

### Peter Larkin's Imprisonment.

#### ECHOES OF THE AUSTRALIAN FRAME UP.

Seldom does Capitalism condemn itself so flagrantly as it has done in the case of the 12 Industrial Workers of the World, sentenced to savage terms of imprisonment in Australia. The following are two versions of the conduct of the police concerned in the case. This version is given by Mr. Justice Street (Royal Commissioner), who in his summing up and comments at the end of the Commission definitely states: "Nothing has been brought before me which raises any suspicion on my mind that misconduct (on the part of the police) in fact took place. No fresh facts have been elicited before me raising any doubt in my mind as to the guilt of the convicted men in the case under consideration." Compares favourably with the decision of the New South Wales Cabinet when it discussed the conduct of the police and the recommendation of the Inspector-General of the Police. The Premier (Mr. Holman) makes the following confession, taken from the "Argus," 10/1/19:

#### POLICE AND I.W.W.

Sydney, Wednesday.

The Premier (Mr. Holman) in a statement to-night referred to the steps taken by the Cabinet in connection with the detectives, whose conduct was commented on by Mr. Justice Street, in his report as a Royal Commissioner, investigating the I.W.W. cases. Mr. Holman stated that the men affected were Inspector Turbett, Sergeant Pauling, Detective-Sergeants Hooper and Miller, and Detective Constables Mitchell and Surridge. The Inspector-General of the Police recommended that all these officers be censured for accepting concessions in regard to the price of suits from Goldstein, and that Inspector Turbett, in addition to the censure, be reprimanded for having recommended one of the Goldstein's as a fit and proper person to hold a hotelkeeper's licence.

"It was further recommended that the officers be transferred from headquarters to divisional stations. The Cabinet adopted the whole of the recommendations. The officers concerned will not suffer reduction in pay, but their prospects of promotion will be affected."

It will be observed that the two statements are in direct contradiction to each other, and throw a bright light on the loathsome conduct of all the Crown forces which were brought to bear on the case.

To the ordinary worker it is plain that the Royal Commissioner was determined from the beginning to save the tarnished shield of the police, but to the master class, it only endorses that by such fraudulent, shabby methods they will have to hold the right to enslave the workers.

#### WOBBLY.

#### FORD GETS GOING.

Harry Ford will celebrate Independence Day, July 4, by the completion of the first tractor built at Cork.

Work hours are Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 4.30 p.m., with half hour interval for lunch; Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 12 noon; a total of 44 per week.

Minimum wages are for men over 18, 1s. 5d. per hour; boys 6d. per hour. The same rates apply to the clerical staff, in which women over 18 receive 1s. per hour.

An alleged profit-sharing bonus is paid to men and women over 18 at the rate of 3d. per hour, but it is conditional on the workers being good.

Belfast will note that this firm in Rebel Cork can introduce the 44 hour week and yet earn profits to divide with the workers.

#### CORK LOYALIST SLUR ON SOLDIERS.

The plateau of the Somme battlefield, the scene of the fiercest struggles three years ago, is shortly to be repopulated by British sheep. "Cork Examiner," 26/6/19.

Note "repopulated." What does the "Examiner" mean?

## Unity among Irish Railwaymen.

### ALL TOGETHER, BOYS! IRISH RAIL WORKERS' PUSH FOR HOLIDAYS.

Dublin railwaymen are making an effort to put all workers on the same basis so far as holidays are concerned.

At the same time the men in the N.U.R. want the closest co-operation with the men in the Craft Unions on the railways for this and other ends. This is a direct road to the control of the railways by the railway workers, and all grades ought to take it.

On Tuesday night week in Banba Hall the whole question was discussed in all its aspects, and discussion was both frank and fruitful. The N.U.R., the D. and B.E. Association, the Engineering and Shipbuilding Federation and the Transport Workers' were represented both amongst the speakers and amongst the rail men who attended.

The chairman (Mr. R. Heunessy, N.U.R.) said they in the traffic department were guaranteed a week's holiday with pay to all employees engaged in the manipulation of traffic. The time had come when all railway workers should put up a determined fight and see that the shop workers participated in the same holiday benefits as other grades. When the N.U.R. were carrying on negotiations last March their programme contained a demand for a fortnight's holidays, and they asked the Crafts' Union at that time to co-operate with them. Instructions were given to the governing body of the A.G.M. to get into touch with the executive of the Crafts' Union and combine in the demands going before the Committee on Production or the railway executive. Mr. Thomas entered into communication with Mr. Frank Smith, of the Crafts' Union, but wrote that he considered no good purpose could be served by a conference with the A.G.M. The officers of societies were more concerned with their own individual interests than those of the workers they were supposed to represent, and the officials got their holidays and were paid their salaries.

Mr. Hanratty (Dublin and Belfast Engine Drivers' Association), proposed "That this mass meeting of all grades of railway workers considers the time has arrived when a determined effort should be made to place all workers on the same basis as regards holidays, and we hereby decide to use every means at our disposal to secure that object."

Mr. Wickham (Pres., Shops Committee), seconded the resolution, and held that they should have a fortnight's paid holidays yearly, and they should be paid for all other holidays.

Mr. Scully (Engineering and Ship Building Federation) said the railways did not pay for bank holidays, but allowed the men to starve. He thought Mr. Heunessy would agree that the Crafts' Union in Dublin had given him every support in connection with the holiday question. For some time past the Crafts' Union had been working with the N.U.R., and railway clerks, transport workers, etc., and were prepared to continue to do so. It was an unfortunate thing that the question of any disunion with the workers on the other side should have arisen. On behalf of the Federation in Dublin, he could say that the trades affiliated to it were prepared to take joint action with the workers in the present demand.

Mr. Daly (N.U.R.) desired to correct an inaccuracy in a condensed report of his speech at Plemouth. There he spoke, not as a politician, but simply as a trade unionist. He emphatically repeated the same expression that night that he was there purely as a trade unionist. There should be no distinction between railway workers on this question, whether they were labourers or skilled tradesmen, for they are all trade unionists. The N.U.R. had the holidays for years, and were prepared to support other railway workers to gain the same. They frequently heard the backward phrase in Ireland "Self-Determination." Railway men required self-determination to place railway men on equal scales.

Mr. Lawlor (Craft Workers' Union) said the railway committee had the full support of his organization. He held it men were looked on as a class of men on a week's holiday and a general

lock-out (hear, hear). Railway men should have an executive in Ireland, and not be governed from across the seas by an English executive.

The resolution was carried unanimously with applause.

#### RAILWAY MEN IN IRELAND.

The following declarations on Ireland have been carried at the annual Congress of delegates of the N.U.R.:

##### The Condition of Ireland.

Moved by Mr. T. C. Daly (Dublin, Broadstone), and seconded by Mr. W. Collier (Pontypridd): "That this Congress enters its most emphatic protest against the system of government at present in operation in Ireland, as it is not in accordance with the principle professed to be held by members of the Government when appealing to our countrymen to enter the struggle to kill Prussianism; it, therefore, calls for the immediate withdrawal of martial law, and expresses the hope that a feeling of friendship and good-will will thereby be established between the peoples of the United Kingdom."

##### Service in Ireland.

Mr. J. Henderson (Carlisle) moved: "That, in view of this serious situation in Ireland and the danger there of spasmodic strikes, this Congress demands that the Irish Railway Executive immediately adopt and put into operation the conditions of service agreed upon between this union and the British Railway Executive on March 27th of this year." Mr. Black seconded.

Mr. J. Smith (Manchester) moved as an addendum (which, he said, was favoured by the mover and seconder): "Further, we instruct the E.C. that unless this is put into operation by June 28th and made retrospective from April 1st, to call this Congress together with a view to taking immediate action." Mr. J. Barnes (Stockport) seconded. Mr. J. Kenny (Dublin, Inchicore) and Mr. T. C. Daly (Dublin, Broadstone) supported.

The addendum was carried by 55 votes to 0, and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to nem con.

Since the Congress was held the Board of Trade has notified the N.U.R. that the general arrangements come to in respect of Great Britain will be introduced into the railway service in Ireland, so far as these arrangements are applicable to this country.

#### THEM THAT SIT IN DARKNESS.

The working man in full enjoyment of all his faculties does not always realise the hapless lot of his blind fellow-worker, and when he does respond to the charitable appeals of otherwise deserving institutions he seldom reflects that he may be helping to maintain a system of adult slavery.

The National League of the Blind has resolved to ask St. Joseph's Blind Asylum, Drumcondra, and the Richmond National Institution for the Blind, 41 Upper O'Connell street, for an increase of 100 per cent. on pre-war rates and a guaranteed minimum of 2 shillings a week.

The League also asks that home work be provided for the blind who have served their apprenticeship so that none shall be deprived of liberty and citizenship by being compelled to live in an institution.

It is also demanded that these institutions should be controlled by representative bodies. These demands are modest indeed and it is an imperative duty that workers should back up the National League of the Blind in this campaign.

Elsewhere the Blind have been compelled to strike against so-called charitable organisations to win these modest demands. It should not be so in Dublin, and if financial difficulties stand in the way the appointment of representative committees and the issue of an appeal will smooth the path.

#### A FUNNY FACE.

For fun, the Allies tried to sink the German Navy.

Now, when the ungrateful German sailor kindly obliges, he sinks them all.

#### GUMANNACHT NA BEIREANN.

HALE YEARTLY GENERAL MEETING, WEDNESDAY, JULY 3rd, 1919, at 8.30 p.m., in the Lecture Hall, Central European Propaganda Society, 11, Upper O'Connell Street, Dublin.

### John MacLean.

#### In Glasgow "Worker" Explains Dublin Suppression.

As the Capitalist Press in Scotland, as usual, has given a distorted statement as to the shooting of policemen the evening of the celebration of Connolly's birthday, it is only fair that the "Worker" retaliate by publishing the statement I have received from the Countess Markievicz, although she did not ask me to thus make it public. Readers should particularly note that the splendid "Connolly Souvenir" programme states quite clearly, "Proceeds devoted to the establishment of a Connolly Memorial Workers' College."

The argument has incessantly been used that Ireland is under Catholic priests whose game it has been to keep the Irish workers in ignorance. But here are the accusers, the British Capitalist class politicians, openly trying to suppress a concert, the profits from which shall help to establish an Irish Labour College similar to the Central Labour College and the Scottish Labour College.

It is apparent that the priests of Capitalism (British and Irish alike) fear the spread of real education amongst the wage slaves, since they understand that an educated working class will fight Capitalism with its robbery and "continuous reign of terror" to the death.

This attempt to nip the Irish Labour College in the bud is in line with the attempt to crush Scotland's aspiration for a Labour College. Readers may remember my dramatic removal to Edinburgh Castle in February, 1916, just six days before the first S.L.C. Conference in Glasgow. I had to read the paper outlining the scheme. It was calculated that delegates would stay at home and the scheme burst. But thanks to Scottish dauntness, that gathering was a brilliant success, described ultimately in the Labour Press of the world.

Our last one in May proved even more successful, and with the workers' united monetary assistance, our College will be the envy of the workers of the world. Let this Dublin deed of darkness fire readers up to a more generous response to our cry for help. And once we have enough in Scotland we shall send help to Ireland to establish her Connolly College, bedad we will!

The Countess Markievicz's statement follows, occupying more than a column of the "Worker." John concludes his contribution thus: "I believe Lloyd George when he says he is going to make 'sweeping changes' in Ireland (with Big Guns, of course.)"

#### JOTTINGS FROM ULSTER.

##### THE CROOKED PATH.

During the week a deal was made locally by Sir Crawford McCullogh, a one-time Lord Mayor of Belfast, by which he receives from the Corporation a little over £5,000 for the making of a crooked path straight in and about his premises in the centre of the town. It seems that the citizens who pay the taxes should be indebted to this gentleman for his goodness in allowing the Corporation to improve this particular spot.

It is interesting to note that a month or so ago a local syndicate was buying up property quite close to the same crooked path, and the housing question still hangs in abeyance for lack of funds; we are afraid there is more than crooked paths to make straight. What say the workers?

##### SLUMS.

Cablegrams, wires, letters dispatched in a panic by the Belfast Chamber of Commerce all to deny indignantly that such a thing as a slum existed in Belfast. It is not so many years ago since the landlords received handsome sums for their ramshackle houses; these were pulled down, and the unfortunate tenant had to find house-room in a city where already the house shortage was beginning to be felt, the result being, as Sir Peter McConnell, a medical man with wide experience, says in answer to Mr. Garrett, of the Chamber of Commerce: "Many of the people of Belfast are housed in places which Mr. Garrett wouldn't consider good enough for his canine pets."

#### SWIFT UP-TO-DATE.

Appropos of the Central European famine caused by the Allied Blockade, "La Fenille" Geneva, is publishing serially Jonathan Swift's "Modest Proposal."

"IRISH OPINION"

**The VOICE OF LABOUR**

Saturday  
Fifth  
JULY,  
1919.

:: ALL-IRELAND LABOUR WEEKLY. ::

**THEY MAKE A DESERT AND CALL IT PEACE.**

On Saturday, June 28, the Peace Treaty at Versailles was signed by the plenipotentiaries of Germany and the Allied and Associated Powers.

But the Peace Treaty does not bring peace. It brings war, and war compared with which the fighting of the last five years is but the playing and posturing of children at their games.

Nobody except the foolish readers of the papers believes that the signing of peace between defeated Germany and the victorious Entente has put an end to war.

The Treaty signed at Versailles last Saturday is only a scrap of paper. The Allies and Associated Powers signed it as a scrap of paper. The Germans signed it as a scrap of paper.

The Allies signed it because the rising tide of discontent and smouldering revolution in their own countries told them that delay would endanger the institutions of government which prevail in Western Europe and America. The Germans signed it because their country is threatened not only by the military forces of the Entente from without, but by the far more dangerous forces of the Spartacist revolution from within. They made no secret of their inability to observe the terms of the worst treaty ever drawn up in history. Nor did the Allies deny that the Germans were unable to carry out the provisions of the Treaty. But they hurried the Germans into signing because a scrap of paper is better, in their opinion, than a Bolshevik Republic in Germany.

They reckon without the workers, these peace-makers and treaty-makers of Versailles.

They think that once the Treaty is signed the road is clear for capitalism. They think that peace with the German Government will leave them a free hand to fight the Workers' Republics of Russia and Hungary. They think peace with Germany will give the present German Government a free hand to fight the Spartacists and Communists. They think that peace with Germany will give them time to crush the threatened revolutions in Italy and France, and means and opportunities for buying off revolution in England and America.

Their victory is dearly bought. Their peace is made at a high price. It is neither victory nor peace. It is the tocsin for the greatest of all wars, the war of the oppressed against their oppressors, the war of the dispossessed

against their dispossessors, the war of the workers against their exploiters.

Prepare for Armageddon, ye workers and ye tyrants, for Armageddon indeed is coming. The Treaty of Versailles is its herald, and the workers and the wealthy of this world are the armies it will lock in deadly combat. Europe will again be the battleground, and it will be a Europe stretching from the wilds of Siberia to the wild Atlantic heaving against the most western headland in Ireland.

East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet, sang the Jingo poet of Empire. But East and West have met as comrades and brethren, and they will make an end of all Empire and all Imperialism. Russia and Ireland, the living governing Workers' Republic, and the Republic that will yet live and govern, will join hands to fight the same enemy, and they will be joined by the toiling millions of Central and Western Europe. We shall yet see a blaze of glory from Moscow to Dublin, and it will light the world. Or it will be the end of everything in Europe.

It may not be the end of everything in England, despite the resolutions passed at the British Labour Party Conference last week. British Labour indeed is being influenced by the Continent, but it is not yet being moved. France and Italy will strike for Russia and liberty, British Labour will demonstrate.

Yet even British Labour will be moved to action if not by its own will then by compulsion from outside as well as inside. There is a revolutionary minority in British Labour. There is an Irish population in Great Britain. Both are influenced by Russia and Hungary, both draw inspiration from Ireland. Both have interests in common and enemies in common. They are drawing together, and they will make a noise when the time comes.

Well then may "The Times" demand peace with Ireland as soon as peace with Germany has been concluded. It will be a Versailles peace, the prelude to a new war, the war of the working class against the employing class.

Gird ye then for the combat, workers of Ireland.

The next peace will see the Workers' Republics in Western Europe as Versailles sees them to-day in Eastern Europe. It will be the Red Peace, and its signatories will sing:  
We'll keep the Red Flag Flying Here!

**THE AUTO-MAN'S REASON.**  
John Brennan, delegate of the Irish Automobile Drivers' and Mechanics' Union, writes:—"On reading this week's 'Voice' I notice that you ask me to explain why I did not vote at the meeting in the Trades Hall, Capel St., on the 16th inst. My principal reason is, because no meeting of the general body of members of my Union was called, and therefore I could not be said to represent the opinions of our members. Also I did not like the behaviour of the meeting, and think it was unsuitable to the seriousness of the business in hands."

**A COMING JOY.**  
Never since the expiry of the "Eye-opener" has the issue of a new Dublin paper been awaited with such feverishly palpitating interest as that which agitates the few who are in the know about the forthcoming journal bearing the challenging title of "The Bolshevik."  
P. R. Higgins, the apostle of the cult of Beauty, whose shrine he incenses daily with the fragrant odour of sonnets, rondeaux, villanelles, and lyrics of dainty devices, will be the editor. We hear he is packing his bag against the day of publication.

**THE BOOKS THAT MATTER.**

Only a few can be advertised this week. Share in the best of good things. Send 2d. stamp for our temporary price list "VOICE" of recent books and pamphlets on Irish Labour, Russia, Economics, and Socialism.

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**The Workers' Republic**

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

**The Red Flag.**

Last week we noted several prosecutions and convictions by special Crimes Act courts for the carrying of Red Flags in Labour processions on Labour Day. The "Galway Express" last week reported another and still more glaring case. William Bollinger, a young man from Gort, was sentenced to imprisonment until the rising of the court and bound to good behaviour for twelve months for carrying a Red Flag in a Transport Worker's procession on May Day. This sentence was passed by a special Crimes Act court of two Resident Magistrates in Galway on June 23. We quote some extracts from the speeches of the Crown Solicitor and the magistrate. The Crown Solicitor, Mr. Golding, said: "These processions were orderly and peaceable in most cases, and there would be no charge against the accused except for the fact that he carried a red flag. They all knew that the red flag was the emblem of revolution and sedition, and could not, so far as the Crown could endeavour to prevent it, be carried at the head of a procession in this country, because it was held that it made a procession an unlawful assembly and seditious and revolutionary—that it is the emblem of revolution." The chairman of the court, Mr. Kilbride, R.M., delivered himself thus: "This procession has nothing to do with the rights or wrongs of labour. The Red Flag, as I understand it, is the flag of defiance to all authority... the flag of bloody revolution and terrorism. Even in Madison Square Gardens, in New York, the bearer of the red flag was at once taken up by the police, and even in Buenos Ayres, a place well known for revolution, no man is allowed to bear the Red Flag. The Red Flag bearers are now in Russia, and God help the people of Russia. The mere fact of marching under this well-known flag would be enough to make this an unlawful assembly."

Mr. Macpherson will have some trouble in squaring Messrs. Golding and Kilbride's statements with the fiction which he sent out in reply to the American Commission's report.

**The Belfast Prosecutions.**

As a result of the spotting practised by the British Empire League, John O'Hagan and Charles O'Meara have been sentenced to six months' imprisonment with hard labour, S. W. Greenspon to the same term without hard labour, and Joe Ferguson has been put under a rule of bail. The crime alleged and gloriously admitted by the defendants was the making of speeches the like of which are repeated from thousands of platforms over Great Britain every week. Charlie O'Meara, who is well known in Dublin, offered to submit his case to the judgment of any assembly of his fellow-workers and to abide by their decision. That he had already done so and obtained from the people of Belfast a decision in his favour was his offence in the eyes of the magistrates.

What we wish to impress upon our Belfast readers in particular is that these prosecutions were not determined by any specially dangerous matter contained in the speeches on which the charges were based. Our comrades are being hounded down because of the bold and effective work they did during the 44-hour strike. The active spirits on the Clyde were arrested during the Clyde strike, and charged with offences alleged to have been committed in connection with it. It is a compliment to the Belfast workers that the authorities have waited five months, and even then to have had to take a case. Will they deserve that compliment?

**The Jack Boot in Waterford.**

Day after day Macpherson's own administration in Ireland proves up to the hilt the charges made by the American Commissioners against the Castle's successor to Ananias. Take Waterford, for example, represented in the Imperial Parliament by the one and only gallant Captain Redmond. Some weeks ago the military closed down the printing press of the "Waterford Evening News" because British Government in Ireland could not tolerate the truth. A number of workers, including both Redmondites and Republicans, were thrown out of their employment. Last Tuesday night week a lecture and concert to raise a fund for the families of these men was proclaimed by the military. Armed police seized the Town Hall. The concert and lecture were held elsewhere, and were followed by a public meeting at 11.30 p.m. in a downpour of rain. Before the meeting had concluded a body of R.I.C. charged the crowd in the darkness with fixed bayonets, and wounded a number of people, including Miss Hoynes, organiser for the Women Workers' Union. This is not interference with Labour: it is only an unprovoked and unannounced bayonet charge.

**Two Delegates Explain.**

Two of the delegates to the Dublin Trades Council, whom we invited last week to explain their action at the meeting which voted in favour of testimonials, have come forward and accepted our invitation. Messrs. Sean Duffy (Electricians) and Liam Slattery (Automobile Workers) have some sense of their duty and dignity as representatives of their unions. We cannot say as much of the forty-three other delegates who have flunked giving an explanation. Were they waiting for a lead or are they just furling? Our columns are still open to them if they wish to clear themselves. If they do not let them go down into history as the men and women who were the first to besmirch the name of Dublin Labour in these last two years of crisis and battle in Ireland.

Now let us turn to Messrs. Slattery and Duffy. Frankly we are not satisfied that either of them did the right thing or that their explanations are sufficient. We take their word for it that they are opposed to testimonials. That is the principle involved. But the abstention of the one and the vote of the other helped to get a decision in favour of testimonials. Mr. Duffy says that a majority of his members gave a mandate to vote. He and his colleagues obeyed this mandate because it was the will of the majority, not because they agreed with it. Now, Sean, we are not innocent enough to believe that after this very serious honourable course had to go and vote in favour of testimonials. And it is not always and ever true that the majority is right. We accept Duffy's word that he is opposed to corruption and graft, and we hope that when he has said the last word he promises to say his vote and his act will be in accord with his own principles.

Mr. Slattery's excuse for not voting at all is that he had no instructions from his branch. To that we prefer even the majority vote of the E.T.U. But why did the automobile men give no instructions? Didn't the old Executive issue a statement of their case and ask the Unions to submit it to their members? Of course we heard Mr. Lawlor advise the delegates not to submit the document to the rank and file, but that is no reason why the Automobile Drivers' and Mechanics should not have been consulted. Mr. Slattery ought to find a better excuse. He did not want to act rashly, and therefore did not act at all. There we leave the matter for another week. In the meantime we want to know what explanation the other forty-three have to give, and what the rank and file of their unions think of them.

**"The Republic."**

We wish the best of luck to the new weekly review, "An Phoblach" ("The Republic"), which Mr. Darrell Figgis is editing. Its aim is declared to be to contribute by really constructive thinking and doing to the building up of the Republic. But the first number has been disappointing. The second number is an improvement, and we hope the new venture will go on improving.

**The Socialist-Catholic Coalition in Germany.**

It would be interesting to know what Cardinal Logue thinks of the new German Government. That Government is a coalition of the Majority Socialists and the Catholic Centre, while its nominal head is the rather mediocre leader, Erzberger. The Foreign Minister is Herman Muller, the Social Democrats' messenger to the French Socialists in the last few hours of peace in 1914, and one of the Majority delegates at the Berne Conference. When he bade us a hasty farewell after his hurried visit to Amsterdam on April 30 we little thought that Muller would be Foreign Minister in the next German Government. Obviously his appointment is due to the Coalition's wish to win for the new Germany the support of French and British Labour. This would indicate that the Red-Black Coalition as it is called (the Yellow-Black Coalition would be more accurate) is making a bid for life, although it was formed for the primary purpose of signing the Versailles peace. But it cannot live for long without the support of the abler Radicals in the Democratic Party, and that it cannot have. In a short time it will give way most probably to Haase and the Independent Socialists. The ignominy of signing the peace, its own inherent weakness and lack of ability and the unpopularity of the militarist Noske will deliver the Bauer-Erzberger government to its internal enemies.



# We've a Welcome for — YOU at LIBERTY CAFÉ.

**T**HE only restaurant in Ireland run by the workers. Liberty Café is owned and managed by the Hotel and Restaurant Workers' Branch of the I.T & G.W.U.

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## SPOILS SYSTEM REPUDIATED.

### QUEER GAMES IN THE I.C.W.U.

Mr. Thomas Murphy, who was elected as President of the Irish Clerical Workers' Union at its annual conference at Waterford on Whit Sunday, has resigned that position to mark his disapproval of the conduct of the General Secretary, Mr. D. Logue, in voting for the Testimonial system and accepting office as Chairman of Dublin Trades Council.

A peculiar circumstance in Mr. Murphy's case is that he was elected by the annual meeting of the members of the Government Workers' Branch I.C.W.U. to represent them in the Trades Council. A secret meeting of the Branch Committee was held, and Mr. Murphy was displaced from that post. He was given no notice of the meeting or of his replacement by a Mr. J. MacDonnell.

The latter, we believe, is a cousin of Dr. O'Donnell, one of the signatories to the Lawlor Testimonial Circular, and a Poor Law official.

Are we to understand from Mr. Murphy's resignation that Mr. Logue voted and acted without consulting even the Executive Committee of the Clerical Workers' Union?

### GUARDIANS RESIGN.

Messrs. Joseph Farrell, Thomas Foran and Joseph Doyle have resigned their seats on the Dublin Board of Guardians owing to the action of Dublin Trades Council in approving of the acceptance of testimonials by Labour representatives.

The new Executive of the Trades Council has issued a manifestly false statement to the Press that the issue raised was not that on which the three Guardians base their statement.

### A S.E. AND DISORDER.

The Amalgamated Society of Engineers has recorded their disapproval of the disorder at the Trades Council meeting on June 16. Mr. MacDermott, however, continues to represent them on the Executive that approves of bribing Labour members of public boards. There are worse things than noise.

### OLD ALLIES.

The "Evening Herald" has come out strongly in support of corruption in the Labour movement. We are not surprised. Mr. Nolan, of the Trades Council, was strongly Murphyite in 1913.

### SUPPRESSING FACTS.

In an article published on 26th ult. the "Herald" asserted that Lawlor emphatically denied that he had received a personal testimonial for services rendered. Mr. Lawlor's admission that his wife received the cash "without his knowledge or consent" was carefully suppressed.

### PERSONATION ALLEGED.

We are informed that several of the delegates recorded as having voted at the Council meeting on 16th ult. were not present.

### LIAM SLATTERY'S DEFENCE. RE LAWLOR TESTIMONIAL.

27th June.

A Chara,—In this week's "Voice" I notice you are anxious to know why I did not vote at the stormy meeting in Trades Hall on 16th inst. Although present I neither voted or took part in the discussion or nominations. As a delegate from the Irish Automobile Drivers' and Automobile Mechanics' Union I had no mandate to vote from the general body of members, as no meet-

was held to discuss the famous testimonial. It was eminently a question for the rank and file to decide, and I still stand by my action in remaining silent all through the proceedings.

A few days ago Mr. Lord, one of the delegates, who was present at Capel street, wrote to the daily Press stating that the rank and file of trade unionists had no say in these matters, and that the paid officials controlled the situation. If this statement be correct my action will show that there are exceptions, and that some paid officials are not anxious to force their personal opinions on the rank and file, and prefer to remain non-partisan.

Personally I am against the principle of testimonials for public women and men, and only a few years back took a leading part in crushing an attempt to arrange one for a man occupying a high position in this city. The editor of the "Leader" will testify to this statement, as his facile pen rendered me valuable assistance on the occasion. The three delegates from the Auto Union were recently appointed, and had only attended one meeting previous to the fateful night. If I were a free agent that night I imagine I would still have refrained from voting, for the simple reason that I had not comrade Lawlor's explanation, verbal or written, to help me to come to an impartial decision. An average jury would hardly condemn Lawlor with the evidence at my disposal, and remember I was anxious to have all the facts. And if I had acted in a rash fashion I might be inflicting grievous injury on his innocent dependents as well. At this point I may mention that I have never spoken to Lawlor, and only saw him for the first time at Trades Hall meeting on 2nd inst. Of the deposed Executive I only know Comrades Timmon, O'Brien and Thomas Farren personally, and these together with the remainder of the deposed Executive I hold in high esteem. In my estimation the result would indicate that the delegates who comprised the majority vote were slow to pass sentence on a man without fuller knowledge of the facts, but at the same time the result would not imply any loss of confidence in or respect for the old Executive. Also if the delegates only got a fair chance the personnel of new Executive might be different. But it was not a night for cool deliberation, the place being a second Bedlam. The present Executive is not representative. The Transport Union with a membership of close on 100,000 has not a single member returned, while the Clerical Workers' Union, 9,000 strong, has returned a small army.

### AS A MEMBER OF THE IRISH CLERICAL WORKERS' UNION FROM THE START I AM NOT PROUD OF THIS RESULT,

as it cannot tend towards peace and progress. Do the general body of members of the I.C.W. Union approve of it as an example of democratic government? I would not like to think so!—Yours fraternally,

LIAM SLATTERY.

22 Dawson Street.

### THE E.T. U. DELEGATE'S REASONS

A Chara,—In the first place the whole question as it appeared in the circular issued by the late Executive was fully discussed at an aggregate meeting of the E.T.U. So far as it was possible for the members to judge as to the merits or otherwise of the unfortunate dispute, they did so. There was an evident

lack of details as to the original cause of the crisis, and some members were of opinion amongst other things that the Executive did not give the accused a fair trial.

A certain decision was come to by a majority—I forget the figures at the moment—and my colleague along with myself were sent with a mandate to vote. THIS WE DID, NOT POSSIBLY AS WE WISHED, BUT AS THEY—THE MAJORITY WISHED. THAT IS DEMOCRATIC. The causes that led to this decision I cannot go into now, as I have not consulted my committee on the matter.

I can say this much, however, THAT THOUGH OUR VOTE WAS AGAINST THE EXECUTIVE, IT WAS NOT BY ANY MEANS IN FAVOUR OF TESTIMONIALS, OR IN DEFENCE OF THE ACTION OF MR. T. LAWLOR IN RECEIVING ONE. At the quarterly meeting last Tuesday I was instructed to again take up the case, and so far as I am concerned the last word has not been heard on the subject.

So much for the E.T.U. view-point. Personally I am dead against any Labour representative receiving testimonials from those whom I for one consider the enemies of Labour. The acceptance of such in any shape or form must be taken as a bribe, and can have no other but a serious and detrimental effect on the cause of trade unionism. We know how Labour suffered in the past, and small blame to those who took such drastic action to make sure that such would not occur again.

My idea in the Labour movement is to see to it that the social, moral and material status of the working class be uplifted. Put the workers in a position to provide in educational and other essentials for their families. To achieve this we must have representatives whose business is not to LIVE ON THE MOVEMENT, BUT RATHER TO LIVE AND IF NECESSARY DIE FOR THE CAUSE WHICH THEY ARE SUPPOSED TO REPRESENT. In a word "ours must be a labour of love."

And while I am on the subject I may as well say that I deprecate entirely the introduction of where certain persons were in Easter, 1916. To me it matters not. The Labour movement is supposed to look after the interests of the workers.

Furthermore I take this opportunity of protesting against the disorderly scenes enacted at the Trades Hall for the past few weeks. Surely those who demonstrated should put their view in a more dignified manner.

In conclusion I have to say that I am "straight" on the Labour issue. I can well afford to be, for I have no "constant" job nor have I any prospect of obtaining a pension except if I attain the necessary age. I am in the very happy position of being a work man, and though I may start in the morning I may get the "sack" in the evening, and this fact alone ensures my comparative independence.

I trust I have said enough to satisfy you that I AM NOT FOR CORRUPTION OR GRAFT, and if you insist on the charges, I will leave it at that and say WELL YOU DON'T KNOW ME.

SEAN M. O'DUFFY.

[The emphasis is Mr. O'Duffy's.]

### ANOTHER LOCK-OUT OF DUBLIN PRINTERS.

On April 7th, following instructions from the National Congress held in the Mansion House in November, the Dublin Printing and Kindred Trades Alliance sent in a demand to the Dublin Printing Employers' Association for an increase of 33 1/3 per cent. on all wages paid to the members of the Alliance employed in the Dublin district. After a series of conferences an increase of 10s. was obtained for all those in receipt of 60s. and over, but in the case of the D.T.P.S. the Employers threatened to withhold the 10s. unless rules, which were drafted by the Employers, were signed by the representatives of the men. This the men's E.C. promptly refused to do, whereupon notices were posted in the various offices connected with the Employers' Association to the effect that on Saturday, June 30th, the men's wages would be reduced from 70s. to 60s. unless the objectionable and slavish rules drafted by the Employers were signed. Then the lock-out weapon was once more brought into operation, and 500 Dublin printers were fired into the street for the second time within twelve months. Such in brief is the history of the present dispute in the Dublin Printing trade.

Comrades, will you allow tyrannical and slavish rules to be forced on you under the threat of your wages being reduced?

CARTOONS BY ERNEST KAVANAGH.—20 cartoons by E.K., of the "Worker," making pictorial record of years 1912-1914, in Quarto Volume. 1s. post free.—Write "Mave," c/o the "Voice."

### BOLSHEVIKI AND IRELAND.

Again and again the Russian Bolsheviks have shown their practical interest in Ireland. Tchitcherine, the Foreign Minister, is generally the champion through whom the Soviet speaks for Ireland. He has spoken again, and in a manner particularly gratifying. "L'Humanite" of June 16 gives his reference to Ireland in a radio message sent to Bela Kun. The message reads: "Whereas in nearly every country our compatriots have neither protection nor representation we have put all foreigners in the same position, and we will afford them no special protection. Exception will be made, however, in the case of the Irish and the Egyptians, and of any other nationality oppressed by the Allies." For this special mark of honour both Irish and Egyptians will be grateful to the Soviet Republic.

### A BAS CLEMENCEAU.

We observe in the daily Press that to all intents and purposes M. Clemenceau is to say the last word on the recognition of Irish independence at the Peace Conference. We hope this is not true, and that nobody either in Ireland or America is putting any faith in the French Tiger. Wilson is a rotten reed and Lloyd George is a twister of the first order, but Clemenceau is the supreme villain of the tragedy that has been playing in Paris these seven months. A bitter enemy of freedom in France, in Germany, in Russia and in Hungary, Ireland has nothing to hope for from Clemenceau. He will do nothing for freedom but strangle it.

### THE IRISH RAILWAYMEN.

The report of the railwaymen's meeting which we print in another column gives a good example which might with profit be followed not only in other services in Ireland, but in the railway service in Great Britain as well. The combination of all grades of railway workers, including the N.U.R., the Crafts Union and the Transport Workers' for common aims and ends is a near approach to a Railway Workers' Industrial Union, and we trust the movement in this direction will go on until the Industrial Union becomes supreme in fact and in name. At the same time we congratulate the Irish representatives at the N.U.R. Congress at Plymouth—Messrs. T. C. Daly, Hennessy and Kenny—on the success of their mission. We shall not attempt to print their speeches, but it is enough to know that they told the truth as we know it in Ireland. And even in England the truth will yet prevail.

## Fellow-Workers

In the Printing and Stationery Trade ::

YOU know the danger of having unorganised workers employed with you. There are still a number of clerks and assistants in the printing and stationery trade who are not Trades Unionists. If you know them induce them to come to the

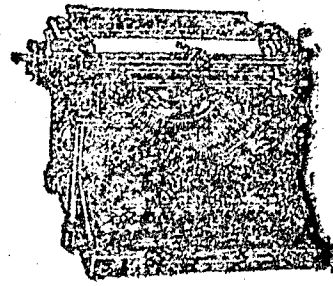
Mansion House, on Monday next, July 7,

where we are holding an organising meeting commencing at 7.30 p.m. If you call to the I.C.W.U. at 1 College Street, or to the Offices of the "Voice," you can get an interesting folder to hand to such clerks or assistants. Help in the good work.

IRISH CLERICAL AND ALLIED WORKERS' UNION,  
(Printing, Stationery and Allied Trades Branch).

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# Transport Union Notes.

## DUBLIN DOINGS.

Following strike notices, in response to an invitation from the Lord Supt. and the Engineer, C.S.W. Railway, a deputation representative of the Holders-up, Smiths' Strikers, Farnacemen and Forging Machine Operators met in conference to discuss the question of a claim for increased wages.

The application in this case was for the establishment of the rates of pay in operation before the war in the corresponding occupations across the Channel. Certain proposals were made by the Company, which were submitted to a mass meeting of the men concerned, held at Emmet Hall, Inchicore, on last Friday evening. It was decided to accept the terms offered, with certain amendments.

A one-day strike of the employees in Messrs. Sanderson, Dominick Street, secured for them the full terms of Sir Plunket Barton's award in the case of the Smiths' Helpers.

Four hundred men in the Dublin Dockyard ceased work last week, owing to a dispute relative to wages. A resumption, however, took place immediately, the matter at difference having been amicably adjusted by arbitration.

Pumicers at present have 50s. per week in the various city coach and van builders' establishments.

Potato Porters are seeking a living wage, and their claim has been duly despatched to the proper quarter.

The decision of the Interim Court of Arbitration on the claim of the Cross-Channel Dockers has been received at Liberty Hall, but as there were certain points in the award which required elucidation, a further conference with the Shipping Association took place this week. The result of that Conference will be submitted to the adjourned meeting of the men engaged in the Cross-Channel trade.

Messrs. Elvery, O'Connell Street, have given a further increase to their employees, as a result of a demand made by the Union.

Last Saturday morning, Messrs. Tedcastle McCormick's goods carters stopped work, owing to the refusal of the firm to meet their claim for payment of overtime rates. Pending a re-opening of negotiations, the men involved resumed work on Monday morning.

A deputation of the Fish and Poultry Operatives Section met the Employers' Association, for the purpose of having a better understanding of their relations in the trade.

The case of the men in the Scrap Iron Trade formed the subject of a discussion at the Employers' Federation last week.

The Newspaper Proprietors have consented to grant annual holidays to their machine room staffs.

In the case of the "Freeman's Journal," the clerks employed are still waiting for the manager to give effect to the terms of the recent award. If this is not done at once, we are credibly informed that a strike will take place.

Liberty Hall still stands, notwithstanding the gaping guns outside. Will Bank Porters, therefore, kindly note?

Another Trade Union "gone west." The Operative Butchers have decided to transfer their membership to the I.T. and G.W.U. Preparatory to this course, a meeting of the operatives has been arranged to take place for the purpose of the correct interpretation of the Constitution of this Union.

The Wine Porters' claim is under consideration by the Merchants' Association, and developments are expected hourly.

The situation in the Theatres having eased considerably, the threatened trouble may not now materialise.

Joint action has been taken by the Unions interested in the case of the men engaged by the Junior Army and Navy Stores. A decision one way or the other will be arrived at this week-end.

A well-attended concert in the Mansion House last Friday marked the close of the Strike. Numerous artistes provided splendid music. The proceeds go to capitalise the Liberty Cafe now opened, 31 Eden Quay.

## BELFAST ITEMS.

### Squaring-up.

In Jim Larkin's time, the cry was, "Where's your button?" To-day at the Belfast Docks the request to "Show your card" has not only removed arrears, but the non-Unionist likewise. Organiser Houston's hustle has brought an added keenness amongst the members and doubled the Branch income.

Seed Stores and Grist Mills are being called upon to join the "One Big Union" with good results.

The Hotel and Restaurant Worker is moving slowly in Belfast. A little shy of Trade Unions is this industry—the pace will have to be quickened, if they wish to catch up with their Dublin comrades in the matter of organisation.

The Dublin Gains may interest them. After a nine weeks' strike, the employees have gained a rise of 2s. 6d. a week, an extra half-holiday every second Sunday, the hours restricted to 62 in restaurants and 72 in hotels, with board wages 22s. 6d. during annual leave.

## SOME CORK NOTES

The butter trade advances reported last week apply to women, and the increases run from 5s. 6d. to 15s. 6d. a week. In one house the payments are retrospective for six weeks, in others for three weeks.

### A Minimum Wage Established.

The wages of women workers in Cork may now be taken as 21s. at 20 years of age. At least that rate applies in printing, laundry, Thompson's confectionery works, and the mineral water trades.

### Not All Gas.

Mineral water trade male employees now enjoy the increase of 11s. a week. The vanmen now have 48s. 6d., and other grades 43s. and 41s.

Laundry vanmen pocket 6s. and boys 3s. a week extra, this being the second increase since January. None of these settlements have involved strikes or arbitration—a remarkable achievement.

### AMONGST THE COUNTY BRANCHES.

#### Farm Workers Ready for Action.

The farmers' declaration of war has been met by the spirited response from the men: "Ready, Aye, Ready!" and for the next few weeks the docks must be clear for action on behalf of the men on the land. The Co. Kildare Farmers' Association Secretary, one of the typical loud-voiced "little" men, who declined to consult his members on the Union's offer of a conference and took on himself the responsibility of refusing it, now bawls with lungs of brass of a general lock-out in the county unless the Celbridge strikers are ordered back. The bombshell has proved to be a squib. The strikers will not be ordered back, and the vaunted lock-out may have its biggest result in the lock-out of the little Secretary. The Co. Meath farmers said "Nothing Doing" when asked to negotiate on the County demand and, as a consequence, strikes are on in Dunboyne area, where some of the farmers have already handed in their guns by conceding 35/-, and all over South Meath there will be "Nothing Doing" shortly. Limerick, Cork, Waterford and other areas are also on the move. Thus the offensive, or more strictly the defensive, has opened on two fronts. And, as the compa. say, "More to Follow."

#### Town Demands.

That in Maryboro' has been negotiated successfully—36/- for a 54-hour week, a half-holiday for carpenters, coal porters, etc., and the Infirmary staff have also got an increase. In Ennisclorthy a town strike was averted at the eleventh hour, employers being forced to agree to arbitrate. The Kildare traders are settling individually, some at £2. All fixed up in Nenagh at 5/- increases. Tullamore Employers' Federation will shortly consider recent demand. In Kanturk, a general half-holiday is near accomplishment.

Kilmacow.  
Farrell and Cronin, grist millers and recalcitrants, who refuse to grant demands or answer letters, have had their hippopotamus hides just pierced by a strike notice. Knocklong.

Accent on the "long" as regards the Creamery strike of many conferences. Satisfactory agreement was reached last week. W. O'Brien and J. Dowling representing the men, increases to 39/- and 42/-, with higher rates in special cases, having been established. Other grievances also fixed up. Stonecutters.

The Building Trade Quarry Owners are apparently as impervious to reason as their own quarry, but their long denial of a 48-hour week to the Stonecutters has necessitated a charge of blasting-powder in the shape of a notice of cessation. This affects men in Stradbally (Leix), Glencullin and Ballyknockan, Co. Wicklow. Mitchelstown.

Bakers secured full demands—a 10/- increase to 40/- for foremen and 7/6 to 32/6 for second-hands. The Interim Court will likely deal with Charleville bakers' claims. Listowel.

Organiser Neligan settled the strike of Latchford's men, an increase to 37/- being granted. Limerick.

Building trade employees are out owing to the masters insisting on six weeks' notice the men offering three weeks. Agreement has been reached on all points in connection with Dockers' demands, dockers receiving 12/- per day with differentials, constant men, carters, etc., an increase of 6/- per week of 48 hours. Tarbert.

The Co-op. Creamery settlement is—Dairymaid and Engine Driver, 40/-, general workers 37/6, a nine-hour day, 4/- extra for Sunday work. Cordangan.

Lacken Saw-Mills men want 11/- increase and an advance is also being sought by the employees of Lord Barrymore, of Land League notoriety.

### WATERVILLE BRANCH, I.T. & G.W.U.

This Branch is making rapid and steady progress. Within a couple of months it has attained a membership of one hundred and ninety-seven, and they all hail from within a radius of two miles of Waterville. Everyone in the locality—even the smallest employer—has recognised the Union, and has been paying his employees the wages which the Union has fixed. The only solitary exception, however, in the district is Mr. Stone, Lord Lansdowne's sub-agent. He is thought to be very independent. He has a large salary as Clerk of the Local Fishery Board, a good pension as retired Sergeant of the R.I.C., and a farm of land and commodious house from Lord Lansdowne. Yet he victimised two poor labourers, members of the Union, who habitually worked for him—fired them in fact—the wages fixed by the Union being considered by him exorbitant. Evidently he has little heed for the poor labourer's plight in these trying times. Not even the smallest employer objected to the rate laid down.

So much for the Waterville Branch. 'Tis going strong. Up, Kerry!

## Some Union Problems.

VI.

### PUTTING IT UP TO THE FARM LABOURERS.

In many parts of Ireland until recent years trade unionism was non-existent. Now, owing to the activities of the I.T.G.W.U. there is no part of the country without a branch of a Union. But even now among the members of those branches, unionism is not understood.

Many men joined up in a burst of enthusiasm after listening to an organiser explaining the wonderful results to be obtained from solidarity. But, in many instances after having succeeded in gaining increases of wages simply as the result of their placing their names on the Union roll books and paying one or two week's subscriptions, they thought they could dispense with the Union, and they no longer paid their dues.

#### The Union is the Members'.

They entirely misunderstood the meaning of Unionism. They looked on the Union as a something which existed in Dublin, in the next town or county, or around the corner.

They did not see that the Union was a Union of men, men like themselves; but, unlike them, having realised the necessity of continuing their association for their common good.

If the men who comprised the Union before their entry had acted as they did after they had got their immediate demand conceded there would have been no Union for the mushroom unionists to join.

Now, there are many men in the country at present reaping the benefits of other people's work without contributing to it; but not all those backsliders are let off without punishment.

In spite of the fact that until the I.T.G.W.U. got on the job the farm workers never got anything like a decent wage, in some instances, when employers promised to grant demands if men left the ranks of the organised workers, the men concerned took the employers' word and seceded.

Result:—The first week the increased rate was paid, after that wages were reduced.

#### THE MEN WERE SOFT;

won over by promises, and then when promises were broken, were too humiliated and ashamed to seek redress.

Others, who stuck to the Union somewhat longer, then got tired paying and slackened. They did not learn the lesson from their fellows who lost through their own cowardice; they thought they had enjoyed the privileges of Unionism so long that they could afford to let it slide.

The writer knows of many cases where, when the workers demanded that the farmer keep his agreement they were told the agreement was with the Union, and as they were no longer members he did not intend to treat them according to terms of agreement.

Many farm workers only join up or think of joining at harvest time in order to get high wages during the busy season. But employers can see very clearly, more clearly than many workers, and they know quite well how many men are prepared and determined to fight. And the fact of so many men having slackened their grip on their organisation has encouraged them to refuse to consider applications for increases in wages. And they are right.

There is only one way to achieve anything in trade unionism. That way is hard work. It is impossible to clear away the ills that have accumulated through years, or generations, of carelessness in a week or a month. If we only exercised 1-100 as much patience and showed 1-100 as much endurance in working out our salvation, as we exercise in working for the boss and in striving to dodge our responsibilities to ourselves and our fellows, we could almost see the day when nether bosses nor wage-slaves would exist.

Think it over, and do your duty.

T.A.N.

#### I.C.A. PIPERS' BAND.

The Sec. wishes to acknowledge some further subscriptions in aid of Band:—  
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Holders of tickets please note that the Drawing of Prizes, which was to have taken place on the 4th of July, has now been postponed till the 26th August, 1919. The sellers of tickets are asked to speed up their work. All monies can be forwarded to the Hon. Sec.

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