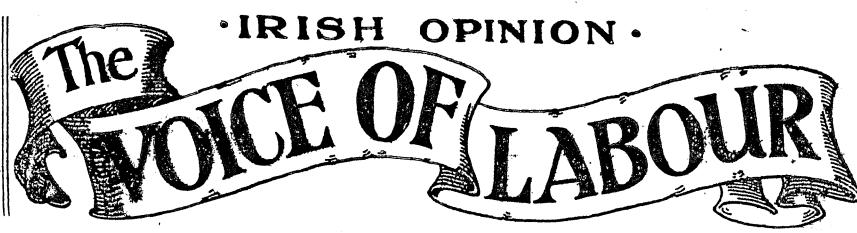
INCORPORATING THE

## WORKERS REPUBLIC

FOUNDED BY JAMES CONNOLLY ISTH AUGUST, 1898. SUPPRESSED 1916.



: Official Organ OF THE Irish Transport & General Workers.

Union.

- EDITED BY -CATHAL O'SHANNON

NEW SERIES. No. 72.

APRIL 5, 1919.

ONE PENNY:

## THE NEW BOYCOTT.

No Promotion for Trades Unionists.

An Issue Labour Must Fight. Negotiations between the Wholesale Druggists's Association and the Shop Assistants', Warehousemen, and Clerks' Union have been suspended because of

the employers' refusal to consider and discuss a proposed clause in the new agreement which would preserve employ ment in the trade for men of tried skill and guaranteed service, proven by their membership of a trade union.

The employers refuse to meet the Union on the general wages programme until the Union gives the bosses a free hand to employ scabs. Their representatives have uttered the following document initialled by two prominent wholesale druggists, one of whom belongs to a firm which has a monopoly of the trade of Boards of Guardians throughout Ire-

land. "That the employers' representative cannot discuss the claims made, unless the clause concerning future engagements is withdrawn entirely. as apart from the liberty of the subject being interfered with, IT IS LIKELY TO DEBAR AN EM-PLOYEE FROM RISING TO A GONFIDENTIAL POSITION."

J. W. M. W. H. B. 31/3/'19.

Note the threat. Trade Unionists cannot rise. They must be hewers of wood and drawers of water-slaves-and this we are told is the policy of the new Federation of Empoyers.

What does Dublin Trades Council say?

LAST WORDS ON THE BELFAST STRIKE.

The correspondence in these columns on the Belfast "44" strike threatens to become interminable. "Bonny fechters" as they are the northern labour men are not going to occupy our space with gladiatorial efforts. "Northern Iron" will not be permitted to draw sparks from William Lorimer, nor Jimmie Baird to scalp Sam Haslett.

comrades in the great class war are al- tions, and it could fulfil as well several lowed to engender an unreal paper anta-

The Federation's Weakness.

Comrade Baird's latest contribution reasserts the charges which Sam Haslett denies, and brings forward more. His Ireland without dropping their conneccriticism of the Federation's bad organisation is, however, incontrovertible. The fact that it is only a federation proves its deficiency. If it remains a mere consultative body, without finance, and un-recognised as the local unit of organisation by the executives of the unions that compose it, it will remain ineffective, a broken weed.

What Must be Faced, As the eraft union has become obsolete, so the federations that prolonged their appearance of strength have ceased to be equal to their task of fighting an employing class, which is not only fully conscious of a complete identity of in-terest among its members, but has ex-pressed that consciousness by placing the Proportional Representation for Cork. larger industries under the control of one

small group of directors. Against that group, local federation of unconnected and often hostile craft unions is not organisation—it is an illustration of what Jevons means by "dis-Can the federation be developed into the one big union which, says J. Baird, many of our readers dream of,

hope for, and work for? The Lorimer's Spur.

We make one extract from Comrade Lorimer's letter, and commend it to the attention of Arthur MacManus, whose angels rush in where cuckoo's wings will

not bear them:-

"The financial aid generously offered by our fellow-countrymen was unacceptable, not because of its inadequacy, nor because its utilisation might not hasten victory, but for precisely the same reason that a full-fledged debate was necessary before £100 could be accepted, because the donor had the audacity to rejoice at the blending of the orange and green; that the offer of a section of the I.T. workers was rejected, not of the I.T. workers was rejected, not because of the difficulty of obtaining unified action (because "drastic action" could have prevented any recalcitrant union from acting the scab), but because the patriotic capitalists and pseudo-labourites dreaded an industrial victory, lest there might be a dan-(Continued on Column Four.)

# The Workers' Republic.

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

Labour Day is May 1.

At the time of writing we do not know what line will be taken by the National Executive meeting this week on Labour Day, but we hope it will plump for a general holiday throughout the country for the First of May. International Labour Day is May 1, and there is no decent excuse for observing it anywhere on any other day. So far as we can ascertain, most of the local organisations, and most certainly the rank and file, are anxious to down tools on May Day. But it is said that May 3 is favoured in Belfast and a few other centres, because it is Saturday, and a half-holiday. Belfast has acted so magnificently well that we hope it will fall into line with all the rest of the country, and let the whole movement be of one mind and one act by holding its Labour Day on Thursday, May 1. There should be no need to persuade other centres, since the Berne Conference decided that Labour Day this year shall be Labour's League of Nations Day as opposed to the huge farce of the Paris Peace covenant: But there are only a few weeks in which to make preparations, including arrangements for demonstrations, meetings, processions and speakers. Trade Unions, Trades Councils and Socil alist Organisations must get to work before this week is out, and where the official bodies are slow to move, we have no hesitation in advising the rank and file to act for themselves.

The Irish Socialists in London. Mr. William O'Brien informs us that on

his way back from Newcastle he found amongst Irish Socialists in London, some of them veterans of the long-fighting tradition of the Old Guard, and notable figures in the movement, a keen desire to keep up their connection with the militants in Ireland, and to help the Labour and Socialist movements on this side. This welcome news prompts us to suggest to these comrades, that they should or-ganise an Irish Socialist and Labour group in London, or several groups if necessary, or Connolly and Lehane clubs There is a common enemy, and he might be formed. The group might well ought not to escape, as he will if these undertake propaganda in certain direcsocial and educational functions. There many Irish Socialists in various or ganisations in London, and if they organise in this group they can help forward the revolution in England and in tion with the organisations of which they are members, as they well know the Italians, the Russians, and Socialists from other countries have given most valuable service to Socialism at home by organising in this way and keeping up the direct con nection with the home organisations. If our London comrades will do this, both the Socialist Party of Ireland and the Irish Labour Party and Trade Union Congress will gladly welcome their help and keep them informed of developments and progress here. We hope some of those of them who are readers of "The Voice" will take the hint and make a start by,

> The Cork Trades Council, we are glad to hear from a correspondent, is already making arrangements for selecting Labour candidates for the next municipal elections. The earlier the better, and we wish the Councils and Unions in other districts would follow Cork's good example in this respect. Our correspondent goes on to add, however, that it is proposed that the selecting committee in Cork shall be constituted on the old anti-democratic and unjust basis of one representative from each organisation affiliated to the Council. This is ridiculous and, if true, highly discreditable to Cork. Indeed, it is a startling departure from the Cork Council's agreement with the basis of representation laid down for the selection of Parliamentary candidates in the new constitution of the Party and Congress and accepted by the Cork Council ever before it had been voted for by the Council's delegates to the November Conference. No party, local or national, can tolerate a basis of representation which allows the same number of delegates to a branch of 30 members as to a branch of 300 or 7,000, and it is only an anti-Labour spirit which would reject a more proportional basis of selection for an election in which the proportional representation sys-The Cork tem itself will be exercised. Council ought to have the good sense and good spirit to follow its own decision of

The Party basis is not strictly basis. proportional because it is intended to help the smaller organisations, but it is at least reasonable. We hope to hear from Mr. Twomey that the Cork Council will do the right thing.

The Preservation of Order.

We are unable, for obvious reasons, to inform our readers of the military arrangements made last week to prevent the State entry of De Valera into Dublin. For the same reasons we refrain from comment upon both the decision to have a State entry and the abandonment of the fixture. But the whole episode is not without its salutary lesson for lovers of liberty in Ireland. Certain of last week's events will serve as a reminder to the people that they can hope for nothing which they do not take the ordinary measures to obtain. As important will be the much-needed reminder to peoples abroad that the will of the Irish people and the free exercise of that will is thwarted by one thing and one thing only. That thing is the naked sword of England's large military force of occupation in Ireland. But even in some of England's strongholds in Ireland that force is unable to restrain the Irish love of liberty, as the escape in broad daylight of twenty Sinn Fein prisoners, convicted and unconvicted, from Mountjoy Jail showed last Saturday. Coming after the escape of Mr. R. C. Barton, M.P., from the same jail and the events of Monday and Tuesday, the escape of these men is as significant as it was excellently timed. Even the standing guard of police, now a permanent part of the staff of the jail, was no obstacle to the well-planned and well-executed escape of Messrs. J. J. Walsh, M.P., and Piaras Biaslai and their companions. The time-table seems to have been worked out to the minute, and it was necessary to lay hands on only one warder. And was not the courage and self-sacrifice of the prisoners who were selected to remain behind in keeping with the splendid tradition of these later years? After all these proofs of England's inability to govern Ireland the English Government might in decency leave the Irish to govern themselves.

The Great European Push.

The tide of Bolshevism flowing all over Eastern and Central Europe has frightened the Western Powers as the armies of the Kaiser never did, and the Peace Conference of Paris has met in it rore than its match. It is a greater menace to the humbug of Paris than even the extremely delicate situation in Poland and Jugo-Slavia. It has broken the sanitary cordon drawn round Russia, and if, as is not at all unlikely, it engulfs Germany, the day of the Lloyd-Georges, Clemenceaus and Orlandos is happily over and done. The Roumanians, Serbs, and even some of the Czecho-Slovaks have caught the fever, and the great international task Lenin and his friends set themselves is well begun. So far no active measures have been taken against Hungary, but if the Big Four in Paris (by the way, what has become of the "open covenants openly arrived at?") think that the military chiefs of the Entente, or even the League of Nations covenant, can furnish a solution, they are making the great historical mistake of their generation. As a high authority told the Paris correspondent of "The Daily News": "Bolshevism, whatever else it may be said about it, is a tremendous idealistic force—unquestionably the greatest idealistic force, in my opinion, since the birth of Christ. You may vilify it. You may spread reports of its excesses. You may advocate military measures against it. But there /it remains—a tremendous idealistic force. It may be blind. It may be destructive. It may be chaotic. But, all the time, it is the irresistible uprising of vast masses of people in pursuit of an ideal."

We have already said, and we repeat, that we are putting our money on Lenin in the greatest race in history. Buthow many Soviets are there in Ireland?

### Another Apology.

We shall have to ask our readers to bear with patience the holding over until next week of our report and impressions upon the general proceedings at Berne, but our space is overcrowded, and we do not want to crush other people's contributions out this week again. We are compelled, too, to hold over some inter-November last, and adopt the Party esting American matter,

#### SOVIET HUNGARY.

Lenin has got into touch with Budapest

and the Hungarian Soviet Republic is shaping well. The new Ministry includes: Garbai, President; Landler, Home Affairs; Baga, Finance; Kunfi, Education; Bela Kun, Foreign Affairs; War, Pogany. Kunfi was the Socialist Minister for Education in the late government, and the Irish delegates had the advantage of his company at the Borne Conference. Kun, recently released from prison, knows his revolutionary business well. Pogany, who is President of the Soldiers' Council, has said:

"The political revolution, although appropriate at an end is in reality only here." parently at an end, is in reality only beginning, and will be succeeded by a social revolution, which will only end when we have completely crushed the old system. . Not the small landowners, but the farm labourers must carry out the land reform. In the development of Socialism we can proceed step by step, but the question of power must be settled now." And the London "Times" calls him "the strongest man in Hungary." This provisional government of United Social Democrats and Communist or Bolshevik Socialists has declared the dictatorship of the proletariat, and the socialisation of mines, industries, banks, and the land, and the abolition of the

lative, judicial and executive patter, and has appointed a committee of the to arrange for the election of these Councils. Finally, and not least important, by a long way, the German Government is sending as its special envoy to Russia the veteran Karl Kautsky, who told us in Berne that the Irish had fought long and well, and Radek, after Lenin, the cleverest Bolshevik propagandist and greatest organiser abroad, has been released by the Weimar government, and is operating again somewhere in Poland.

stock exchange and all titles and ranks.

It is establishing Workers', Peasants' and Soldiers' Councils to wield supreme legis-

### WE ARE ARRANGING

further permanent improvements in "The Voice," and while these are under consideration we can promise a bumper number-the biggest and best yet-for the First of May. Readers and newsagents should order extra supplies in advance.

## Last Words on the Belfast Strike.

(From Column One.)

ger of the strikers longing for more classical music than "the big drum"; that the Belfast Worker's expounding of Marxian theories was so dangerous to Bossocracy that it was suppressed, having only enjoyed one day's companionship with the 'Bulletin.'

"N.I.'s mind was carried away by his imagination when he supposes that I gloated over defeat; but I certainly do say that had victory crowned the patriotic and bigoted efforts of the Federation, it would not have been victory in the truest sense, it would have been ignominious defeat. The educative effects of the strike would have been nullified had '44' been granted., because the workers would not have learned that only by joint action (irrespective of any extraneous considera-tion) can Irish labour be successful. The strikers also discovered that political action is not class consciously used by returning either a Unionist or, worse still, a "Labour" Unionist to the House of Nonentities. Let N.I. rejoice with me at the material failure of the strike.

"The consideration of international labour seems Utopian, because, N.I. and, unfortunately, too many like him, decree it thus. That Ireland is nearly hopeless in regard to forming a National Industrial Federation is entirely contrary to recognised facts. The oneday strike against Conscription, and the strike for the "44" surpassed anything that either England or Scotland performed; but in both instances the industrial power was not class consciously used. Education can rectify

"I have great hopes for Ireland-North and South-and some day, perhaps not far away. Ireland will become 'the bright spot' for labour; and it is not too much to claim that as Irish labour learns from its industrial and political defeats, a fraternity will be engendered that will bridge the religious chasm, and allay the bitterness that has always prevented Irishmen entering into their rightful heritage."



### Egypt Bursts the

At the Berne Conference Mr. Ramsay infant mortality rises to MacDonald, speaking in the name of the heights. before British labour, and implied that, soon as he had uttered the words we real-

hypocrisy of England's battle-cries of last few weeks have been both serious and been added the equally legitimate and thousands of educated and professional for this service was voluntary.

pence. There is, of course, no such Christianity. thing as a legal minimum wage for the fellahin.

against the most scandalous exploita- have joined the revolt.
tion. Lacking the most elementary pro- Must Mr. Ramsay M

Thus a French authority, M. MacDonald, speaking in the name of the de Chambert, in his "Enquête sur la condition du fellah égyptien," in 1909 calcu-Egyptian question had not recently come lated that three-fourths of the children of the fellahin die at a very early age. Within recent years, too, a new scourge, indeed, British labour had not had much which always accompanies advancing need to concern itself about Egypt. As English civilisation, is playing havoc with the fellahin. This is drink. Of soon as he had uttered the words we realised that with Egypt, as with Ireland, encouragement, the fellah, the most tem-Great Britain and British labour never perate of all labourers, has taken to wake up until some great uprising of the alcohol, manufactured in small Egyptian oppressed themselves shakes them out of distilleries, and frightfully adulterated, their national indifference to the state in order that his miserable wage may and the aspirations of their subject peo- allow him to purchase it. Having con-Nor were we long in Switzerland quered the population of the towns, until we had learned from the European where it is consumed not only in the Committee of the young Egyptians that cafes and drink-shops, but as well in the England would not have many months to groceries (is not the tempting spirit growait until Egypt would wake her up in cery a right British institution?) alcohol no very gentle manner. We hope that is now rapidly conquering rural Egypt. to-day, after all the events of the last And what is more serious, although we three weeks in Egypt, Mr. MacDonald do not agree with our Egyptian friends and the British delegates are wiser men. when they considered it more surprising The wonder is that Egypt has borne the is that no real supervision of the traffic, heavy hand of England so patiently, since and no energetic or sincere effort to op-Great Britain, against the will of the pose the spread of this plague has been whole people, turned the occupation into made by the protecting government of a Protectorate. But now at last it is a country where the dominant religion, clear that the Egyptians have torn off that of 94 per cent. of the population, England's mask, and shown up the whole prohibits the use of alcohol.

Is it any wonder to anybody, except an small nations, freedom, and self-determi- ill-informed British labour leader, that nation. For the truth is, that, in spite of this kind of thing should lead to insur-what has been said in the British press, rection? Add to this the undeniable what has been said in the British press, rection? Add to this the undeniable the nationalist movement is both strong facts of the treatment of the fellahin and widespread, and the risings of these during the war. Hundreds of thousands of them were employed, under the worst extensive. To the legitimate political housing and clothing conditions, in vari-claims of the Egyptian nationalists have our labour and transport corps. Their period of service was nominally pressing economic claims of the Egyptian months, but after the first six months workers. The 11,000,000 fellahin have contributed as much to the revolt as the compulsion. Nominally, too, recruiting More even than in Ireland, the Egypt-pulsory. "A party of recruiters of latan agricultural labourer or fellah is the bour went up to a little village in the tual practice it was, in fact, brutally comgreat and most important asset of the Delta, about dusk, and waited for the country. Under the English protectorate, peasants to come back from their fields. as under the English occupation his lot is With the recruiters was the Omdeh, the the worst in any civilised country, most Mezor or Headman of the village, and certainly worse than the worst labourer in under the orders of the recruiter and of the most backward country in Europe. his official superiors, as the fellahin came From sunrise to sunset he is tied to the in from the fields they were rounded up, soil for long hours under a broiling sun. and the ones suitable for employment He interrupts his continuous labour only picked out. These 'recruits' He interrupts his continuous labour only picked out.

These 'recruits' of the articles are produced.

Hence the clamour to-day of our masquate meal, consisting of a small piece of any foolish tendency to object to this prokeneded wheaten or maize bread, sea-cedure, the Omdeh was at hand, and the soned with a very little salad, and only recruiters—and the lash. Those who did hours even to six a day (Lord Lever-produced).

His not enlist 'voluntarily' enlisted efter. occasionally with a little cheese. His not enlist 'voluntarily' enlisted after only clothing in all seasons is a short being lashed." This was the regular a greater output; for then the masters cotton shirt. His dwelling is a vile hut practice, and the use of the lash, abolof the most primitive construction, some ished some years ago, became a British three or four yards square, with no aper-ture except the door, and with a small of the fellahin died like flies from epi-chest for its only furniture. It cannot demic diseases, because "they were hard well be otherwise, when his day's wage worked and underfed, and we did not is no more than from eightpence to ten-feed or clothe them." This was English

And now General Allenby is openly proclaiming that he is taking repressive.

The fellah has the advantage of no in-measures, and the last and least rebelsurance, accident, or relief laws, and he lious class on God's earth, the lawyers has no legal protection of any kind and the officials, have gone on strike, and

vision for securing hygienic conditions, he is the prey of all kinds of endemic diseases and epidemics. Amongst his class England's green and pleasant land? Must Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and his

# Government Noose.

Why this sudden anxiety of the Govern- The boards once there, I think nothing ment to protect the workers by the establess than a Zepp. or a tank would upset them. when sweated wages in Ireland were general, and organisation was weak Trade Boards were few. Now, when trade unionism is a power in the land, we are to have trade boards all round! looks like protection for employers rather than for workers. There is only one plausible excuse for the establishment of a trade board, and that is, sweated conditions in an unorganised trade. But what trade is now unorganised, or not in process of organisation?

Trade unionists in Ireland would be well advised to oppose this new policy of the Government, which tends to create a tame and shackled labour movement. Let us fight our own fight, however slow and uphill it may be. If we assent to Government interference we put our heads in a noose

But, we are told, the help need not be permanent. We may take the Trade Board now to help us in organisation (under the new programme, only trade unionists will be recognised on the Board The woman-workers of Ireland have as workers' representatives), and to fix served a long apprenticeship to sweated unionists will be recognised on the Board

Again, we are told that the Board, by establishing fair rates in every district safeguards the industry everywhere from unfair competition. But the trade unions can achieve that on their own. The workers are drawing gradually closer together, and realising more and more the necessity for a uniform scale of pay. Here in Ireland, where national sentiment is the strongest emotion the people know, the workers will, for national reasons, be as anxious to safeguard an industry as any Government official will be. But the workers' ideals in regard to Irish industry are likely to differ somewhat from those of the British Government, or even from those of the average Irish employer. Therefore, we should maintain our complete independence as trade unionists, if only in order to establish industries on a basis which will secure the welfare of the whole community rather than one part of it.

a minimum wage for the whole industry. toil. But they have spirit enough to rise Afterwards we can drive a coach-and-four out of it by their own efforts rather than through the Board. But that coach-and-risk a new form of bondage under the four might prove a costly experiment. cloak of enhanced comfort.

WHAT WE DIDN'T SAY, AND WHAT

WE DID. To the Editor, "Voice of Labour," Dear Sir,-My attention has been drawn to a paragraph in your issue of 15th inst. to the effect that I gave instructions to the members of our Drogheda branch not to take part in the Labour Demonstration held in that town on the 8th inst.

Permit me to say that there is not a word of truth in this statement. Not only did I not advise the members of my Union not to take part in the demonstration, but when my advice was sought I wrote to the local Secretary stating that the matter should be left in the hands of the local members, who knew the whole circumstances, and were, therefore, in a much better position than I was to decide which course was best for our union in particular and trade unionism in general. I am sure you will give the same promi-

nence to this letter as you did to the paragraph complained of.—Yours respectfully,

M. GALWAY,

Gen. Sec., Textile Operatives

Society of Ireland,

Avenue Hall.

Belfast, 25th March.
(We gladly give this prominence to Miss Galway's letter. She has, however, misquoted us. The paragraph in question

We understand that Miss Mary Galway, Secretary Irish Textile Operatives, Belfast, sent instructions to her Drogheda members not to participate in any demonstration at which the Red Flag was displayed.

We shall be glad to remove any misapprehension that may exist as to Miss Galway's dislike of the Red Flag.—ED.)

#### WACES AND PRICES. Relations Concisely Summarised.

The prices of commodities never have been nor can they be determined by

The capitalist to start a concern must first of all have money. With this money he buys raw materials and machinery, etc., and labour power to transform the raw material into finished products. But long before he knows the prices ruling on the market for these products he would have to furnish wages for his employes.

Wages then are not paid from the results of the workers immediate work

and have no relation to it,

How, then, are prices determined? In this way. You will find that one capitalist can pay his workmen £2 a week and sell his products cheaper than a capitalist who is only paying 30s., simply because the former is getting his workers to turn out more goods in the week. Those who have studied the inside organisation of factories will know how this is done.

The price of an article will depend on an average on the socially necessary time taken to produce it. The less necessary time it takes, the cheaper, because more

a greater output; for then the masters can easily compete against their rivals. This in itself proves that wages do not control prices.

From 1880 to 1900 prices were falling while wages were actually rising. From 1900 to 1911, prices rose while wages fell. (See table in "An Encyclopædia of Industrialism," page 513.) Who pays?

The workers, if they have to pay more,

will have to receive more to pay it with. Wages are simply the necessary amount that the workers must have to exist. Here and there workers may rise above the average, whilst again many live below it—then there is a chance for our goody-good charity mongers, Once it is understood by the workers that they are simply wage-slaves in capitalist society, they will not be interested in prices at all, for no matter whether these be up or down the workers must seek to improve their conditions; this they can only do, in capitalist society, by encroaching on the spoils of their masters.

We are indebted to Comrade H. Lawson for the substance of the above.

THE DOCTRINE OF FORCE,

It was only when they threatened to go with their spades on their shoulders to the Phoenix Park that they had been listened to, and it was now a recognised thing that the only way to move the English Government was by force, and they were determined to take any and every means they could to get plots, and no matter what any Government Department said to the contrary, they were going to hold on to their plots.

P. R. Quinn at Plotholders' meeting Quinn at Plotholders' meeting.

Carpet-Planners.

The "Shop Assistant" (London) says furniture porters are paid £3 per week, and packers £3 10s. in the London warehouses. It's up to you, boys, to make ferred. Beatty pay up.

The revenge of the "upper" classes is always more brutal than the wrath of the oppressed.

CAINS FOR LAUNDRESSES AND PRINTERS IN THE IRISH WOMEN. WORKERS' UNION.

A settlement has now been made with the Leinster Laundries' Association The minimum wage of time-workers is raised to 22s. 6d. per week. An increase of 33½ per cent. is given on piece rates. Hours are reduced from 50 to 48. And a joint committee of employers and employ. ees is to be appointed to consider a further gradual reduction of hours and ar rangements for a week's holiday on full pay to all laundry women workers.

Considerable improvements in the

printing trade have also been recently made. The minimum wage of time workers has been raised to 18s. per week. A minimum for piece-workers has been established. The hours are reduced to 48 per week; and all holidays will be paid for, including a week in the summer.

Ballymena Dressmakers' Wages,

The dressmakers, coat, skirt, and bodice hands employed by the drapers of Ballymena, have just concluded negotiations with the employers, through Mr. E. Owens, Organiser of the N.A.U. of Shop Assistants.

As a beginning, it has been agreed that after two years' apprenticeship no girl will receive less than 7s. 6d. a week. Advances on present wages have been secured as follows: Up to 2 years' experience, 5s., with a further 2s. 6d. a week on completing two and a half years' service. Girls with 2½ years' experience, advance by 7s. 6d.; with 2s. 6d. additional on completion of 3 years. Girls with 3 years' service and more receive 10s. a week advance.

A 49-hour working week has been agreed to; with time and a half rate for overtime. Fifty-nine workers share the advantages and arrears as from March

Belfast.

The Shop Assistants' Union is going Wholesale drapery, retail drapery, stationery and grocery trades are organising vigorously. Over six hundred members have been enrolled in the last three weeks.

A Grateful Country Will Never Forget

A discharged soldier, formerly a grocer, applied for reinstatement in his former position. His kind employers, whom he had saved from the barbarous Hun, replied in these terms:—
"In reply to our letter of February

18th we propose to re-instate you (any way for the present) at High Street, as Provision Hand. You are, of course, aware that although wages have gone up a considerable height, yet it is still more economical for us to employ girls rather than men, and although we have no wish to take advantage of an unfortunate position, yet common sense compels us to offer a wage which is compatible with the coming fall in prices, and consequent loss of profit.
"We go out of our way to give you

this explanation, and we trust that you will accept it in the spirit it is given. "The wage we propose to pay is

30s. per week; should you not feel able to accept this, please let us know per return."

The Plotters.

The meeting in the Theatre Royal, Dublin, was remarkable for its example of public spirited co-operation by people of all political opinions in a movement of common utility.

There appears to be something about freshly turned soil that makes the most respectable townsman a rebel deter-mined to hold his plot in accord with natural justice if in defiance of statemade laws.

It is almost astounding that a mixed body of workmen, shopkeepers, mer-chants and public employees should adopt this resolution:-

"That this meeting commends the principle of a just socialisation of Irish lands, and to the end of preparing the way for the application of this principle consider it the duty of the plotholders of Ireland to use every means consonant with justice and economic laws to secure permanent possession of cultivable lands for the purposes of food production, recreation, and public health."

Walton Newbold.

The workers in Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Limerick, and Wexford, will join in our regret that last Friday the lecture engagements arranged in these centres for J. T. Walton Newbold, the noted Marxian scholar and pulveriser of international capitalism, had to be called off owing to the sudden and rather serious breakdown in health of the lecturer. They will join with us equally heartily in wishing him a speedy and complete recovery, and hope to have the pleasure of a visit from him as soon as he is on the road again. We do not wonder that Newbold, as his telegram put it, collapsed, for he is a most strenuous worker, and is never at rest. His visit would have done the Irish movement a world of good, but we can venture to promise that it is only a good de-

A Levy on Capital.

Prof. C. M. Oldham lectures on this subject on Thursday, April 3rd, in the Swedish Hall, 41 Harcourt Street, at 8 p.m. Admission, 6d.

### THE FIRST OF MAY.

THE "VOICE OF LABOUR" WILL CELEBRATE THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF LABOUR BY THE ISSUE OF AN ENLARGED NUMBER.

The May-day "Voice" will have ten pages, in which the leaders of labour thought, the foremost men and women of action, will deliver special messages to the workers of Ireland.

We shall also give as a supplement an eight-page Song Book with words and music of famous revolutionary songs.

There will be included: The Red Flag. the author's own version, set to the tune of the White Cockade; and Peadar Kear ney's Labour's Call, to the familiar tune of Maryland. The International, The Watchword of Labour, For Labour's Right, The Rebel Song, and The Call of Erin—the last four being from the pen of James Connolly—will make an unique contribution to the repertory of Irish minstrelsy.

The May-day number of the "Voice of Labour" will be a treasure of song and a storehouse of knowledge. It will be a valuable instrument of propaganda, to be read and preserved by every Irish worker. Now is not too early to book orders for it. Supplies will be limited, and no orders can be accepted after April 26th.

More detailed announcements will be made in later issues of the "Voice of Labour." Meantime, we invite the co-operation of every reader to make sure that the circulation of the May-day number will be more than double that of our ordinary weekly sales. Don't arrange a meeting or a May-day celebration of any kind without planning to sell the May-day "Voice" to every participant.

The price of the special number and unique Song Supplement will be 3d. It will be on sale everywhere in Ireland on April 30th and May 1st.

#### FORCE: THE REMEDY.

There was only one way to move those who controlled the purse, and that was the one adopted by the miners and other people in England with success. (Applause.) Justice had not much place in the world, and, although force was rather discredited, it was not a bad remedy for dealing with Irish educational grievances.—The Right Honourable W. J. M. Starkie.

#### INTERNATIONAL LABOUR DAY.

~~~~~~~~~

What is your Trade Union or your Trades Council doing for International Labour Day this year? Has it decided to hold it on May Day, the day universally observed throughout the world? Has it got a May Day Committee working? Has it arranged for a general stoppage with processions and meetings? Has It appointed speakers yet? Has it arranged that from its May Day platform a great ai demand shall go ub for the adoption of the People's League of Nations as sketched in the declaration of the Berne Conference? Has it made room for Ireland and Russia and Hungary on its programme?

If it has done none of these things get worrying it at once, and get all of them done....If it still refuses to do them get out and gather a representative committee of rank and filers together, and let that committee do them itself. all, get these things done, and get them done for Thursday, May 1.

Tell "The Voice" all about it, and we shall tell all Ireland, parts of Scotland, Wales and England, and not a few places in America, Australia, and the Continent of Europe.

## STARVING WAR VICTIMS.

To the Editor, "Voice of Labour."

Dear Sir,—At the present moment, and for months past, but especially since the Armistice, the women and little children of Austria, and especially of Vienna, have been suffering the pangs of hunger, comparable to nothing but our own "Black '47." Famine conditions prevail there generally, and many thousands are dying of starvation. A Swiss Committee is doing what it can to send in food, and the Swiss workers have nobly taken the care of thousand of Viennese little ones. I have read in the "Herald" (Lansbury's) that a small band of English people are helping, and though we have many claims at home, especially consequent on the influenza epidemic, still Ireland has always been ready to share her crust with those in distress.

The grandfathers of these Viennese workers, like many other Continentals, helped our people as far as they could to assuage the greatest horrors of the great famine, and surely there are a few big-hearted people in Dublin, enough to form a representative committee, and make an appeal to Irish people to help.

The readers of your paper have no conception of what horrors the Austrians are suffering, and whatever is to be done should be undertaken at once.-Yours very truly,

EDWARD SHEEHAN.

# A Townsman's Views on Landownership.

THE ONE THING NEEDFUL.

By James Baird,

At a time like the present, when the wage slaves are keenly interested in questions such as shorter hours, increased wages, and minimum rates, there is always a danger of more important matters being neglected, and, as an example, I would cite the case of "Land Nationalisation," a term almost forgotten in Ireland in recent times.

The city dweller often scoffs at questions which only affects the "country," forgetting that every article of food or clothing comes from the land, and fails to realise that if he does not get possession of his own land, and use it to satisfy his needs, he must go on in the old way manufacturing gods for the heathen, gin and rifles for the savage, and gaudy cotton cloth to enhance the charms of dusky maidens in "Darkest Africa," receiving in exchange the raw material

of margarine, or some such commodity.

We must admit, the ruling classes of Britain have always been keenly alive to their special interests, and are not likely to concede the good conditions and generous wages which labour is dreaming of, without offering a stubborn resistance, because they realise that each improvement in the position of the workers leads to a demand for

still better conditions.

We cannot forget how our financiers fostered industry in Germany and Austria by providing cheap credit, thus exploiting the cheap labour available in those countries for the benefit of all who live on profit, and at the same time compelling our own workers to accept degrading conditions of labour.

The artificial conditions which at present prevail cannot endure much longer, and our capitalists will, as a matter of business, employ the labour which is cheap, without regard to colour or race; the cotton-mills of India and Japan will be pitted against Lancashire; the industrious Chinaman will be taught to build ships; British steamers will be manned by Lascars; whilst the men who manned the Navy and Mercantile Marine during the war will be cast aside unless they are prepared to offer themselves upon the altar of cheapness.

No true Irishman desires to see his country developed like Staffordshire or other industrial areas, but if our young people are to be saved from the industrial hells of America, and the sweaters' dens of Great Britain, the pastoral resources of Ireland must be utilised in the interests of the people, but before any substantial advance can be made, the soil of Ireland must become the property

of the whole people.

In England, where neither "tenant right," "Ulster custom," nor peasant proprietorship are known, there would be little trouble in arranging to

"Buy out, tax out, or klok out".
the landowners, but in Ireland the question is more complicated, because the lrish farmer has an interest in his farm which his English colleague does not pos-

Under the land laws which were in force in Ireland up to the passing of the Land Acts, the tenants drained otherwise improved their holdings, but the landlords possessed, and often exercised, the right to increase the rent, but at present many farmers are occupying owners, having taken advantage of the Wyndham Act. which placed one-fifth of the compensation paid to the landlords for their interest in the land on the taxpayer. Recognising that the Irish farmers have a good title, both in law and equity, we must adopt some honest and practical measure if we wish to recover possession of the land, either in whole or in part, and in my opinion the principle of "tax and buy" would, if put into operation, enable the people to gradually

possession of the soil, This system is simplicity itself; each person values his own holding, and on that valuation he is taxed—a stated number of years' purchase to be deemed to be the true value should the owner wish to sell or the State wish to purchase; anyone fixing a high valuation would, of course, pay taxes on that basis. It is essential that land in the vicinity of town and villages should at once be available for all allotments on easy terms, and with security of tenure, so that the natural desire of the people for land on which to produce food could be satisfied.

If our splendid water-power was har nessed up, and the plenteous supplies of peat put to proper use, industries could be built up which would supply our markets with goods manufactured for use and not for profit; the skill and industry of the people could thus be used for their own and their country's benefit; but be-fore any of these things become easy of attainment, the old battle cry of

"The land for the people," must resound throughout the land; our people must realise that they must either own the land, and live like freemen, or remain slaves, for he who owns the land owns the people.

As we see it, the land problem in Ireland is to day less a question of ownership than one of the right use of the soil in the interest of the nation. Comrade Baird's method of acquiring ownership is practical, but when the State (whether the capitalist state or the socialist combine) obtains possession, how will it work the farms, and treat the "working" proprietor. Shall we have the latifundia worked by wage-slave subjects of a bond-holders govern-Shall we ment? Shall we extend the partial cooperation of the I.A.O.S. type, and create the co-operative community, outlined in "The National Being"?—Ed.

# The Powers of the R.D.

Use Them for Labour!

Rural District Councils are the lowest units in the machinery of government in Ireland, but their powers are not so restricted as might be supposed. As the Councils are employers, there is an obvious incentive for working-class electors tendance Committee could discover a to send working men and women to the Councils in order to ensure that their employees are paid wages and enjoy conditions which will serve as models for other employers. But action of this sort, necessary though it be, is not very constructive, and will not carry us far on the way towards the regeneration of our country by the abolition of competitive private ownership of property and the establishment of social, political, and industrial democracy.

I therefore indicate below some of the departments of a Rural District Council's work the possibilities of which deserve to be explored by members of, and candidates for election to these bodies. They are based on the "District Councillor's Manual," a handy little book quoting a number of L.G.B. Orders, etc., in full, and giving references to the various Acts of Parliament. The book was published—I do not know if it is still in houses to make sufficient house drains print—by the "General Advertiser" and erect proper privies, water-closets, Co., Ltd., 13 Fleet Street, Dublin, and the price was one shilling. Education and Recreation.

Libraries (Ireland) Act, 1902, to establish and maintain public libraries. They also have power to nominate representatives on County Agricultural and Technical Instruction Committees. Given a library for a meeting-place, a stock of books as material, and live Trade Unionists as the students, with Labour councillors as the aid or otherwise. moving spirits, it should be possible. Water and Cas. moving spirits, it should be possible, either through the Instruction Committee or through a purely Labour organisation, to hold lectures and classes in history, economics, literature, art and science which will at once awaken a desire

School Attendance Committee. Compulchase markets, and thereafter run them sory education is still not in operation in (Continued on next Column.) sory education is still not in operation in

quite a number of districts, and an agi-tation in favour of it in such districts would probably throw a good deal of light on the inadequacy of the school accom-modation, the need for school meals, etc., Live Labour members of a School Atgood deal about the health of children, the need for medical inspection and treatment, the effect of poverty-stricken home conditions on education, the necessity of special schools for defective children, etc.

A Council also has power to establish public parks.

Housing, The powers of a Rural District Council in regard to the building of labourers' cottages are fairly well known. cils are also empowered by the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899, to ad-vance four-fifths of the market value (when not over £400) to occupiers desiring to buy houses. I believe this Act is rarely availed of, but do not know when ther this is due to the fault of the Councils or to defective arrangements. A Council has full power to make sewers governing the building of new houses. With the present cost of building, per R.D.C.'s have power under the Public haps not much can be done with regard to housing in practice, but Labour members of a Council could be vigilant to see that so far as sanitation, etc., is concerned, existing houses are kept reasonably decent, and could be ready with plans and information for such time as new building is made possible by State

A Council has power to establish publicly-owned supplies of water and gas or other means of lighting in towns. Public Health.

In addition to its powers in regard to for a fuller life and provide the know-housing, a Council can make regulations ledge required to secure it. for securing cleanliness, etc., in dairies. A Rural District Council can require cowsheds, milkshops, and bakeries. It the County Council to put into operation can condemn and destroy food unfit for the compulsory attendance of children at consumption. Possibly more important school, and can nominate one-half of the than these powers is the power to pur-

## EUGENE V. DEBS.

The Supreme Court of the U.S., America, has just confirmed a sentence of ten years' imprisonment upon the sixty-two-year-old leader of the American Socialist Party. His offence was making an alleged seditious speech at Canton, an aneged sectious speech at Canton, Ohio, on June 16th, 1918. His defence was the American Constitution, which guarantees freedom of speech and public meeting. He refused to take back a word of the speech, and fought the case on the right of free speech.

The man, Debs, and his works may well be judged from this heart-throbbing appeal for the children:—

appeal for the children:-

#### CHILDHOOD,

By Eugene V. Debs. What sweet emotions the recollections

of childhood inspire, and how priceless its treasured memories in our advancing and declining years!

Laughing eyes and curly hair, little brown hands and bare feet, innocent and care-free, trusting and loving, tender and pure, what an elevating and satisfy-ing influence these little gods have upon our maturer years!

Childhood! What a holy theme! Flowers they are, with souls in them, and if on this earth man has a sacred charge, a holy obligation, it is to these tender buds and blossoms of humanity.

Yet how many of them are prematurely plucked, fade and die, and are trampled in the mire. Many millions of them have been snatched from the cradle and stolen from their play to be fed to the forces that turn a workingman's blood into a capitalist's gold, and many millions of others have been crushed and perverted into filth for the slums and food for the pottersfield.

TRISH FUND FOR THE FAMINE-STRICKEN.

A MILLION SIXPENCES Would buy £25,000 worth of Food for Starving Europe. Please help.

Contributions received by TREASURER, Irishwomen's International League, 29 South Anne Street, DUBLIN.

Childhood is at the parting of the ways which lead to success or failure, honour or disgrace, life or death. Society is, or ought to be, profoundly concerned in the nature of the environment that is to mould the character and determine the destiny of its children, and any remissness in such duty is rebuked by the most painful penalties, and these are inflicted with increasing sevenity upon the people of the United States.

Childhood is the most precious charge of the family and the community, but our capitalist civilisation sacrifices it ruthlessly to gratify its brutal lust for pelf and power, and the march of its conquest is stained with the blood of infants, and paved with the puny bones of little

What shall the harvest be? The millions of children crushed and slain in the conquest of capitalism have not died in vain т гощ martyr graves all over this fair land their avenging images are springing up, as it were, against the system that mur-dered them, and pronouncing upon it, in the name of God and humanity, the condemnation of death.

BRITISH JUSTICE.

At East Ham Frank Byrnes (19), a seaman, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and using bad language.

He was shouting: "I'll kill every Sinn

Feiner I meet."
Said the Magistrate: "A very useful

man."
"The menacling of the hands of these prisoners behind their backs gave the Judge some concern but . . desired in a very special way humbly to request of His Majesty some recognition of the faithful and loyal work of Head-Warder Hawe and the warders acting under him."—"Times" summary of Mr. Justice Dodd's report on Belfast Gaol Inquiry.

It must warm the hearts of the workingmen who were shipped abroad to "fight for democracy" when they read that their masters, who stayed snugly at home making fortunes, are arranging so that, when they come tunes, are arranging so that, when they come back, they shall find their chains just where they left them.

Did you ever see a pack of jackals fighting over a carcase? If not, keep your eye on the "peace" conference.

"The art of government consists in taking as much as possible from one part of the citizens to give it to another."—Voltaire.

by a combination between a Council and a Co-operative Society to beat every private trader out of business by reason of superior cleanliness, convenience, and quality ?

Workshop and Factory Inspection, The Council is required to inspect, report upon, and in some cases may prosecute offenders in regard to the provisions of both the Factory and Workshops Act and the Public Health Acts. enforcing a minimum of sanitation, ventilation, cleanliness, etc., in factories, work-

shops, shops, etc. PATRICK THOMPSON.

#### TRANSPORT UNION'S NEW DEVELOPMENT.

NUMBER ONE BRANCH LEADS OFF.

The practical step in the Re-conquest of Ireland, urged by James Connolly, is being taken by No. 1 Branch I.T. and and G.W.U. in association with Dublin Industrial Co-operative Society.

It is proposed to open a new branch of

the latter Society in a central position of Dublin, the necessary capital being put up by No. 1 branch out of its local fund.

The members of the branch joining the Co-operative Society will take up shares under its rules, paying them at the rate of 3d. per week for each £1 share. When the members have paid a sum equal to the capital advanced in the first instance by the Union, that sum will be released for the opening of a store in another district.

To inaugurate the scheme, a meeting of Transport Union members and their wives will be held in Liberty Hall on Wednesday, 9th April, at 8 p.m. Prominent co-operators and trade unionists will explain the plan, and arrangements will be made to

enroll co-operators.

It is of first importance that women members and members' wives should attend this meeting, for it is the housewife who reaps the advantage of co-operative trading, with the square deal at the counter, fresh and reliable food, and the say-

ing of housekeeping money.

The committee and officers of No. 1 branch deserve credit for the economical management of the local fund, which has been carefully husbanded, thus enabling them to launch out on this instalment of the Co-operative Commonwealth.

With eleven thousand members in good standing enrolled in this one branch of the O.B.U., the new store should be an assured success, and the district shops should be opened within the next few months. All depends, however, on the loyalty the members display in purchasing from their own shop.

Enniskerry.

Farmers in the locality are pondering over a demand for 12s. on present rates. Kilkenny.

All brewery men have been granted a 48-hour week, with one break for meals, and all round advances.

Irish

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

Prospectus and Agency terms sent post free on request; Society HEAD OFFICE 2 St. Andrew St, Dublin.

Telegrams: "Watt, Dublin." Telephone 4266 Dublis

INEERS AND MILLWRIGHTS, SOMO WORKS. BRIDGEFOOT STREET, DUBLIN.

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

BICYCLES, Ladia and Gent's; Price £4 10s, 8d., £5 10s ed., £6 10s. ed., £7 10s.ed. to £8 18s. ed.; oar riage paid. Also 500 store-enamelled frames all sizes, ladies' and gent's; Trade supplied New Covers from 5/-, 6/6, 9/-, 12/-, 15/-. Tubes from 2/6, 3/6, 4/6, 5/-, oarriage paid. New Machines from 11 to 15 gns.; Dunlop Tyres and Brooks' Saddles. No shortage of any

DWYER, 4 (V) ARRAN QUAY, DUBLIN.

## "THE IRISH HOMESTEAD:"

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

EDITED BY "Æ."



you cannot masticate your food pre-perly, and because stomach trouble and indigestion are sure to follow. Then you do not know the minute when they will start to sohe and rob you of your sleep, giving you no peace.

Go at once to M. MALAMED. 16 HENRY ST.

For Trentment and Advice, MODERATE TERMA



# Transport Union Notes.

Mineral Water Industry (Official).

In view of the establishment of a Trade Board on which the Union will be represented, Branch Secretaries are asked to forward these particulars:—Names of all factory owners in Branch areas, number of workers, union and non-union; rates, hours and conditions of all classes of employees, men, youths, and women. En-yelopes containing the information should be marked: "Mineral Water Section."

Coal Miners' (Official).

As the Irish Coal Commission has now begun operations, with Union representation, Branch Secs. are requested to forward immediately the information asked per circular.

Tips for Grooms.

"Sweating" may be good for overfed racehorses, but it won't do for underpaid grooms and stablemen. A general demand is being made by the union on racing stables throughout the country, and all grooms in Ireland must, when the white flag is lowered, get away in a good start under the red one. With all in the Union, we shall have "a ton in hand."

Boyle. Joshua's stunt in Jericho was emulated by Boyle town-workers, who struck work simultaneously at the sounding of a trumpet, and rudely shook the local walls of capitalism. Further breach occur each day, as the defences of individual employers are carried. Ere the horn is wound again, Jasper and Co.'s fangs will have been painfully extracted.

Kilrush. Baker Ryan, who shut up shop after conceding demand, has been made a sporting offer-to submit to an auditor his plea that the biz is not paying, both sides to be heard, the bakehouse to be re-opened if he lose his case, no more to be said if he win, and the loser to foot the auditor's bill.

Newry wins new laurels each week. Timber yard men got 4s. advance and drug store employees 7s. 6d. to 10s.

Lord Meath's farm workers have queered the Wages Board's pitch in Co. Wicklow by securing, after a downspades hint, increases to 35s. for 7-day men, 80s. for 6-day men, 25s. for boys between 18 and 20, and 18s. for younger

Condensed Milk Co, of Ireland.

About 500 workers in branches in Cos. Limerick, Cork and Tipp, are concerned in the demand on this company, which has elicited an offer of a 48-hour week and graded advances. Granard.

Shop assistants gained increases of from £20 to £30 per annum. Over £40 arrears were recovered in A.W.B. cases. Navan,

W. A. Willis's ungenerous award gives employees with less than 27s. 6d, an increase of 4s., those with more 3s., women 3s. 6d., youths 2s., while piece-workers get 10 per cent. advance. The workers 2nd prize; Enniscorthy Feis, 1915, 2nd in the three Saw Mills rejected a 4s. prize. It was highly commended at the offer, and held a further conference with Galway Oireachtas in 1913, though it had the bosses during the week-end. Farm Workers' County Demands.

Co. Kildare's.—45s. for men, when boarded and lodged; 30s. for boys between 18 and 20; 25s. between 16 and 18; and a 48-hour week. Slightly lesser claims have been preferred in Co. Carlow, Leix, Co. Wexford, and Co. Kilkenny.

The one-day strike resulted in practically all the town employers settling at 35s. The few outstanders are being picketed. Athy.

A strike threat resulted in the offer to tailors being increased from 1s. 6d. to 12e. per week, which was accepted. Bakers demand a 10s. advance. Maynooth.

The Convent Laundry dispute was settled in the women being given 5s. increase, to 16s., and a 50-hour week, with early Saturday. Cavan,

The strikers at Lord Farnham's resumed on guarantee that their claims would be considered with general district demand. Thurles,

The two outstanding bakeries have caved in, underhands getting 36s. and extras. Other firms settled at 6s. per sack in the steam bakeries and in the small firms at 4s. 6d. per 10-stone sack. Clones.

The Bakers' stoppage was fixed up on a 32s. rate being granted, with 7s. 6d. extra for each batch over 40 per week. Donabate,

Farm labourers in Portrane Asylum have demanded 50s. Drepsey,

The procrastinating methods of the Woollen Mill owners are ended by a strike notice, and the demand is now submitted to Cork Conciliation Board for arbitra-

#### TULLAMORE'S O.B.U.

The new secretary of the Dublin Trades Council, Tom Farren, celebrated his in-auguration by travelling to Tullamore on Friday, 28th ult., in his capacity of Transport Union organiser. With the aid of J. O'Connor (Executive member) and Frank McCabe, he successfully negotiated a forty-eight hour week for all workers in the town.

The proceedings were harmonious, and the limitation of the working day without reduction of the recently raised wages was accepted pleasantly by the employers.

In Tullamore there are but two trade unions, the I.N.T.O. and I.T. and G.W.U. All workers are embraced in the latter and, as the Belgian motto has it: "L'union fait la force."

Kilmaothomas.

Roadworkers won advance of 3s. and carters 2s. per day.; The Co. Surveyor has been forced to mend his hand re victimisation, and is to help to recover arrears due to the men. Leix Road-Workers.

The County Council, at next meeting, will consider roadmen's demands for 40s. for an 8-hour day, 50s. for quarrymen, and carters 15s. per day.

Mohill. The town demand is for 26s. or 15s. with maintenance, and a nine-hour day for labourers and farm workers. Separate claims have been made for shop assistants and apprentices.

Tuliamore, The claim for a 48-hour week was granted after a pow-wow with the Employers' Federation. Glanworth.

Quinlan's Woollen Mills' employees seek a 48-hour week and a graded scale of advances.

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

Appeal for Funds. A Chara, -We, the Committee of the

above-named band, make a general appeal to all our brother Gaels for financial assistance. The general public are well acquainted with the Fintan Lalor Band. This band was a unit of the I.C.A. at Easter Week, and fought as such. The band was inaugurated in 1913 by the members of No. 16 Branch I.T.W.U. During the period of the great lock-out 1913-14, the band attended all labour and national demonstrations, and continued to do so till Easter Sunday, 1916, when an order was issued by the late Commandant, James Connolly, to put all band instruments aside. This order being obeyed, all instruments were stored away in a certain building, which afterwards came under the fire of the big guns, which put an end to the band instruments. During three years of existence the band had numerous prizes to its credit, among them being :- Tullow Feis, 1915, 1st prize; Dundalk Oireachtas, 1915, been only six weeks in existence; and at Killarney, in 1914, it met with a similar experience. The credit of individual piping remained with the band from 1914 till Easter Week. The band is now reorganised, but lack of funds is hindering its progress. Now we, the Committee, have every confidence that our brother Gaels will not fail in sending their subs along. Our ideal is that of Fintan Lalor and James Connolly—Ireland for the people.—Yours fraternally,

RICHARD MacCORMICK, Chairman; EDWARD TUKE, Pipe Major; FRANK ROBBINS, Hon. Sec.

All subscriptions may be sent to the Hon. Seo., 39 North William Street, Dublin.

Sligo and "P.R."

The booklet issued by the Proportional Representation Society, 65 Middle Abbey Street, should prove an invaluable aid to election organisers. The actual results of the poll in Sligo municipal election are analysed in detail, and the method of arriving at the final result is displayed by tables illustrating each step in the process of counting.

The price of the booklet is Is. We un-

derstand the Irish Labour Party and Dublin Trades Council are arranging for a special edition.

PRESENTING IRELAND'S CASE.

The "Voice of Labour" of 29th March, containing the story of Berne Conference, by Tom Johnson and Cathal O'Shannon, is still on sale. Newsagents supplied at usual terms. Trade Union Branches and Trades Councils supplied at 10d. per dozen. Single copies, 2d., post free. 27 DAWSON STREET, DUBLIN.

THE MARY STREET PICTURE HOUSE (The "Mary-O.") Star Piotures Always.

THE ELECTRIC THEATRE, TALBOT STREET.

First in Dublin ang Still the Best.

#### THE "ENEMY" PRINCES.

The gentlemen who have been removed from the British Peerage by George Windsor (formerly Wettin) are very near relatives. H.R.H. the Duke of Albany is like George himself, a grandson of Queen Victoria, and succeeded to the Dukedom of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha in virtue of his descent from her German husband, Prince Albert.

The Duke of Cumberland is the great-grandson of Queen Victoria's uncle Ernest Augustus, Duke of Cumberland who became King of Hanover on the death of William IV. in 1837. Ernest, while in England, was a violent anti-Irish partizan and chief patron of the Orange Order..

Irish Worker (Dublin).—Too long. Come and see us.

CONNRADH NA GAEDHILGE.

WANTED—Thousands of Parents and Others to attend a GREAT LANGUAGE MEETING in THE MANSION HOUSE, DUBLIN, on TUESDAY, APRIL 8th, at 8 p.m., to determine the future position of the Irish Lan. guage in Irish Education. Chairman-Eoin Mac Neill, B.A., T.D.E.

The Speakers will include: - Cathal Brughs T.D.E.; Rev. Father M. O'Flanagan, Rev. Father Fullerton, Belfast; An t-Athair T. De Bhal, C.C., D.P.H.; Arthur Griffith, T.D.E.; A. O Cleary, LL.B., B.L.; An t-Athair Seosamh Mac Gabhan, Cathal Shannon, Seamus O'Haodha, Sean Mac Coillte, Sean O Murthuile.

ADMISSION FREE,

IRISH LABOUR PARTY AND TRADE UNION CONGRESS—NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

IRELAND AND THE INTERNATIONAL

A MASS MEETING will be held in the ROUND ROOM, MANSION HOUSE, MONDAY, APRIL 7th, 1919, at 8 p.m.

THOS, JOHNSON and CATHAL O'SHANNON \* Will report on the INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE AND IRELAND.

Resolutions on-League of Nations; International Labour Day-May 1st.; Treatment of Political Prisoners, etc.

will be submitted. Chair to be taken by THOMAS CASSIDY (Derry), Chairman of the National Executive). WILLIAM O'BRIEN, Secretary.

Cumannacht na hEireann. SUNDAY EVENING LECTURES: TRADES HALL, CAPEL STREET, BUBLIN.

On Sunday Next, 6th inst., at \$ p.m. prompt. SYDNEY ARNOLD.
Subject: "Revolutionary Russia." Questions and Discussion Invited.

Admission Free: Music: Collection, Branch Rooms at 42 North Great George's Street open each evening. Members' meeting on Friday, 4th inst., at 8 p.m. prompt.

## BACHELOR'S WALK

FOR **EVERY** THING

in the



Typewriter & Duplicating Line.

FOR YOUR WINTER SUIT OR COSTUME

SEE— THOS. J. LITTLE,

The Tailoring Specialist.

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

Only Address:-

38 DRURY STREET, DUBLIN

(One Door from Exchequer Street).

Good Work

Trade Union Wages

'Phone 1848.

Court Laundry HARCOURT ST., DUBLIN

> Specialists in Linen Washing. Pioneers of Profit-Sharing in Ireland. Van Collections and Deliveries every week in City and Suburbs

Irish Materials

Prompt Despatch

Printed for the "Irish Labour Press," 27 Dawson St., by Mossrs. Cahill and Co., Ltd., Ormond Quay, Dublin. Registered as a Newspaper.