coming events. On the Free State attempting to set up the Boundary Commission the British Government will play the game "Treaty-like" while "Ulster" will stand in the gap and ignore and defy and call upon the "brethren" in Gairloch and its surroundings and "kindred Dominions" to stir up the heart of the Imperial British nation and shout for a second Cromwell and the extermination of the Irish people. That is the "Northern" gamble once more. If possible, throw the Irish people into the melting-pot prepared by the Free State's muddling, and in the murderous uproar keep the Belfast back-door open for the passage of British troops to feed the Orange lambs in their Cromwellian work of exterminating Irish Catholics.

Such a position would bring the Free State face to face with the events of the day when Eamon De Valera, walking out of the Dail with his 56 supporters, said "You will want us again"! These words will soon shine once more on the wall in green, white and gold, this time terrifying those whose consciences were so clastic when their oath to the Republic was put scornfully underfoot.

"What do we hear these days? "The British are coming back!" "Ulster" is getting ready to fight!" "The Free State will not fight!" and many other calls and cries indicative of the staggering "Treaty." The British could not remain in possession when President De Valera's I.R.A. was in fully equipped form, and they cannot now come back without rendering to the Irish people a valid reason for not framing the terms of the Anglo-Saxon-Irish Free State Agreement in such a way as the people as a whole could accept and endorse as in keeping with Irish national aspirations. The Treaty was originally a sham and a fraud, and will be finally rejected by the "North," thus tightening the rope on the "Nationalists" of Tyrone and Fermanagh. Who can wonder at the unfortunate position? President De Valera publicly stated that acceptance of the Treaty meant splitting Ireland from top to bottom. He also said that the Free State was building its house on a foundation of sand and that house would fall like a house of cards.

The President was always right, and every road to-day seems to lead to the Irish Republic.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN J. BOWLER.

Dublin,
28th April, 1924.

they would have an ambulance containing a man who was seriously injured.

At every sixty-one yards a hearse.

"This part of the miners' wages," said Mr. Smith, "never gets into a balance sheet, and is never seen in a quotation, is never allowed for or even thought of by the consumer."

GENTLEMEN OF RESERVATIONS.

From an article in the "Voice" we learn that C. O'S., like "organiser" Baird and many others of that ilk in Southern Ireland, is a Lagansider. C. O'S. tells how Connolly in August 1913, learning of the coming strike in Dublin, left Belfast for the Capital by the next train. Then the narrative stops abruptly: a year is spanned in a single stride, and the next sentence deals with the beginning of the World War in August, 1914.

C. O'S. is evidently a gentleman of reservations.

But others have dealt with phases of that period which C. O'S. and other Lagansiders in Dublin would fain leave discreetly in oblivion.

Doctor Morrison, M.P., resides at Aghadowey, some seven miles from Coleraine, in County Londonderry. He is Dispensary Doctor for Aghadowey district; represents the County Londonderry in the Belfast Partition Parliament. Is County Grand-Master of the Londonderry Orangemen; and, altogether, a big gun entirely!

About ten years ago he published a book called "Modern Ulster," dealing with life in its various phases in the North of Ireland. A full chapter was devoted to the Ancient Order of Hibernians. That archaic organisation evidently made a favourable impression on the worthy Grand-Master: and he dwelt approvingly on the priceless services the Order had rendered to society generally, and the Dublin capitalist in particular, by sending trainloads of Hibernian "workers" into Dublin during the autumn of 1913, to replace the men who were on strike.

That was published ten years ago, but much water has run through the Blackstaff since, and C. O'S. is not alone in wishing the waters of Lethie to flow over the past. Red-Herrings and smoke screens are now the order of the day (vide Lord Pirrie's "Irish News"). But the manoeuvres and operations of the Belfast Labour Party, of which Organiser Baird was a shining ornament, and of the Belfast Hibernians during the past four years, must be dragged into the light of day. Beginning with the "letting down" of the expelled workers of the pogroms of 1920, and the betrayal of the society members of the various cross-channel unions; their operations culminated in the wholesale plundering of the Expelled Workers' Fund, and the White Cross Fund (Belfast area). During the two and a half years of the ramp over three-quarters of a million pounds (£750,000) went to Belfast—and mainly from America—for the victims of the pogrom. Not a penny of that money has ever been publicly accounted for! Not a twentieth part of it ever found its way to those for whom it was subscribed. In November, 1922, when immediate public exposure was threatened, the White Cross treasurer in Dublin, James McNeill (brother of "John from Antrim") stopt to London. The Secretary—Senator Douglas, stopped all further payments to Belfast. Most Rev. Dr. McRory, R.C. Bishop of Belfast and a member of the White Cross Committee, stated that at that time there was still over a hundred thousand pounds (£100,000) in Dublin, and earmarked for the Ulster victims. Why was none of that money ever given to relieve the relatives of Craig's prisoners who were in want? When is McNeill and Douglas going to account for the train-loads of money they allowed to be squandered? The time is fully ripe for an exposure of this colossal scandal—a revelation that would leave the disclosures of the Bottomley Bond Clubs in obscurity.

J. O'H.

**DON'T FORGET
WEXFORD
ON SUNDAY**

"BELATED CHARGE AGAINST . . ."

The "Irish Independent" published, last week, a paragraph criticising the Six-County Government for bringing to trial several men charged with political offences—raiding houses for arms, etc.—offences committed as long as a year ago. The hypocritical rag never raises its voice in protestation against the Free State Government when it sends to penal servitude men convicted, within its jurisdiction, of similar offences, committed, not one, but two years ago. The policy of the "Independent" never varies; always it is against the nation. It will be noticed that the "Northern" prisoners get as little consideration from the organ of Murphyism as do the Southern prisoners. Such is the bond of Empire. The whole question of keeping in the prisoners in England, Scotland, Six-County "Ireland" and Free-State "Ireland" turns on the Treaty and the legal "implementing" of the Treaty, which is Partition. Six-County "Ireland" holds the political prisoners to sandbag Cosgrave and Co. with on the Boundary issue. Cosgrave dare not demand the release of the Northern prisoners because Sir James Craig will let them know that he has as much right to suppress Anti-Six-County "Irregularism" as Mr. Cosgrave to suppress Free State "Irregularism." Both Governments have in hands the job of "implementing the Treaty"—as Mr. T. Johnson would say—and there is no doubt that it would be implemented altogether to the advantage of Sir James Craig but that Mr. Cosgrave is afraid of a resurgent Republicanism. In passing, may it be mentioned that the weak action of certain people, supposedly Republicans, in having a secret agreement with Cosgrave in the matter of releasing the prisoners in the Free State, is beyond comprehension.

The British Government would not be perturbed about the Boundary Question if it had sufficient guarantees that the Cosgrave-O'Higgins-McNeill-Blythe gang would survive the next General Election. Unfortunately for them, their "stock" is in even a more precarious state than Free State finances and the outlook looks bad for "implementers" of treason and Partition. For which, much thanks.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE

GENERAL MEETING

WILL BE HELD IN

THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

(Trades Hall)

On Monday Next, 19th May

AT 8 O'CLOCK, P.M.

Business:— ELECTION OF E.C.

ADMISSION BY CARD

CUP AND SPOONBILL
RESTAURANT

6 NORTH EARL STREET

[10' Seconds from Pillar]

Table d'Hote Luncheon—2/-

Roast Beef and Yorkshire—1/-

Teas a Speciality—Hot Seones and Potato Cakes.

OPEN ON SUNDAYS

Dublin Trades' Council and Irish Worker
League

EXCURSION
TO
WEXFORD
Sunday, May 18th

leaving Amlens Street Station at 9 o'clock, Westland Row 9.5 a.m., Dun Laoghaire 9.15 a.m., Bray 9.35 a.m. Returning from Wexford 7 p.m.

Trains will leave Wexford sufficiently early to allow Excursionists to catch Dublin Trams.

Football Match
DUBLIN (St. Mary's Selected)

VERSUS

WEXFORD (Selected)

By permission of G.A.A. Kick-off, 2.15 p.m.

Half Proceeds will go towards Prisoners' Dependents.

JIM LARKIN

Will Speak at MASS MEETING in Peter's Square at 4.30 p.m.

Fintan Lalor Pipers and No. 5 Branch Fife and Drum Band will travel

TICKETS—ADULTS

DUBLIN.....	7/-
DUN LAOGHAIRE	6/6
BRAY	6/-

Children up to 14 half price.

Tickets may be bought at Trades' Hall, Capel Street, 74 Thomas Street, 17 Gardiner's Place.



TEAS
UNITED
"THANK YOU"

SERVICE

QUALITY

UNITED TEA COMPANY
(F. ROBERT MOONEY, MANAGER)
47 PARNELL SQUARE.

We are selling Tea at 2/8 per lb. that cannot be purchased in any shop in Dublin at 3/6.
Prompt and personal attention given to all orders.

"AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS STOMACH."

We are helping to fill the stomach of the Irish working class, so that they also may march forward.

We offer all members of the Irish Worker League the following bargains:—

PRICE LIST.

Sardines	3d. per tin
Oatmeal (Fine Scotch)	3d. per lb.
Tinned Milk (Sweetened)	10d. per tin
Rice	4d. per lb.
Tinned Peaches (1lb. tins)	8d. per tin
Linoleum 2 yards wide	5/- per linear yd.
Soap (3 lb. bars)	1s. per bar
Herrings in Tomato Sauce (tinned)	6d. per tin
Kipper Herrings (tinned)	5½d. per tin
Kipper Snacks (tinned)	2½d. per tin

To be had any time, any day, at—

THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE
17 Gardiner's Place, Dublin.

THE IRISH WORKER

AN T-OIBRÍDE ZAOLAC

Edited by JIM LARKIN

No. 46. NEW SERIES.

(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

SATURDAY, MAY 24th, 1924

TWOPENCE

Hold the Fort for we are Coming.
Union Men be Strong.
Side by Side we Battle Onward.
Victory---will Come.

To all men and women, members of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, Dublin area (City and County).

The employees of the Dublin Alliance and Gas Consumers' Co. were ordered out on strike by the Executive of the Union. The men came out by order. After being out two days an invitation to submit matters at issue to a Court of Inquiry, under direction of the Government, was submitted to the men in meeting by an employee of the Executive—one George Spain, who holds no official position in Union.

No advice was conveyed from Executive. No member of Executive attended meeting or any meetings of the men ordered out. The men decided to approach the Company for a direct settlement. The Executive, in collusion with the Government and employers deliberately brought the Court of Inquiry to an end by refusing to permit the men out in dispute admission to Court of Inquiry. And this Injunction Executive repeated their former treacherous conduct by publicly notifying the men in dispute that they, the Executive, would not pay strike pay (the legal right of the men), thus conspiring with the Company and the Government to defeat the men. This is not the first time that the dishonest, treacherous scab-clique have played the employers' game. They have betrayed the workers throughout the length and breadth of the land—from Cork to Antrim, Galway to Dublin; farm labourers roadmen, dockers, coal-workers, sailors and firemen, Corporation workers. Their slimy trail is marked by defeat after defeat of the workers, victimisation wholesale of loyal Union men. They hold their positions by Injunction and gross abuse of the machinery of the Union and its funds. On their own admission they have illegally spent thousands of pounds of the Union funds. They have now proved to any man or woman of intelligence that they are agents for the employers, holding office in the Union for that purpose only; that they are willing tools of the Government in the attempt of this Government to lower wages, extend the hours of labour and degrade the workers. If there is a spark of trade unionism alive in the heart and mind of the members of the Irish Transport Union they will resent this betrayal of the loyal Union man out in dispute with the Gas Company. It is the

duty of the members to disassociate themselves from this clique of scabs, strike-breakers and employers' tools. If they are permitted by legal injunction to abuse their positions, betray the confidence of the members, use your money to do the employers' work, then you conscious Union men and women must prove your class loyalty. Now is the hour. Pay your contributions this week, and as much more as you can afford into the Dispute Committee of the Gas Workers at Liberty Hall. Pay no shop steward this week. Bring your contributions into the Hall. Pay it to the men on strike. Get a receipt.—hold that receipt. Keep your cards just within the eight week limit—let not your arrears exceed seven weeks. Pay all you can to sustain your brothers, not your proved enemies. This week will prove your unionism. The gas workers to-day may be your case to-morrow.

A Union is composed of workers. You are the Union—not a clique of four or five selfish, corrupt and dishonest traitors. They, Foran, O'Brien, Kennedy, McCarthy Stafford, admitted in Court they had illegally spent your money. The other members of the Executive don't matter. Kennedy and McCarthy were proved to have exercised Executive functions, spent thousands of pounds without authority. You, members of the Union, have a legal right, a moral right, a trade union right, to pay strike pay to your brothers on strike. Then pay it. Pay it in a generous way. Rally to Liberty Hall. Help the men fighting your battle. All the Press, all the forces of Government, all the employing class, the Injunction Executive, and their paid tools and spies, gunmen (so-called), are against your brothers on strike. All Union men and women worthy of the name are on the side of the oppressed, harassed, betrayed Union men now in dispute with the alien directors of the Gas Company.

Some papers have referred to the Dublin Alliance and Gas Consumers' Company as a "public utility." If it is a "public utility" why don't the public own the company? Do they? ask Jerry McVeagh and some of the cross-channel share-holders.

LETTERKENNY STRIKE.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

Our Friends.

It is only right and fitting to place on record our appreciation of the support received in the struggle. Our Branches everywhere, unasked, pledged moral and financial support and responded quickly to the Levy struck by the E.C., to supplement the dispute pay. They realise that the Letterkenny Branch is defending the position of the whole Union; that the Letterkenny members' battle is their battle. The organised workers in the County are loyally assisting, while Derry Dockers, Carters, Railwaymen and Motormen are doing magnificent work in blockading goods for Letterkenny firms that supply the Mental Hospital. This is having splendid results and local bosses' sneers are changing to signs of fright and dread. Organised labour is teaching them a well-merited lesson which they won't soon forget.

Our Own Again.

At the time of going to press the situation is very hopeful. The Board have played all their cards—Government support, Clerical support, Scabs, prejudiced Press reports—but they are no better off. The Patients and the Institution, bereft of the usual attention, discipline etc., are in a deplorable condition, and the Board, recognising that the Branch continues a solid front and cannot be broken up by their despicable tactics, will have to pocket their pride, get rid of the Scabs and take back the old staff on the conditions prevailing prior to the 1st April. This will have to come very soon. From our experience of various industrial disputes as well as those in our own Union, we can unhesitatingly say that never was there a more loyal body of fighters—men and women—with determination and enthusiasm to carry their flag to victory. As an instance we need only mention that of the 100 affected, some eleven with long service had their resignations in and were actually serving their last few weeks when they answered the call.

JOIN THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.
Entrance Fee, 1/-. Subscriptions 3d. Weekly

GOVERNMENT'S GRATITUDE ?

SAORSTAT EIREANN.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,
UPPER MERRION ST.,
BAILE ATHA CLIATH,
8th May, 1924.

J. H. McCauley, Esq.,
Sec. Assoc. Ex-Officers and
Men, National Army,
35 Nth. Gt. George's St.,
Dublin.

A Chara—With reference to your communication of the 6th inst., requesting the President to meet a deputation from the Executive of your Organisation to discuss certain matters, I am desired by the President to inform you that he does not consider that any useful purpose would be served by receiving the deputation just at present.

The first two questions, i.e., the securing of employment for discharged members of the Army, and the matter of unemployment benefits were discussed at the last meeting and are at present engaging the earnest consideration of the Government Departments concerned.

With regard to Pensions, everything possible is being done to expedite consideration of applications for pensions, and payments will be made with the least possible delay. If there are any special cases which your Executive desire to bring to the President's notice, he will be glad to have particulars of them in writing and will see that they receive immediate attention.

With reference to your fourth question, the President would like to have some particulars of instances in which ex-National soldiers have been evicted from their homes owing to their inability to pay rents, in order that he may have the matter investigated. He feels that this matter is bound up to a large extent with the problem of unemployment and to a lesser extent possibly on number two, referred to above.

In conclusion I am to say that it has not yet been found possible to consider the proposal that the Government should place at the disposal of your Organisation the premises known as the Recruiting Office, Pearse St.

Mise le meas,

(Signed) G. MAGCANAINN,
Rúnaidhe do'n Uachtaran.

Association of Ex-Officers and Men of the
National Army.

35 Nth Gt. George's St.,
Dublin.

A Chara—We enclose for your information copy of letter received from President Cosgrave, in reply to our letter of the 6th delivered by hand. We might mention in connection with this matter, that we wrote to the President a month before and did not receive a reply. Now that the Ministers have definitely turned us down we appeal to Dail Eireann for support of the unemployed (ex-service) and wounded ex-service men of the National Army. Should they take the same action as the Ministers, they, as a whole, will be responsible for any action that we may be compelled to take.

Is it possible that the Deputies who have waded through the blood of approximately 2,000 men into their present positions as representatives of the people of Ireland (whom we fought for) have so far forgotten themselves as to pass a Pension Act which is not only a disgrace to Ireland, but would be a disgrace to any country whose casualties run into millions.

The Pension Act must be amended to do justice to the wounded soldiers and the relatives of the dead, and as our legislators are apparently unable to draw up a satisfactory scheme we respectfully ask that a representative of the men concerned be appointed to act in an advisory capacity. We would direct attention to the injustice

of the Unemployment Act which was evidently passed to bring money into the Exchequer not to relieve the distress of the unfortunate worker.

As explained in our letter to the President few of the men and practically no ex-officers are entitled to this benefit to which they subscribed when employed.

Apparently neither the Road Grant nor the reconstruction work is to be started. We might inform the Deputies that the terms under which the former was granted by An Dail have not been adhered to. Even the Chief Road Engineer admitted that fact at an interview we had with the Minister concerned.

We would ask all deputies to raise this question at once as the men are in such a pitiable plight that they, and we as their representatives, will not advise further delay in taking action, which once taken is likely to become a repetition of former events in Ireland.

We will not forget the Party who raises this question, neither will we forget the Party that opposes it and we will not be satisfied with the evasive answer generally given by the front bench.

Sinne, le meas,

J. MACK, President.

J. MOYNIHAN, Vice-President.

ASSOCIATION OF EX-OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE NATIONAL ARMY.

35 Nth. Gt. George's St.,
Dublin.

An Open Letter to President Liam T. MacCosgair.

A Chara—With reference to your reply to ours of the 6th inst., refusing to receive a deputation from the Executive of this Organisation. You state that the Unemployment question and the payment of Unemployment Benefits were discussed at our last meeting, held five months ago. Do the Ministers whose slogan in the past was that they were drawn from the oppressed classes, expect wounded and unemployed ex-Army men to live on air for another five months while they (the Ministers) consider the Unemployment Question?

UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT.

Few men and no officers are entitled, according to the Labour Exchange Officials, to Benefit, and as the Government is responsible in this Country—as in other Countries—for the Unemployment, particularly of ex-army men, and as other countries make provision for their inability to cope with it, by making special provision for the men who served their country in its hour of need, we fail to see why our Government should not do likewise.

What we demand as our right is that a stamp be put to the credit of each soldier for every fortnight he served, whether he was employed or not prior to joining the army.

PENSIONS.

With reference to your reply to our Pensions Question you state that everything possible is being done to pay the relatives of those killed, you seem to have forgotten that your reply to a question was that approximately 600 were killed and 500 wounded. It is rather extraordinary that the government of other countries could keep an accurate record of their casualties, even when they ran into millions, further, you seem to forget that the governments of other countries did not offer widows whose sons were killed in action a Grant of £25, and men who lost the power of their limbs Grants of from £10 to £15, and no Pension. You ask us are there any special cases to be brought to your notice? **We in our turn demand that an independent referee and an Appeal Tribunal of civilian doctors be appointed, and further, that the Pensions Act be amended so that it will be an Army Pensions Act, not an Old Age Pensions Act.**

We have a scheme to be submitted to your Legal Advisers, which would not cost the country £12,000 in the first year, but apparently we are not to get the opportunity of putting it forward. We wonder did the father and mother of the British soldier killed in Cork and the men who were wounded get Gratuities of say £50, as you and your colleagues have stated from time to time. Some of our comrades were just as brutally murdered.

EVICCTIONS.

Re evictions, approximately 30 notices to quit have been served on our members. We have stayed evictions so far out of our own funds in the hope that we would come to some arrangement with you. Up to the present our members, though numbers of them are on the verge of starvation, have desisted from taking constitutional action against our Government, in the hope that your intentions were honest, but now that you apparently have no intention of playing the game, we must of necessity do so. Men who have risked their lives and chances of success in life are scarcely likely to be content with the kind of Constitutional action Politicians are used to.

The people of the country are well aware of our grievances and sympathise with us. Further, when a man like the Governor-General, who has kept afloat on the sea of Irish Politics for half a century, considers it politic to receive our Deputy, patronise and subscribe to our Association, the Irish people will understand if we in our turn are indiscreet because of the barbarous treatment meted out to the relatives of our dead, also to our wounded and unemployed.

RE CLUB HOUSE ASKED FOR FIVE MONTHS AGO.

The American, the French, the British and the Belgian, the Italian and the German Governments have erected monuments in their cities, towns and villages to the memory of their glorious dead, we only ask for fair play to the living and the relatives of the dead.

A number of badly wounded men, though small it is true, with College and University education, have offered to resign their pensions if they were given suitable Government employment. In connection with this we would be thankful to know what machinery has been set up to deal with Paragraph 2, Sub-Section 5 of the Army Pensions Act, 1923, which deals with vocational training and what arrangements have been made for treatment of wounds.

Signed on behalf of the Central Executive Council.

J. MACK, President.

J. MOYNIHAN, Vice-President.

Irish Worker League—London Branch.

Club Room—121 Walworth Rd., S.E.

A very instructive and spirited discussion following Sylvia Pankhurst's lecture on "Communism" on Sunday evening.

The following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That this working class meeting demands the immediate and unconditional reinstatement of the heroic police strikers by Arthur Henderson. It considers that Henderson's refusal to reinstate them in spite of the past pledges of the Labour Party, is on a par with his part in the despoilation of the Clyde Shop Stewards and the murder of his own Comrade, James Connolly, at the time when he was a member of the War Cabinet."

Copies to working-class press, Arthur Henderson, London Trades' Council, etc.

The outing to Woodford Wells takes place next Sunday, June 1st, and every member and sympathiser should be there. Tickets, 3/- each, pay for lunch and tea, with Ceilidh in the evening. Those desirous of having a pleasant day, as well as of helping the cause financially, should get their tickets from the above address.

PEOPLE IN GLASS HOUSES

The Dublin Corporation has been dissolved by the "Government" and a victory achieved for purity of administration. So the "Irish Independent" affects to think.

Corruption !

It is true a large number of the Corporators have been neglecting their duties for a long time, that they have regularly been absenting themselves from Corporation meetings, but, it is not a fact that the city is suffering any more as a result of this, than at any other time in municipal history.

A "Government" Inquiry has been sitting on the affairs of the Dublin Corporation, to clear up the rumours of scandals, inefficiency and corruption, and the result of those investigations is—Nil. Yet, the Corporation has been dissolved.

Out of Date.

The present system of Civic Government in these countries is out of date and a change to better methods a matter of urgency. But it is ludicrous to suppose that the present "Government," steeped as it is in corruption, the most flagrant example of jobocracy in Western Europe, and that is saying a lot, can have the intention of purifying the administration of the City. There are reasons why this latest "stunt"—or such it is—has become necessary, and they may be summed up in the phrase "the Free State must live." This may not be apparent at once but—read on.

Sauce for the Goose.

The plea that it was necessary to dissolve the Corporation because a large number of Corporators have failed to attend to their duties is one which, if applied to the "Government's" adherents in the Dail should, in justice, result in the dissolution of that body also. It is notorious that many of the Free State Party in the Dail abstain from participation in public business except when there may be a possibility of—accidental—defeat. Still, the Government carries on.

That the charges of inefficiency and scandals have failed, suggests that the "Government" have an ulterior motive in the present move; what that motive is many of the citizens do not see.

Down With Wages.

The present fiscal policy of Mr. Cosgrave's "Government" is the creation of an industrial Ireland after the style of the "predominant partner," but there is an objection by British capitalists to finance industry here while the cost of living in Ireland—or in other words the rate of wages—is higher than in industry in England and Scotland. If Ireland had her own currency and could depend on her own credit it would not be so important to bring down wages, but the country follows unswervingly the fluctuations of the Pound sterling—"trade follows the flag"—and the nation is at the mercy of British financiers. The extent to which this is so can be guessed by the consideration that the British Government is about to pass a Land Purchase Bill to help Mr. Cosgrave's "Government" out, and be sure that Government is not doing it for love of us.

The price of financial assistance from England is the depression of wages, and it is here the Free State "Government's" plans, in regard to the Dublin Corporation, reveal themselves.

Fifty Shillings a Week.

So long as the Public Bodies are responsible to the citizens—the vast majority of whom are workers—they can be made amenable. When a Government, whose functions are National, take on the administration of Local Government, and there is no appeal

against the decisions of their administrators, the road is at once open for the pioneers and disciples of the creed of Mussolini. And we have them with us. Let the people take warning. It will be remembered that the "Government" have on the Statute Book an Act fixing the wages of Road-Workers in the Dublin area at two pounds ten a week. When the appointed hour arrives the Dublin Road-Workers will have to accept a cut in wages to that figure or make way for the scab ex-military "labour" organisations. The workers will, in time, get suitable reward for returning the Free State traitors to power. The guilt is on their own heads.

The "Irish Labour Party."

In assigning responsibility for existing conditions the association of the "Irish Labour Party" with the various Acts passed by the "Government" is the determining factor. The head of that Party is Mr. Thos. Johnson, T.D.—an Englishman, whose hostility to anything Irish is perfectly known to those who know him in private life. Like Gompers in America—more American than the Americans themselves (Moryah!)—he is wearing himself to death in the service of Ireland (also Moryah!). Working with him are Wm. O'Brien, I.T.G.W.U., and Senator Foran, I.T.G.W.U., men who ran away from the fight in 1916 and denounced the Republicans of 1922, but who, since 1916, have been sheltering under the mantle of James Connolly, whom they betrayed. This is the trio directing the policy of the Irish Labour Party. This is the trio who control the Labour machine in Ireland, who arming up the operation of referendum and plebiscite for which provision was made in the Free State Constitution, as a sop to democracy. In the final analysis they must bear responsibility for the policy of the Free State Government, for they could have prevented the operation—and even with their dwindling influence, still could force the repeal of the Acts on the Statute Book detrimental to the best interests of the common people.

Free State Constitution.

It may be said that, with the present Labour Party thrown out of office and a virile one in its place, the anti-labour enactments of the Free State Government can be easily repealed. That may be so or it may not. It depends on the time it will take to drive the Labour fakirs from power. If the Free State "Government" get sufficient time, the Courts of Justice in Ireland will be manned by creatures cast in the mould of Mussolini's tools and an honest administration of the law will be impossible. In such case nothing short of a tremendous industrial upheaval, accompanied by bloodshed, will bring down the temple of corruption, and the new era will, perforce, be born in tears and sorrow. This is the logical development of the policy of the Labour fakirs. Knowing their fate is sealed they laugh at what may befall the common people. With a pretence of feeling for the misfortunes of the rank and file they behind backs, are whetting the knife to cut their throats. Ask the road and gas workers what has been done for them by their "leaders." They know. Have they been sold? Yes! And the treachery has but begun. Nothing short of immediate re-organisation will avert early disaster and it is now up to the rank and file to do their duty. If they close their eyes to the facts they will reap the fruits of their own supineness and taste the bitter waters of defeat.

NOTICE

Owing to pressure on our spaces we are reluctantly compelled to hold over several of our reports and criticisms, including "One Man Three Jobs."

AISHEEP IN LYON'S CLOTHING.

Mr. Cosgrave's one-time advance-agent, Sean Lyons, T.D., is athirst for the Labour Vailhalla. None of your be-whiskered "wait till the day breaks in Erin" talk about Sean. "One large Union on a co-operative basis for the workers of Ireland" is what he is after, and he is going to get it—in the neck. This O.B.U. and O.L.U. (one large union) business is becoming epidemic, and if Lyons, T.D., keeps on at it nothing short of a duel between Hindenburg Bill and himself will settle the matter finally. The origin of the little affair between H.B., Felix the Mouser (alias Thomas Johnson, T.D.), the Senatorial horse-flesh demon and Sean Lyons bids fair to be forgotten if it be not recorded, so, let us to the assistance of the historians of future date.

In a moment of forgetfulness Mr. Lyons, oblivious of the existence of the Irish Labour Party Chairman, hailed Mr. Cosgrave as the saviour of the nation. It was too bad. There was something about an oath of allegiance too and it roused the ire of 32 Lr. Abbey St., where things are done better. At that address oaths of allegiance are mere scraps of paper, the invocation of the Deity a formality, to please the popular taste, or, as Mr. Mortished would put it: "A Chiara, I suppose one must be up-to-date." The lapse of the roaring Lyons was recorded in the official log of the Kuckoo-Klux-Klan and Mr. Lyons was invited to hang himself in expiation. He purchased a length of hemp all right, as was thought, to transport himself to regions celestial, but to the consternation of the Treaty "implementer" and his associates, used it to hang the "Labour" Party candidate at the last General Election. The corpse was brought home to Abbey Street and to all outward evidences is still there, which serves to explain the atmospheric density in the locality. The unpardonable offence of Lyons was to give public approval to the war record of Cosgrave-O'Higginsism, when the "if it cost as much more" policy had been definitely scrapped—for tactical reasons. As said before, they do things better at 32 Lr. Abbey St. than in Westmeath, and, when it is necessary to "implement" anything the fact is not usually announced from the house-tops. Lyons, though his master's voice, used the loud-speaker, and, in "Labour" circles, this is bad form. Hence the sentence of excommunication.

The misfortune of Lyons is that "e don't know where 'e are," but he is satisfied that Mr. Cosgrave and himself have been destined to do something, and, what better (for him) than an organisation to "alleviate and remove most of the causes of disagreement between employer and employed and to uplift the working man to his rightful place in the estimation of those that pay him for his labour." After that, the lethal chamber.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE

LONDON - READERS PLEASE NOTE.

A London Group of the Irish Worker League has been formed. Open meetings, Sunday, 7.30 p.m., at Central Southwark Labour Centre.

"Irish Worker" is On Sale:—

NEWSAGENTS

Battersea—A. Tolman, 54 Battersea Rise.
W.C.—Communist Party, 16 King Street.
E.C.—Workers' Dreadnought, 152 Fleet Street
Plumstead—O'Sullivan, 154 Plumstead Road.
East Greenwich—Johannes, 11 Blackwell Lane
Deptford—Latter, Catholic Church.
Lewisham—Catholic Church.
Bermondsey—A. Mallandain, 19 Parker Row, Dockhead.

Voluntary sellers wanted. Also members.

Write:—Hon. Sec., Irish Worker League, above address.

An Injury to one is the concern of All."

IRISH WORKER

EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

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We are not responsible for views or opinions expressed in Special Articles.

EX-SERVICE MEN

USED AND THEN FORGOTTEN

We congratulate our comrades of the Association of Ex-Army Officers and Men on their spirited indictment of their former employers. It does one good in these days of sham and make-believe in political and social life to read the pregnant truths such as these lads addressed to 360 pounds a year patriots. "Is it possible that the Deputies, who have waded through the blood of 2,000 men, forget?" They don't forget. They laugh, they sneer at you who fought for a price. Your political leader and satrap of the Empire—Liam Cosgrave—says: "£5,000,000 has been allocated in compensation within the last couple of years." Yea, Bo! But who got the five millions? How much did the Cosgrave family and friends get? How much did the Freemason Ring get? How much did those who supported the Black and Tan Government get? Property has its rights, and property got more than its rights from Cosgrave's Government. What did the men who offered their lives get?—demobilisation, starvation and a threat from "the last man and the last shilling" Johnson that the same method that had been applied in 1922 to settle that problem should be used to settle the problem of the request from ex-National Army men for an opportunity to live in their own land that they had fought for—wisely or not matters not—and incidentally to get £360 a year for Johnson—Imperialist, 1914 brand—and the Deputies who waded through the blood of 2,000 Irishmen to their £360 a year and other extras.

We thank you, comrades, for that true and pregnant statement. The only thing we differ with—you're all too modest. Solicitations (as Johnson put it) is the sweet reasonableness of your demands. Why did not your leaders who reneged you, and why did not you yourself insist on your price when you had the power. You were worth twenty-four shillings a week plus allowance for dependents and rank in 1922—June 29th. Why did your employers—the Freemason Finance Capitalists and their agents—pay you that rate in 1922. They needed you to protect their property, their interests. Why did you not protect your own interests? Why don't you demand that property has its responsibilities and make them pay a union rate for your services? Why should the men in uniform work for half the average wage paid in the open market. A Living Wage for Killing—would that not be a winning slogan, both for officers and men?

Don't scab on your fellow-workers and don't scab on yourselves. If the employers, land-owners, finance capitalists want service, make them pay for it.

Make them take back every man who left their employment in the industrial field to take service for the employers on the military field. Make the employers pay every wounded man the wages he earned previous to entering active service. Make the employers pay to every widow and orphans of a comrade dead sufficient to keep them in comfort. Demand that no unemployed ex-soldier be evicted. Demand proper medical treatment and full wages at pre-service rate for every wounded man.

Cosgrave, Gogarty, McCullough, the President, Senators, Terrible Devils and other friends and their masters got compensation for their property. Why not you get compensation in same ratio for your service—your property. The right to work. Then demand work or maintenance for you and your care at the same standard they got for their property—the highest market rate. They will respect you and the country.

For, in other words, the masters of the country can pay it. Demand it now and see that you get it.

Join with your fellow-countrymen; join with your own class; join with those who you were employed to kill. Join—and together win this country for yourselves and your children—Irishmen all.

THE RIGHT TO COMBINE.

FOR PROFIT! FOR PRESERVATION!

In Dublin, at present, there is a strike on, and one of the points in dispute is whether workmen have the right to combine together for their own protection. According to the Free State Constitution they have the right, but having the right and using the right are two different matters. The working men, in demanding the right of combination, do not ask for an offensive combination, because, due to the condition of existence at present in force, the working class, both in Ireland and every other country in the world, except Russia, are on the defensive. When the times arise for offensive combination the fight will have been won. The day the working class discover that they have enemies to attack and that they have a right to attack them, the fight will be won, because their power and economic strength is so enormous that their enemies will disappear before them like the proverbial "mist upon the hills."

To get to the point of the article. In the "Irish Times" for Tuesday 20th May, appears a report of the annual meeting of the shareholders and directors of the Maypole Dairy Co., Ltd. The shareholders were informed that they would receive no interim dividend, because the competition in the margarine trade was too keen.

One of the speakers, by name, Sir Wilfred Atlay, and evidently by nature a trades unionist, said, that in his opinion an attempt should be made to come to an agreement with margarine manufacturers, to prevent the cutting of prices below a point at which a profit was possible.

In plain words this means that he wants all the manufacturers of margarine to come together, decide on a price for their products sufficient to pay them a suitable profit, and then demand that the public pay that price if they desire to eat margarine. Now, the reason why he wants to get a profit on his margarine is because he depends on profits for his bread and butter, just as the working man depends on his wages. Sir Wilfred Atlay finds that the profits he is receiving at present are not sufficient to meet his requirements, so he says (or wants the margarine manufacturers to say) to the public: "We want so much per pound for our margarine, if you won't pay it we won't sell you our margarine," and, of course, as margarine is a necessity (and Sir Wilfred

knows it) the public pay the extra money. And that is capitalist trade unionism.

What happens when working class trades unionism is applied. A certain body of workers are paid 35/- per week. They find that such wages are insufficient to their needs; they ask for more. They are refused. They decline to continue work until the extra wages are paid. Immediately they become enemies of the people and destroyers of the nation, etc., and they are told that they are playing on the sufferings of the public. But where is the difference between Sir Wilfred and the working man? Both have something to sell, neither are offered a price sufficient to their needs, and, as a result, both refuse to sell. There is no difference except that in everyday life it is the Sir Wilfreds who wish to buy the workingman's labour power while at the same time they are trying to force him (the workingman) to pay more money for the margarine (which is made by the workingman and not by Sir Wilfred) in order that Sir Wilfred may get the profits he desires.

And the reason why the daily press attacks the working man when he is on strike is due to the fact that the press is maintained by the Sir Wilfreds for that very purpose. To spread false news and lies, to distort the truth and to mould public opinion to suit the needs of the Sir Wilfreds.

It is quite in order to apply the principles of trades unionism when the applicant has a handle to his name and wants to rob the people of another few thousand pounds; but when you apply the same principles to the matter of 35/- per week you are quite out of order and many times in jail instead.

We would ask our readers to compare the action of Sir Wilfred and the man of 35/- per week with the present strike between the Gas Company and the Gas Workers.

THE £10,000 "FRAME-UP."

The recent proclamation of the Free State Government, offering a reward of £10,000 for the arrest of a certain four men, has had an appropriate sequel. Bearing in mind the popular belief that the Cobh outrage was the work of Free State Officers and that the Protestant Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Bernard—a loyal Free Stater—who ought to know, voiced that view at the last Synod, the action of the "Government" in naming four Republicans as the offenders has a clear significance. The daily press has published a letter from the best known of the alleged murderers denying association with the affair and expressing the view that the reward has been issued to secure their arrest, not for the Cobh killings, but for their political and military activities. It seems to be the fact. Cosgraveism is fighting for its life and the method in favour is the "frame-up." What matter if four more men are executed. Free Stateism has been built on murder. Eighty-seven men, the victims of "authorised murder," lie in their graves to prove it, and a few more "executions" may be necessary to bring home to the people that the Treaty has come to stay—and that we are free. The "Government" did not issue a £10,000 reward for the arrest of the murderers of Noel Lemass, but, as the public are aware, he was not an "implementer" of Treaties. That is different. Yes! The Treaty must be implemented to the final comma, even "if it cost as much more."

The game that is being played is too obvious for words. It is now close on two months since the Cobh atrocity, yet, it was only last week the newspapers reported that Government troops were closing in on the area in which the "suspected" men were hiding. One would think there was a war on and that the "Government" troops were meeting with opposition in their great encircling movement. What a game it is, this Cosgraveism!

GAS STRIKE

SOME VALUABLE INFORMATION

16th May, 1924.

Mr. Gilligan,

Minister for Industry and Commerce,
24 Kildare Street.

The document presented to the deputation of the employees of the Dublin Alliance and Gas Consumers' Co. which waited upon your representative, Mr. Fred Allen, at 24 Kildare Street, has been submitted to the Committee appointed by the men now in dispute, and, after consideration, was referred to a mass meeting of the men, who have instructed the Committee to reply:—

We agree the main question is the constitutional right denied to our brother, Mr. Christopher Dunne, to associate in combination for his own betterment or protection. That principle is not a matter for argument and does not come before the Court of Inquiry set up by the Government. It is a constitutional right. Therefore, the point raised by the Minister for Industry and Commerce was outside the scope of the Inquiry, and the position assumed by the Minister, with reference to the attendance or non-attendance of Union officials, was obviously raised for the purpose of prejudicing the men's position.

We would also call attention to the lack of courtesy of the Minister in failing to submit the terms of reference to the men's representatives. Terms of reference should be mutually agreed upon by the parties to the dispute. The men are justified in claiming they were denied a fundamental right which, they submit, placed them in a false position and prejudiced the case.

With reference to the statement of Mr. Allen, that a letter was received from the Executive of the Transport Union stating that they had advised the men yesterday (Thursday) to go back to work pending the result of this Court of Inquiry; this statement is incorrect, as, from the time this dispute began we received no advice from the Executive of the I.T. & G.W.U., nor did any member of the Executive attend at any meetings of the men to give them advice in any shape or form. Therefore, the men unanimously decided, at a mass meeting, to seek the advice of Mr. James Larkin in the matter. Having sought his advice the men unanimously decided that a deputation from the Strike Committee, accompanied by Mr. Larkin, wait on Mr. Grey, secretary, and Mr. Dumbleton, Works Manager of the Gas Co., with a view to ending the dispute. The said deputation was received at 4.15 p.m., Thursday, and a discussion took place and the following was submitted as a basis of agreement by the men, with a view to an immediate resumption of work:—

The men are prepared to resume work forthwith on the following conditions:—

- (1) That Dunne be reinstated with all rights; that the interdiction against his membership in Union be withdrawn.
- (2) That Ward be reinstated and that the conditions governing his employment be such as recognised in other firms.
- (3) That the agreement entered into in December, 1923, be accepted, subject to the interpretation of the mediator, Mr. Fred Allen, and all extraneous questions be submitted to the Court of Inquiry for settlement; a report to be issued on or before May 25th, 1924.

DISPUTE COMMITTEE: GAS WORKERS.

LIBERTY HALL, ROOM 4.
20th May, 1924.Mr. James Larkin,
17 Gardiner's Place.

Dear Comrade—You are hereby requested

to attend the meeting of all the members of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union summoned by the Gas Workers for this evening in the Mansion House, at 8 p.m., in conformation of the foregoing a ballot vote was taken to-day at Liberty Hall by the Gas Workers, and the result of the said vote was as follows:

For your attendance	407
Against	41

Majority 366
I am, dear comrade,
Yours sincerely,
B. FINNIGAN,
Sec. Dispute Committee,
35 Parnell Square,
Dublin

17.5.24.

John O'Neill,
Dublin No. 1 Branch.

Re Gas-Workers' Dispute.

A Chara—In reply to your application for dispute benefit for above, we beg to inform you that in view of the action of this section in rejecting the advice of the Union and placing the control of the dispute in the hands of a non-member of this Union, no dispute benefit can be sanctioned.

Yours fraternally,
IRISH TRANSPORT AND GENERAL
WORKERS' UNION.
Per WM. O'BRIEN.

A statement issued to the press last night by the Strikers' Committee contains the following:—

"In your leading article you have, time and again, referred to the refusal of the gas workers to obey the orders of their Union, pending the findings of the Court of Enquiry. The facts are that the proceedings all through have been conducted by a junior official of No. 1 Branch, who stated that he, personally, had no power from the Executive to direct or give any advice on their behalf, he not being a member of the Executive. He, however, clearly pointed out that now, having unanimously decided to go to the Court of Enquiry, they were now to decide whether they would remain on strike or resume work. The men decided to remain on strike.

"This official further stated, after the result of the voting, that arrangements would be made for signing up for strike pay, and cards were called in for the purpose. We further emphatically state that we received no letter from the Executive, nor did any member thereof attend any of the meetings of the men to give them advice, and, therefore, we could not have disobeyed their orders, and the question of loyalty does not arise.

"It is plain to be seen that the workers have to fight a three-cornered contest in this dispute, namely, the Government, the Gas Company, and their own Executive, which Executive we have not failed to recognise, but who have failed us, and, as a consequence, the public are suffering."

BOUND, IN HONOUR" (!)

The matter of the agreement between the G.S. & W.R. and the G.W.R. of England, which would work out to the detriment of Dublin Port, and not at all to the interests of the country generally, is the subject of remarks in the "Irish Independent." Says the "Independent":—"The President's (Mr. Cosgrave) attitude was that a bargain is a bargain, and the country must keep its name clean." Mr. Cosgrave is trying to keep the country's name clean (!) We regret it is not possible for the country to reciprocate by keeping Mr. Cosgrave's name clean.

"A bargain is a bargain" says Mr. Cosgrave. H'm! Does he remember a bargain, to which Tom Kelly, late Alderman of Dublin, was witness, to release all political prisoners before Easter last? "A bargain

JOHNSON INCITES TO CHAOS.

Johnson's, T.D. attitude towards the unemployed has now been defined by himself. Hereunder we give his statement in the Dail on the question—taken from the "Irish Independent" of Wednesday, 21st inst., and append the correspondence between the unemployed ex-soldiers and the Government and Dail members.

Mr. Johnson (Lab.) thought the Ministry was bound to take notice of the representations made regarding pensions. Referring to the letter the demobilised soldiers sent to the members of the Dail, he hoped that kind of solicitation would not be repeated by any organisation which required sympathy or assistance.

The Government must take warning of a rising tide of agitation and discontent, not only amongst demobilised soldiers.

The unemployment question would have to be dealt with in a very much bigger manner than the Government seemed to have even dreamt of. This evil of unemployment was as serious as that other problem that confronted the Government two years ago, and would have to be dealt with in the same manner. They would have to raise a civil and industrial army.

Dealing with the problem "in the same manner" as the "problem that faced the country two years ago" means that the workers thrown out of work as a direct result of the murderous and suicidal policy of the "Government" of which Mr. Johnson is one of the advisers, must be shot down even as the "Irregulars" were, in the event of their agitating for work.

It is time labour dealt with this English traitor. Months ago we told our readers that Johnson was going over to capitalism, and by that we meant his services were in the market. He has now gone further than any capitalist dare have gone, for, his incitement to murder the workers is the most bloody-minded and callous statement in our times, not excepting his call on the Government a year and a half ago to wipe out Republicanism, "even if it cost as much more."

Johnson is a member of the Irish Union of Distributive Workers and Secretary of the "Irish Labour Party."

What do the rank and file in the 'Distributive Workers' Union' intend to do about it? Are they satisfied to be shot down like dogs when they agitate for work? If they do not get rid of this scoundrel at once they will get the bullet and bayonet in reward for their "loyalty" to what he stands for. Behind Johnson, in the "Irish Labour Party," stand Wm. O'Brien, I.T. & G.W.U., and Senator Foran, I.T. & G.W.U. Let it not be forgotten. The Gas Works strike is now on in the city and the opportune moment has been chosen for the new policy. If a single gas-worker is shot as a result of Johnson's incitement to murder, the blood of the victim is on the head of Johnson. Let it not be forgotten.

The last sentence in Johnson's statement is an invitation to the "Government" to organise an army of scabs. "They would have to raise a civil and industrial army." But plainly the meaning is—that the "Government" must have an army of scabs to break any strike or lock-out precipitated by the bosses of Irish capitalism.

If this does not open the eyes of the workers to the chronic ruffianism of Johnson, there is nothing for them but a dose of the lead which Johnson promises to those who dare to look for work.

is a bargain." What hypocrisy! Mr. Cosgrave is unlikely ever to lose the mentality of the tap-room. What a cheap, vulgar liar he is. Not even the atmosphere of Ballsbridge will ever eradicate the influences of James's Street. Let the wiper-up of porter cess go his way.

THE TRUTH WILL MAKE US FREE.

BALDWIN OPENS HIS MOUTH—WITH SOME GOOD RESULTS.

"I have attempted," he said, "to tell the country what I honestly believe. Every future Government must be socialistic, in the sense in which our grandfathers used the word. Personally, I don't know what Socialism means, but I do know that if the Tory Party is to exist we must have a vital democratic creed, and must be prepared to tackle the evils, social and economic, of our over-populated, over-industrialised country.

"The cost of living must be reduced, the producer must get more reward for his article, and it ought to cost the consumer and buyer less.

"Another reason why we should do this is because our Party contains, and can command, the best brains and the best business experience in the country, which may be used to break rings and trusts. For trusts exist under Free Trade, just as much as they might do under Protection. We have people trained in national war service, who could help us, and it might be necessary to mobilise them in a great campaign for cheaper food.

"We alone can tackle these social problems. The Socialists fall into class warfare difficulties and the Liberals are too inelastic.

Mr. Baldwin's War on Profiteering.

"First and foremost, I attach tremendous importance to a speedy attack on food profiteering. Some facts which have come to my notice recently are very significant.

"An allotment-holder found it impossible to obtain more than a penny apiece for the cauliflowers she grew. These same cauliflowers she saw being sold at the local market next day for 6d. each. A Worcestershire farmer told me that he sold pigment to Birmingham for 8d. a pound; it was sold there for 1s. 8d. a pound. A Nottingham firm made a frock for 25s.; it was sold at a Regent Street sale for £1 4s. These margins of profit and difference of price are, I am sure, too great.

"We want a strong Royal Commission to investigate all the facts before we formulate legislation. I am certain the index cost of living could be reduced, as a result of action in these matters, by 25 points.

"This is but part of the programme I propose. It is part of the new spirit we have in industry. We must educate the workers in industrial matters. They should know all the details of management, all about the ratios of wages to sinking funds and depreciation, etc., and all about the competition with which their firm is faced. If trade unions had spent their money educating their members instead of fighting strikes, the workers would now be controlling industry everywhere.

"We must recognise facts, and the new programme I have preached is an attempt to bring the Party up to date.

"But the lot of a leader in opposition is a difficult one. Read 'C. B.'s' life and see the kind of time he had. I know I am abused and jeered at, and intrigued against. But why?

Secret History of the Crisis.

"When I spoke at the Carlton Club meeting I never expected that we should win. I took my political life in my hands and I was prepared to retire from politics. I did not know that Bonar Law would lead us. In fact, the night before I spent two hours with him, and he had sealed a letter to the chairman of his Glasgow Association telling him that he would not stand for Parliament again. In that mood I left him.

"And then we won. I spoke because I was determined that never again should the sinister and cynical combination of the chief three of the Coalition—Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. Churchill and Lord Birkenhead—come together again. But to-day you can see the signs of the times

"But I didn't expect the exiled Conservative ex-Ministers would take things as badly as they did. Before the election last year I welcomed Mr. Austin Chamberlain back, and I accepted his friends, though I could easily have stopped their return to our councils.

"With Austen came Lord Birkenhead who had attached himself to the string of Austen's apron the year before very cleverly. And Austen is one of those loyal men who could not see disloyalty or intrigue even if it was at his elbow. But I am under no illusions as to Lord Birkenhead. If his health does not give way he will be a liability to the Party. But can a leader in opposition shut the door to an ex-Minister?

"And at the same time I am attacked by the Trust Press, by Lord Beaverbrook and Lord Rothermere. For myself I do not mind. I care not what they say or think. They are both men that I would not have in my house. I do not respect them. Who are they? I was attacked, I am told in the 'Evening Standard,' over my arrangement for the Budget speakers. I did not read it. Why should I?

"This Trust Press is breaking up. The 'Daily Mail' is dead; it has no soul. Northcliffe, with all his faults, was a great journalist, with a spark of genius. But this man! I get much correspondence about him. A post-card the other day said 'If Lord Rothermere wants a halo in Heaven or a coronet on earth, why don't you get it for him?'

"The last time I spoke to Lord Beaverbrook was at Bonar's funeral. He had contracted a curious friendship with Bonar and had got his finger into the pie, where it had no business to be. He got hold of much information, which he used in ways in which it was not intended.

"When I came in that stopped. I know I could get his support if I were to send for him and talk things over with him. But I prefer not. That sort of thing does not appeal to me.

"As I said, I do not mind attacks on myself. I often wonder if my silent contempt irritates them more than if I were to speak out. I suppose it is my lot to suffer disloyalty. But there are limits.

"Take the article in the recent number of 'English Life.' That's a pretty dirty bit of work. It is written by 'A Conservative ex-Minister,' and I am pretty certain that if it was not written by the man I suspect, it was certainly inspired by him. It was a stab in the back. Now, it attacks my officials—the heads of the Central Office—and that I won't stand. If anybody had attacked a Treasury official when I was at the Treasury I would have come down to the House and made a very furious speech. And I intend to do so now.

"Besides, all this intrigue—this Churchill plotting—is bad for the Party, for all the young men who are looking to Toryism for the salvation of the country. What do these intriguers want? Simply to go back to the old dirty kind of politics! Not while I'm leader of the Party."

IRISH OUTING IN LONDON.

SUNDAY, 1st JUNE.

Do you want to spend a real Irish day? Country ramble. Ceilidh. Good musicians and singers. Meals at Red Cottage, Woodford Wells.

Cheap return fare from Liverpool Street Station.

Outing arranged by Irish Worker League (London Branch).

Tickets obtainable from League Headquarters, 124 Walworth Road (near Elephant) or at Red Cottage on arrival.

Price 3/-, including two meals (lunch and tea).

—SUNDAY, 1st JUNE.

MORE TREATY IMPLEMENTING.

It is more than a year since the "Cease Fire" order was issued by Mr. De Valera, but still the Free State "Government's" forces shoot at sight. Nenagh is the scene of the latest atrocity and Denis Hayes the victim. The public will remember a decision of the Free State Court of Appeal, about ordering the release of a Republican prisoner as the Government had not proved that a state of war existed. Since that there has been peace, or, at least, no disturbance, except such as has been created by the "Government." Eight months ago Cosgrave, Blythe and O'Higgins, for the purpose of boosting the Free State Loan, told the truth, and the truth was that the war was over. Still Free State forces shoot at sight.

There is no doubt, whatever, that the present policy of the "Government" is the creation of a situation that will have all the appearances of war without its actualities. The people's eyes must be turned elsewhere while the Cosgraves, O'Higginses, Blythes and McNeills make their peace with Ramsay MacDonald and Sir James Craig. A reason must be found why the Boundary Question is to remain unsettled, and the existence of a war, or pseudo-war, situation will meet the case.

Denis Hayes is proof that the forces of "Irregularism" are still at work. He has been killed to prove it. Now he is dead—let us breathe freely again. "Who dies if England lives?"

RELEASE THE PRISONERS.

The continued imprisonment of Irish "Political" by the three Governments of the United Kingdom is the bond of fellowship between them, and, contradictory though it may seem, the bone of contention too. The Treaty has not been finally implemented, yet, and the process of bargaining involves the retention of the prisoners. Craig holds his captives to rouse the wrath of "Southern" Ireland, thereby to force Cosgrave's hand on the Boundary issue. Ramsay MacDonald's Government plays the same cards. Cosgrave keeps his prisoners in lest their release would result in an intensive campaign against him by the reorganised forces of official Republicanism. All these Governments are united in the policy of implementing the Treaty, but each of them is endeavouring to squeeze the orange dry for their own ends.

If the Treaty were in reality a declaration of peace between Ireland and England, there would be no legal or moral justification for the policy of holding Irish political prisoners. That they are being held proves conclusively that there is no peace. Many of the men in English and Scottish jails are there for "offences" committed in pre-Treaty days. That puts beyond ye or nay that the English war on Ireland still continues. A further reason why the Cosgrave "Government" holds the "political" is, that, if they were to set them free the "Government" would be faced with the necessity of demanding the release of the prisoners in England and Scotland. That demand would rouse the British Government to action and Cosgrave, Ltd., would find their fate "implemented" beyond hope of repair.

All Kinds of Irish Manufactured Goods including Donegal and Connemara Tweeds and any and every other article manufactured in Ireland can be obtained from

THE MACMORROUGH

Room D., 143—4 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4

Letters to the Editor

THE REPUBLICAN PRISONERS.

To the Editor,

"Irish Worker."

A Chara—"Free State" Deputy County Court Judge Rosenthal, K.C., at Skibbereen Quarter Sessions, in concluding one of the cases on his list, as reported in the "Southern Star" of 3rd instant, stated:—"The facts are not disputed. After the Republicans had laid down arms I was sorry the Government had not passed a general amnesty or that they did not see their way to do so. A general amnesty might have been best, but the Government did not see their way to do so."

And again:—"I think it is rather hard that certain men should be prosecuted after the lapse of some time and others let go free. What is done to one should to all. I would let them out free."

On these observations of Judge Rosenthal further detention of the prisoners by their jailers should become a grave and serious question for "Ministerial Authority" in the "Free State." The Judge's remarks have been carried on the "breeze" and will attract the attentions of other Government Ministers with less sense of secret diplomacy and more of that which creates sound government and promotes welfare and civilisation.

I advocated a call for a general amnesty before last Xmas. My appeal was cut down by a Dublin paper as, presumably, I was too out-spoken on the then intended disfranchisement of 300,000 Republicans by the Irish "Free State." However, I am glad to say that shortly thereafter batches of the prisoners began to be released.

The British Labour Government has now decided not to grant any amnesty to Irish prisoners sentenced in England on political charges, either before or after the Truce, or to intervene in securing the release of Irish prisoners in the Six-County State and what is known as "The Irish Free State Government" has decided to carry out its authority derived from the British Cabinet and hold Republican leaders and prisoners in its British jails in Ireland for an indefinite period. The position is therefore clear. President De Valera and Austin Stack and other selected prisoners are to be held as hostages. Everyone remembers the case made by the "Free State" to prevent the President being examined before the American Commission in connection with the Republican Funds at the Dublin American Consulate. The "State" put in an affidavit that it would be dangerous to the interests and safety of the State to allow President De Valera out for examination, notwithstanding the bona-fide and honourable guarantee that he would return to military custody after giving evidence. The same stand is now to be taken if the release of the Republican leaders and selected prisoners is applied for. A general amnesty is to be ignored. All previous Republican meetings, speeches and resolutions are to be treated as moonshine. The Irish people must at once find the nerve for definite action. The Hierarchy, Clergy, Laity, Public Bodies, etc., must be approached in such action. The release of the prisoners is more important than the "Ulster" boundary (?) The safety of President De Valera is of as much importance to Ireland as that of Archbishop Cielak to the Catholic Church or of Mussolini to Italy. De Valera is Ireland's pride and worth, and Irishmen must see that his health is not impaired in face of the good work that has to be done. Irish pluck and spirit must now be shown. The President's "Cease Fire" order of exactly a year ago has brought peace and contentment. Let us hope for a continuation of it by releasing

the President and his comrades through our united and amicable efforts.

Yours fraternally,

JOHN J. BOWLER

Dublin, 18th May, 1924.

Irish Transport & General Workers' Union.

Mr. Henry Fitzsimons,

8 North Clarence Street,
Dublin.

A Chara—It has been reported to the E.C. that you have, for some time, been interfering with the work of the Branch Delegates and that on Monday, the 12th inst., you were responsible for having a number of members who were working at Dixon's Coal Bank/Custom House Docks, knocked off and non-members employed in their places. The E.C. is of opinion that your conduct in this matter is detrimental to the interests of the Union and its members and they accordingly require you to furnish to the E.C. within fourteen days from this date such reasons as you may have as to why you should not be suspended or expelled from membership of the Union.

Should you desire an interview the E.C. will be prepared to fix an appointment on hearing from you.

Failing hearing from you within fourteen days the E.C. will proceed to take such action with regard to your conduct as they may think proper.

Yours fraternally,

IRISH TRANSPORT AND GENERAL
WORKERS' UNION.

Per WM. O'BRIEN.

The pensioner-Master-Tailor and Field-Marshal asks a question. May we ask who are the Branch Delegates and who are the E.C.? A little ore rope, Willie, and—

21st May, 1921.

To the Editor,

The "Irish Worker."

At the usual weekly section meeting of No. 2 Section of the Irish Union of Distributive Workers and Clerks, held in Cavendish House, Tuesday the 20th May, the following resolution was proposed by John O'Reilly, seconded by Mr. Teeling, and passed unanimously:—

"Whereas—the workers who produce and distribute gas in this city have been forced to withdraw their labour owing to the gross violation of an agreement entered into in December, 1923, and the denial of the constitutional right of an employee to belong to an union. And whereas—the Government have definitely declared their support of the employers against the workers. And whereas—the Executive of the men's Union have again openly betrayed the workers. We, the members of the Irish Union of Distributive Workers and Clerks condemn the action of the Government and demand that the Irish Labour Party investigate the open treachery of the Union Officials, and hereby pledge our undivided moral and financial support to the men now engaged in this unequal struggle."

GAS WORKS STRIKE.

REPORT OF DUN LAOGHAIRE SECTION

At their meeting yesterday morning the strikers in Dun Laoghaire Gas Works unannouncedly decided to stand in with their comrades on strike in the Dublin Gas Works and endorsed the resolution passed at the meeting in the Mansion House, calling on the Executive of the I.T. & G.W.U. to resign, they having forfeited the confidence of their members and acted in a manner detrimental to the interests of the workers.

Kelly, Secretary of Dun Laoghaire Branch, I.T. & G.W.U., is endeavouring to stampede the Gas Workers in the township by spreading the fiction that the Bray Gas Workers have given in. Kelly may save his breath. Head Office methods carry no weight in Dun Laoghaire.

The following sections and bodies of workers have pledged their support to the Gas Workers:—Baldoxle Branch, I.T. & G.W.U.; Dublin Coal Section (do.); Dublin Markets' Section (do.); Butchers' Section (do.); Municipal Employees' Union, Dublin; Municipal Employees' Union, Dun-Laoghaire; Inchicore Works; Marino Building Workers.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.

ELECTION OF E.C.

The election of the E.C. will take place on Monday, 26th May, at 8 p.m., in the Council Room, Trades' Hall, by ballot vote.

ADMISSION BY CARD.

Johnson wants a civil army. Does he mean an army of civilians (Fascisti) or do he mean an army that possesses civility? If he refers to the latter we agree. We could do with an army imbued with civility. But we are afraid that Mr. Johnson is not in agreement with us.

THE

PHONE DUBLIN 314

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National Printers and Publishers

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Order Suits of Irish Woollen Materials and
Homespuns tailored by Irish workers. Trade
Union wages from £3 10s. up to £6.

No fake co-operation but true value at moderate prices.

No Middleman's profits.

No exportation of profits to swell the banking accounts of big English and Jewish Corporations.

Not Factory made, but tailored by competent Irish Tailors.

We want our friends and patrons to know that this business is conducted in their interests as much as ours. In other words, our interests are mutual.

Our Policy—the true goods at the most moderate prices.

WORKERS, SUPPORT YOUR OWN!

Don't Support the Fakes & Foreign Capitalists

MARK THE ADDRESS—

The Irish Tailors,
7 EUSTACE STREET.

"AN ARMY MARCHES ON ITS STOMACH."

We are helping to fill the stomach of the Irish working class, so that they also may march forward.

We offer all members of the Irish Worker League the following bargains:—

PRICE LIST.

Sardines 4.....	3d. per tin
Oatmeal (Fine Scotch)	3d. per lb.
Tinned Milk (Sweetened)	10d. per tin
Rice	4d. per lb.
Tinned Peaches (1lb. tins)	8d. per tin
Linoleum, 2 yards wide	5/- per linear yd.
Soap (3 lb. bars)	1s. per bar
Herrings in Tomato Sauce (tinned)	6d. per tin
Kipper Herrings (tinned)	5½d. per tin
Kipper Snacks (tinned)	2½d. per tin

To be had any time, any day, at—

THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE

17 Gardiner's Place, Dublin.

SERVICE



QUALITY

UNITED TEA COMPANY

(F. ROBERT MOONEY, MANAGER)
47 PARNELL SQUARE.

We are selling Tea at 2 6 per lb. that cannot be purchased in any shop in Dublin at 3/6.

Prompt and personal attention given to all orders.

(Neither the Editor nor any member of his family have any connection with this Company. Please bear that in mind in future.)

CUP AND SPOONBILL RESTAURANT

6 NORTH EARL STREET

[10 Seconds from Pillar]

Table d'Hote Luncheon—2/-.

Roast Beef and Yorkshire—1/-.

Teas a Speciality—Hot Scones and Potato Cakes.

OPEN ON SUNDAYS

THE PEARSE STREET WINDOW-CLEANING COMPANY.

21A ERNE STREET. Tel. No. 4843.

The Company is composed of released prisoners who would be glad to receive orders. All men are insured and all work is guaranteed. Terms on application.

Irish Transport and General Workers Union.

Dublin No. 2 (INCHICORE) Branch—General Fund

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, 1923

Entrance Fees	31 8 0	Remitted to General Fund	1,383 15 5
Contributions and Quarterly Levies	1,813 19 7	do. do.	7 11 0
	1,845 7 7	Refunded D.P.	1,391 6 5
Cash from H.O.	271 10 0	D. Benefit paid	160 9 0
		Mort. Benefit paid	103 10 0
			263 19 0
		Error in tot—written off	1 0
		25% of B.I. to Local Fund	461 11 2
			£2,116 17 7

FINANCIAL REPORT OF LOCAL FUND FOR 1923.

Balance on hands	40 4 7	WAGES:—	
25 per cent.	461 11 2	Secretary	155 9 9
Cards	4 4 3	Assistant Secretary	19 10 0
Rules	17 10	Chairman	8 0 0
Annual Reports	2 6	Caretaker	52 0 0
Badges	2 16 0		234 19 9
Voice of Labour	3 6 3	TIME LOST ON UNION BUSINESS:—	
Sick Levies	76 10 0	Secretary	15 14 6
Rents	5 0 0	Delegation—Railway Conferences	25 4 0
Amusement Committee	16 4 6	Delegation—J. Larkin	2 0 0
Grant from Staff—Lucan Power House	2 10 0	Bray	4 0 0
To adjust balance (? Cash over)	2 0		43 2 6
		DISTRICT COMMITTEE:—	
		Affiliation Fee	5 0 0
		Expenses—Delegates	3 4 0
			8 4 0
		Collectors' Commission	163 11 9
		GRANTS:—	
		Sports	5 0 0
		Band	2 0 0
		Staff—Picture House	3 0 0
			10 0 0
		AUDIT:—	
		Fee, 1922	2 0 0
		Extra Clerical assistance	2 0 0
			4 0 0
		Payments on Sick Members' Cards	23 16 6
		PREMISES:—	
		Rent	30 0 0
		Rates	22 9 3
		Repairs	15 15 3
		Firing	9 11 4
		Lighting	12 5 11
			90 1 9
		DELEGATE CONFERENCE:—	
		Printing	2 5 0
		Publishing	1 1 6
		Scrutinisers' Fees	1 0 0
			4 6 6
		Posters	12 0
		Advertisements	1 2 6
		Handbills—Annual Meeting	12 6
		Ink, 2/6; Brush, 5/6; Ribbon, 4/6	12 6
		Postage, 15/6; Wires, 3/9	19 3
		REMITTED TO HEAD OFFICE:—	
		Stationery	11 5 0
		Annual Reports	2 13 11
		Voice of Labour	3 6 9
			17 5 8
		Balance on hands	10 1 11
			£613 9 1

£613 9 1

£613 9 1

It will be noticed that though £76 10s. was collected for Sick Levies, we had no disbursements under the head of Sick Pay, and this £76 10s. does not appear on Credit side of Account. An item appears of Expenditure—£23 16s. 6d.—payments on sick members' cards. This is not according to Rule. Sick members are entitled to have their contributions remitted, and the Sick Levies should be in hand and accounted for. Further, members will note that the Secretary, though working, received in wages £155 9s. 9d., and £15 14s. 6d. for lost time. Why? In this period of unemployment why not pay a permanent Secretary, and thus give an unemployed man a job? A full-time Secretary could be on the job at all times, be independent, do organising work, and it would be to the best interests of the members and organisation. This criticism is offered in the spirit of comradeship. The Sick Levies should be kept apart and allowed to accumulate and thus be a reserve in time of need.

THE IRISH WORKER

AN T-OIBRÍDE ZAÓDLAČ

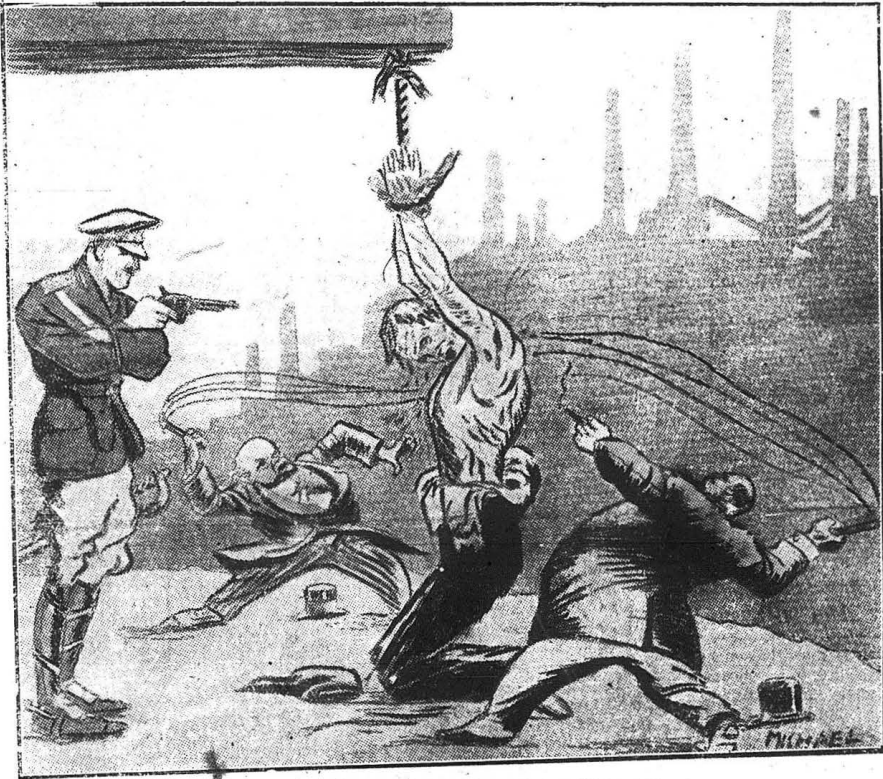
Edited by JIM LARKIN

No. 47. NEW SERIES.
(Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.)

SATURDAY, MAY 31st, 1924

TWOPENCE

“In our Memory deeply set,
Lest we forget, Lest we forget.”



KEEPING THE RING

VICTORY FOR THE GAS WORKERS

After a struggle in which the combined forces of the "Government," the I.T.G.W.U. "Executive," and the employers massed themselves against the workers, the men on strike have won a signal victory. The terms of settlement speak for themselves. Here they are:—

28th May, 1924.

AGREEMENT.

ALLIANCE & GAS CONSUMERS' CO.
29th May, 1924.

It has this day been mutually agreed between the representatives of the Company and the men to settle the strike on the following terms:—

- (1) A resumption of work to take place to-morrow morning, Thursday, May 29, 1924
- (2) All differences raised at the Conference

held at the Ministry of Labour before Mr. Ferguson on 27th Dec., 1923, to be reviewed and settled amicably. Failing agreement between the parties the matter to be referred to Mr. Ferguson whose decision shall be final and binding on both sides.

(3) All differences raised since the Conference held on 27th Dec., 1923, to be reviewed and, if possible, amicably settled.

(4) Ward, steam wagon driver, to be reinstated and provided with a boy helper. The claim for the same conditions as Heitons to be dropped.

(5) C. Dunne to remain at his old position as assistant rental clerk. His wages to be raised to £3 14s. per week, the increase to be made retrospective to 16th July last.

(6) No victimisation on either side.

W. J. Grey, Sec. Gas Co.
H. Dumbleton, Engineer.
P. Forde, Chairman.
B. Finnegan,
Sec. Gas Workers' Com.

"This agreement was accepted unanimously. The men declare all thanks due to the able advice and leadership of Jim Larkin."

The lesson of the now happily-terminated Gas Works' Strike is clear. United they have won against a combination of all the forces of reaction. Governments, capitalistic institutions and traitor labour "leaders" are as nothing against the organised force of labour. In this last fight the full power of British Imperialism, working through Cosgrave's Government, the Employers' Federation and the labour fakirs, have done their worst, and they retire from the field, for the moment, beaten. Let the workers of Ireland see the facts and determine that, come what may, the treacheries committed against them by their natural enemies shall never be repeated. **Organisation** is the word. Organisation—to make of the labour movement a weapon definitely, and in our time, to destroy capitalism, and incidentally

to end the careers of the parasites that thrive on the helplessness of the workers.

The workers in the Dublin Alliance and Gas Consumers' Co. were brought out on strike by the "Executive" of the I.T.G.W.U. ostensibly to secure certain conditions, actually to break, finally, the spirit of resistance of the gas workers. Hardly were they out on strike when the spirit of Foran-O'Brienism asserted itself, and the men received the first intimation of virtual surrender. They resisted and the "Executive" traitors showed their hand. If the strike was a just one why did the "Executive" desert the men and refuse to issue strike pay? The dispute stood on its merits and on those merits it should have stood or fallen. The fact that a certain person had been chosen to represent the men should not have been allowed to cloud the issues in dispute, and, that it did so, proves that factionism and personalities are the factors determining the attitude of the I.T. & G.W. Union "Executive" in matters relating to the workers.

A great victory has been achieved, and in the shadow of a greater success the workers are fore-gathering. The future is theirs for the making. Let them close the ranks, badly shattered by the infamy of traitors, and, all together, help in the creation of the new social order. The task is not impossible of achievement. A little courage, a little hope, a little intelligence and the determination to achieve are all that are needed. To the task!

SOLIDARITY FOR EVER.

The road work at Dun Laoghaire has been held up by a lightning strike on Thursday morning. The reason for the hold up is, the Urban Council tried to fool the unemployed, but it did not come off.

Recently the Council received a Grant of £6,100 under the Government Road Scheme for the relief of unemployment. The mandarins in Dun Laoghaire, instead of immediately commencing work for all the unemployed, proceeded to employ twenty men for a fortnight, sack those and then employ another twenty, and so ad infinitum. But the unemployed were not having any. Their motto is "all or none; no selection or favouritism." And before this business is over the Urban Council will be taught a lesson they won't forget.

THE GERM OF THE THERM.

A Dublin newsboy was recently sent on remand for a week for selling to a policeman an hour-old copy of an evening paper, the policeman stating that he had asked for the latest edition. The boy's name, and the official number of the diddled policeman, and all the interesting details of the case were fully recorded in the "Independent" of the day following.

The D'Olier Street Gas Company was incorporated by Act of Parliament a hundred years ago, to supply citizens of Dublin with Illuminating Gas. Arrangements were provided by Statute to ensure that the public would get a modicum of value for their money; for in those far-off times—when big business and stunt Governments were almost unknown—some little consideration was usually shown for the interests of the consuming public.

Gas at a pressure of two inches burning through a number seven bats-wing burner was the standard. Tested in a photometer, if the illuminating power fell below 16 candles the company was liable to a heavy penalty for defrauding the consumers. To maintain this illuminating standard, the ordinary coal gas had to be enriched with camel coal, hydrocarbon oils, etc. The manufacturing cost of this gas to the company fluctuated between one and two shillings per thousand cubic feet, and the selling price to the public

was about three shillings for the same quantity.

But Professor's Bunsen's contrivance has long since ousted the Fishtail and Bats-wing burners, and Carbic-Monoxide—one of the most deadly poisons known—has supplanted the illuminating gas. A jet of super-heated steam, playing on a bank of glowing coal or carbon, produces this noxious gas ad lib, at a cost to the company of less than three-pence per thousand cubic feet.

Now this fact is fairly well known, and if gas bills nowadays were itemed at from 2/6 to 4/- per thousand cubic feet, it would lead to many embarrassing questions. The sublime astral resources of big business were mobilised to meet the emergencies.

Every gas bill nowadays is itemed at so much per therm. Now the word "therm" is a Latin root, and a literal translation of it would be: warm, hot, heat. As a descriptive or explanatory term it is meaningless. It expresses or describes neither quality, quantity, volume or measurement of any description. It is simply a mystifying and genteel-sounding word selected by big business for the somewhat vulgar purpose of bamboozling the consuming public into parting—every time and without protest—with a shilling for a pennyworth of gas!

Bear in mind that gas is still measured in exactly the same way that it was measured twenty, fifty, or a hundred years ago. In fact, it passes the wit of man to devise any other method of measuring it, than by cubic volume as consumed. The meter dials still record the cubic feet consumed in units, tens, hundreds, thousands. The inspectors take the meter-readings to D'Olier Street and there the cubic volume as recorded is transferred into therms, and the prices adjusted to give carbic-monoxide to the public at approximately the price of 16-candle gas.

In other words, the same old edition is daily on the streets of Dublin that has been on it, seven days a week, for a century past. It is only a penny issue; but the D'Olier Street vendor, by announcing "special therms! latest therms! new lamps for old candles!" manages to extract shillings instead of pence from a hypnotized public.

If any Dublin newsboy could contrive a flat-catching dodge half so dishonest as the D'Olier Street therm stunt, and attempt to work it off on the public, he would be brought before the Master of the Rolls and sentenced to penal servitude for life.

* * *

In last week's issue you ask why public utility services are not owned by the public. The answer is, that in every well-conducted city they are so owned. The reptile press of Dublin, slinking at the tail of Picton Bradshaw, protests hysterically against municipal ownership in Dublin. Five years' profits from the gas undertaking in Belfast paid for building the new City Hall at a cost of half a million. In Glasgow, one of the best managed cities in Europe, all public services are municipalised. Not a penny of rates has been struck in Glasgow for twenty years past. The profits from the municipal services more than covers the entire cost of the administration. A journey to Howth on a Dublin tram costs 7d. On a tram from Glasgow to Clydebank (same distance) the fare is 3d. All other rates are in proportion.

Dublin is the one city in Europe where predatory capitalism is allowed to reign supreme. Where the ordinary citizen, bound hand and foot, is an easy, and in many cases a willing victim for every thug and commercial sneak-thief who walks in broadcloth.

Apart from back-street lighting, hotels, etc., the main users of the Alliance Gas product is the working class and middle-class shop-keepers, etc. Let a gas-consumers' league be at once formed to meet this barefaced robbery. Let them insist on paying per cubic volume consumed as registered on the meters. That was provided for by Statute, and the "therm" stunt,

SUBSCRIPTIONS

— TO —

GAS WORKERS STRIKE FUND.

P. Larkin 2/-, E. Kelly 2/-, W. Dornan 2/6, T. Bassett 2/-, J. Cox 2/-, M. Kearney 2/-, W. Andrews 1/-, T. Cox 2/6, E. Gaynor 2/-, W. Sheehan 2/-, P. Kelly 1/-, P. Costello 1/-, J. Murray 1/-, M. Quinn 1/-, J. Kirwan 1/-, T. Kavanagh 2/-, J. Rowantree 2/-, P. Carroll 2/-, D. Saunders 2/-, T. Dalton 2/-, M. Hayes 2/-, J. Kavanagh 2/-, J. Doyle 1/-, W. Reid 1/-, T. Condon 1/-, M. McCaul 1/-, J. Nugent 1/-, T. Glennon 2/-, L. Kinsella 2/-, J. Purcell 2/-, J. J. Hannon 2/-, J. Donohue 2/-, J. O'Loughlin 1/-, — Morgan 2/-, P. Gargan 2/-, B. Peel 2/-, B. Ryan 2/-, B. Whelan 2/-, H. Nelson 2/-, E. C. Kelly 2/-, W. Kelly 1/-, B. Graham 2/-, P. Vernon 2/-, M. Wilson 2/-, J. Cottle 2/-, W. Killigrew 2/-, P. McCabe 1/-, C. Delaney 1/-, F. Ryan 1/-, J. Bracken 1/-, T. Cangley 1/-, T. Kinsella 1/-, T. Moore 1/-, T. Ellard 1/-, R. Dalton 2/-, J. Mulligan 1/-, P. Whelan 1/-, B. Stafford 2/-, T. Costello 1/-, P. Roe 1/-, P. Fagan 1/-, J. Kearns 2/-, J. L. Kavanagh 1/-, J. Mallin 2/-, M. Dwyer 1/-, C. Ryan 1/-, E. Raythorne 2/-, J. Hewson 2/-, C. Kenny 1/-, L. Byrne 2/-, J. Donnelly 1/-, M. Whelan 1/-, J. Murphy 2/-, N. Devine 2/-, J. Stafford 2/-, D. Miller 2/-, L. Rowantree 2/-, J. Desev 1/-, A. King 1/-, D. Kavanagh 1/-, J. Day 1/-, P. O'Byrne 1/-, F. Walsh 2/-, E. O. B. (per J. R.) 2/6, — Byrne 1/-, M. Ryan 1/-, M. Dalton 2/-, V. Fulham 1/-, J. Moran 1/-, T. Jones 1/-, R. Gorgan 1/-, W. Carey 1/-, "O. Prina" 2/-, R. Byrne 1/-, Total—£7 2s. 6d.

BOXING

Great Boxing and Wrestling Night

AT

CROKE PARK

SATURDAY, MAY 31st, 1924.

Great Fifteen (3-min.) Rounds Challenge Contest:

JACK PHOENIX

(Blackrock.) Who can find backing for £100 against any 12-st. man in Ireland. V.

DURKIN WALSH

(Waterford.) Who has accepted Jack Mahoney's Challenge for the Irish Middle-weight Title.

Fifteen Rounds International Contest:

JOE PARR

(Blackburn.) The Lancashire Idol v.

KID DOYLE

(Dublin.) Who put up such a sensational 20 round contest with Pat McAllister last month.

Special Fifteen Rounds Contest:

BILLY WILSON

(Dublin.) Who Challenges all Irish Light weights. V.

JOE MOONEY

The Hard-Hitting Dublin Boy.

Also Open Feather-Weight Competition. For Beautiful Silver Cup, and continuation of Irish Collar and Elbow Wrestling.

FREE LIST ENTIRELY SUSPENDED.

Qualified Medical Man in Attendance.

ADMISSION - 1/3, 2/4, 3/6, Ringside 5/9
Tickets On Sale at Elvery's.

Doors Open 6.15 p.m.

First Contest at 6.30 p.m. sharp.

or any other method, has no legal authority. If they pay more than fourpence per thousand cubic feet they will be paying an exorbitant and profiteering price.

J.O'H.

DUNDALK STEPS OUT

On Sunday last the annual meeting of Dundalk Branch, I.T. & G.W.U., was held, Mr. O'Duffy presiding. Secretary Whittle read the report for the year and made a detailed statement as to finances. An invitation had been issued to the Executive to send one of their number to attend and a similar invitation was issued to the General Secretary of the Union, Jim Larkin. The latter, only, accepted. The Chairman and Secretary attributed the absence of a member of the Executive to "funk" and stated their opinion that the E.C. were afraid to face the music. The Chairman of the Branch, Mr. Branigan, also absented himself for reasons similar to that of the E.C.

The annual elections resulted in Mr. O'Duffy being unanimously elected as chairman for the year 1924-1925, and the outgoing Committee were re-elected unanimously also.

A protest was made against the action of the E.C. in denying the claims for mortality benefit of the next of kin of two deceased members, which claims ought to have been recognised.

On the invitation of the Chairman, Jim Larkin then addressed the meeting.

Giving a brief review of the events of the past year and the part played by the self-styled leaders of the Irish Labour Movement in the political sphere, the speaker passed on to the internal affairs of the Union. The intriguing of Johnson, O'Brien and Foran, to the end that British Imperialism might keep its hold in Ireland, that the prisoners might be held and the Free State consolidated was exposed. Speaking of Union affairs he showed the members bundles of mortality claims similar to those denied their members, and told them to hold fast, that the robbers of the widow and the orphan would not get away with their robbery. The history of the legal case between the speaker, representing the members of the Union, and the so-called Executive was given in detail and it was explained how the 1923 rules were faked and illegally registered. The bogus nominations for the new I.T. & G.W.U. "Executive" and the denial of representation to large areas of the country was pointed out, but the members were bidden to be of good cheer as O'Brien-Foranism had now to invoke the aid of the Capitalist Free State Army to save the fabric of their rottenness, and that was the last kick of the discovered traitors.

In the evening Jim Larkin addressed a public meeting in the Square amid great enthusiasm. Here again he dealt with the political situation and apportioned responsibility for the state of the country between the "Government" and the Labour fakirs. The ineffectiveness of the labour machine in dealing with the affairs of the workers was due, he said, to the continued and continual hob-nobbing between the Parkinsons and the Forans, the O'Briens, Johnsons and the followers and supporters of Free Statism and Masonry—a perfect union of hearts.

Following the speech a rush was made for copies of the "Irish Worker" and hundreds were snapped up. A contrast to the eager demand for the "I.W." was that not a single copy of the Executive organ can be disposed of in the town. Keep your eye on Dundalk.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.

DUBLIN BRANCH.

On Monday, 26th, the postponed elections of the E.C. were to take place in the Trades' Hall. All arrangements were made and we were prepared to carry through the elections, but unfortunately the majority of members became slightly confused as a result of the stirring happenings on that day, and instead of turning up at the meeting they went to

Beresford Place or followed the bands through the streets. We were therefore forced to postpone the elections once again, until Monday, 2nd June, in the Council Room, Trades' Hall, at 8 p.m. We would ask the members to attend at this meeting and let us get the elections over, because until we have a duly elected E.C. functioning we cannot get down to work in earnest. Remember to bring your cards along with you.

The nominations for Chairman and membership of the E.C. are as follows:

For Chairman—D. L. Stewart, P. T. Daly, and R. Murray.

For Executive—John Nolan, D. L. Stewart, Michael Sutton, Barney Conway, J. McMahon, P. T. Daly, James Mitchell, R. Murray, Mrs. Farrelly, William Vickers, Hilary Williams, Michael Connolly, Vincent Atkinson, John Farrelly.

In the election for Chairman each member will have only ONE vote. In the election for E.C. each member will have TEN votes. Members will be supplied with ballot papers and we suggest that all members should bring a pencil along with them and so avoid trouble and worry.

THE WEARING OF THE RED.

By DAWN FRASER.

I walked up street this morning,
And it being May Day
I wore a crimson ribbon
You could see a mile away.
Most folks smiled in sympathy,
Others shook their heads,
And some just showed their ignorance
And terror of the Red,
But I smiled at these in pity—
A smile of lofty scorn;
Some men are slaves by circumstance
*And some for slaves were born.

Young lady with ambitions
To shine in "sassiety"
Says she, "I want to shine my shoes,
Will you give that rag to me?"
Poor simple little pin-head.
Oh, God, you owe her brains!
I just bowed to her politely,
And I left her in her chains.
She thinks she is a highbrow,
Above the working mass,
And to sneer at workers' emblems
Is a way to show her class.

Tho' her fathers and her fathers
All were working men,
She wants to play aristocrat
And to discredit them.
The hand that rocked her cradle
Is far beneath her now;
The hand that toiled to shelter her,
The hand that held the plow,
Poor silly little infant—
Will you never come to know?
If it were not for the workers
You'd have starved long ago?

Yet they call us trouble makers.
I never shook my head,
And I never said, "You quitters,
You ought to wear the Red."
I leave them their opinions,
But, by God, they'll leave me mine,
I am choosing my own colours,
And I'll wear them every time.
On every such occasion
Will that banner be unfurled—
A tribute to the workers:
To the men who feed the world!

Written on May 1st, 1924, between the hours of two and five minutes past two, p.m.

From the "Maritime Labour Herald,"
Nova Scotia.

REBELS AND HOW TO TREAT THEM

By Nelson with Compliments to 'Ole Bill.'

(Some suggestions offered in a spirit of helpfulness to "Ole Bill" on how to deal with recalcitrant members of the "Fighting Union." The events and interludes were common practice in the British Navy from Nelson's day onward.)

In Nelson's day, and long after, the "monumentua juridica" or "black book" of the Admiralty, still formed the bases of Naval punishment: for robbing a mate, a seaman had boiling pitch poured over his head and he was powdered with feathers "to mark him," and he was marooned on the first island the ship came to. The punishments included ducking (or undressing at sea), keel-hauling, flogging, weighting, "till the heart or back be ready to break," and "gogging," or scraping the tongue with hoop-iron for obscene or profane swearing, though the seaman himself was the most sworn at creature on the face of the earth.

In the reign of George II., a consolidated Act, which remained long in force, was passed, wherein ten out of thirty-six articles awarded death without option, and twelve awarded death or a minor penalty, which was generally flogging at the gangways, almost to the point of death. The instrument used was the cat-o-nine-tails, and the men sometimes received as many as one hundred and seventy lashes with a waxed cat. For minor offences he was beaten on one ship; for serious offences, when not hanged, he was beaten from ship to ship. If a man had a bad foot or a lame leg, he was "started" with a rope's end, and the last man to tumble up when his watch was called was beaten with a cane.

The commander of the "Solebay" flogged men for smiling, and on the "Nymph" a man was given three dozen lashes for silent contempt. Then men were flogged for not looking pleasant.

In 1793, petitions went to the Admiralty from the ships of the Fleet, complaining of ill-usage. On the "Reunion" men had their grog stopped—a serious deprivation—if shirts washed in sea water did not look as clean as if laundered in fresh. On the "Amphitrite" they complained of excessive flogging; the "Shannon's" crew declared their treatment was enough to make them rise and steer the ships into the enemy's port; the seamen of the "Glory" suffered from beating, blacking, and tarring, having their heads put into bags and being forced to drink half a gallon of salt water. The "Nassau's" company stigmatised their treatment as worse than that given to dogs, and the crew of the "Nymph" complained that when going into action they were beaten in their quarters, "though on the verge of eternity."

COSGRAVIAN CULTURE.

"President" Cosgrave has been down to Limerick and in the interests of the Free State candidate has advised his interrupters to "go home and talk to the piano." When William was younger he used to say, in similar circumstances:

"Speak when you're spoken to,
Come when you're called,
Shut the door after you,
And speak to the wall."

To suit the atmosphere of Landsdowne Road—we presume—the last line has been changed to " . . . talk to the piano." It just shows what a bit of culture can do. We congratulate the "President" on the neatness of his retort; it is what we might have expected from a master of counter-p(oint).

JOIN THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE.

Entrance Fee, 1/-. Subscriptions 3d. Weekly

"An Injury to one is the concern of All."

IRISH WORKER

EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

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THE PLOT THAT FAILED

The too obvious tactics of 35 Parnell Square are the reflex of the pitch of desperation to which the Injunction Executive are driven. To anyone examining dispassionately the situation in which the latter find themselves, it must be clear that their continuance in office can only be secured by the methods of the agent-provocateur.

The plot, hatched in Parnell Square, is so glaring in its audacity that not even the blindman can fail to see it.

Last night a tender drove up to Eden Quay, and the occupants, who were armed with revolvers, dismounted, and doubling round the corner, rushed Liberty Hall. They gave out they were C.I.D., and that they intended to empty the building of its occupants. Within a few minutes those inside were driven out at the point of the revolver, and the C.I.D. or alleged C.I.D. took over control.

The sequel to the event is the information in this, Thursday morning's papers. There it is stated that four of the Parnell Square subsidised creatures are in control of Liberty Hall. The facts are that after midnight the aforesaid tools of the "Executive" crawled, under the protection of darkness, into Liberty Hall, which was handed over to them by the alleged defenders of liberty and the Constitution.

Once again the active alliance between Parnell Square, Abbey Street and Merriion Street is functioning, and O'Brien and Foran show themselves in the role of directors of government.

The significance of the latter move is, that O'Brien-Foran-Cosgraveism is at its wits end how to deal with the resurgent labour movement, and it is hoped that by laying a trap for the unwary a situation will be created that will put the game into the hands of the Imperial Free State Government and their allied forces in the "Labour" movement.

The taking over of Liberty Hall by the licksplitte crawlers of Parnell Square is the bait wherewith to hook the Dublin Port workers, and it was hoped the challenge which emanated from the unfortunate objects from Parnell Square would have the effect of rousing the Port workers into hostile action. The Public Safety Act has been designed by the Government, in alliance with the leaders of the "Irish Labour Party," to smash the forward Labour movement. It is thought by O'Brien, Foran and Cosgrave that the challenge from Liberty Hall will result in an "attack" on Liberty Hall, and then the road will be clear for the imprisonment and internment during the term of office of the present "Government," of the leaders of the new movement.

Let every worker take note of the situation. Let him remember that the future of the

labour movement is in his hands, that anything that will interfere with the forward march is an act of treachery. The latest move is to force the workers to an overt act. Let the workers hold their hand. Victory is in sight. The Parnell Square traitors are in a difficulty from which they cannot extricate themselves, and they are living in hope that the Dublin workers will save their skins by taking the law into their own hands. O'Brien-Foran-ism is on the verge of dissolution. Therefore, workers, bide your time. Victory is ours.

"FIXED BAYONETS."

In another column we carry the story of the seizure of Liberty Hall by the military and police. It was O'Brien who asked for the military and police to enter the Hall and arrest the members on the premises. We don't know whether he instructed the military to charge with fixed bayonets, but evidently the officer in charge knew Bill and did his best to please him. Jimmy Bennett was damned openly some months ago because it was proved that he asked the Belfast police to remove some members of his Union from the branch premises. Yet, O'Brien, self-styled foremost revolutionary trades' unionist in the British Empire, goes and asks that the military be sent into Liberty Hall with fixed bayonets for the purpose of clearing out the members of the Union who were holding a meeting in their own hall. And yet there is no collusion between O'Brien and the Government. So they say!

92½ POINTS.

The Anglo-Irish Palm Oil Co.'s shares, better known as Free State Loan, is now selling at 92½, seven and three-quarter points below par. The reasons for the fall depend on Mr. Cosgrave's humour. Some time ago it was the "Irregulars" who were to blame, later the dealers in "antique furniture," now, those members of the Dail who go about the country with faces long as coffin-lids. To-morrow it may be due to the unsettled state of the market consequent on the wholesale purchase of pianos. Poor Cosgrave is as effective at making excuses as a small boy anticipating the cane to the seat of his feelings. Let us help him out with a few suggestions:

(1) The parlous state of the national finances is due to the refusal of the Hierarchy to sanction casinos. If the Government could fall back on revenues from casinos, mainly derivable from the incomes of the wealthy, the country would be saved.

(2) The abandonment of the Royal Hospital as the most suitable home for the Dail has been reflected in the depreciation in National Loan. Neither I nor my family have any interest in Kilmainham and I have been attracted to the proposal to make it the Parliament House solely because the title hospital suggests recovery of health. What the nation needs is a tonic and the name Royal Hospital would, in my view, tend to raise the spirit and hopefulness of the nation.

(3) The fall in the price of National Loan is due to the manoeuvring of Sir James Craig. He is jealous of the success of the Free State and is hand in glove with the British Government to appropriate national finances. What both these governments want is to depreciate National Loan so that they can buy it for a song, and thereby secure cheaply portion of the nation's revenue for themselves. The reduction in English taxation is only a stunt to fool the workers of England and Northern Ireland into thinking they have as much freedom as Ireland. I see through it all. When Mr. Cosgrave has used up the foregoing explanations we will supply him with a few more

45 MEN ARRESTED FOR BEING ON THEIR OWN PROPERTY

On Sunday morning, May 25th, forty-five members of No. 1 Branch, I.T. & G.W.U. were in Liberty Hall. Among them were members of the Port Committee, and these were holding an informal meeting and discussing Union activities and affairs. The remainder were men who had given their sweat and blood to help carry on this Union, and the result of their trials and sufferings was Liberty Hall, bought out of the hunger and deprivation of the men, women and children of the working class of Dublin.

Suddenly in the stillness of the night a challenge rang out. "Open the door." The military, "the servants of the people," had arrived. Everyone of those forty-five members were seized and taken to Store Street Police Station, from thence to the Bridewell, where they were incarcerated. On Monday they were released on their undertaking that they would not enter Liberty Hall.

They were brought up again on Wednesday, 28th.

The State prosecuted under the Public Safety Act. A gentleman named Byrne, from the Chief State Solicitor's office, conducted the case for the State. He informed the Court that the first charge had been dropped, namely, of having unlawfully interfered with lawful occupation of Liberty Hall on May 24th, and a new charge of conspiracy had been put forward.

The Judge told Mr. Wood, K.C., counsel for the 45 men, that if he felt any way embarrassed by the new charge he would grant a reasonable adjournment. Mr. Wood said that his clients were certainly embarrassed by this new charge and he would ask for an adjournment. The adjournment was granted till Monday. Byrne, State Solicitor, opposed further bail on the grounds that the men had broken their first pledge not to go near Liberty Hall. At this there were shouts from the men who denied that they agreed to stay away from the vicinity of Liberty Hall. The Judge said he would grant bail if they would pledge themselves to such an undertaking this time. The men refused bail on these conditions immediately. Seeing their determination, the Judge renewed the previous bail—not to enter Liberty Hall. The case will re-open on Monday, 2nd June.

And such is law, justice and righteous dealing. In this country of freedom and heroes men must surrender their honour, their souls, their bodies, their means of existence and their very property to the keeping of our benign Government. Truly we are well cared for. They fix our wages, they tell us who shall govern us, they give us trade union leaders, and they order us down on our knees to worship and obey them. We ask for justice in their courts and they inform us that they have two kinds of justice—justice for themselves and justice for us; and their brand of justice is balanced with pounds, shillings and pence, and ours with blood, sweat and tears. And, mayhap, some day the blood and sweat will outweigh the pounds and shillings, and we will receive not justice, but righteousness.

IRISH TRANSPORT & GENERAL WORKERS UNION

A GENERAL MEETING

—OF THE—

Dun Laoghaire Branch

OF THE ABOVE UNION WILL BE HELD

IN THE TOWN HALL

(DUN LAOGHAIRE)

On Friday, 30th May, at 8 pm.

JIM LARKIN, will speak.

MORE STRIKE-BREAKING AND OPEN SCABBERY.**ANOTHER FIGHT SOLD.**

Just two doors from the corner of Grafton Street and Nassau Street, and facing Trinity College, is a shop. The shop is filled with flowers whose rich fragrance, floating out on the atmosphere, gives a tinge to your appetite as you foot it home to tackle a pig's cheek and cabbage.

This shop is known as Watson's, florist by trade. They also possess some land out Cabinteely way, which they designate by the lovely name of nurseries. What their nurse will be seen in a moment.

A little over three weeks ago Messrs. Watson intimated to their wage-slaves, who slave in their Cabinteely nurseries, that they must be content with 4/- less per week than they had been receiving hitherto. The wage-slaves cast off their chains and declared a strike on Friday, 9th May, with the consent of their Union Executive. On the advice of the Union and in order to oblige Messrs. Watson several men were allowed to remain at work and tend the furnaces which heat the greenhouses, lest the crops should spoil. How very considerate of them.

Messrs. Watson employ a motor driver. This man walked out with his fellow wage-slaves and remained out all the first week. When he went to draw strike pay he was refused it and ordered back to work. Having no means of existence he went back and carted in the crops garnered by scab labour.

The second week the Union allowed a ploughman to go in and look after the horses, and to complete the tale Messrs. Watson employed scabs.

Like the Gas Strike, this stoppage was brought about by the orders of the Union Executive, and, like the Gas Workers, the men were left to their own devices and were forced to carry on the strike without advice or help (beyond strike pay, which was their legal due) from the Union.

On the third Friday of the strike "Mister" Mulvaney, Secretary, Dean's Grange Branch, I.T. & G.W.U., read a notice to the men to the effect that no more strike pay would be paid after that week and that an Union official would interview Messrs. Watson on Monday, 26th May, to see if a settlement could be arranged. Using the stoppage of strike pay as a lever, a settlement was arranged. The men were to be reduced 2/- per week, and in order to clear up the arrears of work resulting from the strike, the scabs were to be allowed to remain at work. Such is the settlement. Well, the poor Union men won't be allowed to enjoy the cut of 2/1 very long. When the arrears of work are finished the usual staff will be sufficient, and we quite believe that Messrs. Watson won't be so inconsiderate as to break their pleasant and profitable friendship with those honourable men—the scabs. Another few Union men on the dole, eh!

THE DUBLIN CORPORATION.

The "Government" that could not account for £113,000 Army Funds has set to work to clean up the Dublin Corporation. If the object of suppressing that body was to inaugurate a cleaning-up campaign it would have looked more sincere to have begun the process in Merrion Street and Portobello. We feel sure the Corporation would, in that event, have lent the full resources of the Cleansing Department to the task.

With the irresponsible "Government" Commissioners in power in Dublin the way is clear (perhaps) for the wage-reductions for the road slaves, and the savings thereby effected can be devoted to "decorating" the city for the Tailteann Games. Watch the next move.

Of course nobody can have any objection to reducing the workers' wages to fifty

shillings a week. Has not Senator Foran said: "half a loaf is better than no bread," and does not Mr. Felix Johnson think the nation must be saved even "if it cost as much—less."

The "Government" must be in low water when it finds itself deserted by individuals like M. J. Moran and Ald. Hubbard Clark, two of its most bigoted supporters. Small wonder the nation is on the rocks and that the tide of agitation and unrest is rising fast, when, after two years of savage persecution, the nation is financially exhausted, and the "Government" has nothing to show but organised jobocracy and Public "Safety" Acts. The tide is, indeed, rising fast, and though Councillor Moran and Ald. Hubbard Clark may think to prolong their public career by deserting their fellow Treaty-implementers on the present specious pretext, they will follow Cosgrave, ultimately, into retirement.

CHOCOLATES, AHoy!

Mr. Sean Milroy, T.D., regrets the cut in old age pensions;—he is "against it," but he "had to vote with the Party." If the "Government" should propose to abolish the duty on imported chocolates we expect Mr. Milroy to be consistent, give up membership of the Protection League and seal the bargain by supporting the "Party" in the Dail. Honk! Honk!

This party-morality idea is capable of tremendous possibilities and extensions. Perhaps soon we will read as follows:—

Mr. Thos. Johnson: "I hope the Government will not hesitate to re-introduce the firing squad to deal with the rising tide of agitation. I impress on them the necessity of such action, though I must support the Labour Party in demanding the abolition of capital punishment."

Ald. Wm. O'Brien: "It is a denial of the rights of the workers to bring in the armed forces of Government to disperse their meetings. I have all along been opposed to the Public Safety Act, but I must ring up the police."

Senator Foran: "I have been reviled because I backed four winners at Leopardstown. Let us say that if the Leopardstown meeting had not come off the nation would have been the poorer by four losers and I would have had to accept the dose. I think national events should be carried on, "cost what it may," and I think the action of the men who boxed the horses worthy of national appreciation. At the same time I give my wholehearted support to the Labour Party in their campaign against scabbery."

Cathal O'Shannon: "It is my opinion that force should be met with force, and that no revolution can be successful which relies for its driving force on the efficiency of a fountain-pen. Simultaneously, I hold, it was a cowardly act to hit a little fellow like me for merely drawing a gun. It makes me sick to think about."

WANTED—SOME MORE INFORMATION.

In our last issue we requested some information from Sergt. McNally, caretaker of the Senate. This week we again require some information, and of course we again go to the fountain head.

We would ask Messrs. Carton, Wholesale Egg Merchants, Halston Street, Dublin, whether it is true that a twelve hour day is the rule instead of the exception in their establishment. Do their employees ever work overtime and are they paid overtime rates, or are they merely supplied with a cup of stewed tea and a slice of bread and butter—very thin, both bread and butter. Have complaints ever been made to the Transport Union about the working conditions and has the Transport Union ever sent down officials, who, instead of inquiring into the working conditions, spend their time collecting contributions. Did Messrs.

Carton excuse themselves from obeying the regulations governing working hours by saying that they were overstaffed. Do they ever work overtime?

We make no accusations. All we require is a little information and of course we always go to the fountain head. Selah!

AGIN THE GOVERNMENT (!)

Mr. Johnson, T.D., stated by the "Irish Independent" to be a "Labour Chief," has been airing his Devonshire accent in Cork. The citizens, we are sure, have accepted the incursion in the proper spirit. Chief Johnson, of the Abbey Street wigwam, is hot on the trail of unemployment, and when the nation hands him the reins of Government he will have a bitful of scapls for himself, and the poor we shall have no longer with us. Perhaps they will all be dead, having been dealt with "in the same manner" as the Republicans of 1922.

Mr. Johnson omitted to say in Cork that workers agitating for redress of their grievances should be treated as the Republicans of two years ago. It might not go down well there. He mentioned "he was compelled to pass remarks he would prefer to avoid." To be quite unambiguous, he did "pass" them, without a sign of recognition. Mr. J. told the people of Cork they deserved the position in which they were, because they did not return Labour members (to the Dail). In the case of Mr. J. J. Walsh, a member of the Government, an excuse could be made. A member of the Government! Note that. This from the leader of the "Independent Labour" group in the Dail! Who said Johnson was not allied to Cosgraveism?

Johnson's appreciated references to J. J. Walsh, P.M.G., have nothing casual about them. Will someone in the know please broadcast us details. Surely Mr. Johnson is not thinking of going forward at the next General Election for Cork city under the wing of the P.M.G. and the Margarine Rings. Johnson betray the workers? Nevah! And note—Johnson was out of Dublin when Free State military raided Liberty Hall and arrested workers. Didn't know it was going to be done and would not have approved. Oh, no!

Sequence of Events.

Free State "Government":—The Free State Government must deal with the Union representatives of the Gas Workers, an important trade union principle being involved. (Ahem.)

Thos. Johnson, T.D.:—"The Government should take note of the rising tide of agitation and deal with it in the same manner as that great problem that faced the country two years ago."

Ald. Wm. O'Brien:—"Police! Police!"

Liberty Hall:—Police, military, machine-guns and armoured cars to the rescue of Wm. O'Brien and the Irish Labour Party.

"Irish Independent":—"The Government have drafted 300 Civic Guards into Dublin to reinforce the D.M.P."

What Next:—Ask Tom Johnson, Bill O'Brien and Paderewski Cosgrave.

IRISH OUTING IN LONDON.

SUNDAY, 1st JUNE.

Do you want to spend a real Irish day? Country ramble. Ceilidh. Good musicians and singers. Meals at Red Cottage, Woodford Wells.

Cheap return fare from Liverpool Street Station.

Outing arranged by Irish Worker League (London Branch).

Tickets obtainable from League Headquarters, 124 Walworth Road (near Elephant) or at Red Cottage on arrival.

Price 3/-, including two meals (lunch and tea).

Letters to the Editor

ONE MAN—TWO JOBS.

Comrades—Workers!!—the exposure of the above (One Man—Two Jobs) that has appeared in the "Irish Worker" for the past few weeks seem to be quite inadequate to get those thugs of the National Amalgamated Union Life Assurance Workers to reply or even stand up in their own defence.

We again return to the attack. One of those Angels (blessed by the Bug and the Labour Party—"Ole Bill and Tom Johnson crew) in his spare time acts as a saviour of the Union by outdoing Shylock and lending money at from 25% to 40%. This Union man also holds shares in railways and bleeds the workers from every point he possibly can (of course strictly from the scab union point of view). The above union caters for spare-time men who can work the job at "12 times," instead of 14 or 18 times, or block men who can collect £40 per week for £3 10s. Oh, this is some union—run by the Labour Party "Hacks," who ask for nothing more than a job, no matter how small, providing there is an off-chance of getting to the Dail. One of this kid-glove crew has called to say he holds two jobs—but he is only earning one man's pay. This is the sort of liar that belongs to this union. We are in a position to prove he could earn £4 a week at insurance for four days a week, "but he is content to work at night," and earn £3.2s. per week; therefore being a cheap man to the Insurance Society, also a cheap man, at £2 15s. per week, to the Tram Co. It turns one sick to think that our old comrades have been party to a game of this kind—this gent informs us he belongs to the National Union of Painters, the I.T.G.W.U., also the Insurance Workers' Union. "Some Union Man," but he is only a reflex of his union officials and pals who meet in 37 Lr. Gardiner St and abuse everyone who has the courage to fight them.

All that has been said is only small matters to what could be said, but we have only one course left and that is to ask every trade unionist who pays insurance to demand from his agent or collector—does he work at two jobs, and if he does, pay him no more. But one word of advice. Don't drop out of your society, but instantly write to the chief office asking for a full-time agent to call. Call at our office with your reply and we will guide you as to the next move. Any trade unionist who is guilty of paying a scab who holds two jobs will in future be treated as a scab himself. We ask all trade unionists to note "Ole Bill" is on the run; his pals of the Insurance Workers' Union, namely the N.A.U.L.A.W., will be on the run next week. All prospect of a good job has gone along with the military from Liberty Hall—one of the collectors who holds two jobs only collected 10s of his debit last week.

Now, comrades, all at once chase those festering cancers out of the business and let them go to Merrion Street and get paid by pals there. Insurance must be cleaned and that is only possible after we have removed those leaders and hangers-on of the Labour Party, for they are controlled by the workers' Council which is more capitalist than the capitalists themselves.

I appeal to all trade unionists to give a hand to clear away the muck and prepare the way for all workers to be in One-Big-Union—when the moment arrives—which won't be long delayed. Meantime, our press reporter will be attending to those gentlemen who hold two jobs, also to those who pay their premiums to them. Meantime anyone who has a doubt about their collector, call at this office and we will supply you with the information required. And we ask anyone who can prove his collector is a "spare-timer" to call here and any information given will be treated in strict confidence. We intend to publish a list of those spare-timers in the near future, but we want all

the names so we can make a clean sweep of the lot.

Now, comrades, deliver the final blow by putting the information into our hands.

"A WORKERS' REPUBLICAN."

THE PLANT.

To the Editor.

Sir—The early morning raid on Liberty Hall on Sunday last calls for a searching investigation.

Let us examine the facts.

It is admitted by the military who ransacked the premises that no lethal weapons of any kind were found; that the men present were all members of the Union which owned the hall; and that no resistance whatever was offered. Yet the men were summarily arrested without warrants and marched off in custody under the muzzle of a machine gun.

Now, it is a fundamental principle of common law that where a question of title is involved and when the peace is not threatened, the authorities must refrain from any interference until the question of title is decided in a Court of Law. The men arrested claim to be entitled to occupy their own hall at any time they choose. They have been exercising that right unquestioned up to the very hour of their arrest. Yet the liberty of these 45 subjects of the State was set at naught without a moment's notice.

The immediate task is to trace out the responsibility for that outrage.

It lies jointly between the Government, acting through the Ministry of Commerce and Industry; the military; and the police.

As to the Government; Mr. Cosgrave was in Limerick during the week-end; and we can leave him out of it. It is fairly well known that his position in the State is that of a puppet, a figure-head, a convenient peg on which to hang the cloak that covers the skeleton in the closet. It is not so well known as it should be that the Free State Government is, in reality, John McNeill, his family circle and his parasites. The reason that preposterous bounder is so long tolerated by his mediocre colleagues is the fear that has bound them together, ever since their betrayal of the people who elected them; and of the principles of Collins and Griffith on which they were returned to power. Like Morgan's pirates on the Spanish Main, they are all hanging together in order that they may not hang separately.

Let us return to McGilligan and Gordon Campbell. However willing the Foran-O'Brien gang are to score against the Dublin members, it is plain, on the face of it, that the plant against the gas workers was worked up in the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, in collusion with D'Olier Street and Parnell Square. In the saying of the ancient Greeks—"Let the truth be told should the heavens fall!" The truth is, that in the Dublin of to-day the Great Masonic Conspiracy against the organised and independent workers of industrial Ireland is as potent and as active as it was in the Dublin of 1913-14. Working in darkness, secrecy and stealth, its aims, objects and principles are unchanged by the lapse of time. The Grand Orient and Great Panfandrum of the Molesworth Street Temple is Lord Glenavy: President of the Senate, and father of Gordon Campbell.

"Said the old Glenavy to the young Glenavy,

You're a toff, Glenavy; you're a toff!
Said the young Glenavy to the old

Glenavy,

Be you off, Glenavy, be you off!"

Deputy McGrath was evidently inert, or possibly even hostile to the Masonic blandishments, and under his regime Glenavy's activities were confined to clipping the dole-money; and similar exploits. But McNeill's parasite—McGilligan—was foisted into the post, and now the game goes merrily

on. We can only wait and watch critically the further developments from Lord Edward Street and 24 Kildare Street.

As for the second party to the raid—the military, their machine-guns and their armoured cars. The responsible military authority in Dublin is "General" Hugo McNeill, who made the unauthorized raid on Devlin's pub in Parnell Street. Further notice or comment would be a waste of time.

As for the third party to the raid—the Chief Commissioner of the Dublin Metropolitan Police—is W. R. E. Murphy. Let us put that specimen under the microscope.

Ten years ago W. R. E. Murphy was a pupil teacher in Raglan Street National School, a slum district off the Falls Road, Belfast. He was also connected with the "National" Volunteers—a body organised by the Redmondite and Hibernian factions to torpedo Casement's Volunteers and the Citizen Army in the interests of Carsonism and the Asquithian Government. When the war started he followed Carson's and Devlin's volunteers into the trenches, and the end of the war found him demobbed with the rank of Colonel. During the Anglo-Irish war, W. R. E. Murphy, like Brer Fox, lay low and said nuffin. After the truce John McNeill appointed him to an Inspectorship of National Schools. In September, 1922, this quick-change artist went to Kerry as a full-blown General. Some time later he was taken back to Dublin and, in commenting on the reason for his recall, the "Morning Post" stated that he was a prominent member of the Hibernian Society. That statement was repeated in the "Irish Times" and other Dublin papers, and was never contradicted. In April, 1923, he was appointed to the Commissionership of the D.M.P. The public first learned of that appointment from Sir James Craig, who made the announcement to a meeting of Orangemen he was addressing in Mr. Blythe's native town of Lisburn! What a crowd!

It is a rule in every police force, almost in the world, that membership of secret or sectarian societies cannot be tolerated. The case of Inspector Nixon, Belfast, has loomed largely in the Press, and even Graig's Government could not stomach the Orange drum-rattles in their police-force, and sacked him. Here in Dublin we have a Green drum-rattler, not only in the police-force, but in control of it. Some of the Dublin Bungs are drum-rattlers, and even if they do a 24-hour trade, you will never see them brought to Court.

Any student of humanity knows that, on the doctrine of averages, the Metropolitan Police, or any similar body of men, must contain a proportion of fairly decent folk. It would be interesting to know the private opinions of these men. Any public force, however efficient, acting under such a mentor, is capable of any absurdity. Last Sunday's early morning exploit, which sent a horse-laugh round Dublin, is a case in point. Under the old regime, men ignorant of police duties were sometimes pitch-forked into the job, but they were men of culture, experienced in life—men of the world. Under the McNeill regime—As Tim Healy once said: "Words fail me!"

J. O'H.

The Editor, "Irish Worker."

The following letter has to-day (28th) been sent to the "Evening Telegraph" and "Freeman's Journal."

GAS WORKERS' STRIKE.

Is Union Executive Playing Fair Game?

Sir—In the statement issued by the Executive of the Transport Union relative to the Gas Workers' Strike, published in the "Freeman's Journal" of Tuesday, it is stated that "on the occasion of the Strike, when a meeting of the men had been

(Continued on column 1, Page 8)

IN THE U.S.A.

New York, May 18th.

A hasty review of the week reveals nothing out of the ordinary course of affairs in a free Republic based on the old system. A big stockbroker sentenced to a long term for defrauding widows and children and others, was noticed by one victim dining at different hotels. He informed the judge who had sentenced the thief to prison some time ago, and getting no response, communicated with the prison commissioners and Mayor, who, starting an enquiry, sent the rich offender back to the cells. Millionaires are seldom punished for offences against society, although a starving man gets six months hard for stealing a loaf or a bottle of milk to feed his hungry family. Walter Ward, a millionaire baker and a good Catholic, killed an ex-soldier, admitted doing it because he had tried to blackmail him, and was acquitted. Another, a Brooklyn manufacturer, Davis, shot two detectives who called at his office to question him about a stolen motor car and was not executed, but sent to a sanatorium, like the murderer Thaw. He now asks his release after two years—says he feels quite sane and did not mean to do it.

Ex-Soldiers.

The soldiers' bonus was passed by a large majority in both houses, but the President has vetoed it, contending that a reduction of the income tax is more expedient. The bonus is in the shape of an insurance endowment policy, to be collected years hence when the ex-soldier dies. Couldn't Cosgrave and the Lisburn Lad quiet the "mutineers" and the ex-Free State soldiers now jobless by giving them a "bonus" of £5,000 each, double for generals—payable after death? Reports show that two thousand veterans committed suicide during the past year. The number who starved to death is not known. In various hospitals and homes are baskets containing things that once were men, both legs and arms gone; some with one leg and no arms, and thousands came back here sightless from the "war for democracy." The rich Americans smiled at and cast flowers before the uniformed workers who marched out to kill their German brothers. The fragments of some of these deluded wage-slaves, helpless in their cribs and baskets, cry to the doctors and nurses to kill them—they are unable to kill themselves. No flowers, military music or cheering crowds of silken clad ladies to cheer them now that "Democracy" has been saved at the cost of ten million lives plus their own hideous suffering. The bankers and other rulers of Europe and America—and the "Free State"—would again gladly send twenty millions to the grave if they thought it would crush out the Workers' and Farmers' Republic now ruling Russia and pointing the way to the farmers and workers of all countries.

A Job for Darrell.

In the political field the big capitalists have their henchmen selecting the most phant tools for nomination as President. We have many William Martin Murphys and Kaid Beltons, and they select a suitable Darrell Figgis or a William Cosgrave every four years, and this is the fateful year. As Darrell is now a back number, an "also ran" on your side, of the "Pond" we would suggest that hetry his luck in the country of great opportunities.

Ireland Not for Barter.

One encouraging sign is a recent statement by "Seelig" to the Press warning American capitalists not to swallow any bait from the "Free State." Ministers regarding concessions in Ireland as a price for an external loan, because the Republican Government, when it again resumes power, will not

recognise any such loans or concessions. This caused serious comment in the financial journals and the opinion in Wall Street is that the Republicans will win the next General Election in Ireland.

Tanks In Line.

Motormen and conductors of the street cars in Pittsburg went on strike for a living wage and shorter hours. The City Fathers called a special meeting and appropriated a large sum to purchase tear bombs, machine guns and tanks to guard their sacred god—Property.

The cost of these purchases would have been enough for the wage increase desired, but the master class prefers to show its teeth. In some films issued by the Russian Government and recently shown here we noticed that every tram and motor truck and bus in Moscow was placed by the workers' government at the disposal of the wives and children of the workers to enable them to participate in the celebrations of the birthday of the revolution.

Could we imagine the Free State Ministers and their Labour auxiliaries even commanding the Merrion Square and Rathmines motor cars and Murphy's trams to bring the Co. Dublin farm labourers' children to an Easter Week celebration or a Connolly Memorial Meeting.

Or would it be easier to imagine them adopting the Pittsburg precautions in case of a dangerous strike?

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION BULLETIN.

A Week's Happenings in the American Republic.

NOTE.—The discharge of the I.W.W. defendant in Idaho under the criminal syndicalist law on a clean-cut decision that membership of the I.W.W. does not constitute a violation of the law indicates a break in the recent prosecution of the I.W.W. in that State. The campaign against members of the organization continues without let-up in California.

Two items from the South reveal the conditions surrounding Negro workers, who, in one State, Georgia, are forbidden to leave without the consent of the authorities, and in another, Louisiana, are compelled in one locality to work for local farmers or go to jail.

Mob Violence.

1. LOUISIANA. David Howard, a Negro porter at a Shreveport hotel, accused of insulting a white woman, was kidnapped by two unidentified men on April 18th, taken to the outskirts of the city and seriously mutilated.

2. ILLINOIS. Three members of the anti-Klan organization—the Knights of the Plaming Circle—accused of having fired at Klansmen at Marion on February 8th, were acquitted in the county court on April 18th.

Meetings.

3. ILLINOIS. The use of the High School Auditorium at Decatur for the showing of the film "Russia and Germany," under the auspices of the Friends of Soviet Russia, was revoked by Superintendent Richeson at the request of John McEvoy, President of the Association of Commerce, who claimed that the picture contained Communist propaganda.

4. MAINE. A permit for the use of the Augusta City Hall for a Ku Klux Klan meeting was refused by the Board of Aldermen on April 22nd, though a petition signed by more than one thousand residents protested against the discrimination.

Criminal Cases.

5. IDAHO. Membership of the I.W.W. is not a violation of the Idaho criminal syndicalist law according to a decision of Judge B. S. Varian in the district court of

Canyon county, on March 27th, in dismissing the case of C. W. Hammond, Hammond, an I.W.W. organizer, was arrested under the criminal syndicalist law in November, 1923, solely on the grounds of membership in the I.W.W.

6. PENNSYLVANIA. Indictments charging violation of the State Sedition Act were returned on April 25th by the Mercer county grand jury against the six members of the Workers' Party arrested by agents of the Department of Justice and local police at Farrell in February.

7. CALIFORNIA. T. J. Staight, an I.W.W. newsboy was arrested as a "vagrant" at Los Angeles on April 17th and sentenced to 180 days in jail when he admitted that he was an I.W.W. organizer.

8. The second trial of the nine I.W.W.'s at Eureka resulted on April 24th in conviction under the criminal syndicalist law. The men (Nicholson, Powell, Allen, Beavert and others) have been held since October, 1923. Their first trial resulted in disagreement. A new stool-pigeon was revealed in this trial—a man named Munson, against whom charges had been filed in the organization for several months.

Miscellaneous.

9. LOUISIANA. The Shreveport Times of April 25th reports: "Lake Charles:—Vagrants before the city court are given 3 days in jail with the alternative of picking strawberries for local truckers."

10. GEORGIA. A state of virtual serfdom exists under a Georgia statute which requires the consent of officials for workers to leave the State, according to the State Federation of Labour. Commissioner of Labour Stanley has ruled that a written statement from county and municipal authorities that "this labour can be spared" is necessary for workers who wish to migrate.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE

LONDON READERS PLEASE NOTE.

A London Group of the Irish Worker League has been formed. Open meetings, Sunday, 7.30 p.m. at Central Southwark Labour Centre, 121 Walworth Road, London.

"Irish Worker" is On Sale:—NEWSAGENTS

- Battersea—A. Toleman, 54, Battersea Rise.
- W.C.—Communist Party, 16 King Street
- E.C.—Workers' Dreadnought, 152 Fleet Street
- Plumstead—O'Sullivan, 154 Plumstead Road.
- East Greenwich—Johannes, 11 Blackwell Lane.
- Deptford—Latter, Catholic Church.
- Lewisham—Catholic Church.
- Bermondsey—A Mallandain, 19 Parker Row, Dockhead.

Voluntary sellers wanted. Also members. Write:—Hon. Sec., Irish Worker League, above address.

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THE IRISH WORKER LEAGUE
17 Gardiner's Place, Dublin.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from column 3, Page 6)

addressed by the official of the Branch to which the men belonged, a small number of Larkin's supporters moved a resolution asking that he should be called in." Mr. Larkin's supporters, instead of being a small number, is officially given in the ballot as 407, and only 44 against.

There is an important gap in this statement which the Executive has failed to fill in, and in avoiding to do so the Executive are attempting to hoodwink and mislead the public.

The gap is, the apparent failure of the Executive to confer with the men. Why was it left to an official of the Branch to address the men at such a critical time, when, according to the Executive's own statement, the men were on strike and recognised officially by the Executive as being on strike.

Why did not Mr. Foran or Mr. O'Brien attend and address the men instead of leaving the men to be addressed by an official of the branch?

Where, I ask, was Mr. Foran on this very particular and important day? He is General President of the Union, and in such a critical situation as a gas workers' strike he was absent from the men's meeting. They were unable to obtain the advice of either himself or Mr. O'Brien, but as substitute for them the men were addressed by an official of the Branch.

Surely that address should have been given by the Executive leaders, if I may so call them. This is a point that the public ought to ponder over—an official of the Branch being put in the place of the Executive, and the Executive itself failing to meet the men.

Were not the men thus left without any Executive adviser. The men were thrown on their own resources, with Mr. Foran and Mr. O'Brien and the remainder of the Executive absent on this most vital occasion.

Let Mr. Foran and Mr. O'Brien now explain why they did not meet the men. I, for one, demand that explanation. The public, I repeat, are being hoodwinked by the omissions in this statement from the Executive, and the public interests require that Mr. Foran and Mr. O'Brien should explain their failure to meet the men at such a critical time.

I am, etc.,

P. T. DUNNE.

3 Ryan's Avenue, Church Road.
May 28th.

To the Editor, "Irish Worker."

Dear Sir—In the "Worker" of May 17th you make reference to the £2 per week wage of the road workers being carried at a meeting held at Eden Quay. The seconder of the motion, you state, was the "Imposition Secretary of Dean's Grange Branch." While not questioning your description of him, taken as a whole, it is rather a mild one. I would point out to you he had no authority whatever for doing so. As a matter of fact, when that matter came before the Dean's Grange Branch it was unanimously turned down. In fairness to the members this should be made known.

Licksplits, in a manner, are harmless. Other terms could be used, but what is the use. There are individuals against whom you could use every expression of contempt and then it would not sum up accurately the character, disposition and mentality of them.

"DEAN'S GRANGE."

Pigeon House Sanatorium,
Pigeon House Road,
Ringsend.

To the Editor, "Irish Worker."

Dear Sir—There is an Inquiry going on in every Department of the Dublin Corpora-

We tender our sincere sympathy to our comrade, Dermot Stewart, Gen. Sec. of the Irish Tailors and Tailoresses Union and to Mrs. Stewart on the death of their little daughter.

The Dublin Trades' Council Executive have also tendered their condolence to their colleague and his family.

tion at present, and I fail to see why there is not an inquiry held into the treatment of patients in this Institution. The doctors maintain that bread and butter is good enough for our breakfast, yet there are some patients, who have been living on the rates for the past four to six years, who can get what they like for breakfast. Some of these patients earn plenty of money by soling and heeling boots at four shillings per pair.

I would like to know why is the Insurance paying for us when we are not properly treated. It is a shame the way this Institution is carried on.

Hoping you will do me this great favour by publishing this in your valuable paper.

"A PATIENT."

THE LIARISH TIMES.

THE GAS STRIKE.

Dublin, 27th May, 1924.

To the Editor, "Irish Times."

Sir—The leading article in your to-day's issue begins:—"about a fortnight ago there was a dispute in the Dublin Gas Works, as a result of which all the Gas workers went on strike in defiance of the orders of the Executive of the Transport Workers' Union." As is known in the city, the gas workers were ordered on strike, on the 15th inst., by the officials of the Transport Union, who afterwards refused to pay the strikes money they were entitled to by law. These officials state they have £100,000 of the men's money in reserve. Please give this correction the same prominence you gave to the above canard.

J. O'H.

Dublin, 29th May, 1924.

To the Editor, "Irish Times."

Sir—I am not surprised at your refusal to print my correction of 27th inst. The so-called "Gas Dispute" was a foul conspiracy against the workers of Dublin; plotted out in secret between Mr. Gordon Campbell, of the Department of Commerce and Industry, the Masonic manager of the Alliance Gas Company and the "collective bargainers" of Parnell Square, who are mainly ex-Orange blacklegs, imported from Belfast as "organisers," "editors," etc., and of proved pilferers who found salvation in the sure and certain hope of their masters' backsheesh.

When Mr. Campbell launched his fantastic Shannon Power Scheme on the astonished world in last March, it was treated with hilarious ridicule by every competent engineer in the country. But certain Dublin engineers who are eminent Freemasons, rushed to his assistance—mainly by letters in your columns—trying to prove that the scheme was really not quite so bad as it looked!

Now that Mr. Campbell has again landed himself in a hole, his Masonic friends are rolling up, as is their wont, and your contribution, Mr. Editor, to the Campbell defence, is your lying leader in Tuesday's issue, which you refused to correct. Your paper was known for many years in this country as the "Liarish Times." I congratulate you on your consistent policy.

Had you printed my first correction the matter was ended. This correction will have wider publicity than your restricted circulation could provide.

J. O'H.

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