

defeat? I tell you a cause like ours; Is greater than defeat can know--It is the power of powers. As surely as the earth rolls round As surely as the glorious sun Brings the great world moon wave Must our Cause be

Who is it speaks of

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DUBLIN, SATURDAY, APRIL 18th, 1914

ONE PENNY.

N. 49 Vol III.]

CO-OPERATION

Movement. Labour

By R. J. P. MORTISHED.

b. 5 THE PIONEER OF THE CO-OPERATIVE IDEA.

ROBERT OWEN, 1771-1858.

Through all these years of turnoil and revolt, Owen, though hims if only a middle-class philanthropist, was one of the most influential leaders and guiding spirits of the working-class movement. He was unceasing in his propaganda for the uplifting of the workers and the overthrow of the whole social system. Λ series of congresses of all sorts of people were called together to listen to his preaching. Newspapers, such as "The Crisis." and" The New Moral World," were founded to carry his influence further. At the time of the builders' great strike in Liverpool he addressed a huge conference of the Builders' Union at Birmingham, declaring that "labor was the source of all wealth." Me was one of the founders of the Grand National Consolidated Trades Union, constituting himself its "chief recruiter and propagandist,' and providing it with its policy and inspiration. The influence he exerted was extraordinarily great and farreaching, and in its general aim, if not in its immediate proposals, wis very valuable. Not only did he insist on the necessity of s tingent regulation of working hours and factory conditions and the establishment of the minimum wage in order to prevent enormous social loss by reason of deterioration of the working classes, but he also—in contrast with the political leaders like Bobbett maintained that the prevailing misery was a necessary result of the uncontrolled development in industry and could only be removed by transferring the control of the new industrial system to the workers themselves. He expounded to the workers the three-fold doctrine that all wealth belonged of right to the workers, that it could only be secured to them if they owned and controlled the means of creating wealth, and that in order to obtain and exercise that control they must combine. In what way the workers were to get rid of the profiteer and organize production by means of the associated effort on whose value he laid such stress, was explained in some detail at one of his congresses in 1833.

"I will now give you," he said, "a short outline of the great changes which are in contemplation, and which shall come suddenly upon society like a thief in the night. . . . It is intended that national arrangements shall be formed to include all the working-classes in the great organisation, and that each department shall become acquainted with what is going on in other departments; that all individual competition is to cease; that all manufactures are to be carried on by National companies. . . . All trades shall first form Associations of lodges to

consist of a convenient number for carrying on the business.

All individuals of the specific craft shall become members.' Whether it was possible to secure such a thorough organisation of the workers, by what precise steps the workers, even when organised, were to secure control of industry, how they were to overcome the opposition of the forces of the State, and what relations were to exist between the different branches of industry when once taken over-all these obvious difficulties, to say nothing of the objection that the scheme would result in a re-distribution of capital in a still capitalist state and not in a collective state at all, all these difficulties Owen either did not see, or else optimi-tically ignored. In actual fact whenever any of these proposals for co-operative production and industrial control by "one big Union" or several "big Unions" were put to the test of actual practice, they failed utterly. None of his early co-operative colonies succeeded or could have succeeded. The attempts by the Grand National and other Unions to found co-operative workshops for their members were equally condemned to failure from the very beginning. Even if they were theoretically justifiable it is extremely doubtful if the Labor Movement of to-day, with all its experience and accumulated wisdom. could manage such ventures successfully. It is quite certain that they were hopeless in Owen's time. But though there may be weighty criticism of these proposals of Owen's, as of similar proposals that are being discussed to-day, nothing can diminish the value of the social ideal with which Owen inspired the workers of his day. He scattered the seed of discontent and aspiration far and wile. A little fell on stony ground, perhaps, and came to nought; some fell by the wayside, springing up and flourishing for a little while but dying down before the harvest time; some fell and was buried deep, lying dormant for many years, but springing up eventually in vigorous growth to yield a glorious harvest long after the sower had passed away. Part of that

Part I (c).—THE PIONEER SOCIETY.

harvest of Robert Owen's sowing the Co-operative Movement

of to-day is reaping, and there is no more interesting study for

"THE ROCHDALE SOCIETY OF EQUITABLE PIONEERS" FOUNDED 1844.

workers than the study of its early growth.

If ()wen's doctrine that character is determined by environment were accepted without qualification, one could never hope that the co-operative idea would come to valuable fruition in such a town as Rochdale was in 1844. Holyoake says of it, as it appeared even in the 1850's: "A little bridge that spans. like a rocking horse, an imaginary stream, in which there is nothing liquid but the mud, situated in an invisible part of the town, is the only picturesque object in it. . . . The remainder of the town is made up of roads that lead to nowhere, ornamented with factories apparently built before the dawn of architecture. There is not a building in Rochdale upon which it will do any eye good to look. The town is in the shape of a

tea-cup, with a gutter at the bottom and a burying-ground upon

the rim." The social condition of the town may be gathered from the statement made in 1841 by the Member of Parliament for the borough: "In Rochdale there were 136 persons living on 6d, per week, 200 on 10d. per week, 508 on 1s. per week, 855 on 1s. 6d. per week, and 1,500 were living on 1s. 10d. a week. Five-sixths of those he spoke of had scarcely any blankets, eighty-five families had no blankets, forty-six families had only chaff beds,

But if Rochdale was ugly and poverty-stricken, it was yet rich in the possession of a little group of patient, enthusiastic, far-seeing and high-principled men. At the end of 1843, the flannel weavers of the town struck for an advance of wages, They failed, and might have been forgiven even if they had yielded to complete despair. But they did not yield. In Holyoake's graphic language: "A few poor weavers out of employ, and nearly out of food, and quite out of heart with the social state, met together to discover what they could do to better their industrial condition. Manufacturers had capital and shopkeepers the advantage of stock; how could they succeed without on their own account. They would, as far as they were concerned, supersede tradesmen, mill-owners, and capitalists; without experience, or knowledge, or funds, they would turn merchants and manufacturers." All of those who made this valiant resolution were men who had been active in some democratic field—as Chartists, Trade Unionists, or Owenites. It was the Owenites who, in the main, inspired and controlled the new growth. A weekly subscription of twopence was levied. With painful slowness the little capital mounted up. When it reached the Lilliputian total of £28, the little group, now numbering twenty-eight in all, determined to start business. On October 24th, 1844, the "Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers" was registered under Act of Parliament, and on December 21st. the Society began business in a little old warehouse in Toad Lane, with infinitesimal quantities of "flour, butter, sugar and oatmeal." It is instructive to compare their humble practical application to the sale of such small groceries with the aims and objects of the Society as set forth in its constitution.

OBJECTS OF THE ROCHDALE SOCIETY OF EQUITABLE PIONEERS. "The objects and plans of this Society are to form arrangements for the pecuniary benefit and the improvement of the social and domestic condition of its members, by raising a sufficient amount of capital in shares of one pound each to bring into operation the following plans and arrangements:— 'The establishment of a store for the sale of provisions, clothing, etc.

"The building, purchasing, or erecting of a number of houses, in which those members, desiring to assist each other in improving their domestic and social condition, may reside.

"To commence the manufacture of such articles as the Society may determine upon, for the employment of such members as may be without employment, or who may be suffering in consequence of repeated reductions in their wages.

As a further benefit and security to the members of this Society, the Society shall purchase or rent an estate or estates of land, which shall be cultivated by the members who may be out of employment, or whose labour may be badly remunerated.

"That, as soon as practicable, this Society shall proceed to arrange the powers of production, distribution, education, and government; or, in other words, to establish a self-supporting home colony of united interests, or assist other societies in establishing such colonies."

The Society set out to "arrange the powers of production, distribution, education and government" by buying for and selling to its members groceries of good quality on strictly cash terms. The tiny capital was steadily increased by petty subscriptions; the goods sold gradually increased in variety and quantity; the Store was opened six days a week instead of two; the membership increased, new departments—butcher's, draper's, shoemaker's—were added as the years went by, and the saving effected by co-operative buying for cash waxed continually larger. The Pioneers Society was firmly established. The poor weavers of Rochdale, once condemned to live on insufficient rations of adulterated food and to dress scantily in shoddy clothes, found themselves now living on the very best, if not the most varied and dainty food, and dressed in substantial, if not elegant clothing. Moreover, whereas formerly they had been always in debt to the tradesman, they now were their own tradesmen and had accumulated savings of substantial amount. On the first year's trading, amounting to £710, the saving the Society effected was £33. On the thirteenth year's trading, amounting to £80,000, the saving effected reached £5,470. In the thirteen years to 1857 the total saving amounted to almost £20,000. The membership in the same period grew from the 28 pioneers to 1,850. The splendid example of Rochdale had been followed by other towns. For long none of the other Societies could compare in point of membership and sales with the Rochdale Pioneers, but the Co-operative movement of today had been securely founded and was sure of the extraordinary growth which is now to be chronicled.

Before proceeding to trace the subsequent history of the movement; it will be well to examine the reasons for the success of the Pioneers. The striking changes produced in Rochdale were, something new, but the method of producing them, save in one respect, was not new. There had been co-operative corn mills from the beginning of the century, and co-operative stores had been numerous enough between 1828 and 1832, and indeed it was to help these that the ill-fated Labour Exchanges were started. Founded on Owen's principles, the first of the Union Shops, as they were then called, was started at Brighton in 1828, and by 1832 had increased in number to four or five hundred. Then, quite suddenly, they melted away, and except for a few survivors straggling here and there, the Union Shop movement was dead before the Rochdale Movement started. The contrasting vitality of the Pioneers' creation was doubtless due in part to the sterling good sense, patience, forethought, and enthusiasm of the Pioneers

themselves, but the special distinction of their Society was their to produce it. On this system, the workers would have become method of treating the savings accumulated by their co-operative buying. The old weavers when they opened their shop might have endeavoured to sell their goods to themselves at their exact cost. But oatmeal that is bought by the sack cannot be priced at an exact number of pence or halfpence when it is retailed by the pound. Besides, there were certain standing charges for rent, for repairs, for extensions and reserve and so on which must in wisdom be met, and it was impossible to say how much must be added in consequence to the price of, say, half a pound of butter. There were two obstacles in the way of selling goods at cost price. The co-operators, therefore, sold goods at the ordinary retail price, as the simplest way out of the difficulty. But this involved the accumulation of a large surplus representing the difference between the market and the actual prices. Three methods offered themselves for distributing this surplus. It might have been accumulated perpetually and added to the orinal capital or distributed periodically to the members who had provided the original capital. In the end the Society either? . . . They would commence the battle of life would have degenerated on this system into a close corporation of profiteers, differing from the ordinary company only in the social class from which its members were drawn. Or the surplus might have been presented to the workers, employees of the Society, whose labor had helped

ALL LABOUR PAPERS & PAMPHLETS

> an association of profiteers, differing, it is true, from the ordinary capitalists, but the same in essence and inspired in the end with the same greedy spirit. The third method and this device, invented by Charles Howarth, was peculiar to the Fioncers was to return the surplus to the purchasers in proportion to the amount of their purchasers. This last method not only benefits the members by reducing the price of the goods and at the same time acting as a kind of automatic savings bank, but it also confers the benefits of co-operation upon an ever-widening circle of members that might in the end embrace the whole community. Every new member was an advantage to the Society by reason of the larger capital and wider scope his entrance made possible, and every new member shared equitably in proportion to his purchases in the benefits to be gained by the mutual action of the whole. It was this system, now known as the Rochdale system, which prevented the Pioneers' Society and its imitators from degenerating into close corporations of profit-hunters, as had often been the case with the Union shops. It was the permanent security and immediate advantages offered by a Society based on this system that rendered economically possible the steady widening of the area of co-operation and growth in the number and membership of Co-operative Societies that enthusiastic propaganda has since brought about.

A BIT ABOUT NOTHING MUCH.

BY SHELLBACK.

Tom Jackson lived in a district of Liverpool that for all its importance was little known to anyone outside its own particular community or those whose duties took them through its maze of dingy streets and among its moving lines

Tom had lived in this neighbourhood for more vears than he cared ber; not always in the same habitation, it is true, as he had on occasion, as prospects or inclination suggested, moved from ground floor to attic or from court to front street, but never going beyond the limits that were clearly defined by the two important commercial arteries that bounded the district on the east and west or the grim mass of warehouses and the black, sluggish waters of the canal that marked its extremities on the south and north. At the time I am writing of he occupied. with his wife and family, a spacious basement in one of a row of houses fronting a narrow-set paved street, through which, from morning to night and from year's end to year's end, passed a never-ending stream of heavy lorries and drays, drawn by those splendid horses Liverpool alone is famous for. When he would not be at work on the docks, or was without the wherewithal to join the gathering that was always in evidence at the bar of the corner pub, he would often spend hours, if the weather was suitable, sitting on the steps that led to his cellar dwelling. and, with his pipe in his mouth, would criticise mentally and with an air of keen judgment the qualifications of the men who as stevedores or porters had loaded these great piles of raw cotton, of hides, or the cases of bacon or other produce and raw material that slowly ground their way past him to the railway station or warehouse. The music of the horses' feet, as they clacked, clacked on the stone pavement, had also not a little attraction for him, and he felt a sort of personal pride in watching the broadchested, powerful animals swinging be tween the shafts and nodding their noble-looking heads as, without any apparent effort, they kept their heavy loads in motion, and slowly but surely, in their proper order and time, made the passage of the street and went out of his ken. Tom quite appreciated the advantage

of living in the front street, where he had the berefit of all these attractions that was denied to those re idents in the courts or the still more remote back alleys; and it is only truth to say that he was not alone in appreciating to the full the superiority of his home when compared with the less favoured, from this point of view, denizens of the darker regions. If the weather was such that it suited Tom to recline on the top of his cellar steps, it was equally suitable to bis neighbours, who were in the same predicament as regards work and coinage as himself, and consequently, when Tom would be so regaling himself it was pretty safe to assume that all the diferent cellars would have their human ornament on the top step, puffing pipes and going through the same mental performance regarding the passing lorries, and admising to exactly the same extent the various points of the horses. On these occasions the steps to the slightly more important front doors of the houses

would also possess a full complement of

the tenants of the different floors, who mustered a motley crowd, mostly women, some buxom and homely, and others thin and emaciated, ugly, sickly, fair and yellow, aged and youthful, all with their hands tucked under their aprons, taking pleasure in observing the eternal parade of horses, lorries, and merchandise that for ever was passing before them, and all so careless of the different charms that burst blowses and indifferent underwear made no attempt to conceal, sitting or standing, on steps or on doorways or hanging out of lofty windows while the smoke from Tom's pipe circled and curled into the thick atmosphere of deadly fumes that rolled up from the oily canal. There was usually an enormous crowd of children too of all ages. rolling and crying and laughing and continually making wonderful escapes from death between the legs of horses or the wheels of the heavy vehicles without effecting the slightest change in the stolid faces of their elders, or interfering in the least with their interesting occupation. On some occasions the top hat or frock coat of respectability would make its appearance when a Minister of religion, a landlord or a coroners jury would have business to transact there, but the feminine fashions were distinctly absent at all times except of course at election times. when Tory and Liberal ladies would overawe the populace by their exquisite or hideous toilets as well as completely turn their heads when they as they often did-kissed the black faced ragged children who would be too spellbound to cry.

Of course there is no particular need for me to tell you anything about Tom lackson, and I would never have bothered doing so if Tom hadn't been a Tory workingman. It was upon that fact that he based his vigorous opposition to the demand for Home Rule for Ireland, whenever that question cropped up in the bar of the pub mentioned above. would never have been impelled to emphasise the conditions surrounding his home life, if it wasn't necessary to account for a still greater peculiarity of his. He had no use—to use the phrase he commonly used in these pub arguments-for trade union delegates and he consciencicusly objected to contributing to the support of such lazy loafers. It always gave him great pleasure to rote the publican's hear, hear when he noisily and with lurid language expressed his opinions regarding that self sacrificing body of workers. He was well aware that the pawn broker on the opposite corner also agreed with his sentiments as also did the leader of the Salvation Army Band who had sen e enough to know that there was no need to batter drums or drone out horrible "music," or shriek blood curdling "hymns' in any other neighbourhood but that wherein Tom dwelt For Tcm quite agreed - however we can account for it—that hell was made for him and his like and heaven for the superior folk who lived God knows where, but it must be a long way

There was one opinion which Tom shared with the other sort of workingmen who lived outside the narrow limits of Tom's slum reighbourhood that was he disliked p licemen No argument en the part of either publican, pawnbroker laudlord, Tory or Liberal could convince him that policemen were not the greatest curse humanity was afflicted with, and

past the corner where the horses and

the lorries and their loads disappeared.

CAUTION.

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We do cater for the Workingman No fancy prices; honest value only.

and Jewellery Resalts SPECIALITY.

a staunch upholder of that opinion all

the way through. But Tom has been dead quite a number of years now, and his death is re-

rembered chiefly by the difficulty the bearers met with in getting his coffined body up the narrow steps from his cellar. He lies in some secluded, unmarked spot in God's acre, that publican or pawnbroker or Salvation Army leader has never tried to discover. Another Tom decorates the top step, other women fill the doorways and windows, the same fashions prevail in that intensely Con. servative quarter, and the horses still draw their lorries and their heavy loads slowly and majestically to the same old corner, where they turn, and are lost in the world beyond.

Ireland's Exodus of Emigrants Emigration statistics of Ireland, published recently show that the total number

of emigrants from Ireland during the year 1913 was 31,339, of whom 16,727 were males and 14,612 females. Those emigrants who were natives of

Ireland numbered 30,967, equivalent to a rate of 7.1 per thousand of the This number shows an inc as compared with 1912, average for any decennia records are available.

The United States of Am destination of 70 per cent. of natives who emigrated.

A correspondent sends us a circ issued on the 18th of last month by Mersey District Committee of the Federation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades, with reference to the Short Hours Movement.

The circular bitterly complains of the action of the fitters, who, it declares, "have apparently worked contrary to the movement." It also adds: "We have been somewhat harassed by the action of the Sailors' and Firemen's Union in filling. the places of National Amalgemated Union of Labour members who had ceased to work in compliance with the mandate."

Call to W. FURNISS For Good Value in IRISH BEEF AND MUTTON

None but the Best at Lowest Prices.

Talbet St. Mest Co., 36b Tamel M. he stood bravely alone and unsupported

Northern Notes.

Spoilify the Game.

Really it is too bad that these Labour people should spoil the little game that the politicians are playing in silence and the peace of engineered indifference. Thus on Easter Sunday morning, the Irish I.L P's anti-partition manifesto was circulated all over Belfast. Ten thousand copies were distributed. The ruthless exposure of the politicians game has caused a great deal of comment and the truth is at all events now before the people. In several quarters the truth was not at all welcome. But if we are to be sold it is certainly not with our own will.

Palling the Wi es.

Joe Devlin has been in town since the week end, and from what we can learn it is plain that he is pulling the local wires with all the skill of the master hand: To-night (Tuesday), a special meeting of the Belfast executive of the U.I.L. is being held. We are willing to bet that none of the important matters of discussion will be referred to in any Press report of the meeting. That is how the great "democratic" member for West Belfast puts his trust in Demos. The old motto of "trust the people" has long since been discarded in Devlinite circles. "Trust the politicians" is in effect, the new cry of a "democratic" reputation covers a multitude of sins in these days.

Setti: g to Work.

The Liberal "Ulster Guardian" pleads for a big Ulster Hall demonstration to show the strength of the Protestant demand for Home Rule. Frankly we are not very much in love with Protestant or Catholic demonstrations of this kind. An anti-partition demonstration would be more popular and do infinitely more good. We agree with the "Guardian" that there has been too much selfeffacement amongst the Belfast bodies favouring Home kule. But what did the Liberal Association expect after the cowardly surrender of the Ulster Hall in 1912? We are assured that in making this plea the "Guardian" represents the body of Liberal opinion. We hope it does, though we have had our doubts. It is understood that efforts are being made to organise a Nationalist demonstration against partition. Ma's mall is mithid. The Belfast Gaelic League is also protesting.

Baw-waw.

The "Irish News" has attacked a Newry follower of the Party for protesting against exclusion. Why doesn't the "Irish News" deal editorially with the anti-partition protests that have been made in Belfast?

CROBH-DEARG.

Read! Read! Read! "Labour in Irish History."

JAMES CONNOLLY'S Great Book. Published at 2s. 6d. New Edition, 1s. post free, 1s. 3d.

No Irish worker should be without reading this great story of the aspirations and struggles of the Irish working class in the past. No Irish Nationalist understands advanced Nationalism until it is

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DON'T FORGET THE

Rebels' Rally, At Antient Concert Rooms, on Saturday,

the 18th inst (all night).

is, Tickets at Door. **IRISH**

Transport and General Workers'

[No. 3 Branch, 17 and 18 High St.] ▲ General Meeting of the Members of No. 3 Branch will be held at the above address on Sunday next, 19th inst., at 12 o'clock noon.

Business-Nomination of Officers, &c., for ensuing year and other important business will be transacted.

Mr. J. Larkin, Gen. Sec., will attend. Admission by Card, and only financial members can participate.

J. BOHAN, T.C., Branch Sec.

Workers' Union, RTY HALL.

of the above Union held night the following resolupassed:-"That we, the memabove, tender to Mr. Petter Ennis ent caused by the death of his wife." Passed in silence, all members standing.

NO. 16 BRANCH Irish Transport Workers' Union.

77 Aungier Street.
At the usual Weekly Meeting of the above Branch a vote of condolence with Mr. P. Ennis on the death of his wife was moved by Mr. L. Callan, and seconded by Mr. R. DeCoeur. The motion was passed in silence, all members present standing. The meeting then adjourned as a mark of respect.

P. QUINN & CO., Makers of Beautiful Enamel and TRADE UNION BADGES, CNUACH STREET, BELFAST. Don't send your orders for Badges to England when you can get them as good and as cheapty

IRISH WOMEN WORKERS' UNION. in an useful way. But did the gentle-Liberty Hall, Dublin.

All sections of women workers are eligible to join the above union. Entrance fees, 6d. and 3d.; contributions, 2d. and 1d. per week.

Irish Dancing, Wednesday and Friday evenings at 8 p.m.

Social on every Sunday Night, commencing at 7.30. Admission 2d

"An injury to One is the concern of All."

The Irish Worker, EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

THE IRISH WORKER will be published weeklyprice one penny—and may be had of any news-agent. Ask for it and see that you get it.

All communications, whether relating to literary or business matters, to be addressed to the Editor, 18 Beresford Place, Dublin. Telephone 3421, Subscription 6s. 6d. per year; 3s. 3d. fer six months, psyable in advance.

We do not publish or take notice of anenymous contributions.

DUBLIN, Sat., April 18th, 1914.

Pembroke Election Petitian and the New Pope.

These are times when it is good to be alive. We see that there is a Commission sitting in Pembroke Town Hall supposed to be trying an Election Petition arising out of the late election in Pembroke. The contention of the petitioners we understand is, that owing to a circular issued the night previous to the poll, connecting the petitioners with Larkin that these petitioners were not elected. It is a funny world! The three gentlemen who complain they were libelled and prejudiced were supposed to be Labour men running on a ticket of fourteen, comprising eleven United Irish Leaguers, calling themselves Nationalists, disguised as Ratepayers' Candidates, and three so-called Labour men. An agreement was entered into that the electors would be asked to vote for the whole of the fourteen names on the ticket. Some of the creatures on this ticket of fourteen were, and are, members of the Ancient Order of Hypocrites (Board of Erin), job-hunters, liars, and moral assassinators. Singular to relate, the aforementioned circular denounced the whole of the fourteen on the ticket. The three Labour nominees were defeated (that is a little problem for Fleming and Henry to solve). The nine official United Irish Leaguers were elected. Don't smile ["for ways that are dark and tricks that are vile," the bhoys of the membered that the Labour nominees were not so designated either on posters, cards, or on voting circulars. Marvellous to relate two others of the fourteen were defeated, a Mr. Dench, Protestant Home Ruler, and a Mr. Marlow, a nebulous sort of person, but none of the Ancient Order of Hibernians were defeated. The feeling of dissatisfaction at the result resulted in a petition. Mr. C. P. O'Neill, Chairman of the Pembroke Board, who is a Hibernian, had charge of the petition. Mr. M'Dowell, another Hibernian, is solicitor for the petitioners, and the counsel for the petitioners are Mr. Sergeant Mc-Sweeney, Mr. John Muldoon, M.P., K.C.: and Mr. G. Horan, all good Hibernians. The two first gentlemen (capital letters, printer) could not be equalled for foulness of mind and malignity of disposition if one could riddle hell. This is the Mc-Sweeney who prosecuted a man in the late trouble for breaking the windows of a car which McSweeney was travelling in at the time knowing that the man was falsely charged. As a matter of fact McSweeney was compelled to admit in open court that he could identify the man guilty of the offence and did so when confronted with the man. His political and legal history we will deal with next week. He has grown hump-backed place hunting; he bears on his body Nature's sign-manual of what his forebears were. This creature, afflicted as he is with what is commonly called "King's-evil," which medical men describe by a scientific term, instead of arguing his clients' case, for which he is paid, has taken advantage of his opportunity, knowing he is privileged, to calumniate a man who need not be ashamed of either mental, moral, or physical examination; a man who has never deserted a cause or friend; a man who has never sold his principles; a man who loves a clean life; never lied about a man or dishonoured a woman, Can McSweeney, alleged Catholic and Hibernian, say as much? This foul creature who, for paltry dross, has in a mean, cowardly way charged Larkin with every crime in the calendar; made statements and reiterated them in the form of questions to his witnesses knowing them to be without foundation. His witnesses, I understand, all claim to be Catholics. Some of them are public men. Well, after reading their vile outpourings in the witness chair, one begins to think that these lying hounds must have escaped from "Sodom and Gomorrah." We have experienced some-

thing of the foulness and the want of-

honesty and truth in public life in Ireland,

but for brazen-faced lying, true Christian

Charity, moryah! and pitiful exhibitions

of cowardice, commend me to McSweeney,

Muldoon, O'Neill, and the witnesses—including Rigney, the scab!

One gentleman (!) was asked would he

touch Larkin with a forty-foot pole and

answered no. Wise creature, Larkin has

a habit of taking poles off people who

attack him and using the said poles

man turn the matter over in his mind yet? From his conduct in the witnesschair we are afraid the devil will feel somewhat disgusted when the time arrives. to pole the sweet Christian to his appointed place in hell. But may be we will see things if Larkin strikes back, and in a manner some of the petitioners and their counsel will be surprised at. We are glad that our enemies are exposing themselves. And now we come to the tit bit. Not only had we representatives of public administration, representatives of trade and industry-together with a representative of scabbery in Rigney, the Arch Scabwhat a combination; members of a trades union consorting with a renowned scale like Rigney-limbs of the law (mostly by the way, Parliamentary representatives.) but McSweeney had to find a new Pope; and so that kind Christian priest, Father McMahon, who masquerades as a Catholic clergyman, and who, of course, is a member of the Ancient Order of Hypocrites, whose motto is, we understand Benevolence and true Christian Charity, is brought into the foul arena of politics to explain the laws of the Catholic Church. This self-appointed Pope lays it down that anyone who associates or sympathises with Larkin or his work cannot be a Catholic. Will Father McMahon give us his authorities for this widesweeping statement? This Christian gentleman, with true Christian charity, would not if he had the power give a "Larkinite," as he calls them, a vote. No! And if we don't misjudge he would not allow them to live. But what a glorious thing it is that he has not got the power to either give or take away the vote, even though he may abuse his priestly office. Well, as O'Connell said: "Though we take our theology from Rome, we will formulate our own political principles." We say ditto, with this addition, that we will formulate our economic principles and work for their realisation, despite Father McMahon or a thousand lather McMahons. Father McMahon is not the Church of Rome. And we submit that a man who shows his personal vindictiveness and uncharitableness in such a manner, exemplied by his conduct at the Inquiry, remembering that Father Mc-Mahon in a properly conducted court would not be allowed to intervene, he not being a voter in the area affected, he is not worthy of the high and exalted cilice he abuses. A man who is so careless in his statements, so wilfully misleading in his charges, so lacking in all that his Master. l'eacher and Creator was the exemplification of, is not a fit teacher, guide, nor interpreter of the Gospel. The Pope of Rome does not reside in Westland Row, nor is his name Father McMahon. Far better for Father Mc-Mahon if he followed in the footsteps of Ancient Order can give the Freemason a the first Priest of the Church, meekly and mile and a beating.] It is also to be re- humbly, and displayed that charity which he unctuosly mouths but fails to practise. We are getting overwhelmed with people who claim to interpret the Church's teachings. We have Hastings, of Ballinasloe, the pal of Smyth Pigott, of Townsend street fame, on that -sheet recommended by rather M'Mahon, the loiler"; we have M'Intyre, the son of M'Intyre the emergencyman and a brand plucked from the burning, vice Hallows of Arklow fame We have John S. Kelly, thief and blackmailer; we have Edelstein, Jew and outrager of little children; we have had and have some, if not all of these vice creatures laying down the lawof the Church. And now we have a clergy-

> We read as we go to Press the report of t e debate in the House of Commons re the condition of the Dublin Slums. Clancy and Brady, M.P.'s, have been at their whitewashing of the cuckoos in Cork Hill. They say there is no slum problem. Of course there must be poverty and slums and unemployment. f there were no slums, no poverty, no unemployment, how could these people. these good people, who live in affluence on our labour, how could they express their sympathy, dispense their so called charity? How could their hearts bleed for the poor if there were no poor? Of course we must have the poor, the slum, the criminal, to oblige these kind ladies and gentlemen, and keep them amused. But, Comrades, why not find some useful, profitable work for these idle, charitable women and men whose bleeding hearts we hear so much about? Let us look at our children's bare, bleeding feet; they are a fact. See th m shivering, naked, and hungry. Look at our women ill-clad, ill-fed, ill-housed, and treated in an inhuman manner. Be men! Demand your rights. Stop cadging. Take your own.

> man, forgetting his cloth and the duties

of his office, venting his spleen on a man

in his absence, whose fault is that he tries

to live according to the Sermon on the

Mount. Next week we deal in detail with

the records of these gentlemen witnesses

at this bogus Commission of Inquiry.

Another Castle Jub.

Mr. Alfred Tennyson (not the poet), a relative of the Irish Chief Secretary, has been appointed as Inspector, Local Government Board, for Limerick district.

Strike in Shipyard.

Where, oh, where are the anonymous writers these last few days? Not a word about the destruction of a flourishing Irish industry; not a howl against Larkin. What is the reason? Are the scurrilous dogs getting frightened of barking at Larkin?

We are glad to know our countryman, Mr. Lindsay Crawford, is home again. Because he dared to be himself; because he put saide the prejudice engendered

by Orange environment and answered the call of Caithlin Ni Hulihan, and thought more of country than of creed, his Orange friends denounced him and refused him a living in his own lard; but the Orange order (old) were at least honest in their opposition to Crawford. They openly attacked him; not so the Catholic Orangemen, the A O H. Board of Erin), Ancient Order of Hypccrites. They, under the advice of the gentleman who pulls the political wires, knew that I indsay Crawford was out for unity among all I ishmen, no matter what their creed. Crawford had ideas. He was opposed to sectarianism, against monopoly and privilege; was emulating, as far as his powers and light carried him, the work of Tone, M'Cracken, Neilson, Russel, and the others of the United Irishmen. Crawford had brains and courage, and dared to do things; so Devlin and his clique made it too warm for Crawford They did not want unity Out of dissension they were b rn by dissension. If they developed Unitytolerance and comradeship -- amongst Irishmen, it meant obliteration to the Ancient Order of Hypporites (Board of Erin); so Crawford had to give to other lands the ability he is only too willing to give to his own land if all wed. "We bid him a hearty Cead mille failthe. My friend, you are welcome back home to Erin. We hope that you will stop bere. A time like this demands men. We congratulate the "Toronto Globe" on its special correspondent.

One of Larkin's Libeliers.

It was Lar in got the men lacked-out. It is he who is responsible for the un employment in Dublin This information was gratuitously given to me on Friday morning, by a gentleman dressed in frock coat, wearing a tall hat, and having the appearance of being well groomed and overfed. On my way through Parliament street, I had stopped to speak to some unerployed men opposite the office of the Dublin Distress Committee; and this aristocratic loafer came over to inquire for a painter named O'Keeffe. And he proceeded to libel the man who had compelled the Dublin emplo ers to disgorge some of the unpaid earned wages to their slaves. His weapons were the usual lies and his object to poison unthinking workmen against their ungurchasable leader. I told him some unpleasant truths about the parasite class to which he belonge. An audience speedily gathered, and the policeman moved the

WILLIAM P. PARTRIDGE T.C.

"DAILY HERALD" BIR HDAY.

Congratulations and many happy returns of the day. May your days be as bright as your columns, though not so "breezy." Two years of marvellous fighting, and still in the ring And on your second birthday, my, didn't you bite! Who could read you, and have a soul and not be a rebel? In the number under notice even the "litterateur" preaches the doctrine. And wbether it be Comrade Paddy MacGill, or Hillaire Belloc, or H. G. Wells, or G. K. Chesterton, they all grip. The messages from Mann, Grayson, Cunning am Grahame, and the other comrades are all heartening. And may the "Daily Herald" continue to grip the strong and to hearten the weak. May its influence grow as well as its columns; but may its columns never be captured by inflience like unto that which has killed the official Labour mouth-organ.

and Staff of "Irish Worker." Greetings.

JIM LARKIN

IN MEMORIAM.

We regret to chronicle the death of Hubert Bland, better known to us in Ireland as "Hubert" of the "Sunday Chronicle." All those who read Hubert's writings will be extremely sorry to hear of his demise -selfishly sorry because of the pleasure they enjoyed in reading his witty and well-reasoned literary output. But to others of us who knew the Hubert Bland, the thinker and prince of good fellows, there is a deep-laid sorrow indeed. We tender our sincere condolence to his widow and his children.

Our deepest sympathy to our comrade, Peter Ennis, on the death of his wife. To him has come one of those sorrows with which we can sympathise, but which sympathy, healing as it usually is, cannot assuage. The deceased, Mrs. Ennis, was known to us personally-a young, kindly woman but four years married, she was a willing helpmate. To her family our deepest sympathy. R.I.P.

Irish Transport and General Werkers' Uaisp.

No. 1 BRANCH.

At a meeting of the Committee of No. 1 Branch, held at Liberty Hall, on Wednesday evening, Mr. Thomas Foran Mr. William Fairtlough proposed the

following resolution:

"That this Committee tenders to Mr. Peter Ennis an expression of the heartfelt sympathy of the members in his great bereavement caused by the death of his wife; that we tender to her sister and the other members of the deceased lady's family an expression of our sorrow and our sympathy with them in their affliction, and this meeting stand adjourned as a mark of respect and esteem of the deceased and our sympathy with her afflicted family."

The motion having been seconded by Mr. Michael M'Carthy was passed in silence, the members standing.

CLONDALKIN NOTES.

Hoppy Joe Delany, postman, is very active in Clondalkin trying to keep men away from Transport Union meetings in this village, and declared last week he would do his best to keep everybody he could from the Transport Union office by telling them filthy lies. The next time you are talking, Jce, make sure that no one hears you. Walls have ears, Joe This gang might tell us the truth about the late Barry Quinn's death in Rathcoole or how he was killed in their drunken frolic. Joe's house is a rendezvous for the police, and every story Joe hears he tells it to the police. That's a well known fact in Clondalkin. Joe has a great dab for a pig or fowl when he is out shooting Of course the police don't mind Joe shooting any where, as he is one of their best spies. Keogh the dirty scab who done his best to injure a decent man in Clondalkin Paper Mills by stating falsehoods about him. He states that anyone who has done him an injury will suffer We are patiently waiting for him to try it on us anytime he calls he is sure of a warm welcome. But the cowardly cur could not face a man, but like a cowardly cur he attacks people behind their backs. The farmers are telling their men not

to have anything to do with the Transport Union for they are a raid of the Union, and the labourers who are advised by them must have no manhood or decency about them to take an employer's word for anything. Their idea is to keep you ground down with your nose to the grinding stone all your miserable life for your life is miserable and you know it. the only fault of the Transport Union is to try and secure a better and healthier life for your wives and children he farmers are afraid the Fransport men might take away from them some of their ill gotten wealth by rising your wages Farm labourers, be men and stand up and fight them for they are the enemies of you and your class. Did they not try to starve you a few months ago? Stand by your Union and if you are in arrears don't let that stop you from coming to the Union office. We know that you are not men of money and that you have not fully recovered from the effects of the shameful, cowardly and wanton lockout by the farmers.

EYEOPENER.

Some Thoughts in Passing. To the Editor "Irish Worker."

good deal of discussion these times is

April 16th, 1914. Dear Sir, -A question that causes a

the relationship that Christianity bears to Socialism. It seems to me that true Socialism and pure Christianity go hand in hand, as also does true Science. We must distinguish, however, between pure Christianity and many of the mock imitations to-day, both on the Protestant and Catholic side. Generally speaking, the Hierarchies of the Protestant and Catholic Churches side in more with the landlord and capitalistic class; they know on which side their bread is buttered. Seldom, if ever, will they invite a poor labouring man to dine or sup with them; they hob-nob nearly altogether with the big bugs. Occasionally they may give the working classes a condescending smile: but, of course, they expect them to lift the cap and to kneel and crawl at their feet in return. Contrast this spirit of most of the Hierarchies and many of the rank and file amongst the clergy with the example set by Christ and His Apostles, who were all chosen from the labouring classes, and who lived a life of poverty, chastity, and self-denial. hrist, as we know, to set an example of humility, washed His Disciples' feet, and gave them an injunction that they were not to be like the rulers of the world, who loved to domineer over their subjects and to have them all the time bowing and scraping, cap-lifting and crawthumping to them. So we find many of the so-called clergy to-day lording it over Gods heritage and out for filthy lucre. Let us not mistake the shadow for the substance, and let us distinguish between pure, unadulterated Christianity (as it came direct both by precept and example from the mouth of the Master) from bastard forms of it to-day. We must also bear in mind that it was the recognised clergy of His day-the Scribes and l'harisees - that were mainly instrumental, through jealousy, in crucifying our Saviour. The common people, we are told, heard Him gladly and strewed their

garments on the way. The great question of individual character lies at the root of all political and social problems to-day. We must, at the head of any great Labour Movement, have men of broad sympathies, striking character, not out for vain-glory; and, above all, men of moderation, yet firm, and having a due sense of proportion, bearing malice OBSERVER.

Elyan's Morning Prayer.

(Of Builders' Labourers' Fame, Claubrassi Street). Lent for forty days,

> Lent for forty nights; Lent in forty ways To forty unfortunate wights. Lent on shoons or rings, Lent on vatch or clothes; Lent upon everydings By Uncle Ikey Nose.

What Glasgow Means to Do.

Cwi their Own Pleasure Boats.

A Municipal Steamboat.

Councillor Alston, having there e early, the following motion in his sales was moved by Bailie Irwin : -

"That it be remitted to the General Finance Committee to consider and report on the propriety and advisability of the Corporation and the ser wilding a steamboat for the use of the members of the Corporation of the public, in connection principly with their Ardgoil Estate

The mover sail that the they had agreed to give 12,000 poor nothers and cheldren a day at the cross, it was unfortunate that there were it e city 100,000 more poor participants deserving of a holiday, but who were senied it owing to the lack of conveniences Such a steamboat as pr p see y uncillor Alsten would cause the Capacitien to give all its poor a day at the const

Councillor I. G. Siewall and Beile The previous question wis a ved by Councillor W. F: Russell. .. eribed the motion as the wildest it is never put before the Council.

Councillor W. W. Carri Co., another Tory, seconded the rejection of "this Utopian Socialist scheme," which could not be put into operation without Parliamentary powers.

These arguments secured the defeat of the proposal by three votes, but of course, the motor launch at Lah batrine will continue to be used by Fown Councillors who object to everything in the shape of Municipalisation except lancheons and receptions These latter don't affect profit. so they can be Municipalise i with safety.

It will be noted that both motions simply asked for an inquiry, but the profiteers, who glory in private enterprise. were so afraid of getting an exposure in Committee that they voted it in down. As we were leaving the Council Lovertook one man who voted for a Municipal steamboat, but against a Works Department. I asked him what was the difference, and his reply was-"A big difference; and you know it!"

The Revolt of Tulse Hill.

(" Tulse Hill Defies Larkin" - "Ulster" Banner at Hyde Park.)

He has fought like a lion in the trenches. He h s starved, he has been through the mill;

But even Jim's hardy soul blenches From the terrible wrath of Tulse Hill.

When Wimbledon whispers its warning, The heart of the rebel stands still: But who shall survive the red morning When wakes the thread wrath of Tulse

Though the disapprobation of Tooting Would give a strike leader a chil, A Bismarck would shrink from the hooting Which heralds the wrath of Tulse Hill.

The bell of your passing has beemed, Jim! Resistance will profit you ill Your fate is writ plain-you are doomed.

To fall 'neath the wrath of Tulse Hill!

In the Anti Home Rule demonstration in Hyde Park Saturday week, addressed by Cambell, Carson, Balfour, and all the other K-ruis of Toryism not forgetting the Galloper, E. F. Smith, the most prominent Barner displayed was one from Tulse Hill, London on which was inscribed; Tulse H.ll Denes Larkin." Well, between Father McMahon, John S. Kelly, Hastings, of Ballinasloe, John Good C. P. O'Nell, and William Murder Murphy, Larkin is getting a "L" of a time.

The Song of Labou.

A song to the builders of beauty, The rearers of temple and spire; A song to the strong men of duty. Who shape the world's future in fire.

Sing, sing to the women, the mothers, The weavers of life and of fate; The sisters who toil for the brothers, And open to hope the white gate.

A sing to the brain that devises, And bends Nature's will into law; A song to the brain that suffices Its purposes from many to draw.

Sing, sing to the thinkers and hewers, To brothers of brain and of brawn, A song to the world's mighty doers, Who work for a hastening dawn. Horace Spencer Fiske.

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EAT FARRINGTON'S BREAD.

A Chance for the Vigiance Committee

BY A VESE LAYMAN.

I warn with much pleasule to Father Bern : (Vaughan's interesting lecture which for east essingly painful reasons, still keen'y negetied I did not attend, and which, owing to the surerior distraction occasioned by the excessive contemplation of Mr. Murphy and his manifold works, I was not able to give the necessary attention last week. But first let me explain.

attermany hours of aiduous comp street I fin shed my modest little article last week, it was impossible to foresee some of the direc results of my indiscre-It was my first transgression, and already the consequences of sin are falling thics and heavy about me. It is recorded of a certain Noble Dake that one day, long a the enrage I with his cook, he very properly to cw here out of the nearest winhe sext day, when walking through and garlen, on his way to the corohere is here here a reized with an Agony it believes. For he had sudd ally remem bet to that immediately beneath that unlacks window were the finest roses in the whole luckery It was a terrible I sson, and the Nolle Dake who, unlike your Transport Workers was not too proud to learn wisdom from experience, was very core mever a ter that, whenever he had to it the to necessary punis ment on one of the domestics to cho se some other way,

or, at leat, some other window. Well it stems that I, too, have been compling rose eaves. I have been prica-tely and purick rebuked not for what I sul but for the nasty way I said it It sems that I ought not to have poked sly fun at Father Coleman, or to playfully hint that he is not quite so wise as Solomon. Will I am always anxious to learn, and, like the man with the donk v, too eager to pleas. Let us try another way
Parker Cole van is a scholar and a stu-

dent i have just been informed that he his virten a pond-rons volume full of the most stuperclous learning. Yet he has writt n a silly and mischievous pamphl-t without judgment, without thought, without care and, above all, without knowledge. The sample and direct expedient of going to Liberty. Hall and getting the facts at first hand does not even seem to have occurred to him.

He would have been made kindly welcome there, and he would have made many new and surprising discoveries. If the Irish worker is ever to achieve temporal salvation he must maintain and strengthen his Trade Union organisation until he has made it impregnable. That is the chief thing they are doing, or are trying to do, at Liberty Hall—But if Father Coleman will only descend from his attitude of haughty alcomess and walk round any day he will find other things being done there, and more being attempted which the clergy of this country could, and ought to, have done long ago. Instead of doing this, Father Coleman and Father Vaughan and my esteemed friend and neightour, Pather O Loughlin, are thundering against certain principles which, however mistaken, are based upon a stract notions of justice and equality, and aim at the high iceal of Universal Human Brotherhood. These principles-right or wr ng-are held by an increasing number of thoughtful and educated Catholics in this country and by millions of their co religionists all over the world, including in their ranks many priests and at least, one bishop. If Father O'Loughlin will throw Karl Marx at my head, as he very likely may do, I tell him that Karl Marx has been thrown to the wolves long ago. Besides, no one ever reads Karl Marx, not even Father O Loughlin. The main principle of Socialism that society should organise it elf cooperatively-has never been specifically condemned by the Church, and never will

Instead of examining these principles, these narrow minded clerics indulge in whelesale and unreasoning denunciation. Father - augliun—unlike Fathers Coleman and O'l ough in- did, indeed, say that the Socialists had done some good in calling attention to the evils of sweating-a duty which, let me say, could be and ought to be, more effectively discharged by the Church, but it was merely a well-understood rhetorical device wherewith you grease your opponent well over before pro-ceding to cook him.

It is not an unfair summary of Father Vaughan's lecture to say that the Socialist egg is good in parts but hed on the whole, and totally tends or thristian consumption. Well, for the present we will leave it at that There is much to be said pro and centra and I may cell the Pathers of the Church as with esses agon, st i ather Vaughan

Meanwhile, there is a very real and cryin, evil in our midst sapsing the vitality of our people and de-troying the moral fib e of the race, a d flourishing, unrebuked by

About two years ago I attended a Lenten Retreat for men at Carendon Street corducted by a very elequent Carmelite Plest from Galway For an hour every evening during the Fatreat this eloque: t Cannelite be rated and abused in the most shameful way the most respectable congregation I have ear seen accusing us of the most odicu crimes charging us with thrunkenness and debau hery, with lewdness and unchastity with swearing and blasphemy, with lying pilfering and cheating, and not so ng to our dety; in short, with almost every concer able wickedness, except murder, the neutable consequence being that we left the church every evening bursting with spiritual pride and filled with a grewin and uncharitable conviction of hardened sin in the people of Galway.

But there was one curious omission from this litany of objurgation. All this heavy artillery was fired clean over our heads, but if he had once mentioned Baldoyle or Leopardstown or the ace of hearts half the con-regation and some of the clergy would have been badly hit In view of the wide prevalence of this laneful disease of gambling among our people this omis-

sion was very puzzling.
Now, whenever I find anything in Ireland that seems to require a lot or explaining I do not ask a policeman or a Member of Parliament, or even my Parish Priest. I look towards that Sterling Nationalist and Fearless Patriot. Mr. W. M. Murphy in the sure and certain hope of finding the right answer. And Mr. Murphy, e er leady, furnishes the required explanation in

to-day's · Irish Independent." Every thoughtful student of contempo-Tary human nature must have noticed the enormous space in the daily press that is gi en over to horse-racing and betting news. There may be a dozen horrible murders, a disastrous shipwreck, a colliery explosion,

or an earthquake, bringing death to thou-These things may extinguish the leading article, shorten the Parliamentary report, 'crowd out' Father Vaughan's eloquent Lenten sermons, and e en some of the advertisements: but they will ne er overflow into the sacred columns of the sporting page, nor abbreviate in the smallest way the betting tables

Now I put it plainly to His Grace the Archbishop and the clergy that there is in the publication of these betting adds displayed so prominently and offensively every day in the Press not only a shocking temp tation to the youth of this count y to waste their time and their money and indeed, their lives in unprofitable and unhely speculation, but an open and flagrant incitement to sin. In plain terms, we are all being urged in the columns of the Catholic and Nationalist Press to violate the Tenth Commandment with only too much sucress, and a gifted and imaginative race left with little or no intellectual interests, is having its mind daily poisoned by in-idious and figly temptations.

This is a'l bad chough, but worse remains behind. As I pointed out la t week, Mr Murphy's papers—and, to a lesser extent, the 'Freeman'—are publishing alvertisements e ery day which no reputable

English newspaper will accept Even the Syndicelist 'Daily Herald' refuses them, and-it is extremely mortifying to be compelled to add—the Unionist 'Irish Times' and the Orange 'Daily Express" ere in the same honourable category. I connot profess to any liking or admir-

ation for the Vigilance Committee Ita methods are too crude and indiscriminate, and it is sadly lacking in balance and a sense of proportion. And I have very grave doubts of the moral and intellectual or spiritual compet nee of these people to decide what books or newspapers you or I may, or may not read. And I hate wasted effort and dille most of all to see the bright and not lligent youth of this city put to such a dull and unintelligent use as the persecution of poor newsage its who as Mr. Murphy wou'd put it, do not share the Vigilance Committee's view as to the way their busin ss should be con ucted

Here is a new and vast untilled fin'd for their labours wherein, if nothing more be achieved the Cown of Martymom may be surely attained For a mighty Dragon stands in the path whom all men fearwith fangs and claws and tentacles, all complete, omiting forth brimstone and sulphur, leading articles, racing specials and other poisonous and deadly things. He commands the army and navy, and the Courts of Justice, the magistrates, and the police are his slaves. The Powers of Darkness obey him, and the H avenly Powers fear him. He has many names in many countries, but in Ireland his name is always Murphy.

The Irish Citizen Army.

SPECIAL PARADE

A Parade will be held in Croydon Park on Sunday at 1 o'clock. Captain White will be in charge, and at this parade selections will be made of men to act as Provisional Company Officers. All enrolled members must attend. It is essential that drill should be commenced as soon as possible to be ready for Military Display at the Aeridheacht now in course of arrangement.

On Sunday last successful meetings were held in Clondalkin and Lucan, and the various speakers were listened to with attention. The enrolment of members in Lucan was left in the hands of Messrs. O'Sullivan and O'Neill, and in Clondalkin M. Costelloe will be happy to receive the names of all those workers who, recognising as the rich do, the side on which their bread is buttered, wish to join the only organisation of its kind that gives to Labour its rightful place in the Nation. The members who join are requested to elect from amongst those pessessing the best knowledge of drill provisional officers to teach regularly squad, section and company drill, and to make arrangements as soon as possible to obtain the armlets, which may be had at twopence each from the Hon Sec. Liberty Hall

On Sunday, April 19th, public meetings will be held in Coolcek at 1 o'clock, to be f llowed by a public meeting in Kinsealy a 3 o'clock.

In Swords also at 3.30 a meeting will addressed by Captain White, D.S.O, and Frank Moss. Men of Fingal! join the Irish Citizen Army that stands to defend the fair and just claims of the workers for or pertunities to live an honest, upright, un t a cleanly life.

" Wen of Labour, young and hoary, We uld ye win a name in story Strike for Freedom, Right and Glory!

Membership still continues to grow; steps are being taken to send deputations to all the different trades unions to explain. the objects of the Irish Citizen Army, also to hold open-air meetings in different parts of Dullin.

Look out for the Irish Citizen Army Monster Aer dheacht, which will be beld on the second or third Sunday in May, This event will be an unique and singular surprise and will prove that Aeridheachta can be made supremely attractive by the introduction of new and remarkable features.

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NOTICE:

All contributors, without exception, are requested to note that all literary matter intended for the "Irish Worker" must be sent direct to the Editor, Liberty Hall. and not to the printer.

EDITOR.

Independent Labour Party of reland.

INELAND UPON THE DISSECTINA

FELLOW WORKERS As the only political organisation in the North of Ireland which, seeking first the well being and freedom of the working class, has yet at all times resolutely stood for the attainment of Irish Nationhood, we desire to appeal to you and the public generally to protest with all possible power and without los of time against the proposal to allow the unity of Ireland to be placed at the mercy of the voters in a small part of Ireland. The Exclusion Proposals put forward by the Liberal Government, and accepted by the Home Rule Party, mean that a vote is to be taken of the electors in the Ulster Counties and in the two Boroughs of Belfast and Derry on the question of whether these places will continue to be reckoned as part of Ireland, and therefore as subject to the Home Rule Bill. If the majority in any one of these places vote against Home Rule then that county or borough will be cut off politically from Ireland and the Home Rule Bill will not apply to it. This, in simple language, means that a local majority, in Belfast or Derry, for instance, are to be given the power to wreak their hatred upon ireland by dismembering her, by cutting Ireland to pieces as a corpse would be

cut upon the dissecting table. Cromwell, in his worst days, the Orange Order in its most atrocious moments, never planned a more dastardly outrage upon the rish nation than this. And remember that this is planned by the political parties, who for a generation have taught you to believe that they hoped for and worked for

IRELAND A NATION. Yet in the moment when it was possible and easy to realise that ideal they consented to betray you, and to place your hopes and the unity of your nation at the mercy of the voters in the Ulster counties and Loroughs, where the seeds of intolerance, bigotry, and opposition to social progress have borne the most evil fruit and darkened the vision of the largest multitudes.

But we will be told that this Exclusion is to be only temporary, and Home Rule and Liberal politicians are whispering into your ears that they are resolutely opposed to any extension of the six years' limit. Do not be misled. Remember that no man can foretell the course of politics Could any Home Ruler have foretold one year ago that the Home Rule Party would have consented even to discuss this dismemberment of the Irish Nation? He would have been driven in disgrace out of the AOH. or the U.I.L. if he had suggested a year ago that such a thing was possible. But to day these organisations are loud in their approval of the proposal to put Ireland upon the dissecting table and to give into the hands of Sir Edward Carson and his dupes the knife with which to cut her up. But truth will out, and even the politicians themselves let slip the fact about the real probabilities of the future. Read the speech of Mr. John Dillon, M.P., in the House of Commons on the night of Wednesday, April 1st, as reported in the Liberal "Daily News and Leader" of the following day. He laid stress upon the fact that two General Elections will take place within the veats. He sai

"Ulster had been offered the safeguard of two elections, and it would be an event unparalleled in British history for the Unionist Party not to win one of them."

What would happen, then, if the Unionist Farty won one of these elections, as Mr. Dillon says they almost certainly would? On the same right the Solicitor-General supplied the answer. He said-

"If the other side came into power and brought forward a Bill to Exclude Ulster, it would have a royal and triumphal procession to the foot of the throne."

So that here you have two leading spokesmen of the Liberal and Home Rule Parties admitting that the six years' limit is only a form of speech—that in practical politics it will have no real existence. What this proposal is really doing is establishing the right of, and giving the power to, a small minority to destroy the nation as a nation towe again repeat it—place Ireland upon the dissecting table, and give into the hands of Sir Edward Carson and his followers the knife with which to cut her up. No amount of speeches against Exclusion which the Home Rule politicians may hereafter make should be allowed to cover or hide their complicity in this damnable crime, or to obscure the fact that it was and is their acceptance of Mr. Asquith's proposal that alone makes Exclusion possible.

Think of all the measures needed by the workers in this part of the country which will be impossible if this Exclusion is allowed. The Nationalisation of Irish Railways, so badly needed, will be an impossibility; the Extension to Ireland of the Medical Benefits of the Insurance Act. the Provision of Meals to Children at School, the Abo'ition of Sweating, and the general safeguarding of the interests of Mill Workers, and other forms of Labour needing Legal Protection, will all be delayed, if not absolutely lost, if any part of Ulster is cut off from Ireland as a nation. And in addition, all the old sectarian jealousies will be kept up, workers will be kept fighting with workers, and progress will be impossible.

We appeal to you then to arouse yourselves to the gravity of the occasion. Make your protest in every possible way. Do not allow it to be said of you by the children of the future that your generation was the only generation in all the history of Ireland that consented to betray her, that granted to an intolerant minority the power to destroy the unity of the country, to disrupt and dismember it, and that you granted this at the very moment when Labour elsewhere in Ireland was most assertive of its rights, and most desirous of a Free Irish Nation as the natural guardian of those rights.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. Independent Labour Party of Ireland, Belfast Branch.

Meetings :-Winter: 5 Rosemary Street, eyery Sunday evening, at 8.
Summer; In Library Street and Royal Avenue, every Sunday evening, at 8.

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SPECIAL TO "IRISH WORKER."

MR. TOM MANN OPENS HIS CAMPAIGN

IN THE CITY HALL, CAPE TOWN, S.A. Solidifying the Labour Forces of the World.

On March 24 Mr. Tom Mann, who has been sent out to South Africa by the Executive of the Labour organisation in Great Britain to assist in organising Labour in this country, opened his campaign by addressing a mass meeting in the City Hall. The large hall, plat form, floor, gallery, and hays were crowded to their utmost capacity by an enthusia-tic audience of men and women. Mrs. Dora Mont fibre occupied the

chair, and amongst those on the platform were Rev. Mr Balmworth, Messrs. Andrews, M.L.A.; Creswell, M.L.A.; Boydell, M.L.A.; Sampson, M.L.A.; Haggar, M.L.V.; J. N. Thompson, W. C. Muncoe, W. Carter, W. S. Ercles, os Newbiggin, J W. Sutherland, A. J. Freitas, W. Freestone, C. Pearce.

Mrs. Dora vontefiore, who was receive i with loud cheers on rising to address the meeting said: "Men and women who work with your hands and brains in Cape Town (Cheers) This meeting has been called for you to give a welcome to our courade from oversea-('oud cheers)and to hear from him his message which he brings to the rebel wor ers of South Africa from the rebel workers of England. Their struggle is our struggle. (Loud Cheers) Tris meeting has been called during a great crisis, when the Labour leaders have been outraged by being kidnapped, and refused a trial in the country where they were working, by being exiled from their hones and fami les by being placed on board ship, I believe, according to the affidavits of some of these men, at the point of the bayonet. (Loud cries of "Shame.") They were sent to England deported because the autocrass, the executive of an autocratic Gov r ment, wished to try to destroy the movement of the workers by deporting the men whon they thought were the cause of the unrest here."

At this stage the meeting burst into loud and prolonged cheering to welcome Yr. Creswell.]

THE MESSIGE.

Preceding, Mrs Montefiore said that by their action the Government had hel, el the workers in their struggle, and in many ways the effect of those nine men bei g deported was welcomed (Hear. hear. They had gone home and would go on the continent to carry the fiery cross of revolution to the uttermost ends of the world. (Loud cheers.) Tom Mann who was with them that night needed no introduction to any meeting of organised workers (Cheers.) His work andh is propaganda were too well known in every part of the world. In Australia, the United States which, he had just left, in England and on the Continent his work and his energy was well known, and the message he brought to-nightto organise, to educate and to agitatewas a message which he carried fro n East to West and from North to South. They had also on that platform not only the man who would give them the industrial interpretation of the industrial message but they had their own political leader. Mr. Creswell loud cheers)-who, with his stalwarts, had put up such a tremendously fine fight day after day in defence of liberty and organising the workers in the defence of the rights of the citizens which had been trampled on and made of no account by the Executive of the Government. As they knew, there had been no Opposition in the House of Assembly except that of the Labour Party. (Cheers.)

Mr Dean said he was not afraid to say he was the Secretary of the Federation of Trades in the Penincula, (Cheers) On behalf of the Federation of Trades in South Africa he demanded that the Government would return his chief. (Laughter and cheers.) Their forces were not quite exhausted as General Smuts seemed to think, because of a few deportations and a series of wholesale imprisonments. (Cheers.) The more the Government did that way, the more the workers would fight, and he defied General Smuts to ignore such men as himself. Cheers He had been asked to welcome Mr. Tom Mann on behalf of the Federation of Trades, representing tweive different unions. The workers had a right to have a big say. (Great cheering.) They had on their platform mild reformers and fiery revolutioniste,

MORE WILCOMIS

Mr. Tom Mann. (Cheers.) Mr. M Manus, on behalf of the Social Democratic Federation, of which he was President, said he had to thank Mr. Tom Mann for landing on the shore and soil of South Africa. (Greet cheering.) General Smuts, with all his policy in South Africa, would not be able to stop the workers from coming into their own. The excellent audience present was worthy of Mr Tom Yann, and Mr. Tom Mann was worthy of the audience. (Cheers.)

but all would give a hearty welcome to

TERBIBLE WARNING TO THE GOVER MENT!

Mr. A. Ridout, M.P.C., said Mr. Mann had come to preach the solidarity of the workers (Cheers.) All things in this world were possible. In their Government they had got the greatest gang of political thieves that any country had ever seen (Greet cheering. But he wanted to warn that Government that unless they mended their ways the workers would take strong action to deal with them. (Cheers.) The workers were prepared to sacrifice even their lives for

for liberty. (Great cheering) Mr. Jack Thompson said he was there that evening in his capacity as President.

of the Cape Town and District Federation of Trades Unions and in their name and on their behalf he had to extend a very cordial welcome to Mr. Tom Mann. (Cheers.)

MR. MANN'S CONGRATULATIONS. Mr. Tom Mann next rose to speak and was received with loud and prolonged cheering. He thanked them, he said, for the cordiality of their reception, and desired first of all to congratulate them very heartily upon the magnificent results in the Provincial Council elections in the Transvail, and at the by-elections at Liesbeek. They got the news on the boat by wireless and many on board were exceedingly pleased. They could see there were evidences of solidarity on the part of t'e working classes which they had hoped for, and which they had not been quite sure existed. He for one was de lighted that that degree of solidarity had been made possible. (It was thus very early evident that industrial solilarity was to be the keynote of the speaker.)

Pro reeding, he congratulated them upon the behaviour of the men who had been deported, the men who had been carrying the propaganda campaign on behalf of the working classes internationally. (Applause;) He had had the privilege of meeting the men four years ago, when he previously visited South Airica, and he was delighted when he again cane into contact with them in London at the vigour, the depth of feeling, and clearness of vision which characterised each of them. At meetings, including a demonstration at Hyde Park, where the ordinary press reported two hundred thousand present they had acquitted them. selves right manfully, and were a credit to the movement with which they were identified. (Cheers).

PROBLEM DEMANDING SOLUTION.

Africa of a most helpful and encouraging

character, and whatever had been the

cost it had been well worth it. He

A change had taken place in South

realised the position of responsibility he occupied at that hour, and so far as he was in any sense genuinely representative of those who requested him to come he was there to declare that whilst it was sure to be the case that they did not all think alike, he valued deeply every effort which had been put forth which contributed anything towards the clearness of vision, the right conception of the ideal, the understanding of the vast development through which the working classes must pass in order to realise the ideal state. Those who desired that he should come to South Africa were thinking deeply of those questions which made up the social problem the solution of which they did not think it was possible for any human beings to prevent It was a problem that demanded solution. No thinking man or woman could deny that, and he was there, having passed through a number of experiences which enabled him to gain information, to render some assistance towards helping them on towards that periect organisation of the workers which they believed was an absolute necessity. here must be much more perfect industrial solidarity than at present obtained, and in saying so he would not hesitate to speak fearlessly, frankly, and freely. When he was requested to come to these shores he said that whether he was allowed to land or not he would come and try to land-(cheers)—and now being here, and glad that he was here, he would not hesitate to give expression to the principles which he believed to be necessary for the general advancement. It was not any part of his business to attempt to deal with governmental forces; that could be better done by those with experience and knowledge of local affairs, men who were on the platform, and whom he thanked for their presence. They could rely upon it that anything that he would do or attempt to do would be calculated in no way to impede the work in which they were engaged. Whether they were able to endorse all he might say or do, or whether he could endorse all they might say or do, the object in each case was the economic emancipation of the workclasses, that advance which would never finish until the dominant classes that now subjugated them, and robbed them of the results of their labours, were overthrown. (Loud cheers.) Some would say it was dangerous to advocate a class war, but he had been engaged in that little business for twenty years, and he had certainly not come to South Africa to

WORKING HOURS. Proceeding. Mr. Mann went on to defend the attitude of the Kleinfontein men in resisting encroachments on the Saturday afternoons, and pointed out that reduction of working hours had always been the most advantageous means of getting redress for the workers. That had never been a mistake or a failure. (Hear, hear) Britishers for the most part had the requisite horse sense although lacking in ideals to see the wisdom of the curtailment of working hours long ago, and while in the early days they used to work on Sundays, for more than 50 years the great percentage of the working classes of Great Britain had had their Saturday afternoon holiday as well as Sunday. That was one of the best things accomplished by the working classes. With those men on the Kleinfontein mine, a principle was at stake, and it was their bounden duty to refuse to move one iota. Cheers.)

back down. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Mann)

knew there was a class war, and he be-

lieved that every intelligent man and

woman knew it. (Cheers) They were

hone tly trying to understand the best

means of conducting their side, the

working class side, of that war.

Please Support our Advertisers,

Workers' Rally in Bray.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING.

THE CITIZEN ARMY CAPTURES THE TOWN.

SPEECHES BY CAPTAIN WHITE AND JIM LARKIN.

On Wednesday, the 15th inst, a public meeting was held in Bray, facing the Town Hall, which the Urban District Council, anxious to preserve their undoubted respectability inviolable, had refused to the workers. The meeting was presided over by Sean Dunne, who introduced to the great assemblage of the workers the now well-known figure of Captain White, who is one of the few of his class who have demonstrated their sympathy with the hard, unrelieved life of the workers.

The Captain was in fine form, and, in an earnest address, pointed out the futility of Labour's hopes without vigilance in thought and discipline in action. He appealed to all present to reform their ranks, to stand fast to the Union of their choice, and to allow neither the voice nor pen of their enemies to cajole them into believing that they could hope to accomplish anything without standing by their own class through good report and evil report. He exhorted the men of Bray to enrol in the Citizen Army, to study its objects, and to realize that the Irish Citizen Army would be the advanced guard, adisciplined and alert, of the organised forces of Labour.

Jim Larkin followed, and in an impassioned speech appealed to the workers to remember the principles of Wolfe Tone, Emmet, and John Mitchel. He demanded to now if the worker's child was not as sacred as the life of the child of any nobleman. He appealed to the wo: kers to read, to study, for by education alone could the workers alone realise their own possibilities and their own

Jim advised all the men of Bray to immediately identify themselves with the Irish Citizen Army, and passionately called upon all to hearken to the voice of Ireland, reminding them that to suffer for Ireland and for humanity was to enter into a brighter and a fuller heritage.

"A Nation Once Again" was sung enthusiastically by those present, and hearty cheers having been given for Mrs. White, Jim Larkin, and Captain White, the proceedings terminated.

Any worker wishing to join the Irish Citizen Army in Bray may do so by signing the form and by giving his name to Sean Dunne We hope the men of Bray, who have the spirit of true Nationalism in their hearts still, will not hesitate to join a movement that stands for an Independent Ireland, and that they will not allow any foolish sentiments of respectability to come between them and the workers who alone are incorruptibly attached to the faith of Irish Republicanism.

S.0'C.

BOXING.

We have had occasion to notice the manner in which boxing ' promoters', sweat the principals in contests in Dublin. We had practical evidence of this on Monday night last. A "promoter," who was himself a principal in the years gone by, exhibited the spirit actuating the "promoters" in question. Mr. Pat Fox issued a challenge on behalt of Frankie Dwyer that he was willing to back him for £25 a side to fight any lad in Ireland for the Light-weight Championship Mr. M'Gurk immediately took up the cartel on behalf of Frankie Dillon. The promoter in question, who had secured the signatures of the lads to box 15 two minutes rounds for what he calls the Light-weight Championship, immediately wanted to grab the side stakes as an ad. for his promotion, without allowing the backers to have anything to say to the matter. May we ask when was a championship decided by a 15 two minute rounds contest? And is it not an unwritten law that the purse is based upon the side bet, wherever there is a side bet?

We are happy to say that there is a great possibility of this sort of syste. matic robbery being stopped. Pat Fox, who has done his best in the past to purify the boving game in Ireland is running a tournament for all weights at Croydon Park next month. The tournament will include championship contests and competitions in both boxing and wrestling. He has secured the service of Mr. J. Frank Bradley, of "The Mirror of Life," the doyen of referees. It is unnecessary to say that where Joe Bradley has charge of the fighting the men have to fight, and the best man gets the verdict. Mr. Fox has informed us that the entries are coming in well.

Irish Trades Union Congress PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

Will trades union officials please note MONDAY Next, April 20th, is the last day for receiving resolutions for Congress

P T. DALY, Secretary. Trades Hall, Dublin.

Dublin United Trades Council. AGENDA.

The Housing League—The President The Printers' Forward Movement-Mr. O'Flanagan. Labour Day-Mr. T. Murphy.

Resolutions for Trades Congress-Mr. McPartlin.

The Poor Law Elections-Mr. T. Farres. Requisition Forms and Labour Rapres. soutation-Mr. Porce.

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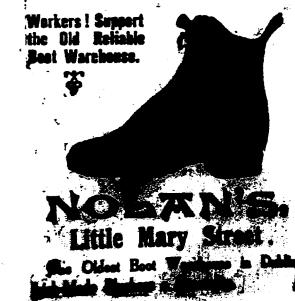
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THE VOICE OF THE IRISH DUBLIN HOUSING CONDITIONS.

SOME STARTLING FACTS.

BY VERY REV. PRIOR MCNABB, O.P.

(From the "Catholic Times and Catholic Opinion.")

The duty of preaching on St. Patrick, near whose grave I was born, recently took me for the twentieth time to one of the world's greatest books, an apostle's "Apologia pro vita sua," the Confessions of St. Patrick. Once again I discovered that unique product of literature, only equalled in the Acts of the Apostles, the paragraph beginning in Latin en-

tangled with Gaelic mannerisms: -" Et

iterum post paucos annos." Let my pen

honour itself by writing it down word

for word in a threadbare translation.

"Once more, after a few years, I was in Britain with my people. They welcomed me as a son and by my love besought me that at least now after the many sorrows I had borne I would never leave them.

"And there, in the self-same place. I saw in a vision of the night a man whose name was Victoricus coming unto me from Ireland with letters beyond count. And he gave me one of them, and I read the beginning of the letter containing the Voice of the lrish.

"Whilst I was reading the beginning of the letter I seemed at the same moment to hear the voice of them who dwelt against the Wood of Foclut, nigh the Western Sea. With one voice, as it were, they cried out:-'Holy youth, we beseech thee; comeonce more into our midst and walk

"Thereupon was I greatly stricken at heart. I could read no more. And thus I awoke."

We of the twentieth century know what came of that dream and that awakening.

too, have heard the "Voice of the Irish," the sob of my blood-kindred whom years of exile have not torn from my heart. It came to me in no vision of the night but in that more awful form —

A Soul-withering Vision of the DAY. Nor did it appear as a man whose name was as musical as Victoricus; but it came to me in the strident truthfulness of a "Report of the Departmental Committee appointed by the Local Government Board for Ireland to inquire into the Housing Conditions of the Working Classes of the City of Dublin."

You will say, "The Report is dead as Finn MacCoull. It appeared a month ago." My reply is that I read it only twelve hours ago; and I promised God and St. Patrick, the two historic leaders of Irish thought, to do my little best to keep this Report from being strangled at birth.

Long ago I gave up reading penny dreadf is and novels. They were not exciting enough. The purple patches I need, I find in blue hooks. An old Lan-cashire proverb says—"There's nowt so odd as folk." Here is another proverb that can be launched from the same slipways .—" There's nowt so mad as facts

Bear with me, you who read this, if it is somewhat kneaded with grim humour. This is a trick I play with myself to keep myself sane. The mad facts of this "Voice of the Irish" would almost mean a man's losing his reason and his soul.

TENSMENT HOUSES.

We will set down some gruesome facts: "1. Forty-five per cent. (45%) of the working population of Dublin live in tenement houses.

"2. There are 10,695 families (37,552 persons) living in 2,288 houses that approach the border-line of being unfit for human habitation. "3. There are 6,831 families (22,701

persons) living in 1,518 houses that are unfit and incapable of being made fit for human habitation.

"4. Of every 1,000 of population— Dublin has 339 in 1-room tenements. Glasgow ,, 200 ,, ,, Liverpool " 54 " " Belfast

elfast ,, 6 ,, ,, ,, 'From this it will be seen that Dublin has by far the largest percentage of one-room tenements.

"5. The average number of persons in each one-room tenement in Dublin is 3.31, which is again the highest figure of the principal towns in the United King-

THE DEATH RATE. "6. The death rate in Dublin is higher than in any of the large centres of population in England, Wales or Scotland, and we fear that until the housing problem is adequately dealt with no substan tial reduction in the death-rate may be hoped for.

7. The vast majority of the heads of families living in these tenement houses are earning less than 20/- a week.

"8 Of the tenement houses unfit or almost unfit for human habitation 1,146 are occupied by from 6 to 10

families. 59 are occupied by from 11 to 15

families. I is occupied by 24 families! We have visited one house that was occu-

pied by 98 persons. "9. The tenement houses were evidently built to accommodate one family. They are exceedingly old structures, and are more or less in an advanced state of

"10." 12,042 families (73,973 persons) occup, one room—an average of 6 I per room. There are many tenements of seven or eight rooms with a family in each room, which contain a population of 40 and 50 souls,

A PAINFUL PASSAGE. And now, patient reader, let me quote another passage which may bring a blush to your cheek whilst you read it, as it

The Irish Worker.

does to my cheek whilst I write it. "Generally the water supply of the house is furnished by a single watertap in the vard. The yard is common and the closet accommodation is to found there, except in some few cases in which there is no yard, when it is found in the basement, where there is little light or ventilation. The closet accommodation is common not only to the occupants of the house, but to anyone who likes to come in off the

street, and is, of course, common to

both sexes. Having visited a large number of these houses in all parts of the city, we have no hesitation in saying that it is no uncommon thing to find halls and landings, yards and closets, in a filthy condition, and in nearly every case human excreta are to be found scattered about the yards and on the floors of the closets, and in some cases even in the passages. We are quite prepared to accept Sir Charles Cameron's evidence that the female inhabitants of the tenement houses seldom use the closets; indeed it would be hard to believe otherwise, as we cannot conceive how any self-respecting male or female could be expected to use accommodation such as we have

Both the reader and the writer of these things must blush. Now the shame is not that these things should be published, but that they should be perpetuated by being hidden. These crimes against manhood and womanhood must be ended, and to be ended must be

DARK LANDINGS AND IMPORALITY.

But there is even worse to come We Catholics wage a relentless war against the politicians who would drive our children into the atmosphere of the purely secular school. We know that nothing kills so surely as an atmosphere. Listen!

"The entrance to all tenement houses is by a common door. The passage and stairs are common, and the rooms all open directly off the passages or landings. It was stated in evidence before us by several witnesses, some of whom were clergymen whose duties bring them into close contact with tenement houses, and who are therefore well qualified to speak, that the constantly open doors and want of lighting in the halls, passages, and landings at night are responsible for much immorality. We fully endorse the evidence given by many witnesses that the surroundings of a tenement house in which there can be no privacy form the worst possible atmosphere for the upbringing of the younger generation, who, as one of the witnesses stated, acquire a precocious knowledge of evil from early childhood." "The existing conditions of life in

tenement houses in the city are both physically and morally bad, and there is urgent necessity for reform, which must have for its ultimate object the complete breaking up of the tenement system as it exists.

"The worse possible atmosphere! Some 20,000 families with some 60,000 children are bringing up these children

IN THE WORST POSSIBLE ATMOSPHERE." Writer and reader are again blushing

I hope; with a blush that menaces the makers of this iniquity with a " Non licet esse vos." For this crime against childhood this injustice against the most sacred property, namely, human life, must

No wonder the men of Dublin came out on strike. The wonder is that they bore their slavery so long. When I was a boy at an Irish school we learned to

O where's the slave so lowly Condemned to chains unholy Who, could he burst His chains at first

Would pine beneath them slowly?

Priests taught us to sing these verses, by singing them first themselves. If ever they were justified, then surely by the state of things under which the poor rot—I cannot say live—in our great centres of wealth.

The Dublin strike is over. Not everything the men did was well or rightly done. Yet the only blood spilled is their own. Starvation has barrowed none but them. But they shall know that the things from which they suffered and still suffer must end; for the "Voice of the Irish' has awakened many a soul, and is crying to the Father of the poor for vengeance.

stunned heart with a wild cry for war. War may be inevitable. Yet for the moment let a priest beseech the rich to give us peace; not the inglorious peace that comes as the aftermath of a great massacre, but peace with plenty wherein the dream of a dead Vicar of Christ is realised. Let me close with

WISE WORDS

from a source beyond suspicion. "If Labour discontent is not to be allowed to grow until it tears the country to pieces," says a special correspondent of the "Morning lost," "the individual employer, the rm, the joint stock company, and the trust must prepare to take generally a more comprehensive view of their duties as leaders of industry. What the workers think when they are under a master whom they can respect and who takes a real interest in their welfare is the thought that will stand for the safety of the country at a crisis. What the workers think who are maddened by misfortune for which they blame their employers, no matt r how unjustly, may be thought that will bring down the

This is wisely written. God grant it may be wisely read. Holy Cross, Leicester.

Wexford Notes.

"H.M.S. Pinafore" was staged this week here in the Theatre Royal, and we are informed that it was fairly good, thanks to the exertions of Frank Breen, their late teacher, whom, as we explained last week, they threw over after he had wasted his time teaching them to be what some of them never thought they would be. His successor, we have been informed, has been finding fault with the troupe since he came; but, of course, we can understand this, as it is always the way with a new hand to criticise his predecessor. But the members who would stand by and hear Frank Breen criticised by a stranger, after all his trouble, would deserve any impudence that could be given. Frank Breen as a musician is a credit to Wexford, a man of whom the town should be proud We are pretty certain that this is the last year that this crowd will stage an opera. It is composed of two or three different classes, who at the practising congregate in different parts of the room in small knots to critic'se each other. What is to keep the working class men and women from starting an operatic class and asking Frank Breen to give them a hand. We could guarantee that the principals would not have to be importations at any rate.

ioe Scallin, the scab Docker, had a leading part in the "Pinasore," and we understand that there were plain clothes peelers mingled with the audience to keep him fron being hooted. But they might have spared themselves this trouble, as the people who would have the moral courage to shout him down do. not support scab productions of this

We understand that Fred Burke also got his walking papers. This, to our minds, is almost as bid as the Breen case, as Burke has time and time again obliged nearly every one of them by teaching them songs free gratis for con-certs and all such He has always been too ready to oblige and too bighearted to refuse.

Farrell, the scab stationmaster at Wexford North, is very busy just now trying to get the Dockers to work for the old rate. Does this not show the truth of what has been preached to the Dockers the last three years that it is not the Transport Union or any other Union they are fighting but purely and simply the increase in tonnage rates gained by the men through organisation. We could not expect anything better from Farrell, as he scabbed in Kingstown some years ago when he was only a porter This and this alone qualified him to be what he is now Of course, he has not been able to go to Walker's back so often since the men got the increase, the cad.

Nick Lambert has taken our advice and get shut of his pigs, whether the aanitary authorities interfered or not we cannot say, but at any rate we know that the "Worker" frightened him a bit, he probably had the advice of John J. on the matter, that's the min that says seven and sixpence wanst

Did any of our readers take any notice of Dick Richard's bull dog? Dennie McGhee lately he appears to have got the noddles or something, he has also got a peculiar fashion of coming to a standstill in the street to gaze down at the ground, whether he is trying to think of the blackguardism 'Spite" told him to carry on or not we cannot say, poor Dennie was always a hunt anyhow.

Tom Sheridan, another of "Spite's" men was acting the drunk in Monck street Yet would it ill become me, a came up and took him in charge. Tom priest and, therefore, a being dedicated nearly lost his senses and begged not to

unto peace, to end this message from a be taken to court as it might be in the "Worker" Poor Ton it does annoy you

Sherlock in Godkin's is a great politician. We are told he would go up to his neck in porter for John Redmond at anytime. Wherever he is he talks politics like every mug that kao ws nothing about them. On Tuesday list while he was cycling between Necford and Oylegate in the company of a clergyman, poor Bill O Brien, M.P. got bells. There is an old saying and a true one which applies to our friend Sherlock-"they that know nothing fear nothing.

Before the next issue of this paper, a water rate co'lector will have been appointed by the Corpo:a ion in George Taylor's place. Walter Walsh, Faythe. and Thomas Parle. School street ar: fighting for the position, and it will be interesting to note how the Mollies will vote on the occasion. We will deal more fully with the matter next week. Both of the candidates are Mollies, but one is a workingman. Tom Parle knew what he was doing in January last when he helped to beat Labour in St. Mary's Ward. The cabbage min has so little for his

scabs to do now that he is out canvassing for work for them. He has got one of them, Mescella, the boozer, into the fresh meat supply. The others are keeping himself company at the corner of Sin. not's lane, where he dances a hornpice row and again when his mind is annoy ing him. 'Spite' seems to have got enough of him, as we never see them tosether lately. Anyway it requires all Dick's time to look after his grazing rancher WE HEAR-

That McGowan told Pat Horan at Sunday nights practice to sing and give up acting.

Prologue.

[Specially written for the Sacred Concerts, held at the Royal Hippodrome, Rochdale, by kind permission of the Jackson family, on Sunday, January 25th, 1914, in aid of the Dublin Distre's Strike Fund, by Mr. William Baron ("Bll-o-'Jack's"), the well-known Rochdale Author, and read by Mr. Arthur Dale.]

Never, except when Famine scourged the land, Mowing its victims down with ruthless hand. Did suffering and privation wield such sway

As in the Irish capital to day. There 'mid the chaos of industrial strife; Bereft of every joy that sweetens life, Thousands - nay, tens of thousands - you may see

Plunged in the utmost depths of misery; Crying for succour in their desperate need, Until our hearts with pity almost bleed To hear the mother's wail of deep despair, And cries of starving children, rend the air, 'For what cause are they suffering' do you ask?

To answer this is quite an easy task: Sweating employers flourish everywhere, But Dublin seems to have above its share Of these vile pests—these parasites of toil, Who look on Labour as their lawful spoil— A state of things, revolting and accurst, Outvieing slavery at its very worst. Goaded at length to rise against their wrongs, And smarting 'neath oppression's cruel thongs.

These soul-crushed toilers ventured to en-

gage
In bitter conflict for a living wage.
Their harsh taskmasters, to their lasting shame, Deny the justice of the workers' claim;

These words conciously sum up their reply-"Either accept our terms, or starve and die." O, that starvation should a weapon be, To make man in submission bow the knee! Where is the teaching of the Nazarene, When such unchristian work as this is seen? Alas! man's inhumanity to man Mars and destroys the Great Creator's plan, I endering futile that tragedy of woe On Calvary's hill two thousand years ago. While acts like these can perpetrated be By men professing Christianity, Abroad our missionaries need not roam,-

Of you, at least, it never shall be said That you were deaf when hunger cried for bread; Compassion melted you, as fire melts steel, So here you come to answer grief's appeal, Drawn by the tender bonds of sympathy To give your mite, though humble it may be.

More useful work awaits them nearer home.

Were kind heart riches, 'twould indeed be To say that kings were poor compared with

The Fund Committee, who have laboured hard.

Seeking no recognition or reward, To me an intimation have conveyed, Since you have come so nobly to their aid, That I should voice to you, in words sin-

Their heartfelt thanks for your attendance This I now do: so friends, accept them,

pray;
And let us hope that at no distant day
Far brighter times will dawn, and fortune On the poor sufferers in our Sister Isle.

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