





CORK HILL ECHOES.

Our City Fathers—or, at least, a goodly portion of them—foregathered for their usual "monthly" at the Cork Hill Theatre on Monday last.

So far, so good, my Lord Mayor. I hope you will keep to your word; but you have broken it so often lately that I "hæc ma doct."

I notice that the Old Age Pensions Committee was appointed at last Monday's meeting. Now, my readers may not be aware of the fact that the Old Age Pensions Committee is composed of members of the Corporation, yet very few of these ever find their way to the fortnightly meetings of the Committee in South William street.

I am correct in stating here that the claims of many old people have been considerably delayed owing to the absence of the Councillors and Aldermen representing the Warlds where the claimants belong to.

Some of these self-same members of the Committee will be retiring by rotation in January next, and then will have the audacity to seek the suffrages of the workers and to ask for a renewal of the latter's confidence.

A fruitful source of discussion at Monday's meeting was the salary to be given the person who is to be Lord Mayor for 1912. It may not be generally understood by the readers of THE IRISH WORKER that the Lord Mayor for next year has been already chosen, and, strange to say, Mountjoy Ward, the home of "patriots," will again supply a resident for the year 1912.

The discussion on the Library question was most amusing. Alderman McWalter, who moved the motion—to give next Lord Mayor the same salary as at present enjoyed by Lord Mayor Farrell, viz., £1,700—gave no quarter to those of the "official Nationalist party" that were present; and so great was the "lashing," that many of them could not stand it, and got up from their seats and walked out, to enjoy the refreshments in the members' room; but they took good care to flock in like "lamb led to slaughter" when the division was called.

The result of the division was that Alderman McWalter's motion was defeated by 34 votes to 11, and unless something unforeseen happens—a contingency not likely to occur owing to the circumstances—next year's Lord Mayor will receive £3,680. Looking over the division list we find that the names of several members who voted for the increased sum to next year's Lord Mayor were the same who voted for the reduced sum to the present occupant.

We notice that the report of the Public Health Committee, which we referred to last week, was adopted. During the discussion we find that no reference was made by any member to the payments which were questioned by us in last week's issue. However, we will have something more to say to this matter later on.

The inconsistency of some of the Corporation members is amazing. At the August meeting of the Council several of these gentlemen voted for an increase of £100 per annum to the Superintendent of the Cleansing Department, who has £400 a year, yet we hear on good authority that when two labourers in the same department with £1 a week applied for an increase of 1s. at the last meeting of the Cleansing Committee, the very men who voted the £100 to the Superintendent refused the increase of 1s. a week to the labourers by moving the postponement of the application until October next.

From the discussion which took place at the Council meeting, regarding the manner in which the United National Societies were treated by the officials of the Corporation over the erection of the poles and streamers in Grafton street, during the recent display of flunkeyism, it is painfully evident that the officials are the "bosses" and not the members. If the

majority of the members had more backbone in them and were a little more independent of the officials, there would be some hope for the Corporation, but, as it is at present constituted, we fear very much that the same thing will always prevail.

The workers themselves are to blame for this. Each succeeding January they have the power in their own hands to make the Corporation what it should be—a democratic body; but they do not take advantage of the opportunity. As long as they don't, so long will the present state of affairs continue.

The Revision Sessions have now opened and night sittings will be held at the Four Courts shortly for the convenience of the working class. It behoves workers in the various wards of the city for whom claims have been lodged, to turn up at these night sittings and prove their right to their votes.

Sinn Fein and the Wexford Lock-out.

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER

Seven years ago last January a very small group of members of the Dublin Corporation banded themselves together pledged to a democratic programme, and, going on from one point to another, they made it very plain that their ideal was to build a nation from the bottom up, and to provide the comforts of living for the people of Ireland.

Mr. Griffith in his desire to hit the men has evidently overshot the mark. Word for word almost, he has taken the employers' statement, and without the honesty of quotation-marks put them before his limited coterie of readers as if they were his own.

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With your permission I shall return to this subject, and shall thank you to insert this hurried note.—Yours truly, P. T. DALY.

WOMEN WORKERS' UNION.

Great Meeting in Antient Concert Rooms.

On Tuesday last, in response to our appeal, the Antient Concert Rooms was filled to its utmost capacity with women workers anxious to join the newly-formed Women Workers' Union.

The orderly manner in which the girls entered was astonishing, and might well be copied by the men. Throughout the whole proceedings there was the utmost enthusiasm and attention.

In opening the meeting, the Chairman, Mr. Murphy, President Trades Council, said he was very pleased to preside at such a meeting, and as they all knew the purpose for which it was called and the necessity for a women workers' union, he was glad to see so many thousand present.

Friends, I am very glad Mr. Larkin asked me to come here and address you. Without organisation you can do nothing, and the purpose of this meeting is to form you into an army of fighters.

Mr. James Nolan, Dublin Trades Council, said the unskilled workers of Dublin in their recent successful effort to maintain their rights had set a brilliant example, and what they have done the girls can do.

Mrs. Sheehy-Skeffington, who followed, said she felt proud to be on the platform at such an enormous and representative meeting. The men are organised, and have succeeded to a great extent in obtaining justice.

Mr. Larkin, who was wildly cheered, spoke of the necessity for united action among all classes of women workers. He said—Women are the basis of a nation's wealth. On them principally depends the efficiency and welfare of the race.

Miss O'Flanagan also appealed to those present to join, and was followed by Mr. P. T. Daly, who said that owing to the lateness of the hour and the number who had already spoken he would not delay them long.

The Chairman thanked all present for their attention, and Cahal O'Byrne having sung and sung again, the meeting adjourned.

AFTER THE STRIKE.

Another Conference and a Lull.

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER.

Baton charges! Bayonet charges! Firing on the "mob"! Military rushes! List of killed and wounded! These have been the particular items of news attracting the popular attention in the principal cities of "the land of the free and the home of the brave" until just recently; and the newspapers have certainly done their level best to depict them in all their horrible magnitude, both in cold print and sketches on the spot, by their own "special artist."

Now there are symptoms of unrest, to give it the title commonly applied, to a desire on the part of the workers to improve their conditions, among the miners in the whole of the coalfields, which may culminate in a general stoppage, in a couple of months at latest.

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dependent electors of the greatest and freest "Empire" the world has ever known; will endeavour to impress them with their great deeds of the past in the "Empire" building line, and will prove beyond any doubt that they (the Liberals) were only coddling when they sent the soldiers and warships to Liverpool; that they (the Tories) had too much affection for the citizens of Liverpool, to acquiesce in their being shot, and both candidates will prove it by going into slumdom and kissing the dirty-faced hoodigan children; but if the workers ever stand that sort of thing again—then they deserve it.

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NOTES.

The National Boy Scouts had an Aerid-heacht in Fairview, and a £5 note was offered on one of the admission tickets. A youngster happened to have the lucky ticket and got the money. It appears he had been made a present of the ticket by a man who has a shop and another good job. The man called on the boy and asked for the money, but the mother refused saying, "It was the child's luck and you mightn't have won it yourself if you had gone in on it."

Fenianism and the Workers.

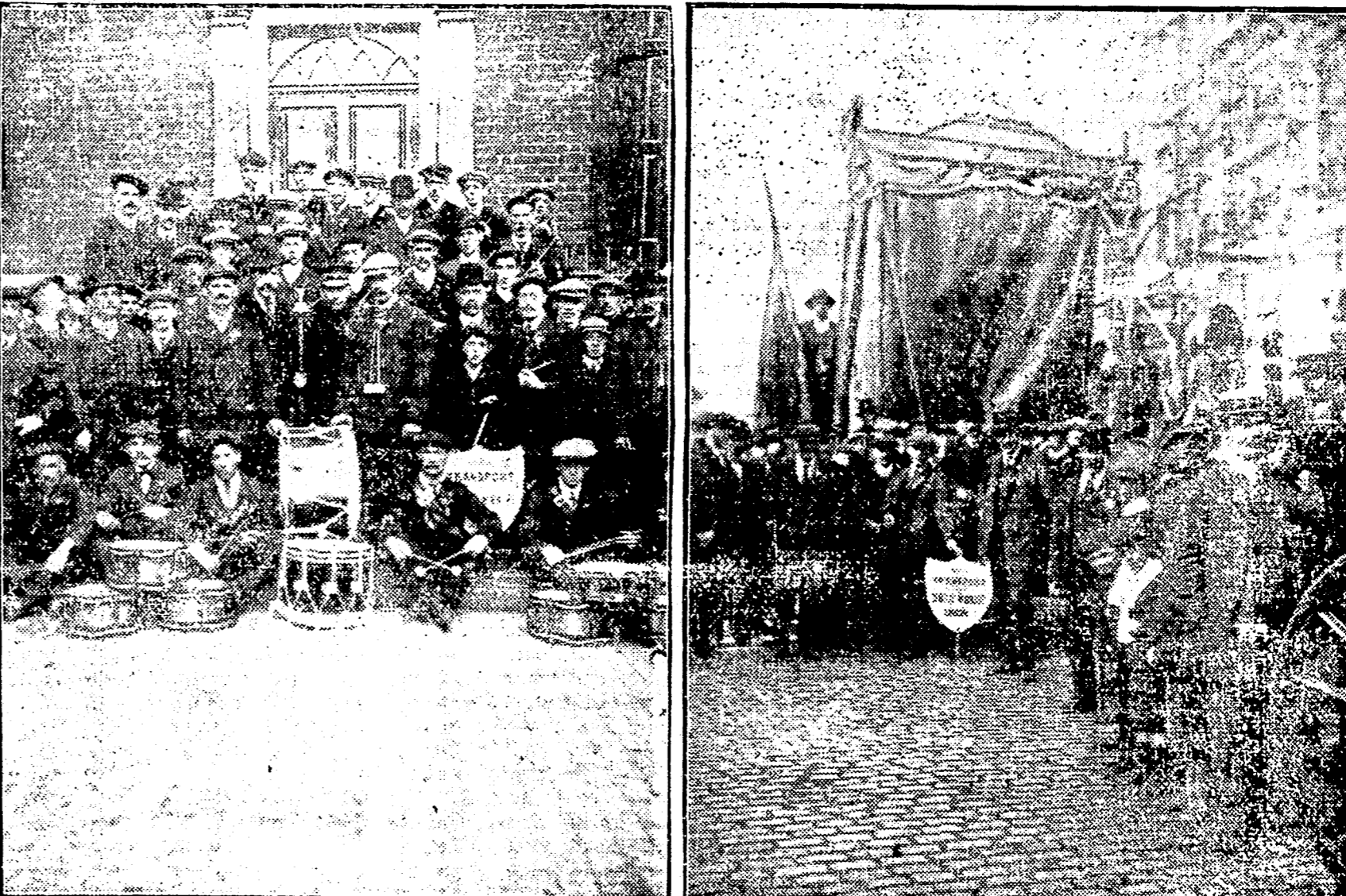
"Meantime, the so-called lower classes—the masses—are the backbone of the country; for many purposes, and, indeed, I think, for nearly all self-sacrificing ones, they are the country."

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Above are reproduced from photographs of the IRISH TRANSPORT UNION band and banner which headed over 5,000 of our men in last Sunday's Temperance Procession.

dows. Tons upon tons of foodstuffs were in absolute security under the protection of the ordinary tennenny padlock, while men tightened their belts, and women's cheeks shrunk, and little children cried with the hunger.

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bound to take part, sympathetically, and if a strike of the non-producing Transport Workers' alone, successfully paralysed the commerce of the country, what will its effect be when colliers, engineers, and other producing trades join hands and take common action?

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Clerks and a Labour Union.

DEAR SIR—I read your extensively circulated and most influential paper weekly, and in the issue of 26th August your report of Mr. Larkin's speech in the Park contains a few lines that appeal forcibly to me and to those clerks who are outside of any union but who are anxious to be banded with him in the common cause.

[What say the clerks?—Ed.]

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