

Miss Carney's  
Address.

A Compact  
Made in Jail.

Belfast Children  
'LIVE STOCK.'

IRISH OPINION

# The VOICE OF LABOUR

EDITED BY CATHAL O'SHANNON.

NEW SERIES. No. 56

DECEMBER 21, 1918.

ONE PENNY

## AFTER THE POLL. A Reminder that Pearse and Connolly aimed at Economic Nationhood. ::

The die is cast. The votes are registered and only wait the counting. For the first time in eight years the men and women, whose toil supports the commonwealth, whose labour turns the wheels of industry, have been permitted to express an opinion about the laws that regulate their individual conduct and their social relations. And this arrangement that consults the people once in eight years is called Democracy.

It is called Democracy in free England as in subject Ireland. It is the system of government that would satisfy some amongst those who say they want a free Ireland. Think it over. Is it Democracy—the rule of the people? Does it guarantee freedom? Has it done so in England, in France, or America?

### Listen to Patrick H. Pearse.

"I have insisted upon the necessity of physical freedom. . . . I now insist upon the necessity of complete control of the material resources of the nation in order to achieve the completeness of that physical freedom.

"The nation's sovereignty extends not only to all the men and women of the nation, but to all the material possessions of the nation; the nation's soil and all its resources, all wealth and all wealth-producing processes within the nation. In other words, **no private right to property is good as against the public right of the nation.**"

Does a vote once in eight years protect the nation's public right against invasion by private interests? Experience tells us it cannot; at least, it proves the so-called democratic franchise has not, up to date, secured that complete control of the material resources of the nation, either here or in Europe or America, which is essential to physical freedom.

During the election much use was made by Sinn Fein of an extract from

an article by James Connolly in "The Workers' Republic" of April 8, 1916. We regard that use of Connolly's writing as an endorsement by the national organisation of the policy expressed in it. On no other ground can we account for its employment in Sinn Fein electoral literature. We repeat it here, and ask our readers to note the identity of opinion with that of Patrick H. Pearse quoted above from "The Sovereign People."

"Labour seeks to make the free Irish nation the guardian of the interests of the people of Ireland, and to secure that end **would vest in that free Irish nation all property rights as against the claim of the individual, with the end in view that the individual may be enriched by the nation and not by the spoiling of his fellows.**"

Where Pearse ["a scholar, and not only a scholar, but a saint."—J. F. McEntee] and Connolly are agreed, where they stand in the revolutionary tradition, inheriting their principles through Tone and Hope and Lalor, there may the workers of Ireland unite their forces and concentrate their action.

The control of the material sources of wealth, the ownership of which is the sole guarantee of national independence and personal freedom, has not been gained at the elections last week. We mention this solely to emphasise the limitations of political action, and to remind the elector that citizenship has its duties outside the polling booth.

### The Economic Policy.

We must have an economic policy. It is well to encourage Irish industry, but let us do it wisely. No industry is of value to the nation which is founded on the moral injustice of sweating wages. The invasion of foreign capital, as in Ford's enterprise at Cork, Furness

Withy's shipping projects there, and the so-called "Irish" meat packing schemes at Drogheda and Dublin, imply an economic servitude of Irish workers as real as that serfdom imposed by the Anglo-Normans. The robber barons came in person to enslave our fathers. The new invader sends his capital.

"We cannot repeat too often," said the editor of the "Irish Homestead" last week, "that a country might be politically independent and economically tied hand and foot." He continues:—"Unto them that have is given, and these great trusts and combines have a way of rolling up money which they again invest in the control of other enterprises, bringing the power of capital to bear in a concentrated form first, on this and then on that industry until the people generally are so entangled in the operations of these great financial powers that their economic condition becomes hopeless. . . . **If the national feeling, the passion of multitudes, is not bent on maintaining democracy in our economic system, individuals and groups here and there assailed or bribed by temporary advantages will betray the nation and hand over control of its industries to aliens.**"

There is the danger to the nation, more menacing than armoured cars or big battleships. There is a danger that the recording of votes cannot overthrow. The machinations of foreign capital and the treachery of native capital are carried on secretly in the offices of stock-brokers and the meeting-places of Chambers of Commerce. It is to reinforce these subtle powers Lord French is nominating his Reconstruction Committee.

Have you a policy to outmatch their cunning?

Have you organisation to defeat their new serfdom?



Edited by CATHAL O'SHANNON.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES:**

	Ireland & Britain.		Abroad.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
23 Weeks Post Free...	1	8	2	2
26 " " " " " "	3	3	4	4
52 " " " " " "	6	6	8	8

Communications should be addressed to Editor or Manager, 27 Dawson Street, Dublin. Cheques and P.O.'s crossed and made payable to "Irish Labour Press." Small remittances in halfpenny stamps.

Bankers: Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society, Ltd.

## BOLSHEVIK ELECTION ADDRESS.

Instead of an editorial we take the liberty of reprinting this week the Address which Miss Winifred Carney issued in the General Election to the electors of the Victoria Division of Belfast. We do so with all the greater pleasure because it was issued by a woman who is the first candidate, so far as we are aware, to declare for the Workers' Republic in a parliamentary election in Ireland and because this historic Bolshevik document breathes the spirit and the faith for which "The Voice of Labour" stands in succession to "The Workers' Republic" of James Connolly's day.

### TO THE ELECTORS OF VICTORIA.

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

Friends—In consenting to stand as a candidate for the Victoria Division, and in asking the support of the electors, both men and women, for the Republican ticket, I desire to state the reasons which have prompted my action, the principles and policy for which I stand, and the righteousness of the cause which I have the honour of serving.

The Republican or Sinn Fein Party is contesting every seat in Ireland against the candidates of all other parties—Unionist, Home Rule, and Labour—because, for the first time in election history, there is but one clean and clear-cut issue before the electors: Whether the people of Ireland are to have their own free choice, without the interference of any other power, people, or parliament, of the sovereignty and form of government under which they shall live. No other party—not even the Belfast Labour Party—declares the right of Ireland to that free choice, and therefore all other candidates must be opposed by all who believe Ireland has the same right to this free and absolute self-determination as other peoples.

Upon this issue I appeal for the support of the electors, because I have had the great honour of personal association with the people of this division, particularly the working men and working women. They know the Republican can-

didate and that candidate's work. They will remember that my convictions, and the profession and practice of my convictions, are the same as those of their champion and my friend, the murdered James Connolly, who died for their sake; and remembering, they will judge between the different parties in this election.

The principles I state and stand upon are these: The right of all peoples, the Irish included, to the absolute, free and untrammelled choice of their own fate and political and social destiny; the right of the people of Ireland to sovereign independence; the right of the people to choose the Republic; and the right of the workers to the control of industry and to the exercise of that right under the government of the Workers' Republic.

In this election all other candidates—Unionist, Home Rule, Independent, and Labour—limit the self-determination of Ireland to some form or other of local government within the British Empire, although their parties and the British Government and its Allies impose no such limitations upon the self-determination of Poland, Finland, Bohemia, and Jugo-Slavia. With the Republican Party and with the Irish Labour Party and Trade Union Congress, I stand for the same rights for our own Irish people as for the Poles, the Finns, and the Czechoslovaks.

Against them all—Unionist, Home Ruler, Labour man, and Empire—I assert, with my dead comrades of the Irish Republic of Easter Week, the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland to be sovereign and indefeatable. Against them all I declare my allegiance to the Irish Republic. Against them all I take my stand with, and my principles from, the dead martyrs of my people—Wolfe Tone and Emmet, Lalor and Mitchel, the Manchester Martyrs and O'Donovan Rossa, James Connolly and Patrick Henry Pearse,—and the living men and women of my generation. Against them all I deny the robber right and robber rule of the British Empire or of any foreign government or people in Ireland, and assert that no people and no government, except the Irish people and the Government of the Irish Republic, have any right but force and military power in this country. Against them all I stand for the People, for the Republic, for Ireland—against them all and their kings and thrones and empires.

I am, therefore, Nationalist and Republican on principle, because I stand for the rule of the people—of all the people; because there is nobody older or nobler in blood or dignity than the people; because there is nobody good enough or great enough, nobody worthy enough, to rule and govern the people but the people themselves.

The form of government for which I stand is the People's Republic, the Workers' Republic, the enthronement in power of the working class; not the government of wealth and privilege, not the capitalist Republic of France or of America, but the Workers' Republic of the whole Irish people, in which all men and women shall work as do their fellows, and in which no idle rich class shall exploit men and women and children,

and grow fat and wealthy upon the sweat and blood and labour of the working class.

The policy of the Party I represent is that of the reliance of the Irish people upon themselves, and of the workers upon themselves. "Who would be free, themselves must strike the blow."

As part and parcel of the Republican faith, I am for an undivided Ireland. I am resolutely opposed to Conscription and to the cutting-off of any part of Ulster from Ireland and Ireland's destiny. I should have no hesitation in opposing these damnable measures with the same weapons and the same spirit and determination with which I fought, and am ready to fight again, for the Republic, one and indivisible.

The issue, then, is clear and definite: Ireland or England; Independence or Subjection; Freedom or Slavery; the Republic or the English Monarchy; the Workers' Republic or the Capitalist Empire; the Sovereign People or the People in Chains? You know for which of these I stand. For which do you stand?

Already the Republic proclaimed in Easter Week has secured the allegiance of the people, who have returned twenty-five Republicans unopposed. I have no doubt as to which of these allegiance will be given by those men and women—the working men and women of Connolly's love and service—who stand for Ireland and social and political freedom. They will give their allegiance to the Republic for which James Connolly worked and fought and, wounded and helpless, fell pierced by British bullets.

In this faith and for this cause I have the honour of subscribing myself,

Yours for the People and the Republic,

WINIFRED CARNEY.

December, 1918.

## A Dream Realised.

The following lines from the late Dr. John Todhunter's "Banshee" (in "From the Land of Dreams," just published by the Talbot Press, Ltd., at 4/6 net), are peculiarly appropriate at this time, when Irishmen and Irishwomen have made Ireland's wrongs the world's:

And the Fianna hear, and the ghosts of her cloudy hovering heroes;  
And the Swan Fianola wails o'er the waters of Innisfail,  
Chanting her song of destiny, the tune of the weaving fates.

And the nations hear, in the void and quaking time of night,  
Sad unto dawning, dirges  
And snatches of bardic song;  
Their souls quake in the void and quaking time of night,  
And they dream of the weird of kings,  
Of tyrannies moulting, sick  
In the dreadful wind of change.

Wail no more, lonely one, Mother of Exiles, wail no more,  
Banshee of the World, no more!  
Thy sorrows are the world's, thou art no more alone,  
Thy wrongs the world's.

# The Workers' Republic. The great only appear great because we are on our knees: LET US RISE.

(As passed by Censor.)

Dick Coleman.

It is not in reality the war-plague but the plague of Empire that has killed Dick Coleman. He has followed his captain and comrade in arms of the battle of Ashbourne and passed to the great company of the dead of Easter Week just when his countrymen and countrywomen were declaring almost with one voice their allegiance to the cause and the Republic for which he fought. He did not die in battle, but for all that his death was as truly death for Ireland as if he had fallen on the field with Ashe's commando in Easter Week. And his death is to be laid at the same door of the same people, and the same military and imperial Power as the deaths of those others who are the most honoured of all the men of our generation. He was not among the greatest of them but he was one of them, a good and gallant soldier, a clean and bonny fighter, a faithful friend and dauntless rebel who might have chosen the easy path since his homecoming from penal servitude, but preferred instead the harder way. That way led again to prison in Ireland, to deportation, to prison in Wales, and to death in that prison in Usk. Perhaps it were better so, for the effect of Dick Coleman's death will be as the effect of Tom Ashe's, and for the same reason. "They shall be remembered for ever." God, must this ever be so? Must the pathway to freedom be ever marked with the blood of freedom's sons and daughters? It was so in 1913, in 1914, in 1916, in 1917, and now again in 1918, and Coleman follows Partridge and Ashe; and Dublin, great, heroic, remembering Dublin, and all the militant forces in Dublin, men and women, boys and girls, gave him a triumphal funeral march as to the greatest of men, a challenge to militarism and imperialism, and a demonstration of unconquered nationalism and unbroken and unbreakable will. Liberty indeed is an exacting mistress, but she is well and freely served, and if her pleasure is sought at high and terrible cost, her lovers are many and noble. Ay, Dick Coleman shall be placed high among our martyred for freedom, and Ireland shall not forget. Go ndeanaidh Dia trocaire ar a anam anocht.

## Release for One and All.

We have already pointed out that whereas the Continental Governments have released their political prisoners, the British Government still enjoy the evil distinction of being the only Government in Europe to hold in her gaols in Ireland and Great Britain thousands of men and women who are guilty of no crime but that of maintaining their national or individual rights. The death of this untried and uncharged Irish prisoner in Usk gaol will, we hope, open such a campaign as will compel the release of each and every one of these men and women. Nothing within our knowledge in the history of British prisons,

except perhaps the death of Tom Ashe, is so odious and inhuman as the circumstances of Coleman's death. His very brother was refused permission to see his dead body in prison after red-tape had prevented him from seeing him, as he would have seen him, a few moments before life went from him. Small wonder the telling of this story evoked loud cries of shame at a meeting of 10,000 Scotsmen and women in the heart of Glasgow. And no one knows what fate may befall the others whom death has not yet released from the clutch of British gaolers. We know that many of the Irish prisoners are ill in England and Wales, and several indeed have been sent home on parole lest they should die in their cells. There must be an end of all this. There must be an immediate and general release of all the prisoners, convicted and unconvicted, from Usk, Lincoln, Reading, Birmingham, Durham, Peterhead, Belfast, etc. With these must be released all the conscientious objectors, pacifists, interned aliens, and interned English, Scots, and Welsh upon whom the prison doors are still shut. In this connection we have pleasure in informing our Irish readers that a solemn covenant was entered into between John MacLean, the released Scots Bolshevik, and Joe Robinson and Barney Friel, the Irish Republicans, that whoever should be the first to be released from Peterhead prison should fight for the release of the others. At his great gathering on Friday night, and at four overflow meetings, MacLean gave his word to carry out his fraternal pledge, because he and his late companions were fighting against the same enemy class and the same Government, and his pledge was enthusiastically applauded and endorsed by the best and sturdiest of Glasgow's working men and women. This is the way of release, and we trust it will be taken by the united forces who are opposing evil in these two islands. There must be no peace until the prisoners are released.

## With the Scots Bolsheviks.

Another promising manifestation of international fraternity between Labour in Ireland and Labour in Scotland has been given in the General Election. Last week a number of Irish Labour speakers crossed over to Glasgow to assist the candidature of the Bolshevik candidates in constituencies in which there is a considerable Irish vote. They were made heartily welcome both by the candidates, their helpers, and the rank and file at the meetings, and in the Labour organisations. They were particularly keen in the fight on behalf of John MacLean, Newbold, and MacDougall, all of whom, it will be remembered, were mentioned among those Labour candidates who stand for all the Irish Labour Party stands for, including self-determination. It was very gratifying to find Labour candidates in Scotland so near in aim, purpose, and spirit to Irish Labour, but far from satisfactory, to say the least of it, to find the Labour candidates in Bel-

fast, including, we understand, the I.L.P. men, falling below the standard of the Scots in these matters. At the various rallies the Irish element was very much in evidence, particularly in Motherwell and the Gorbals, and the men from Ireland shall never forget the kindly hospitality of both Scots and Irish in these two divisions. Above all will linger the memory of that merry band of buachailli and cailini who gave the Irish missionaries a right Irish send-off, especially the cailini who made Glasgow feel like home with their singing of "The Red Flag," "Soldiers' Song" and other anthems of the rebels. Old ties were renewed everywhere and new ones made, with, among other rebel centres, South Wales. May this triple alliance of Ireland, Scotland, and Wales strengthen and prosper. If it does this it will make revolution in these countries. In wishing MacLean, Newbold, MacDougall, Maxton and their comrades victory over the common enemy, the governing class in these islands, "The Voice" is but echoing the Labour movement in Ireland. Ireland, Republican and Labour Ireland, was a warm favourite in Glasgow, and when some of these candidates come to Ireland in the near future, as we have hopes they will, they will find themselves warm favourites over here.

## A Forecast.

A correspondent who has some gifts for political calculation tells us the result of the elections in Ireland will be: Republicans 67, Unionists 25, Home Rulers 13. He adds that in this he takes into account all that happened on Saturday; that in Ulster the Republicans will have a majority of two members over the Home Rulers, but the Unionists will outnumber their combined opponents by 3 to 2, and that while Mr. Dillon will lose his seat to Mr. de Valera, Mr. Devlin will hold his by a majority of 2,000. In Belfast, he says, the Labour candidates will suffer a heavy defeat, and outside the Falls the Republicans will be snowed under owing to lack of organisation and machinery. We give this interesting calculation for what it is worth.

## Corrections.

The battle of Kinsale, and not the battle of Clontarf, was referred to in our note last week when we said the Gaelic polity had gone down before rising imperialism.

We agree with our correspondent that the article, "The Rights of Labour," sometimes attributed to Fintan Lalor, is more likely Devin Reilly's. At all events we have long since come to the conclusion from internal evidence that it is not Lalor's. This, if we remember aright, was the conclusion come to in "The Irish Nation" by P. S. O'Heigartaigh and other good judges.

## REFUGE STRIKE.

The Refuge will probably be sending a new aggregation of blacklegs around the policy-holders. The strike still continues. Need we say more?

# LABOUR IN IRELAND

## THE ELECTRICAL WORKERS,

The discussion at Dublin Corporation on the electrical engineers' dispute revealed a serious state of funk among the High Corporators. They were shocked to discover that the lighting of the city depended on the good-will of half a dozen men, and that in a dispute these few would have behind them the solid support of all the organised forces of Labour. 'Tis time, my masters, you faced facts.

The old-time job-hunting Corporation servant with the soul of a winkle was the humble slave and toady of the Councillor. To-day, the manly officer of the communal service finds comradeship in the rank and file of the working-class citizens. That comradeship yielded them the advocacy of Mr. P. T. Daly. Why then do they leave it open to Ald. Farrell to say, "These engineers are not affiliated to the Trades Council." Let them put themselves right with organised Labour before they next seek Labour's aid.

## SUNDAY FUNERALS.

### Are They Necessary?

The Lord Mayor is to be congratulated on having averted a stoppage of work at Glasnevin Cemetery. At the conference between the Cemeteries Committee and the Transport Union, he secured a compromise on the workers' claims which gives the men an advance of 5/6 per week and allows them to stop work on Saturdays at 2 p.m.

We understand that the Cemeteries Committee was agreeable to a Sunday holiday for the employees. This would have meant no burials on Sundays. The Lord Mayor declined to entertain the proposal.

While we believe His Lordship reflects public opinion on the matter, we think it is time that opinion was changed. There is a fashion in Sunday interments which leads to the insanitary practice of holding remains in some cases from Wednesday to Sunday.

In several towns in England the clergy of all denominations have combined in refusing to officiate at Sunday funerals. Why must Dublin enslave its grave-diggers and add seriously to the burden of work on the clergy by continuing a bad habit?

## Eugenics in Belfast.

Sir Edward Carson said recently, "You ought to hold indignation meetings about the way children are treated." The following advertisement from his own organ, the "Belfast Telegraph," shows the local estimate of child life:—

"LIVE STOCK.

"WANTED,

"A FOSTER MOTHER

For Four or Six Children, about 4 years of age, who is prepared to receive and take charge of them in her own Cottage, which should be in the neighbourhood of Belfast.

"Apply to Box 04249, Evening Telegraph."

Not even Dean Swift's modest proposal could excel the cynicism of Baird's daily.

## WORKERS' UNION AND THE WAGES BOARD.

The County Down District Committee has sent a vigorous protest to the Wages Board against the proposed scale of wages. The scale is quite inadequate to provide a decent and comfortable living for the workers, and the Wages Board members are invited to try the experiment of living on the money they are prepared to mete out to the workers.

A counter-demand for a minimum wage of £3 per week for men over 18 years is presented, and backed up by Lloyd George's statement that the agricultural workers produce annually £750 worth of food. "You can't have an AI empire with a C3 population," said the same gentlemen, "and Britain breeds more unfits than any other nation in Europe."

The Wages Board is reminded that workers whose service is less essential to the community are very much better paid than the rural food producer.

Our comrades in the North might well have contrasted their reward and utility with those of the Killanins and O'Connor Dons. Says Blatchford, "If comparisons have to be made between Dukes and labourers as to the value of services rendered and payment received, one would not expect those comparisons to be asked for by a Duke."

The farmers and officials of the Board whose jobs have been made safe by the blood and sacrifice of the workers, are asked if their starvation wage proposals are the reward they offer to the class that saved the Empire.

An instructive bill showing the cost of living for a man, wife, and three children is submitted. The details may be open to criticism, but there is no item that may be lopped off that will seriously reduce the total. On the contrary, it includes no provision for books, papers, beer, church dues, rail fares, or recreation.

### The Bill.

Rent, 2s.; coal, 3s. 6d.; bread, 3s. 6½d.; tea, 1s. 4d.; 2 lbs. butter, 5s.; new milk for baby, 4s. 8d.; 2½ lbs. sugar, 1s. 7d.; ½ lb. margarine, 6d.; buttermilk, 6d.; 1st. flour, 2s. 0d.; half stone wheat-meal, 1s. 4½d.; 1½ lbs. bacon, 3s. 3d.; 7 lbs. meat, 10s.; lard or dripping, 1s. 10d.; clothing, 5s.; boots, 3s. 6d.; tear and wear of household, 5s. 6d.; potatoes, 2s.; light, 2s.; pot of jam, 1s. 10d.; matches, salt, and baking soda, 4d.; tobacco, 1s. 6d.; trade union and sickness insurance, 6½d.; funeral insurance, 8d.; boot polish, 3d.—Total, £3 8s. 5½d.

In conclusion, the Wages Board is warned that the agricultural workers will have recourse to other methods than application to the Board to ensure decent conditions. "If you want trouble put your proposals into operation."

There speaks the old spirit of Hope and Orr of the United men.

You can rely on the firms who advertise in the "Voice." When you write or call mention the "Voice."

## QUEENSTOWN TRADES COUNCIL ON HOUSING AND SALARIES.

Mr. E. Lynch presided at the monthly meeting on 12th inst., when Councillor Ronayne submitted a report on the Urban Council's action on the Housing question. A proposal to build 200 houses had been submitted to the L.G.B. While this would be too little to relieve the present congestion, the U.D.C. has resolved to seek the help of the Trades Council on the Housing Sub-Committee.

The President congratulated Mr. Ronayne on his report, and said the tackling of this problem was due to the Labour majority on the Council. He raised objection to the system of letting the houses. The canvass for votes by applicants was abhorrent to organised Labour.

A resolution was unanimously adopted calling for the extension of the teachers' war bonus to assistants in convent schools, and protesting against the decision of the Conciliation Board as being "out of harmony with the new world which is being born."

The President asked support for the Labour Press. Mr. P. O'Neill guaranteed supplies, and asked members to place orders in advance.

## THE WISDOM OF PRIOR McNABB.

Do not forget that "the result of civil change and revolution" (mark the word **Revolution!**) "has been to divide society into two different castes. On the one side there is the party which holds power because it holds wealth; which has in its grasp the whole of labour and trade; which manipulates for its own benefit and its own purposes all the sources of supply; and which is even represented in the councils of the State by itself.

"On the other hand there is the needy and powerless multitude, broken down and suffering."

Do not forget that between "the small number of very rich men" and the "vast majority of the working classes" the relationship is one of injustice.

**Do not forget that this injustice is a crime which cannot be absolved without restitution of the ill-gotten riches.**

Do not forget the wise words of the late Archbishop Bagshawe: "If the well-to-do classes would only pay back" (i.e., would make restitution) "to the poor what in strict justice they owe them, the sums so paid would be immensely larger than all their rates and charities put together."

Do not forget that if justice cannot be obtained by force of law, it is customary to obtain it by force of arms. If legislation fails, **men will appeal to the Revolution.**

r "The Catholic Times," 14/12/18.

## 44-Hour Week.

Sheffield Engineers have rejected the 47-hour week proposal beloved of Carson and Press for 44 hours.

London wants the 44 hours, but Newcastle plumps for 36.

What say Dublin, Derry, and Belfast?

## Transport Notes.

"The Transport Union," says the "Southern Democrat," has accomplished more for its members in six months than all the politicians in as many years."

**Kilmallock** members on the Mt. Cope estates have secured 28s. 6d. a week (9 hour day) for labourers, 30s. for cattlemen, 31s. 6d. for carters, four o'clock stoppage on Saturdays, an increase of 1s. 3d. per night for night work. Bulgaden, Effin, Ardpatrick, and Dromin are coming into the Union.

**Newcastle West.**—While the "unemployed" everywhere have their Lloyd George bribe in these hard times, the depredations of poverty, the weather, and the 'flu have compelled the raising of a local relief fund here for the benefit of the workers.

**Stoneyford.**—Denis Gorey was fined ONE PENNY by J. C. Ryan, R.M., and Dr. J. G. O'Brien, and ordered to pay £2 3s. 10d. arrears of wages to Thomas Hanrahan.

### Union Scabbery Threatened.

A strike of seamen members of the British Seafarers' Union has been met by Messrs. G. and T. Burns with the threat that Mr. J. Havelock Wilson's Union would supply crews. To meet this organised scabbery the Irish Transport Union has refused to load, unload, or coal for the Burns' steamers at Dublin.

Bannatyne and Russell's mill-hands, Limerick, demand a 48-hour week and an advance of 12s. weekly. Similar terms have been sought by Dublin mill-hands, and arbitration is likely.

Much inconvenience is being caused to unemployed members in country districts owing to their being required under the **Unemployment Scheme** regulations to report in person at the nearest Labour Exchange. The regulations, as usual, took no account of conditions in Ireland, where Exchanges are few and far between. It is hoped that some provision will be made to suit the needs of the situation.

The demand served on **grist mill owners** throughout Ireland is for an advance of 12s. for men and 6s. for boys on present rates, a 48-hour week, overtime at time and a half rate and Sunday work at double time rate.

As a result of a conference with the London manager in Liberty Hall, the men engaged in the **British Margarine Factory, Blanchardstown**, have been offered a 5s. advance, boys, 2/6, overtime 1s. per hour, and the question of provision of overalls and clogs is being further considered by the firm.

The **Dublin Co. Council** have offered a similar increase to their quarrymen as to the roadmen, viz., 3s. on their present rate, 30s. The Balrothery Rural Council have conceded in full the men's demands, which are far beyond the Co. Council offer. Gangers, who are already on the 33s. rate, have now claimed an advance through the Union. All the men are asking a half-day on Xmas Eve, for shopping purposes.

Employees of four bakery firms in **Longford** struck work on Wednesday, their demands for increases having been

rejected. A supply of co-operative bread is being arranged for by the Union to meet the temporary shortage.

Messrs. Wallis, carriers, offered their **Newbridge** men an advance of 3s. on their present rate, 30s. The firm agreed to submit to arbitration the case of their men employed in the **Dublin** mailyard, **Waterford, Cork, and Limerick**.

Organisation of women workers proceeds apace in **Cork**, where Miss Mullen has recently been active. The laundry workers in that city are coming in in large numbers, and the development of the social side of the question is receiving attention. Miss Mullen has also visited other centres in the county, including **Blarney and Cove**.

## GUILD REVIVAL TO END WAGE SLAVERY

There were the elements of an interesting conflict on the stage of the Abbey last Sunday when the unrepentant advocate of wage slavery, Fr. T. A. Finlay, chaired for the lecture on National Guilds by M. W. Robieson, M.A., of Queen's University, Belfast. The lecturer wants to abolish the wage system which makes the worker less than a chattel, a commodity. To that end he would combine all workers engaged in an industry in the National Guild of that industry. Manual and mental workers in each industry would unite. The amount of money earned or the specific function performed did not affect the status of the worker. As hired men, all were subject to the wages system. The trade unions as they exist would form the nucleus of the industrial guild, and the unions must make themselves blackleg proof, in a word, secure a monopoly of labour power.

The identity of National Guilds theory with social democracy is quite close enough to entitle us to ask why should we trim up the latter in new clothes? As expounded by Mr. Robinson Guildry is simply Marxism with apologies for Marx. Unlike the Leeds schoolmaster, Mr. Robinson does not ignore the work of social democracy.

Fr. Finlay closed the proceedings with a few emphatic expressions of dissent, and a number of observations that indicate his obsession by fear of democracy.

## RUSSIA AND RELIGION.

Evidence accumulates that Bolshevik Russia is not anti-Christian. On the following holidays all hired work is prohibited:—Jan. 1 (New Year's Day), Jan. 6 (Epiphany), Feb. 23, March 25, May 1, Aug. 15, Sept. 14, Dec. 25 and 26; Good Friday, Holy Saturday, Easter Monday and Tuesday, Ascension Day, and Whit-Monday.

Another evidence of Christianity not discoverable in any other Christian country is that the hiring of children under 14 is forbidden. After Jan. 1, 1919, no child under 15 may be hired; and after Jan. 1, 1920, the age limit is raised to 20.

"Suffer little children" is honoured in Russia but hardly in Ireland.

## A Garden by the Sea.

Stories and sketches, we are told, are in this volume by Forrest Reid. Stories without incident there are, but laden with the ardour of those moments of experience when life is measured not by time but in the voltage of emotion. The garden and riverside sketches are the work of a literary Corot. The intelligent sympathy of "The Ending" with one who is exiled from his past by one of its moments of shame, will open the heart of the most selfish. The finding of the drowned child recalls Maeterlinck's "Interior," not as an imitation of the masterpiece, but because of the artistic restraint common to both writers. If such be the result of "indifference to literary regionalism" and "detachment from Irish movements," we have no reason to regret that Forrest Reid neglects the Kiltartanese of Bab McKeen. The technical production of the book is worthy of its literary content, and is a credit to the Talbot Press.

"A GARDEN BY THE SEA," by Forrest Reid. Talbot Press, Dublin, 3/6, by post 3/10.

## Trinidereen.

Frank Hugh O'Donnell made a great error when he tried to make a serious book out of the Irish Party, a mistake lately copied by Mr. O'Brien in his "Downfall of Parliamentarianism," a pamphlet as dull and ugly as that horrible word itself. There is no credit for Ireland to be got by recounting the miserable compromised laws, the concreted rural slums, the privileges of the liquor trade, and the Catholic J.P.'s that are the fruit of the Party's labours. Better to explore the humorous possibilities of the subject with the anonymous author of the "Worked-Out Ward." John Dillon and Stephen Gwynerney, political paupers, talk as John Dillon and Stephen Gwynn ought to, if they could possibly live outside the atmosphere of make-believe and political hypocrisy inseparable from parliaments. We hope Dillon will arrange for the production of this delightful playlet with himself and Mr. S. Gwynn in the principal parts. 'Twill cheer their hearts after the election debacle.

"THE WORKED-OUT WARD," a Sinn Fein Allegory. Talbot Press: 6d., by post 7d.

## The "Galway Express."

With some knowledge of the Censor's requirements to guide us, we have searched the "suppressed" issue of the "Galway Express" for matter that would justify, from the Censor's point of view, the suppression of that paper and the seizure of its plant. We have found nothing. Presumably the persistence of its attack on English Capital's pliant tool, Phosphérine O'Malley, supplied the motive for its extinction. Since coming under its present control, the "Express" has been the ablest of all the Sinn Fein weeklies.

## Textile Workers in Scotland.

50,000 workers demand 8 hours a day and five days a week, and a 95 per cent. advance on pre-war wages.

# Notes and News of the International

## Finland.

Finnish Red Guards, released from internment in Sweden and travelling on a Swedish steamer to Petrograd, have been arrested at Hango by orders of the reactionary authorities of the new capitalist Government of the Finnish Republic.

## Armenia.

General Forcom, head of the Armenian Military Mission visiting the allied countries on behalf of Armenian independence, has issued an appeal for an Armenian army of 100,000 men, which, "with the help of our glorious allies," will take possession of all Armenian lands from the Mediterranean to the Black Sea.

## Poland.

General Pilsudski, the Dictator, has issued a decree fixing the date for elections to the Polish Constituent Assembly for January 26. The Jewish pogroms of the last month have been instigated by the National Council recognised by the Allies, under Pilsudski. The Democrats and Socialists have united against the National Council.

## Russia.

"La Bataille" of Nov. 26 states that Kropotkin, who was alleged to be imprisoned by the Bolsheviki in the fortress of Peter and Paul, is enjoying full liberty in Tcharkov. For many months there has not been a single Socialist prisoner in Soviet Russia. The only political prisoners now are the bourgeois, who have plotted against the Russian Soviet Republic.

## France.

In "L'Humanite" Cachin says the French Government is bent upon war upon a large scale against Russia for the restoration of the monarchy. The Socialist Party will vigorously oppose the march of Allied armies against the Russian Revolution, and is demanding immediate discussion of its interpellation on the Russian policy of the Government.

The opposition of "L'Œuvre," an excellent political weathercock, to the policy of the French Nationalists in favour of a new Holy Alliance and a new Congress of Vienna directed against social revolution seems to indicate a more reasonable frame of mind in the body of the French people than has been discernible amid the extreme chauvinism of the last month.

## Bohemia.

Socialist Ministers in the first Tchecho-Slovak Government are:—Home Defence, Vaclar Klofac, collaborator on the daily "Narodni Listz," speaker and organiser and member of the Reichsrat, imprisoned during three years of the war; Ports, Jivi Stribrny, member of the Reichsrat, and was active in the coup d'etat of Oct. 28; Education, Gustav Hoberman, editor, and member of the Reichsrat, spent four years in prison after 1884, and was one of the delegates at the Geneva Conference; Justice, Dr. Francis Soukoy, leader of the S.D. Party and member of the Reichsrat, imprisoned for high treason, journalist and organiser, and was prominent in the coup d'etat; Public Welfare, Dr. Leo Winter, member of the Reichsrat, jurist and econo-

mist; Supplies, Dr. Bohuslav Vrbensky; President of the National Assembly convoked on Nov. 14; Francis Tomasck, member of the Reichsrat, prominent in the S.D. Party, speaker and journalist. Of the seventeen ministries seven are held by Socialists. The Minister for Railways is a Catholic priest, member of the Agrarian Party in the Reichsrat.

## Holland.

The revolutionary ferment seems to have subsided without doing more than forcing some reforms, as was but to be expected in a country whose people are so phlegmatic and unrevolutionary as the Dutch. Contrary to Troelstra's rather optimistic prediction, the Congress of the Social Democratic Party and the Trades Unions at Rotterdam on Nov. 16 and 17 did not decide to take over the administration of affairs, but a Committee of Action to organise such agitation as would compel the granting of the demands of the Congress was appointed.

## England.

In a manifesto on the essentials of a good peace, the National Peace Council says that sincere and real self-determination must include for Alsace-Lorraine, the proposed Italian acquisition, Russia, India and Ireland, and other nationalities in the Allied countries the same freedom as for the peoples of the Central Empires.

The Executives of the I.L.P., B.S.P., and S.L.P. have issued a joint manifesto on the international crisis. Nowhere more than in Ireland will Socialists wel-

come this sign of hearty co-operation between the three Socialist sections of the British movement.

"The Herald" says there was tremendous cheering when Ireland was mentioned as one of the countries entitled to absolute self-determination when W. N. Ewer moved the first resolution at the Albert Hall. The message from Dublin was from the Dublin Trades Council. "The Herald" is arranging for its own Press service for "The Daily Herald" in the principal international centres.

We regret to have to chronicle the death of another of the most brilliant of Socialists, Alexander Sirnis. Sirnis was a Lett, who held the full revolutionary faith, and was untiring in his activities in the revolutionary wing in Great Britain. To him the movement owes the English translation of Karl Liebknecht's "Militarism and Anti-Militarism," and many other fine works issued by the Socialist Labour Press. He was the contributor of the monthly resume of international notes to "The Socialist," the organ of the S.L.P., Connolly's old party in Great Britain. The S.L. Press is to issue Sirnis's translation of a book by Lenin.

## Spain.

Self-determination for Catalonia, the home of Socialist and Nationalist revolution, brought about the fall of the short-lived Garcia Prieto Cabinet last week. The Reformist Party is calling for complete and drastic constitutional changes in conformity with modern democracy.

**Our Advertisers are worthy of Labour's support.** Mention the "Voice" when you call or write.

## The NEW RUSSIA

A Souvenir of the First Anniversary of the Russian Soviet Republic, 1917-18

Contains the Constitution of the Soviet Republic and Decrees with Articles by Zelda Kahan Coates, H. Sheehy Skeffington, "Libertia" of the "Worker" (R. McKenna), Edén and Cedar Paul.

EDITED BY SEMYON ARONSON (SIDNEY ARNOLD).

**NOW READY.** TRADE ORDERS THROUGH **PRICE 3d.**  
USUAL WHOLESALERS. BY POST 3½d.

Cumannact na hÉireann, Room 3, LIBERTY HALL, DUBLIN.

## This was James Connolly's estimate of the I. T. & G. W. U.

"It found the Workers of Ireland on their knees, and has striven to raise them to the erect position of manhood; it found them with all the vices of slavery in their souls, and it strove to eradicate these vices, and replace them with some of the virtues of free men; it found them with no other weapons of defence than the arts of the liar, the liespitile and the toady, and it combined them and taught them to abhor these arts and rely proudly on the defensive power of combination."

**IRISH TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION.**  
THOMAS FORAN, GENERAL PRESIDENT, LIBERTY HALL, DUBLIN.

Telegrams: "Watt, Dublin."  
Telephone 4268 Dublin.

# GEORGE WATT, Ltd.,

ENGINEERS AND MILLWRIGHTS,  
SOHO WORKS,  
BRIDGEFOOT STREET, DUBLIN.

Estimates given for Repair and Supply  
for all classes of Machinery.

Good Work	Trade Union Wages
Phone 1848.	
<b>Court Laundry</b>	
HARCOURT ST., DUBLIN	
Specialists in Linen Washing. Pioneers of Profit-Sharing in Ireland. Van Collections and Deliveries every week in City and Suburbs.	
Irish Materials	Prompt Despatch

## TRADE UNIONISTS!

Notice to the Public.

---

**PAY NO PREMIUMS  
to the Refuge Assurance  
Company whose Agents  
are still ON STRIKE.**

**FOR YOUR  
WINTER SUIT OR COSTUME  
SEE—**

## THOS. J. LITTLE,

The Tailoring Specialist.

*Huge Stock of Irish Manufacture to select  
from. Style, Fit and Finish Guaranteed.*

Only Address:—  
**38 DRURY ST., DUBLIN,**  
(One Door from Bachelors Street.)

Hotspur Postal Course in Public Speaking. Send stamped envelope and 1s. 6d. P.O. to Hotspur, c/o the "Voice."

### THE MARY STREET PICTURE HOUSE (The "Mary-O.")

Star Pictures Always.

### THE ELECTRIC THEATRE, TALBOT STREET.

First in Dublin  
and  
Still the Best.

**JOHN MacLEAN'S FIRST CALL.**  
Free Mooney and Billings.  
42 Auldhouse Road,  
Newlands, Glasgow.  
12th Dec., 1918.

Mr. Woodrow Wilson,  
President, U.S.A.  
Sir,—You are here in Europe to negotiate a "Democratic Peace" as a democrat. If so, I wish you to prove your sincerity by releasing Tom Mooney, Billings, Debs, Haywood, and all the others at present in prison as a consequence of their fight for "Working-class Democracy" since the United States participated in the war.

The working-class democracy of Britain forced the Cabinet to release me from Peterhead Prison, where I was undergoing a five years' sentence under D.O.R.A.

I, therefore, write to you as an ease to my conscience and a repayment to the "World's Working-class Democracy," to release my above-mentioned friends and comrades.

The Clyde workers will send me as one of their delegates to the coming Peace Conference, and there, inside or outside the conference hall, I shall challenge your U.S.A. delegates, if my friends are not released.

After that I shall tour America until you do justice to the real American champions of democracy;—Yours in deadly earnest,

(Signed),  
JOHN MacLEAN.

**THE MOONEY FUND.**

	£	s.	d.
Already notified ... ..	17	13	3
Miss K. Roberts, London ...	1	0	0
I.T. and G. W. U., Dungarvan, per L. A. Veale ... ..	0	17	0

**CONNOLLY MEMORIAL TREAT.**

"Casey" being unable to attend in person at the Children's Feast at Christmas is sending his daughter, Winifred, to represent him.

The Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ... ..	62	4	5
Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Section I.T. & G.W.U. ...	5	0	0
Collected by T. Gordon (secretary of above), 29 Eden Quay ... ..	1	0	6
Ald. Patk. Meade, Cork ...	1	0	0
E.J.T. per J. O'Neill ...	0	5	0

All cards and cash to be returned at once to  
Walter Carpenter,  
Room 3, Liberty Hall, Dublin.

For up-to-date Hairdressing—Mallon, 30 Edin Quay.

**THERE IS NO BETTER GIFT  
FOR FRIENDS FAR AWAY**

than an annual subscription to the "Voice of Labour." The force of your gift is not spent at one effort. The weekly copy arriving each week in the ensuing year carries to your friend the news and views of Irish Labour, and keeps ever fresh and fragrant the memories of the sender. It is not a once-a-year gift, but a new proof of friendship every week.

At present you can only send newspapers abroad through certain newsagents (e.g., Eason's), or direct from the office of the paper.

**SEND US 8s. 8d.**

with your friend's name and full postal address, and we will despatch the "Voice" every week for twelve months.

**THE MANAGER,  
THE IRISH LABOUR PRESS,  
27 Dawson St., Dublin.**

## DENTAL SURGERY

NEW SETS  
FITTED  
TO A  
"T"

TEETH  
ROUBLES  
REATED  
HOROUGHLY

**PEACE & GOOD HEALTH**

You cannot enjoy good health if you have a mouthful of Bad Teeth, because you cannot masticate your food properly, and because stomach trouble and indigestion are sure to follow. Then you do not know the minute when they will start to ache and rob you of your sleep, giving you no peace.

Go at once to  
**MR. M. MALAMED,**  
16 HENRY ST.,  
For Treatment and Advice.  
MODERATE  
TERMS.

**M. MALAMED,**

**16 HENRY ST.**

ADJOINING  
ARNOTT'S  
DUBLIN.

Notice.—New orders and alterations for the "Voice" should arrive at the office not later than Tuesday evening. Otherwise supplies cannot be guaranteed or changes made.

## EDUCATION AND THE YOUTH OF THE RED INTERNATIONAL.

Dear Mr. Editor,—Will you kindly allow me to draw attention in your columns to an International Socialist Education movement (based on the subjoined proposals), which but for the war would have been definitely established at the International Socialist Congress, arranged to be held at Vienna in August, 1914?

The proposals are as follows:—

(1) An International Federation of such Socialist and Labour colleges in various countries as are provided and controlled by making class organisation **independently**, and not in co-partnership with capitalistic institutions.

(2) An International Working-class Students' Union—and in order to secure the rank and file character of this Union, the unit to be, not the Labour or Socialist "Leader" or great committee of such "leaders," but the class (controlled by the workers) for the study of the principles of International Socialism.

(3) An international system of travelling scholarships, to secure an interchange of Socialist lecturers between various countries, and also to enable workingmen and working-women students to visit and to study the labour movements in other countries than their own, and to report to their organisations.

(4) An International Socialist Library, to bring within the reach of working-class students, translations of the best books on International Socialism published in various countries.

This scheme has many supporters among international socialists in various countries, and will shortly be carried into realisation.

In the meantime it is desirable that the proposals on which it is based should be known to and discussed by adherents of the principle of internationality, by all indeed who realise that in the closest possible union between the labour movements of the world lies the surest guarantee of a world-wide and a lasting peace. I am pleased to be able to state that this movement for bringing together in the field of education the young men and young women students of the Red International, will have the sympathy not only of the scholarly Tchitcherine, the present Foreign Minister of the Soviet Government of Russia, and of Maxim Gorky, who, as a member of the same government, is doing a fine work in bringing the best books within the reach of the Russian workers, but also of no less distinguished educationists in the German Socialist movement, which for some years prior to the war spent an annual sum of £40,000 on education.

I remember about a year before the war discussing the plan with Sheehy-Skeffington. His warm response was encouraging, and, judging from the magnificent work being done by his heroic wife, I am confident that she, too, will be with us. Your brave paper also, with its persistent glorious note of internationalism, will, I think, play its part in helping a movement which claims for the young men and young women students of the Red International, that training which will enable them to take their place as

the force they have the right to be with in that International.—Yours sincerely,  
M. BRIDGES ADAMS.  
London.

## SINN FEIN AND SOCIALISM.

Dear Sir,—The present competitive system of society is essentially immoral. It brings to thousands, as the inevitable consequence of its haphazard structure, every known incentive to moral degeneracy; wealth for the strong, with its attendant train of abuses; poverty for the weak, with its concomitants of squalor, ignorance, venality, and prostitution. For all it provides a fertile field for the display of what is worst in human nature, and installs successful greed as its beau ideal of attainment.

Being, like Connolly, more interested in my fellow-beings than in the status quo, I see nothing but good in the attempt to destroy the root of the evil—individual monopoly of the means of life.

Dean Ryan's version of the tenure of property under Socialism would not be recognised by modern Socialists, except as a caricature. They see nothing contrary to reason, justice, or religion in the substitution of the State as the head landlord of all real property for the present arrangement, whereby the holder who works the property carries a variety of parasite interests on his back as an essential condition of his holding. The substitution of democratic institutions on the basis of the principle recommended by the Catholic Church (i.e., professional or occupational, as distinct from territorial) for the present oligarchy representative of a few interests only would ensure an equitable distribution of the available resources of the country.

It may be regrettable that this sane and moral proposal is associated in some minds with the objectionable name of "Socialism," but surely the harm here lies not with the name given to the proposal, but with the hearts and consciences of those who can "witness unmoved all the wrong and suffering, the shame and degradation, wrought upon the people of Ireland, without burning to end it."

What's in a name?

J. J. HUGHES.

19 Iona Park, Dublin,  
13th December, 1918.

## The Savage Case.

We have received from Mr. Peter O'Hara, President of the Belfast Vintners and Grocers' Assistants' Union, during the 1917 strike, a letter confirming in all particulars our statements regarding Mr. Savage's actions at that time. We have no wish to pursue controversy, but we commend to Belfast Sinn Fein E.C. Mr O'Hara's advice that if they wish to secure the Workers' Republic for which James Connolly died, they must be more careful in selecting their standard bearers at Parliamentary or Municipal elections.

Mr. O'Hara was one of the victims of the dispute. We are glad to learn that the Union is coming forward once more.

Printed for the "Irish Labour Press,"  
Dawson St., by Messrs. Cahill and Co., Ltd.,  
Diamond Quay, Dublin. Registered as  
Newspaper.

## Royal Veracity.

The Bottomley of his day, John Wilkes, called George III. a liar. George III. never said anything like this: "The doctrine that Force shall rule the world has been disproved and destroyed."—George Windsor, ne Wettin. For the Third George, insanity could be successfully pleaded.

## FOLEY'S

35 BACHELOR'S WALK.

FOR  
EVERY  
THING  
in the



Typewriter & Duplicating Line.

500 SECOND-HAND BICYCLES, Ladies' and Gent's; Price £4 10s. 0d., £5 10s. 0d., £6 10s. 0d., £7 10s. 0d. to £8 10s. 0d.; carriage paid. Also 500 stove-enamelled frames, all sizes, ladies' and gent's; Trade supplied. New Covers from 5/-, 6/6, 9/-, 12/-, 15/-. Tubes from 2/6, 3/6, 4/6, 5/-, carriage paid. New Machines from 11 to 15 gns.; Dunlop Tyres and Brooks' Saddles. No shortage of anything.

DWYER, 4 (V) ARRAN QUAY, DUBLIN.

BELTON, 12 Botanic Road  
DUBLIN

20 XMAS CARDS, 2/6.

Irish Mark on Each.

Irish Political Postcards, 8/-  
Suitable for coming Election, Per Gross.

Irish  
National  
Assurance  
Society

Offers sound and attractive money proposition to energetic Irishmen who can influence Insurance with this purely Irish and First-Class Society.

Prospectus and Agency terms sent post free on request.

HEAD OFFICE 2 St. Andrew St., Dublin

## "THE IRISH HOMESTEAD"

A Weekly Journal founded by Sir Horace Plunkett, keeps you in touch with Modern Agricultural Economics. It is obtainable only by Subscription, 10s. a year, 5s. half year (post free), from the Manager, 18 South Frederick Street, Dublin.

EDITED BY "Æ."

FIRNGOCH STUDIOS (Murray & Kain), 50  
Blessington St., Dublin, for all Art Products, Banners, Stations, Addresses, etc.

City of Cork Co-Operative Society  
10 Great George's St.

for GROCERIES, PROVISIONS & BREAD

All our goods are Union Made. When you join us you strike a blow at Sweating and Adulteration

Co-Operation has kept down prices.

Join To-day—Don't Delay