

INCORPORATING THE
**WORKER'S
REPUBLIC**
FOUNDED BY
JAMES CONNOLLY
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IRISH OPINION.

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CATHAL O'SHANNON

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ONE PENNY.

The Hidden Menace of Orient Masonry.

C. H. Norman, one of the first sufferers under the Military Service Acts, contributes to the "Forward" an exposure of the Freemason influence behind the War and the Peace Conference. In 1908 he was invited to cooperate in the formation of an English branch of the Grand Orient.

This was desired by the Continental Freemasons because the English Grand Lodge was Monarchist and Protestant, a trade union of the middle and upper classes. The Grand Orient, on the other hand is Republican, and, advocates the Rule of Reason against the Church (i.e. it is anti-Christian and Atheist, while the English Masons are simply anti-Catholic). Its great aim, however, is the maintenance of capitalism. In a word, it is the secret organisation of European Liberalism.

Floats on Blood.
Among the Latin nations of South Europe it wields an immense influence. It has been the power behind the Third French Republic. Its minions were responsible for the massacre of the Paris Communards on whose blood that vessel of wrath was floated.

Among present-day politicians the following are members or have relations with it:—M. Poincare, President of the Republic; M. Delcasse, ex-Foreign Minister; M. Combes, of the Anti-Religious Association Laws; M. Klotz, M. Viviani, M. Millerand, M. Briand (the last three Socialists who ratted), M. de Lanessan, and Tiger Clemenceau, the present President.

Vandervelde, the Socialist Patriot Minister of Belgium; M. Bissolati, Socialist Patriot of Italy; M. Venezelos, Greek Premier; and M. Milinkoff, the Russian Liberal leader, represented the secret brotherhoods of their respective countries in the inner circle.

Socialists Expel Masons.
The Italian Socialist Party, which has been steadily and immovably opposed to the present war, has expelled from membership all adherents of the Grand Orient. Mr. Norman tells us that all details of the assassination of Ballori, the Italian Grand Master, have been suppressed by the British Press Censor, and none are yet obtainable, although the event occurred as far back as November, 1917.

The French and Italian Governments are dominated by this anti-Social organisation, which has also its agencies in the world of high finance. Mr. Norman mentions the great banks, Banque de Paris et Pays Bas, the Credit Lyonnais, the Armament firm, Schneider Creuzot, and the Union des Mines (in which Mr. Bonar Law was a shareholder) as being the Grand Orient in business. In the French War Office there was a special Masonic department, "Department de l'Haut Orient, as it was described on its own notepaper.

In Russia, England and Ireland.
Monarchism and a religious profession are not always inconsistent with the purposes of the Grand Orient. It had close relations with the Russian Okhrana, the secret police system of Russia under Tsardom, which in turn was closely associated with Scotland Yard, and had its agents highly placed in England, and its friends on or near the throne.

The cordial relations between the Board of Erin A.O.H. and the French politicians who suppressed the conventual and educational institutions of the Catholic Church in France are already notorious. It is not without significance that Mr. Dillon and Capt. Gwynn graced with their presence the lecture given by a Russian Liberal in the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, the other Sunday.

One current bond of union between the forces of European Liberalism is their opposition to the Bolshevik revolution everywhere. Every independent working-class movement has to face the enmity of this underground organisation. It was not without reason that Pope Leo XIII. said: "Many there are who follow in the footsteps of Lucifer, and adopt as their own his rebellious cry. 'I will not serve' . . ."

Such, for instance, are the men belonging to that widely-spread and powerful organisation, who, usurping the name of liberty, style themselves **LIBERALS.**

In face of an insurgent working-class, the Grand Orient is prepared to sink

Government & Army & Labour

THE BRITISH ARMY TO BREAK STRIKES.

GOVERNMENT BEGINS BIG CAMPAIGN.

Irish Labour Attacked to Justify Macpherson's Lies.

English Labour has been seriously perturbed by the disclosures made by the "Daily Herald" last Tuesday by the publication of the War Office questionnaire which asked O.C.'s these questions:

- Will Troops in various areas ASSIST IN STRIKE BREAKING?
- Will they parade for draft to overseas, especially to Russia?
- Whether there is any growth of Trade Unionism among them?
- The effect outside Trade Unions have on them?

It is now admitted by Capt. Guest and Winston Churchill that the British Army is intended for use in industrial disputes. Had we ever doubted that recent events would have undeceived us.

Since James Ian Macpherson stated at Belfast on 30th ult. that Irish Labour was using the legal strike weapon for political purposes the police and military authorities have begun to regard every industrial action by the workers as an act of rebellion and have brought to bear upon them the methods of terrorism we have come to know so well.

The Boyle Strike.

The strike which has been proceeding at Boyle since March has almost ceased to have any appearance of being an industrial dispute. Large forces of police and soldiers have been drafted into the town and nearly all of the 74 men involved in the dispute have been haled before the bench charged with intimidation, incitement, or unlawful assembly.

The Trade Disputes Act,

which expressly legalises picketing, has been abolished by the local police, backed up by the tanks and armoured cars, and the legislation devised for the suppression of political agitation is employed in this purely industrial dispute.

Several of the seven employers affected are extreme Sinn Feiners, gentlemen who want to free Ireland and set up a Republic. Ordinarily they refuse to recognise the British Government and treat with contempt the forces of the Crown. Now they try to pursue their declining business under guards of peelers and gloat with satisfaction on the baton charges and raids made by the "hirelings of the hated Saxon."

Twenty-nine more men have been arrested, and the local situation daily grows more desperate. The Ministry of Labour, as might be expected from an

institution under the direction of Lord Chancellor Campbell's son, pursues a policy of masterly inaction, leaving the settlement of the dispute to the militant forces at the command of the Castle.

EVICCTIONS AT RHODE.

More Pickets Arrested. All Courts Held in Secret.

On Monday, 12th inst., Rhode, King's Co., was invaded by a horde of police and soldiers, who guarded the precincts of the courthouse while the petition of Employer Kerr for the eviction of four labourers on strike was being heard.

Mr. Rodgers, the defending solicitor, vainly endeavoured to discover who was responsible for the militarist demonstration, but none of those in authority would own to having summoned it. The decrees were granted by the master class Bench, which included the President of the local Farmers' Association.

MOONLIGHT RAID.

A sequel to these proceedings was the return of the military forces on Wednesday morning at 3.30 a.m., when houses were searched and eleven members of the I.T. & G.W.U. arrested. The names of the prisoners are:—Peter Lenehan, Chairman, Rhode Branch; Chris. Jones, John. M. Loughlin, Jos. Jones, Patrick Brazil, Steve Norman, Chris. Flannery, Jos. Buckley, Peter Jones, and John Cox. Removable Butter constituted a special Court at which the prisoners were charged with "unlawful assembly," the occasion of the charge being a picketing expedition to a farm at Springfield.

The police tendered evidence of identification in respect of all the prisoners except John Cox, who was discharged—without compensation for illegal arrest, it is hardly necessary to mention.

The remainder of the prisoners were committed to Mountjoy to await trial at the Tullamore Assizes. They were removed to Dublin under military escort.

The public were excluded from the courts during the hearing of both cases.

THE MORAL.

Such incidents evidently "trumped up" are intended to give colour to the allegation that Labour and Sinn Fein have made common cause, and that the trade union forces are being employed for purely political ends. Neither at Boyle, Rhode, nor elsewhere is there any Labour dispute proceeding but has a legitimate industrial object, and that alone. In all cases Sinn Fein employers are involved with Unionists and Nationalists.

The Government's anti-Labour campaign in the country is expected to have sensational sequelae in Dublin, Limerick, and Cork, where wholesale arrests are daily expected.

DEBS. DEMONSTRATION MEETING IS BARRED.

Tampa, Florida.—Efforts of a local Labour element to arrange a May Day demonstration as a protest against the punishment of Eugene V. Debs, Thomas J. Mooney and others were met yesterday by a proclamation by the Mayor of Tampa that any such demonstration would be stopped by the police. Recently the Central Trades Assembly refused a Socialist delegation permission to use the Labour Temple for a May Day protest meeting.

The Statue of Liberty stands at the entrance to New York Harbour, a symbol declaring to the world: This is America, the cradle of Liberty, Freedom and Justice. **For Capitalists only.**

At Akron, Ohio, James Larkin assisted in drafting the slogan of the Debs Release Campaign:

**We will get Debs out of prison,
or go to jail ourselves.**

its anti-religious principles. It did so in pre-war Russia that it might capture the Russian State and industries for Anglo-French Capitalism. It is now making frantic efforts to attract the Middle-class Catholics and to achieve that purpose, it is prepared to compromise with the Holy See, if possible, on the question of Temporal Power. By conceding a "corridor" from the Vatican to Civitta Vecchia on the sea-coast, it expects to secure the worldwide influence of the bourgeois members of the Catholic Church behind its schemes of industrial robbery and international plunder.

"NOTHING BUT BOLSHEVISM."

SPIRITED STRIKE AT BALLYHAISE.

"Barriades Erected at Creamery."
So said a sensational telegram that arrived at Liberty Hall on 7th inst. from Ballyhaise, Co. Cavan. The sequel to the revolutionary act was the prosecution of six creamery employees at a Crimes Court on the 9th.

The prosecutor stated that a strike had followed the dismissal of two employees and the defendants had barricaded a private road leading to the creamery. He dragged in references to alleged sabotage, resulting in damage to the extent of £275, which had nothing to do with the case.

The Chairman said the accused's conduct was nothing but Bolshevism, and to show his disapproval bound them over in £100 and two sureties of £50 each. The dispute was settled the same evening.

NO IRISH WANTED.

Irish members of the Workers' Union will be interested to learn that their fellow-members of that Union in Liverpool district have resolved not to work with any Irishmen, "Irish shirkers" they call them. At a meeting at Maghull one of the speakers said: "We have done without them during the war and we can do without them now. We should down tools before working with them."

Which is just what might be expected from a union run by such promoters of race hatred as Charles Duncan and Beard.

Making the NEW International.

RAMSAY MacDONALD'S WEAK TALK

By Cathal O'Shannon.

Present and Absent.

The first sitting of the Permanent Commission at Amsterdam had been fixed for 10 a.m. on Saturday, April 26, but owing to the absence of several important members, no formal business was done until the evening session. Even then some of the most important delegations had not arrived, although one or two arrived on the succeeding days. At some or all of the sittings were represented France, Germany (Independents), Great Britain, Italy (Minority only), Australia, Argentine, Belgium, Holland, Ireland, Denmark, Sweden, Luxembourg, Estonia, the Ukraine, Russia (Social Revolutionaries), Georgia, the Jews. As at Berne and for the same reasons, the Russian Bolsheviks, the Swiss, the Italians, and the Roumanians absented themselves. On the other hand, the Belgians were represented by three of the most important men in the Party, De Brouckere, Anseele, and Betrand, all of them noted pro-war leaders, and Australia was represented for the first time. Neither Austrians nor Hungarians nor Bulgarians were present on account of passport difficulties, and Brenstock, the Russian Menshevik, Wels and Molkenbuhr, of the German Majority, and Seja, Lottland, did not arrive until all the sessions had concluded.

Branting (Sweden) presided except on the last day, when the chair was taken by Henderson (Great Britain).

The Reconciliation of the Belgians.

The previous week the Belgian Labour Party had held its first full Congress since the war, and against its leaders its rank and file had declared emphatically for the International. This, and the position of the Party during the war and its attitude on Berne, made the appearance of the Belgians both interesting and welcome at Amsterdam. Anseele and De Brouckere opened the sitting with a declaration of the conditions upon which Belgium would take part in the next full Conference in Switzerland. The International must take steps to prevent the recurrence of what the Germans had done in Belgium; the German Social Democracy would have to hear and answer the Belgian charges in public; the International would have to fix conditions which would be binding on all affiliated parties, and these must have at least the force of diplomatic engagements. They should like the Internationalist Socialist Bureau to return to Brussels, and as they still considered themselves part of the International, they congratulated the conveners of the Berne Conference, even if they did depart from the traditional practice of the International. Huysmans replied that, on the first question, that of responsibility for the war, Kautsky and Bernstein had promised to bring new documents to the next general Conference, and through an open and public discussion the Belgians would get complete satisfaction. On the second, that of organisation, admittedly Berne had not been in strict accord with tradition, but it was universally felt that complete reorganisation was required, and the next Conference would settle the whole question of the statutes.

In concluding the discussion, Renaudel (France, ex-Majority) revealed himself in a new light. At that time Longuet was still absent, but rumours of the sharp differences at the French Congress had come through and Renaudel aroused a great deal of interest when his first speech showed an inclination to the Left. Guarantees for the future, he said, were connected with the whole problem of the peace. What was the International going to do to secure a real peace? The Covenant of the League of Nations was a lame proposal. The International must act and the national sections must oppose their own governments. It was impossible to reconstruct the International on the old lines, and in future, without belittling the moral value of the Belgians, the secretariat must not be wholly Belgian.

With these explanations, the Belgians expressed themselves satisfied, and thus one of the sores opened by the war was healed. Whether other and later breaches will be as easily repaired is more doubtful.

The Paris Fake.

The Commission was decidedly critical when MacDonal (Great Britain) followed the Belgians with a report on the
(Continued on Page 3.)

IRISH OPINION

The VOICE OF LABOUR

Saturday
24th
MAY,
1919.

ALL-IRELAND LABOUR WEEKLY.

THE SHAM BATTLE IN EAST ANTRIM.

The real meaning of the election contest in East Antrim is being obscured by all the usual platform oratory of the rival candidates. As is nearly always the case, there is no difference between the two Unionist candidates, although one of them calls himself a democrat, and the other calls himself a simple soldier.

A third candidate is in the field, but as he is not conducting a campaign, so far as we can see, he does not count so far as the real issue is concerned.

The only difference between the rival Unionists is the difference between Tweedledum and Tweedledee. Moore wants to be M.P. for the division. Hanna wants to be M.P. for the division. So far as the men themselves are concerned, this, of course, is a big difference, because success means something, and defeat means nothing. But so far as the workers in the constituency are concerned, the success of one or the other means nothing. For the most part the voters are workers, the men and women who produce no mean part of the wealth of which the Unionist Party in Ulster so proudly boasts. They are the workers in the fields and the factories, the mills and the railways and roads. They are the salt of that part of this island which is most Orange and most Unionist. But if they are, they are the slaves, and the sons and daughters of the slaves, upon whose flesh and blood, lives and labours, the Moores and the Hannas have fattened for many generations.

William III., of glorious, pious and immortal memory, may have landed at Carrick, the Ulster guns may have been run at Larne, and Ballyclare may be as Protestant as Portadown, but none of these things alters the fact that in East Antrim every worker, whatever his creed, is still a slave. The farm labourer in East Antrim still goes to the hiring fair every twelfth of May to sell his body and soul to the highest bidder; the railway porter and the docker still sells his body and soul until both are beyond selling; the mill-worker and the mechanic still sell their bodies and their souls until they, too, vote for a union which no Parliamentary candidate ever mentions in his election address, the great union of the workhouse, where even votes no longer count.

The workers in East Antrim are as fine and sturdy a body of men and women as are to be found anywhere in Ulster, anywhere in Ireland, anywhere in these two islands. And at last they have begun to use the intelligence with which they were born. Within recent times they have discovered a third class of union, which is neither the political union between Great Britain and Ireland, nor the workhouse union, which is one of the legacies left us by capitalism and imperialism. They have discovered the Trades Union, the instrument of their own emancipation, and a more potent friend and champion than Hanna or Moore, if the workers of East Antrim only knew it.

Every morning, as they trudge forth to their work, these Trade Unionists of Larne and Ballyclare and Carrick can see "The blue hills of Antrim," of which the poet sings. But they do not see that they themselves are as green as the greenest grass Ulster linen was ever bleached on. For all their intelligence, and for all their keenness, they do not see that when they formed a Trades Unionist Parliamentary Association, they should have formed it for the benefit of one of their own class. No, their Trades Unionist Organisation has been discovered by a far-seeing lawyer, who knows how the wind is blowing, and hopes to sail to place and power on the bark the workers have launched. That is all Hanna means to the workers of East

Antrim. He will wear the sash all right; he will follow Sir Edward Carson all right; he will vote against Home Rule all right. But when the interests of the workers are being fought for, inside or outside the House of Commons, brother Hanna won't vote for the Trades Union; instead, he'll remind the Trade Unionists of East Antrim how he refused £1,000 and a job for their sake—until in due time he gets the particular job he wants.

But along comes Major Moore, and cannot he go one better than Mr. Hanna? Sure, isn't he the official candidate, and hasn't he real live Unionist M.P.'s on his platform? Mr. Coote, M.P., for instance. So along comes Mr. Coote, M.P., to put the fear, not of God or devil, but of these wild pagans and Transport Workers of the South and West into the innocent hearts of the Trade Unionists of East Antrim. Until Mr. Coote came, we do not suppose more than a dozen people in East Antrim had heard of the Transport Union, worse luck for them. But, lo and behold, brother Coote tells them that the Transport Union drove Protestant non-union workers out of Caledon mills, and displaced them by Papishes from Dublin and Donegal. Coote is a liar and he knows it, but who is there in East Antrim to contradict him? Who is there to tell the truth that the best and most militant Trades Unionists in Caledon were amongst the Orangemen? Who is there to tell the truth that a master of an Orange Lodge presided at a meeting of the Caledon workers in order to show that he knew and understood his duties and his rights as a member of the Transport Union? Who is there to remind Larne that until the Transport Union had organised them in 1913, the Orangemen in the aluminium works (they were German then, they are true-blue British now, but they are capitalist all the time) had never got to church for years, except at July 12; that the Sabbath was to them the same slavery as the Saturday; that the first Sunday they were on strike they were able to go to church, and that at that first service for years the clergyman painted the Transport organiser as black as ever they imagined the Pope, and broke the strike, and sent the poor slaves back to their hell in the aluminium works? We wonder how many church services East Antrim capitalism has permitted them to attend since.

We could go on for column after column with similar exposures of the exploitation of Protestant workingmen and workingwomen, the descendants of the men who fought at Derry, Enniskillen, Aughrim, and the Boyne; and in nearly every instance it would be exploitation by and through the greed and the gluttony, the lust for place and power, of the descendants of the captains and colonels and generals of William's army, and the mistresses and concubines of these same captains and colonels and generals.

But what is the real meaning of the election in East Antrim? It is this: the workers of East Antrim were waking up, but the very instrument of their awakening is being seized by men who will pay them lip service, but see them damned before they will help them to rise to better things. The workers of East Antrim are in revolt against the old trickery, the old methods, and the old masters. They think they see their salvation in new methods and new masters, in what is called democratic unionism. But they are deceiving themselves. Their only salvation is, indeed, in democratic unionism, but the only democratic unionism is Trade Unionism. That is why we are sorry the East Antrim Trade Unionist Parliamentary Association is not leaving Hanna and Moore and Legg alone, and putting forward its own working-class candidate. But it is young yet, and its wisdom teeth will come.

The Workers' Republic

The great only appear great because we are on our knees
LET US RISE.

The Drogheda Congress.

By this time the National Executive's circular on the August Congress will have reached the affiliated organisations. We hope, too, that it has reached those trade unions and branches which for one reason or another have not yet affiliated to the Irish Labour Party and Trade Union Congress. While it is true that the overwhelming majority of organised workers in Ireland are affiliated, some important sections and groups still remain outside. This is true particularly of some parts of North-East Ulster. But is there any real industrial cause to prevent these non-affiliated organisations from linking up with their fellow-workers in Ulster and the rest of Ireland? The longer they hold aloof the more and more conservative they will become, even in purely industrial affairs. We think the time has now come when big efforts should be made to bring to the Congress those sections which still remain outside. These efforts should be made from two directions, from the general body of workers organised in the Congress and Party, and from within the unaffiliated bodies themselves. And they should be made within the next few weeks. Many of the rank and file and not a few of the leading hands in the unaffiliated organisations are anxious enough to link up, but they are lacking in the initiative. Let them get busy in the next few weeks and take the steps necessary to compel their organisations to fall into line.

Problems for the Congress.

The affiliated organisations are reminded that all motions for discussion at Congress must be in the hands of the Secretary before June 8, and that in accordance with the new constitution the nominations for the National Executive and the national offices must be made beforehand. The Party and Congress is at last becoming something like a close-knit industrial and political organisation, and this makes the Drogheda Congress the most important ever held by Irish Labour. Many big questions of policy and administration will have to be discussed, but on these there can be no useful discussion at Congress unless they have first been debated in the trade union branches and the trades councils. Some of the problems were indeed very vexed questions during the past year, for instance, overlapping in distributive services. Others such as election policy and electoral machinery gave rise to a great deal of criticism, and indeed we are not satisfied that even yet the movement as a movement is alive to its responsibilities in the matter of local elections, for example. Again, during the year it has been proved beyond ye or nay that the National Executive, as it stands, is not in a position to carry out its natural functions. We offer no comment on either the ability or the willingness of the present members of the Executive—those are matters which Congress will decide for itself. We mean rather that in its present form the National Executive has neither the time nor the authority for doing its work as it ought to be done. It is handicapped by overwork, it is hindered by its looseness of organisation and its lack of resources of various kinds. We anticipate that in consequence of all this, the N.E. will come in for a good deal of criticism at Drogheda. The more criticism the better, and the more intelligent and constructive the criticism the better its fruits. For our part, we suggest that between this and the Drogheda Congress the affiliated organisations should consider carefully the great need there is for departmentalising the work of the National Executive. If its work is to be done efficiently, and if all its work is to be done, there must be radical re-organisation. Mere grumbling at Drogheda on the score of work undone out of the burden the Waterford Congress bequeathed to the N.E. will not get us any further.

Industrial and International Policy.

There is also the very urgent question of the connection between the National Executive and its affiliated organisations, both local and trade bodies. The general strike in Limerick has brought this to a head, and not a moment too soon. The question to be faced at Drogheda is how best to fit the widest possible local and union autonomy in a general scheme of effective centralisation. This question must be answered if organised Labour throughout the country is to be asked to support local action of a drastic nature as at Limerick, and it cannot be answered unless the local organisations sit low now and think out the question with all its implications. Again the time has come when, if the full fruits of industrial action are to be reaped, there must be much greater unity and fewer unions in the Labour movement in Ireland. But how is this to be effected, and by what machinery? To pass the other questions, what is the Drogheda Congress going to give us in the way of constructive policy leading towards the Co-operative Commonwealth? We are just as sensible as some of our friendly critics of the weakness of the movement in this respect, although we recognise the danger of urging premature schemes upon a working class which is not yet industrially educated and has only now indeed begun to become class conscious.

That brings us to the question of propaganda and education, we mean the daily Labour and industrial education of the workers. What is the Drogheda Congress going to do about this? What is going to do about the organisational education of the tens of thousands of Irish workers in Great Britain? Is it to be its policy in the International movement? The National Executive indeed succeeded in securing Irish labour's place in the International movement and in getting the moral support of International Conferences for International claims. But that is only winning. If Irish Labour intends to its position internationally, what is going to be its attitude upon such things as Bolshevism, parliamentary democracy, the Soviet system, and council workers and soldiers? We could ask offhand what Irish Labour's attitude ought to be, but the question Drogheda is, what is it going to do? It would be all very well for the leadership to define that attitude, and few things would be easier or more convenient both to them and the rank and file. We are, in these questions, all for rank and file. Leading from the lead there will be no lack of, but the leadership is vain unless it is backed up by a rank and file that is alive and intelligent and knows its own business.

All these are vital problems on which we ask the rank and file and the affiliated organisations to exercise their minds the next few weeks.

The War to End War.

The peace farce is still playing at Versailles, and every independent journal in Europe and America, and everybody who has real peace in his heart, is unanimous in condemning the Lloyd George-McCormack-Wilson "peace" as the greatest fake in all history. It is now that, as we anticipated last week, the Germans will sign under protest, and the Austrians will sign terms little less exacting than those imposed upon them. It is equally clear that, as H. C. Woodhead said at Amsterdam, the peace terms mean the speedy end of the present coalition government in Germany, and the place will be taken by a Socialist—if indeed an Independent Socialist—government. But we are not so sure that the faith of the Independents in the world in the Entente countries is well placed. Much as we should like to see them, we see no signs that British Labour is earnest in its protest against the "peace" terms of the Paris treaty or in its oft-repeated protestations about just democracy, and real peace. These protests to us all on a par with the eloquent but barren declarations of President Wilson and we shall not be surprised if British Labour proves itself to Europe as well as to America as a mere tool of the Entente. Even Wilson's interference in the Fiume dispute is not seen to be dictated, not by any consideration for principles, but a very healthy consideration for American financial interests. Indeed, we should like to see British Labour proving itself at home before it professes itself abroad. The Italian Socialist Party administered it very neat rebuke when it advised British Labour to deal with its own imperialist at home. The opportunity has come with the "Daily Herald's" exposure of the British Government's intention to use soldiers for strike-breaking in these countries. But what has the British Labour Party done in the matter? What is it doing to prevent British troops being used against the workers' government in Russia and Hungary? Bela Kun and the Soviet, by the way, are stronger than ever they were in Hungary. What is the British Labour Party doing in opposition to naked and open militarism in Ireland, Egypt, and India? A general strike of twenty-four hours' duration in Great Britain would bring about a real peace without bloodshed or starvation. But British Labour will provide no such simple remedy. It will wait until the Entente has again loosed the dogs of war in Central Europe. After all, from what we see on the Continent British Labour has nothing to lose, not even an imperial tradition. Nevertheless its day will come too.

GHOSTS.

You can call a spirit from the vasty deep by replying to this advertisement by a ghostly officer of the British Army which appeared in the "Irish Times":—"Lieutenant, just disembodied, desires secretarial position anywhere in U.K. Highly educated. Reply Box C1920, Kenny's Advertising Agency, 65 Middle Abbey Street, Dublin."

St. Enda's and Glasgow.

On 27th inst. Glasgow's largest Hall will be packed to welcome Mrs. Pearce and L. Ginnell, T.D.E. A great concert programme is arranged, and tickets, price 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d., may be had at P. J. O'Callaghan's, 134 West Nile Street, Glasgow. Early application will be necessary. The proceeds will be devoted to saving St. Enda's for Ireland.

No Murphy There.

Glasgow Corporation Tramways have carried passengers one mile and a sixth for a halfpenny since 1911. The manager wants to increase the fares. The Town Council has appointed a committee of inquiry.

REPLY TO THE "IRISH CITIZEN."

A Male Person Asks for Trouble.

Comrade Editor—I observe that the wild women of Westmoreland-street are incensed because you have permitted your very humble contributor to make reference to the flat and powdered chests of the pin-money females employed at the Department of Agriculture.

The editor of the "Irish Citizen" complains of my lack of taste, but I can assure her my lack of taste is nothing compared with the absence of taste caused the unemployed clerks' children by the parasitism of the females from Rathgar and Rathmines.

Anyone less biased than a feminist would have observed that my comments were not directed against women workers, either as women or as workers. The Labour Movement must make no sex distinctions. The line of separation in society is not biological, but runs along the line of class.

Doubtless there was a time in the remote history of the human race when social division by sex existed, as when the savage Amazons did battle with the equally savage progenitors of the Greeks. From the attitude of the "Irish Citizen" I might deduce that Dublin has a few reversions to that very primitive type.

If the modern villa-dwelling daughter of the bourgeoisie must be independent, let her join with the wage-workers in the conflict for better conditions. Her parasitism does not change in its nature if she allows her labour to be used as a lever for depressing the standard of life for those who must live by their earnings, whether men or women. That the "Irish Citizen" upholds her right to scab is a matter of regret, but not unexpected.

"Sex Equality" is not the object of the Feminist, but "Woman over all" and "Woman right or wrong."

YOUR CONTRIBUTOR.

A Workers' Library on Bolshevism.

FIVE SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE

sent us by postal order or cheque will secure a complete set of the under-noted books, pamphlets and leaflets on the Russian Revolution. They are written by such foremost men of action as Trotsky, Lenin and Litvinoff, or by acute and impartial observers from America, France and England.

NORA CONNOLLY, writing in the "Voice of Labour" about her father, said, "Always he studied revolution. Every book dealing with revolution, social or otherwise, was read and studied by him in the hope of glean- ing some plan or method that would assist him in his preparation for the Social Revolution."

RODERIC CONNOLLY in the same issue of the "Voice" said, "To become competent to achieve and maintain their Revolution, the Irish workers will be assisted almost wholly in their task by an earnest study of the second part of 'Socialism Made Easy,' by James Connolly, where the broad principles of the Dictatorship may be gleaned; and by learning how Con- nolly's friends applied these prin- ciples in a country so like Ireland as Russia, as detailed in Trotsky's 'His- tory of the Russian Revolution.'"

- History of the Russian Revolution. **TROTSKY** (post free 2s. 4d.) ... 2s.
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MINIMUM WAGE, 40 HOUR WEEK, AND NO WORK WITH NON-UNION LABOUR.

Drapers' Executive's Decision.
Many important motions standing in the name of various branches having been referred by the annual delegate meeting to the Executive Committee, a special Executive meeting of the Irish Drapers' Assistants' Association, at- tended by members of the Executive from all parts of Ireland was held on May 11th, at Cavendish House, Dublin (Mr. McNabb presiding).

Dealing with the proposal to establish a minimum rate of wages for shop assist- ants and clerks, it was felt that the ob- solete and dangerous system of "living- in" or boarding-in should, and must, be eventually abolished, and therefore for the purposes of a minimum wage it was decided to take the "living-out" prin- ciple as a basis, and on such basis the following national minimum was fixed for shop assistants and clerks:—

Age 16, 15s. per week; 17, 20s.; 18, 30s.; 19, 40s.; 20, 50s.; 21, 55s.; 22-24, 65s.; 24-25, 70s.; 25 and upwards, 80s. per week. Charge, senior assistants, and senior clerks, 90s. per week.

In fixing these minimum rates it was felt that they should not, and ought not, to become the standard or maximum wage inasmuch as, while there are very many shop assistants and clerks pre- sently paid considerably less, there are at the same time a large number paid much more than the rates laid down for any particular grade enumerated above.

The adoption of the minimum rates will not, it is hoped, interfere in any way with the customary promotions and ad- vancement from time to time that is an accepted principle in most firms, but in view of the very inadequate wage paid in some centres, and notably in some firms—some of them very rich—the fixing of minimum rates below which no shop as- sistant or clerk in any sphere should be paid would automatically discountenance the system which was of late years be- coming prevalent of introducing an un- limited number of apprentices and poorly- paid labour in shops and offices, and would eventually lead to a fair living wage.

The motion appearing on the agenda in the name of the Cork branch in reference to non-Union Labour, was adopted, and steps will be taken to insist that none but trade union labour will be employed, and after December 31st next, the en- trance fee for all persons over 21 years of age will be very considerably increased.

Motions submitted by various branches demanding a 40-hour week, favouring a national Saturday half-holiday, abolition of overtime; limitation of the number of learners, preventing the employment of youths under 16 years of age, and pro- viding badges for all members, were also agreed to.

IS SEPARATION FROM ENGLAND DESIRABLE ?

A Chara.—John Redmond, true to his imperialist master, said separation from England is neither possible nor desirable. The workers of Ireland at the December election said the reverse. John Redmond was at least honest in his belief. Can we say the same of the workers? I doubt it.

A prominent member of the Cork Trades Council, at a recent lecture, pub- licly said that the workers got back more from the English Unions in strike bene- fits than they sent to England, and gave us to understand he did not think separa- tion desirable. Yet I am told this indi- vidual voted for the Republic. Are the Irish workers so foolish or knavish as to think that they can blow hot and cold on the question of independence? We have independence in the Transport Union. Those in the English Unions are—to take this Cork leader at his word— dependent on the people whom they seek independence from. That being so, they cannot really mean what they say when they talk about an Irish Workers' Re- public. The people whom they get the boasted benefits from are those who elected Lloyd George and rejected Lab- our.

It is only right to say that others de- nied the truth of those benefits, while agreeing that there exist vested inter- ests, but there are vested interests also in the British Empire belonging to Irish- men. Would some reader of "The Voice" really tell us what is it that makes the Irish tradesman deny his faith in his own ability?—Is mise,

TADHG DE BARRA.
Connolly Hall, Cork, 14/5/19.

A Welcome Project.
The Socialist Party of Ireland has re- solved to produce a new edition of "Lab- our, Nationality and Religion," James Connolly's great book on the three fun- damentals of social life. The volume will be sold at 9d. It is not too early to send orders now.

P.O.L. (Dublin) wants to obtain words of a song entitled "The Pleasures of Van- ity Fair." It runs—
"I saw the sights of London and com- pared them day by day;
I saw King George's mansion while pass- ing by the way."
Can some reader oblige?

MAKING THE NEW INTER- NATIONAL. (From Page One.)

interview which the Berne delegation had had with Lord Robert Cecil on the Paris Covenant of the League of Nations. MacDonald's report itself was critical, but in rather a negative way, and it was quite clear that the delegation had been lacking in punch. The report was vigor- ously criticised by Renaudel and Wibaut (Holland), Tomaso (Argentine), and my- self. In Renaudel's view this question dominated all the others. On the atti- tude taken up at Amsterdam depended the whole future of the Interna- tional, and even the position of Bol- shevism. The attitude of the delegation had not been urgent enough, their speeches were not strong enough. The action that had been taken was not enough, the deputation had been merely a personal interview. If the Amsterdam meeting took up a merely negative atti- tude it would get no support. They must go further, and with more strength and determination. They must demand to be heard by the Governments, they must in- sist upon going before the Council of Four. If not, then the Governments must be brought face to face with a seri- ous situation on the part of the Labour and Socialist Parties in the various coun- tries.

The Unholy Alliance.
Wibaut described the Covenant as a league of the conquerors. Its disarm- ment was the disarmament of the van- quished. Even Renaudel's proposal did not go far enough. The Covenant was not an instrument of peace, but of new wars. They must insist that the League be subject to the opinions of the peoples. The new delegation must not only de- mand an interview with the Council of Four, but the French and English So- cialist and Labour Parties must be asked to mobilise public opinion in their own countries.

On behalf of Ireland I followed in the same critical strain as Wibaut had done. When I had dealt with the nationalities question and Ireland I challenged the Entente parties to action, not words. Were the leaders of the International as strong or sincere as the rank and file? Everywhere the workers were asking for results, and they would stop at no meas- ure, no matter how drastic, that would bring results. Results had been got in Russia, in Bavaria, in Hungary, and to a lesser extent in Germany. But where were the results in England or France? The impatience of the workers and the weakness of the leaders would bring their own results in the Entente, and I hoped those results would be as pleasing to the leaders as they would be to me and those who thought with me. Wibaut's request to the French and British Parties must be insisted on. There was no need to mobilise public opinion in Ireland. Irish opinion was already mobilised against the Covenant and in favour of a real League of Peoples, and the Irish influence was mobilising the Irish population in Ame- rica, the British Colonies, and even in Great Britain itself in the same direction. On May 1 the Irish workers would prove by their general strike that they meant what they said, but what would British Labour do? When would it fall in line with the Continent and Ireland? Ireland was ready to act, and if the last chance at Paris failed, Ireland would not wait even on the International. I concluded by pointing the moral of Korea, India, and Egypt.

THE COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL.

At the International Communist Con- gress held in Moscow at the beginning of March, it was decided to set up an executive committee, consisting of one representative each of the Communist parties in the most important countries. This committee was to elect a bureau of five persons to carry on the business of the Congress in the intervals of meeting. An executive committee was unanimously elected, with Zinoviev as president and Angelica Balabanov and Borovski as sec- retaries.

It was decided that the parties in Rus- sia, Germany, German-Austria, Hungary, the Balkan Federation, Switzerland and Scandinavia should forthwith send repre- sentatives to the first executive commit- tee, and that parties in other countries announcing their adherence to the Com- munist International before the second Congress should have seats on the Exe- cutive Committee. It was decided also to publish a fortnightly review in three languages, called "The International Communist." The permanent seat of the Assembly is to be the Kremlin in Mos- cow.

The basis and programme of the Con- gress was published in last week's "Socialist."


The Bread Strike.

If it should be that Dublin has no bread next Monday, it must be under- stood that the party responsible is the clique that robs the poor by selling bread. The bakery owners, selling bread at control prices, are paying less in wages than their compeers in England and Scotland. Prices are the same. Hence the bread-workers of Dublin are actually presenting money to the bosses every week.

IRISH WOMEN-WORKERS' UNION.

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of above Union, a resolution of sympathy was passed with Miss M. R. O'Neill on the death of her mother.

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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.
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THE IRISH DRAPERS' AND OTHER TRADES ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION now caters for all Shop Assistants and Clerks. Every person of either sex in every Whole- sale or Retail Shop or Office is eligible for membership of this Organisation. Ours is the oldest Irish Union catering for Shop Assistants and Clerks. Assistants and Clerks in unorganised towns should com- municate with us at once. Benefits—Sick- ness, Unemployment, Death, Benevolent Grants, Free Legal Aid, and full Trade Union Benefits. The time to get into your Trade Union is NOW!!! Alone you cannot improve your wages, shorten hours or protect your interests. This is the most powerful Trade Union in money and organisation in Ireland catering for Shop Workers and Clerks. When the wave of working-class solidarity is con- suming the wide world the Shop Workers and Clerks in Ireland cannot remain isolated. Get into your Union at once.

Forms of Application and full particulars may be had from **M. J. O'LEHANE**, General Secretary, Cavendish House, DUBLIN; or from any Branch Secretary.

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By HENRIK IBSEN. Produced by Paul Farrell. In aid of New Infant Hospital, Charlemont Street. Prices:—Stalls, 3/-; Balcony, 2/- (no extra charge for booking); Front Pit, 1/- (booking 6d. extra); Back Pit, 6d. No Tax. ST. ULTAN'S WEEK.

SOME UNION PROBLEMS.

I. BRANCH MANAGEMENT.

Autocracy or Democracy?

Five thousand years of slavery variously graded, a whole crop of revolutions and a world war costing 20,000,000 casualties and £50,000,000,000 have made the word "democracy" very popular now-a-days. We are all democrats, at least by profession, but we have not yet got rid of our old habits of thought and action. The everyday grind of our branch work makes it quite clear that a large number of our members are not democrats at all, but autocrats in practice and belief. In some of our branches no one seems to know his own or anybody else's place or duties, and the carrying out of the work is left by everybody to a vague somebody who often turns out to be nobody. As in the good old days when we were babies we are looking round for some person stronger than ourselves who will carry us and our burdens and be our private Providence. If only we can have this strong man to lean on, we willingly leave the whole job to him and fall asleep. We risk a rude awakening and often get it.

This attitude is quite good for a child, but the Labour Movement is a job for men—not men at the top merely, leaders, heroes, but men at the bottom and everywhere else in the workshop, in the hall, on the committee, on the conference, men of parts and a will of their own, not mere ciphers to register the decrees of another.

Life will never be made worth living, the union will never be equal to its work, the whole big structure will have been built on sand unless we can have an enlightened and democratic rank and file.

Without a membership that studies the union's doings, without intelligent committee men to advise and control their paid servants, the officials, without branches that can think nationally as well as parochially, without the moral courage in all to insist on their rights and perform their duties as defined in the rules and regulations made by themselves, we are only flying from evils we know to evils we don't know, but soon will, out of the frying pan into the fire. Unless we can have democracy in the I.T. & G.W.U., we cannot have it at all. When we have democracy we won't need leaders.

The Branch Committee.

The key of the situation is the branch committee. The future of democracy in Ireland depends on the quality of our committee members. If they know their work and do it without fear or favour, the future of the union is secure.

We write these things because they don't (with some worthy exceptions).

In places the committee doesn't meet at all; in others they meet but do nothing that matters. Quite commonly the committee is a one-horse affair; one dominating personality makes democracy a mere name. We have just seen a case where for 13 months the committee have not been shown a cash return.

In another famous city the secretary had not tabled a statement for three months, and no one seemed to worry or ask what had become of the members' money? In few cases is there any real check exercised on the branch finances.

This is Not Democracy.

It is moral cowardice and betrayal of the trust reposed in the committee by the members. If the money is right, the branch will never be far wrong, and the committee's duty is to see it right.

Every book in the branch should be at the disposal of the committee at its weekly meeting, and it is the chairman's duty to see that the committee are fully informed and satisfied as to all the business transacted in the name of the branch. This can never be done unless the ordinary committee man has the moral courage to ask questions and insist on an answer. "Those have rights who dare maintain them."

J. J. HUGHES.

Transport Union Notes.

Skin and Hide Employees.

Murphy and Mockler's men in Cork have secured an 11% increase, making minimum 45/-; women's claims were satisfied at 1% per doz. hides; hours 8 to 6, with weekly half-day.

Cattle Drivers.

The claim for these is 1/- per mile per five cattle, and 1/- each for anything over five, driven to Dublin Cattle Market.

Canal Men.

Application is pending to have the findings of the Canal Commission applied to men engaged on Irish canals.

Flour and Gristing Mills.

Professor Baillie arbitrated this week on the 48-hour week claim for flour milling carters on weekly rates, with adjustment for those on tonnage, and also on points arising out of the Grist Milling Award, including the Tralee cases. Men ceased work on Saturday in the two Drogheda grist mills owing to the award not having been put into effect.

Fermoy.

The carpenters here, stated to have been caught scabbing red-handed, have been reported to their societies.

Ballyhaise.

The martial manager of the Co-op. has run up the white flag and reinstated all the locked-out men.

Lucan.

Shackleton's hair shirt is pinching but his peace terms are not acceptable to the men until he withdraws his proposition to victimise four of them.

Arigna.

The much postponed Coal Controller's Conference on the miners' demands has been provisionally fixed for this week-end.

Solehead.

The Co-op. dispute settlement increases men's wages to 50/- and 55/-; girls 45/-.

Cork.

Employees in the egg trade, whose previous maximum was 37/6, have had minimum fixed at 47/6; women got 7/6 increase; hours 8.30 to 6, with a weekly half-holiday.

Co. Carlow.

Frank McCabe had an organising tour in the county this week and took up the threads of the Tullow town demand.

Dalkey.

Arbitration on the U.D.C. men's claims for Dunleary Council rates will be held shortly.

Piltown.

Lord Bessborough's farm labourers have been offered 2/6 on the A.W.B. rates and a 57-hour summer week.

Maryborough.

Town labourers are formulating a general demand. Some of the tall collar element amongst the shop assistants think the union not sufficiently high-brow.

Wexford.

The engineering stoppage continues. There are indications of a settlement of the south county farm strike.

Cleeve's Auxiliaries.

Practically all disputes were fixed up as a result of last week's conference, good increases and reduction of hours being conceded.

Theatrical Workers.

The demand just served on Dublin theatres includes a minimum of 45/- and a 44-hour week for permanent staff; female staff 30/- and 36 hours; women cleaners, nightmen and women, doormen, etc., 25/-; ticket issuers and money takers, 28/-; casuals, 1/8 per hour; Winter Garden employees, 30/- for 36 hours; overtime at rate and a half; Sunday work double rate; 2 weeks' holidays, with pay, etc.

Sligo.

The award for the employees of the Corporation, Harbour Commissioners, the Importers' Association gives roughly a 7/- advance and a 46 1/2-hour week. Porters, carters, storemen and yardmen engaged by the Grocers' Association members get a 7/- increase and 1/- extra after 9 p.m. Saturdays. Men handling cargo on quays secure a 46 1/2-hour week, 1/3 per hour for day work 1/7 night, while varying tonnage rates are fixed.

International Solidarity.

In response to an appeal from the Syndicat National des Travailleurs (National Trade Union of Railwaymen, Postal, Telephone, Telegraph and Marine Workers of Belgium), the I.T. & G.W.U. sent a subscription of £10. A warm acknowledgment has just been received from the secretaries conveying their good wishes to their Irish comrades.

AMALGAMATED SCABS IN FERMOY

A strike exists in the building trades in Fermoy, the great Sinn Fein county, Councillor O'Mahony being in line with the rest of the bosses fighting the Transport Union. The cross-Channel Unions agreed to stand in the strike with the Transport Union, but the bosses bought them with an independent advance, whilst ignoring the Transport Union. The carpenters not alone are working, but the Transport Union Organiser witnessed a carpenter loading timber on a car, and challenging him, was told he wanted a few days' work, and had to come for the timber. Another is working a saw usually seen to by a Transport man. So the carpenters, after leaving down the Transport, are now scabbing it on the men they sold.

WE CLAIM NO LESS.

"The English revolution at least accepted the right to resist tyranny, even by dethroning a dynasty," writes Bancroft in his "History of the United States."

HOTEL STRIKE.

This dispute has now reached an acute stage, and there is every reason to believe that the Hotel Employers' Association is merely the camouflage which disguises the Employers' Federation, recently formed to confirm Irish Capitalism in its ill-gotten possessions.

Through the hotel strike this Federation hopes to involve all Dublin in a struggle vaster and more bitter than that of 1913. The employers are counting, of course, on James Ian Macpherson and John Denton Pinkstone French, O.M., etc., as allies.

It is time we all took a hand in this little game.

The attitude and determination of the hotel proprietors makes it plain that this dispute must be fought to the bitter end. The I.T. & G.W.U. has resolved to see the thing through, and, to that end, asks the branches of the Union, the movement generally, and the public, to subscribe money in augmentation of the strike funds.

We shall have more to say about this next week. Meantime we hope to be in a position to publish in next issue a list of substantial contributions. All moneys to be sent to—

General Secretary, I.T. & G.W.U., Liberty Hall, Dublin.

ANOTHER CO-OPERATIVE.

In the Stradbally of Leix the workers have resolved to form a co-operative society; 150 members are already secured. The organising meeting addressed by Mr. Cassidy, I.A.O.S., was attended by a prominent farmer who is endeavouring to interest the local farmers in the venture with the object of making the society now established serve at once as a workers' distributive store and a farmers' agricultural society.

I.T. & G.W.U. BAND COMMITTEE.

Liberty Hall.

Sunday, May 18th.

At a meeting held this Sunday it was decided to publish the names of the shop stewards who have so kindly forwarded on the following sums. And also to ask all other shop stewards who have not as yet sent on their subscriptions to kindly do so as soon as possible, as we intend to start the band this week. We hope all members will give a helping hand by subscribing to same. We also tender to those shop stewards who so kindly gave their assistance our sincere thanks. All members can leave their subscriptions with clerks at the office, Liberty Hall.—Yours fraternally,

JOE O'NEILL, V.P.,

Secretary, Band Committee.

Shop Stewards' Subscriptions.

Table with 3 columns: Name, £, s, d. Includes Tally-men, John Fitzsimons, Jim Byrne (Shipyard), P. Byrne (Tedcastle & Co.), A. Nolan (Thwaites & Co.), D. Buggy, Higginsbottom, John McCabe, Joe Kelly, C. Leaney, J. McDermott (City of Dublin), W. Stone, Joe O'Neill, P. Brady, John Gannon (S. N. Robinson), Joe Reilly, M. Coakley, E. McFarlane (Fletcher's), W. Purcell, S. Kelch, Jack White (S. N. Robinson).

SPANISH GOLD.

Following Mr. Asquith's visit to Spain, a little paragraph appears in the press to the effect that a commercial convention is to be signed between Spain and Great Britain, by which Spain is to lend Great Britain 75,000,000 pesetas (£3,000,000). It is satisfactory to hear that such a notoriously wealthy country as Spain is going to help Great Britain out of its opulence. News also comes of a proposed loan from the Argentine to Great Britain of half a million. This should certainly save the financial situation.

But why not send Lord Haldane to Hayti to raise the wind?

CONNOLLY'S BIRTHDAY.

A GREAT FESTIVAL OF MUSIC will be held in MANSION HOUSE, DUBLIN, June Fifth, 8 p.m. Tickets 1/-.

Unique Souvenir Programme.

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EDITED BY "Æ."

IRISH FUND FOR THE FAMINE-STRIKEN.

First Irish Consignment has gone to a Maternity Hospital in Central Europe.

Help to send further supplies quickly to the Starving Mothers and Babies.

Contributions received by Treasurer, Irishwomen's International League, 29 South Anne Street, Dublin.

TEACH NAOIMH ULTUIH AND HENRIK IBSEN.

The connection may not be so obvious, though it exists. It does not exist through Ibsen, though for that matter it might well have done. Sitting at the little marble-topped table in his Norwegian cafe of an evening, drinking his glass of strong northern beer, thinking over the work he had in hand, that sturdy little man with spectacles, mutton-chop whiskers and frock-coat, might have been avoided by his neighbours at adjoining tables, but he had a kindly heart for children. He searched the evils of man unsparingly and was hated by them accordingly, and his works given an evil name that still clings to one or two of them. But he stood bravely in defence of women; and, in his later works especially, his pen grew wondrous gracious with the children that stepped across his pages.

His eye, behind those large spectacles, was quick and keen to search the humbugs of men. When his play, "The Enemy of the People," was first produced at the Christiana Theatre in 1883 it produced a storm of protest in certain circles, who denounced the author as an anti-democrat. In truth he was no more an enemy of the people than was Dr. Stockmann, the chief figure of his play. The real enemy of the people was the type of man he pilloried as Burgomaster Stockmann; and it was this type of man who, feeling the last of his satire coil about him, rose in wrath against him. Dr. Stockmann spoke truth, and gave of his utmost and best for the people. No such man is an enemy of the people, even though the things he says be unpleasant. The Burgomaster was the true enemy of the people; for he fooled them, tricked them, and so, becoming popular, battered on them.

That was the purport of the play with which Ibsen opened the shrewd second-period of his art; and this is the play which the Hardwicke-street Players are to produce next week at the Abbey Theatre to help found Teach Naoimh Ultuih, the Infant Hospital in Charlemont-street. I cannot help thinking that Ibsen would have conceived himself gravely honoured by the selection of a play of his for such a purpose.

Therefore, in urging all to proceed to the Abbey Theatre during the nights of next week I need only say two things. One is grave; the other is pleasing.

The grave is this, that there is no infants' hospital in Dublin, where the infant mortality is 164 per 1,000 births, the highest infant mortality of any city in Europe. It touches our honour as a nation, therefore, to see that Teach Naoimh Ultuih be established and adequately supported. Shame on us, and shame again, if it is not!

The pleasing is this, that "supported by a strong cast" (as the right and proper phrase is), Paul Farrell is to be Dr. Stockmann, and Joseph McDonagh the Burgomaster. Each is a finished piece of art.

Both grave and pleasing meet at the Abbey Theatre during the evenings of next week at 8 p.m. It is not often we can serve a duty by pleasing ourselves. DARRELL FIGGIS.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

"The Voice of Labour," the Irish Labour Press, Editorial, Publishing and Advertisement Offices, have been removed from 27 Dawson Street to Liberty Hall, Beresford Place, Dublin. Phone and Telegraphic Address: 3421 Dublin.

ASSURANCE AGENTS.

GREAT STRIKE FUND DRAW. LIST OF WINNING NUMBERS.

1st prize, No. 76028; 2nd prize, 5671; 3rd prize, 80014; 4th prize, 72305; 5th prize, 76151; 6th prize, 12612; 7th prize, 23333.

Sellers of the largest number of tickets.

1st prize, Mr. W. H. Warboys, Luton; 2nd prize, Mr. J. Heap, London; 3rd prize, Mr. A. E. Page, Acton Vale, E.3.

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