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The CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF "The Irish Worker."

St. John Irvine, Author of "Mixed Marriage"—the play of the year—is writing one of his characteristic stories.

Standish O'Grady (The Old Man Beautiful), One of the ablest writers in Ireland, is contributing.

A Real Xmas Number. Order Now. Price Threepence.

This is to be the Annual of the Country.

The Educational Side of Our Work.

Curiosity, more than anything else, induced me to pay a visit to Liberty Hall one Sunday afternoon last month. I learned from a friend that a series of Lectures was being given, and that he had attended the previous Sunday's one which, to use his own words, "was fine."

From a climatical standpoint, that Sunday afternoon turned out bad—terribly bad! The sky overhead was dismal and ominous looking; and, with force, the rain descended on the streets thus walking was a misery. True, a feeling which was at once miserable and depressing, permeates the atmosphere of the city.

The hands on the Custom House clock had formed a right angle it was three o'clock. Observing a stream of people moving through the swing doors of Liberty Hall, I mingled with the human stream, and was carried upstairs, and ushered into the body of the Lecture Hall.

What impressed me very much were the orderliness and keen attentiveness of the audience. And then they were mostly of the working people—those people who, when present at public meetings, are often described by Dublin's gutter Press as organised hooligans.

As I departed from this gay scene, I asked myself: "What is the object of these Sunday afternoon Lectures? There must be something more in them than merely to amuse and instruct."

It is rather surprising that some gentlemen should single out Mr. Larkin for attack, whilst other public men of low repute in this city are allowed to carry on their nefarious practices unheeded.

Any person, whomsoever he be, paying a visit to Liberty Hall any Sunday afternoon, could easily see that Mr. Larkin has the confidence of the working people; because they find him truly earnest in the work which he has undertaken to perform.

In conclusion, I would point out that for a pleasant, cheerful, amusing, and educational Sunday afternoon, there are few, if any places like Liberty Hall.

20 Summer Hill, Dublin, 27th Nov., 1912.

DEAR MR. LARKIN, I was delighted to see in your valuable little paper, THE IRISH WORKER, the attack on the mutual stamp fund, as I had been in business on Summer Hill myself, and got broken up by their nefarious dealings, as it is impossible for any small shopkeeper to keep open beside them.

I remain, yours truly, MARY ANNE O'SULLIVAN.

P. S.—And may all success attend the THE IRISH WORKER.

BOOTS FOR MEN. 6/11 as sold elsewhere at 8/11. Hand-Pegged Bluchers at 4/10 AS SOLD ELSEWHERE, &c. THE SMALL PROFIT STORE, 78b Talbot Street.

The Ideal. A Lay Sermon.

Have you an ideal to live for—an ideal country, an ideal society, an ideal lover, an ideal home? If you haven't you must be miserable; and not alone miserable in yourself, but a source of misery to all around you.

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The Anach.

Few of our readers need to be reminded that Anach Na Nodlog opens on Thursday evening, and remains open every day from 11 to 10 until Saturday, the 14th November inclusive.

20 Summer Hill, Dublin, 27th Nov., 1912.

THE SHIPPING FEDERATION. (OTHERWISE LONG) VERSUS JIM LARKIN AND OTHERS.

On Monday, in the King's Bench Court No. 2, before the Lord Chief Baron and a City Special Jury, the trial was commenced of the action of Long v. Larkin and others. The plaintiff, Matthew Long, stevedore, 5 Ossory road, North Strand, sued James Larkin, O'Connell's Secretary of the Irish Transport Workers' Union; William Hopkins, delegate; Laurence Redmond, delegate; William Newman, stevedore, 80 Haddington road; William Long, stevedore, 5 Church Street, North Wall, and Joseph Donohoe, stevedore, 25 City Quay, and claimed damages for that the defendants wrongfully, maliciously, and with intent to injure the plaintiff, conspired and combined amongst themselves to procure, cause, and induce dock labourers and others to refuse to work for the plaintiff, whereby he suffered great loss and damage; and for an injunction against the defendants restraining them, their servants and agents, from doing any of the acts alleged, and for such other relief the Court might think proper.

For the plaintiff—Mr. Serjeant Moriarty, Mr. Henry Hanne, K.O., and Mr. Kenneth Dockrill (instructed by Mr. Good) solicitor for Employers' Federation. For defendants Newman, Long, and Donohoe—Mr. Serjeant Sullivan, Mr. J. B. Powell, K.O., and Mr. Daniel O'Brian (instructed by Messrs Thomas Garrard and Co.). For defendants Larkin, Hopkins, and Redmond—Mr. P. Lynch, K.O., and Mr. Cecil Atkinson (instructed by Messrs William Smyth and Son). Mr. E. A. Swaine (instructed by Mr. G. M. Meares) held a watching brief on behalf of Messrs. Betson and Co.

FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE.

Mr. Serjeant Moriarty, in opening the case for the plaintiff, said the plaintiff was a stevedore in the port of Dublin, having succeeded to his father's business some ten years ago. The stevedore, explained counsel, was a man who loaded or unloaded a ship; that he was the men's employer; and that they had no one to look to except the stevedore. The plaintiff was not proceeding against a Trades Union or against the funds of a Trades Union, but against individuals. Mr. Long was only struggling to get free from the fetters which these men had, by combination among themselves, cast about him. He was fighting for his very life, for he was fighting for his means of living. What the defendants had done for their own selfish purposes directly declared by them, and for ultimate purposes which they had not yet declared, had carried into action by illegal means a determination to ruin the plaintiff, because he had refused to join an Association which the three first-named defendants—the stevedores—had formed, and which he persisted in refusing to join for good and valid reasons.

The question is, said Serjeant Moriarty, whether you and this court can give him any redress in the circumstances. Plaintiff, counsel added, knew nothing about any agitation for increased wages or anything of that kind. But Mr. Larkin sent out a circular, saying that he desired the stevedores to meet him at the rooms of his Trades Union in Boreford place, which he facetiously called "Liberty Hall." Plaintiff attended with other stevedores. He heard the views put forward, but he did not join the Association of Stevedores which was formed afterwards. He had never had a dispute with any labourers. He paid the highest rate of wages that had ever been paid to any workman engaged in like employment in Dublin, and he agreed to everything the workmen had suggested to him; but he refused to join this Stevedores' Association or subscribe to their new list of prices, because he believed the effects of the increased charges would be disastrous to himself and to the shipping agents and merchants of Dublin. He was engaged chiefly in the timber trade, and in this trade two of the prices had been increased from fivepence per load each to tenpence per load and sevenpence per load respectively. The charge from fivepence to tenpence would mean that the cost of discharging a cargo of timber would be increased from £41 13s. 4d. to £83 6s. 8d. There was nothing about an increase of wages for the workmen, but it might have been in the back of Mr. Larkin's head to say to the stevedores when the new prices had been in operation for some time, "Now you are getting double prices for discharging vessels, and in future a man discharging a load of timber must get 12s. instead of 6s. a day."

I'll tell you how Larkin comes into it, continued counsel. Larkin assisted the stevedores in putting forward these new rules, and he insisted that every stevedore should join the Stevedores' Association. Perhaps Mr. Larkin, thinking that his influence in Dublin was a waving influence, thought of forming this Dublin Stevedores' Association, and of getting this arrangement made. He said in effect: "You form a Stevedores' Association, and I'll compel every stevedore to join it, and in return you must engage to me that you will not employ any man except a man belonging to my Union—the Irish Transport Workers' Union." Counsel went on to refer to a meeting held at Liberty Hall on the 7th August, at which he said it was decided that no workman should work for the plaintiff, and said that in pursuance of that decision the business of the plaintiff had been interfered with, involving him in actual money loss to the amount of £150. In conclusion, counsel

submitted that this case had nothing whatever to do with the Trades Disputes Act.

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