Edited by Jim Larkin.

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DUBLIN, SATURDAY, MAY 4th 1912.

[ONE PENNY,

### Syndicalism and Socialism.

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The following is a translation of an article by Jean Jaurès, the leader of French Socialism, in a recent issue of "'L'Humanité."

English conservatives, whatever national pride they may feel in the order which was maintained for five weeks by more than a million strikers, cannot conceal their apprehensions. They are freely saying that England is a country of realities, not of formulas; and that it may well happen one day that a real General Strike, hitherto only a prophecy or a menace, may become a weapon in the hands of the English proletariat.

In their unessiness, they are trying to find out what, in reality, is this Syndicalism, which for some years past has been spreading a more militant spirit and bolder hopes among trade unionists. Discussions abound in all the great newspapers, and almost everywhere I notice a fundamental error. English writers regard Syndicalism and Socialism as opresed to each other. They say that Sicialism aims at handing over all property to the community, represented by the State; and that Syndicalism, on the contrary, aims at handing it over, in each industry, to the corporation of workers engaged in that industry. Thus, under Socialism, property would be national. centralised, and bureaucratic; under Syndicalism, it would be proletarian in character, broken up, in the hands of various crafts. From these assertions they deduce a whole policy of social detence. Since Socialism and Syndicalism are opposing forces, it is necessary to use one to fight the other; and some are inclined to rely on Socialism, as they understand it, to crush Syndicalism; while others rely on Syndicalism, as they define it, to crush Socialism. The former

believe that a vigorous policy of State intervention, lessening by the force of the State the grievances of labour, and diminishing the gulf between the classes. will disarm the bitterest claims of the proletariat, and will create an atmosphere in which syndicalist agitations will die out. The latter, on the contrary, advise the employers in each industry to put aside a portion of corporate property for the workers, for example, by a considerable participation in the profits; and thus to appose to the unitary and revolutionary propaganda of Socialism a number of distinct groups of workers, sufficiently satisfied with their own condition to offer no longer the smallest footing for Socialist

Unharpily for these tacticians, they are doubly mistaken. They fundamentally misunderstand both the idea of Socialism and the idea of Syndicalism. This is one of the most curious examples of the slowness of the English people, so admirable in many respects, in assimilating those general ideas which are familiar on the Continent. One may say that the English learn nothing except under the pressure of events; and thus they are exposed to the most singular misunderstandings, for they take the first appearances which present themselves for the essential and entire truth.

Collectivist Socialism will in no respect be a bureaucratic Governmentalism. It will rather be a federal union of groups of producers. Even those Socialists who Mach the greatest importance to the transformation of private capitalism into public services regard State Socialism as only a stage, as a transition, and in that transitory form itself they are anxious to eliminate as far as possible the bureaucratic spirit, to introduce as far as possible the control, the impelling and directive force of the entire organised working class, of the proletarian groups directly interested in the industry nationalised, and of the consumers themselves.

On the other hand, it is absurd to attribute to Syndicalism the idea of breaking up social production and property into spheres controlled by industrial corporations of workers. Syndicalism has long passed this stage of "corporatism." It is not corporative in its aim, since it proposes the general socialisation of productive forces, and a communism which, though federal, would have nothing fragmentary about it. It is not corporative in its method, since it aspires to generalise teonomic conflicts, and if necessary to throw the entire weight of organised abour into each great battle in a particular industry; and since, moreover, the general Mike appears to it the most decisive method of achieving successive conquests and the supreme instrument of total ex-

Thus, contrary to the ideas of English Conservatives, Syndicalism and Socialism have not opposing ends. They have the same object, namely, the general socialisation of capital and its administration by an association of all producers, in which individual groups, largely autonomous, will be harmonised.

Therefore, whatever personal conflicts there may be, whatever jealous rivalries, whatever tactical contradictions, Socialism and Syndicalism are united by the essential community of their object. As long as neither of them forgets its true end it will be impossible to set up a serious opposition between them. Everything that helps one will help the other. Everything that weakens one will weaken the other. The b urgeoisie cannot make use of one against the other; nor can the proletariat dispense with either of them. Socialism and Syndicalism, after having exchanged words of distrust or disdain,

#### The Lesson of the "Olympic."

effort and living unity of action.

must finally arrive, in a complete and

reciprocal independence, at harmony of

There has been a great deal of talk about the "Titanic" disaster, about its causes, and about the remedies necessary to prevent its recurrence. I don't want to disparage this talk; no doubt something will come of it eventually; and at all events it has helped to rouse public opinion on both sides of the Atlantic with regard to the perils to human life involved in satisfying the fantasies of a handful of millionaires and a few corporations of dividend-hunters. But meentime one body of men has between the talk. The seamen and firemen of the "Olympic"

have acted.

That is the outstanding feature of the situation. The first practical step—the only practical step taken so far—to secure humanity against the repetition of the "Titanic" disaster has been taken by the organised workers. Parliament, after fumbling at the question for a decorous period, may devise some new regulations, insisting that every liner shall carry a sufficiency of lifeboats for all on boardeven if it involves some curtailment in the matter of racquet courts, gymnasia and drawingrooms. But the men of the "Olympic" have not waited for Parliament. They simply declared that they would not sail until the proper number of lifeboats—seaworthy, reliable lifeboats, not shams intended to deceive the unsuspecting passengers—were placed on board. By their action, which one may hope will be widely imitated, they have brought the masters and the public face

to face with realities. The incident shows not only the power of the organised working class, but its willingness to use that power for beneficent ends. The stupid middle-class public, itself exploited by the few in whose hands capi'al is concentrated, is often deluded by the capitalist Press into denouncing the "selfishness" of the workers. Middleclass folk-shopkeepers, professional men, and the rest-are slow to realise that they themselves must benefit from every blow delivered by the forces of labour which shakes the power of capital. But this is a case in which, unless they are of an unparalleled stupidity, they cannot fail to read the moral aright. In striking at the system which made the loss of the "Titanic" possible, the seamen and firemen are striking at a system which is a menace to the entire community. They are acting in the best interests of humanity as a whole. They are taking messures calculated to protect their own lives, no doubt, in accordance with the dictates of an enlightened self-interest; but they are at the same time compelling a reform of seafaring law which will save the lives of many a middle class person, and even of some millionaires. For, after all, some millionaires did go down with

the "Titanic." Many fruitful comparisons have been drawn, since the catastrophe, between the Titanic" and the ship of State. Will the public have the sense to make the comparison in this particular also, and to realise that, if the State as a whole is to be saved from the dangers into which its headlong capitalist directors would rush it, it is only possible by the organised effort of those whose labour built it and keeps it steaming?

F.S.S.

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### BAPTIST UNION.

Striking Address by Rev Thomas Phillips.

#### "ILLS THAT STAGGER FAITH"

When St Francis of Assisi wedded Poverty and a French lyrical poet went into raptures over the "good goddess" of that name, it was something different from modern poverty, as it is known today in London and Liverpool, Glasgow and Edinburgh, and the towns and villages of Britain, that was praised and wedded. Poverty, in England at any rate, is a modern creation, and its appalling consequences have been described and denounced by many social reformers and investigators.

An inictment of present-day social conditions was the outstanding feature at the fourth session of the Baptist Union Assembly, when the Rev. Thomas Phillips, pastor of Bloomsbury Central Church, where the principal sessions are being held, delivered a stirring address on "Social Unrest." So profound was the enthusiasm created by Mr. Phillips's address that, when reminded by the chairman that his "time was up," Mr. Phillips was compelled to "go on" by the insistent calls of his auditors. And when he had finished with the declaration that the noblest vocation is that of the preacher and the grandest society is the Church of Jesus Christ," the audience cheered him rapturously. Afterwards they sang Ebenezer Elliott's hymn of democracy:

#### O Ged of mercy, when?

The hymn had a fine appropriateness, for the whole of Mr. Phillips's address was a plea for the people, the common working people, on whose straining shoulders, as recent events have shown, the welfare of the nation so entirely de-

Mr. Phillips began his address with the assertion that it was the first duty of the whole Christian community to take upon themselves the infirmities of the people and to bear the sicknesses of our social organism. The first step in social, as well as in individual regeneration was, he said repentance, and later, elaborating this idea, Mr. Phillips said: "There is a far closer connection between the arrested development of the Church and the social ills of the land then we imagine (Hear. hear). We are confronted with the necessity of looking things in the face. I do not suggest that Baptists can help the present state of affairs; but one thing we can do: we can help being happy and smug and comfortable while these things continue. We may say we are concerned about these things, but our concern does not amount to much unless it deepens into humiliation and soars into intercession. What I plead for is a new type of repentance, a new social consciousness of sin. We want a larger and more unselfish outlook. The Baptist denomination must come to its knees and cry to God day and night over the destruction of the people. Our first duty as Baptists is to socialise our repentance. Let us repent and then believe—believe that no evil is lasting, that no inequality is final; that there is no sanctity about things as they

TRAGEDIES OF THE POOR.

In the earliest part of his address, Mr. Phillips referred to the coal and railway strikes, and, speaking of the low wages and the precarious and dangerous character of the work of railwaymen and miners. said: "We are here in this church enjoying ourselves, but, within 300 yards of this place, there are between 30 and 40 families living in two houses; the majority of them in one room for each family. To visit these places is purga-

Speaking evidently from personal knowledge Mr. Phillips mentioned the case of a family of six living in one room—the husband a helpless consumptive, two of the children cripples, and the woman, the

only wage-earner, out of work.
"These things," he declared, "stagger a man's faith in God and in man. I wish

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that London were not representative of England: but Mr. Rowntree has told the same story of York, and two clergymen have said that, in some respects, Edinburgh is even worse than in London."

The villages were no better off. A writer in a recent number of the "Sociological Review" stated that he had found that, out of 390 people living in the villages, 193 did not get sufficient food to keep body and soul together.

"There is no need to exaggerate" de-clared Mr. Phillips. 'Our danger is not in exaggerating, but in ignoring. Let us preach the Gospel, but do not let us snuggle down in our comfortable evangelical motor cars, and rush away to Heaven regardless of the inconvenience. we are causing and the danger we are bringing to others in our swirling, dustenveloped passage."
Mr. Phillips made the interesting sug-

gestion that business men should devote their energy and power of organisation which they used in business to settling this tremendous social difficulty. He would like to see a Society of St. Barnabas formed, made up of Christian business men, who would give themselves up to this work. Reform would come, but not by revolution. Only by the exercise of a vital religion would they get rid of the tragedy of wasted humanity

Principal Edwards, ex-president of the union, moved a resolution, which was seconded by Dr. Ewing and passed unanimously approving of the Welsh Disestablishment Bill, which was described as being "exceedingly generous in its provisions."

#### TELASI:

BRURY DOES HIS DUTY.

#### Food "Fakir" Gets Time

On Wednesday in the Southern Police Court, before Mr. Drury, Philip Byrne, dairy keeper, 31 St. Augustine street, was summoned by the Corporation for having, on February 20th, sold milk containing 30 per cent. of water, and his wife, Jane, was summoned for having on the same date refused to supply a sample of milk to the Corporation Inspector.

Mr. T. F. Burke, Assistant Law Agent to the Corporation, prosecuted, and Mr. Joseph O'Connor defended.

Mr. Burke said in the first summons the facts were admitted. The defendant, Philip Byrne, had already been prosecuted and fined on five different occasions. Mr. Drury said the case was an ex-

ceedingly bad one, and he would send the male defendant to jail for two months. Mrs. Byrne, who was standing near her

husband, on hearing the sentence, became hysterical and made a passionate appeal to his Worship to reduce the sentence. Mr. Drury (sternly)-I won't have any

of this nonsense. This conduct is nothing short of public robbery. You don't think of the injury you are doing the poor in selling this adulterated milk to them.

Inspector O'Brien proved the charge against Mrs. Byrne. His evidence was that on February 20th he saw a large jug of water beside a second crock of milk, He asked to be supplied with a pennyworth of it, and she refused, stating that the milk was for her own use.

A fine of £2 was imposed. Mr. O'Connor appealed to his Worship to reduce the sentence on Philip Byrne on account of his age.

His Worship refused, describing the case as one of the very worst that he had had before him.

We are glad to find justice being done even at the ele-enth hour, and hope no distinction will be made in fu ure when shopkeepers are summoned for selling adulterated food. Had imprisonment been the rule in the past instead of fines, the Dublin Corporation would often have been noticeable for the absence of some of its "patriotic" members."-ED.1

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#### THE NEXT STAGE

The battle is over; now the fighting will begin. In the history of Ireland for the last hundred years there will be found nothing to equal in its intensity the struggle that will occur if, and when, the British Government's bogus Home Rule Bill passes. It will no longer be "the few irreconciables" whom the politicians will have to face, but the whole disillusioned Irish Nati n, led by the few who stood faithful through thick and thin to the ideal of Ireland's independence.

It is, of course, possible to hoodwink the majority of our countrymen into be-lieving that the Bill embodies all we ever asked for. Men who are accustomed to yield a blind obedience and purchase their opinions ready-made cannot be expected immediately to see through the swaddling clothes of lies and dishonest prophesies in which the latest abortion of the Parliamentary Party has been wrapped. But, fortunately, they cannot keep it wrapped up for ever, and before long the baby and the bath will both be thrown out together.

The utter werthlessness of the Bill is the only good thing about it. When the Irish people realise the way in which they have been duped there will be a sudden and complete reaction against those who have been responsible for it. New standards will be set up and old causes of disunity swept away. Place-hunting will no longer masquerade as politics; men's acts will count, not their words; and a National Democratic Party rise into power. Instead of, as at present, the majority of the people vielding unquessprung from and run in the interests of the landlords and capitalists, we will have a National Party representing the whole Nation and acting in the Nation's in-

Signs of the coming change are noticeable already even in the ranks of the "Irish" Party. A few of the younger men are trying to make themselves familiar with the demands and aspirations of the working class. They are professing an interest they do not feel and gazing with glad eyes on the giant Demos.

If, as Redmond stated, two years will see the passing of the British Government's "Irish" Home Rule Bill, five years will witness the rise in Ireland of a dominant Labour Party filled with the true ideals of Irish Nationhood-Ireland from the centre to the sun owned and controlled by the whole people of Ireland in the interest of the whole—a Labour Party that will stand for food and clothing first and above all things; the fireworks can easily be dispensed with till after-

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M:HUGH HIMSELF.

detect?

like ours;

can know-

rolls round

glorious sun

Brings the great world moon wave,

Must our Cause be

powers.

won!

JOLLY Sailor Men; up came the captain up came the crew, the first mate, the second mate, and the third mate, too, and they all beught their Bikes from a chap called M'Hugh, as they sang Ship Aboy in the morning.

120 SECOND-HAND Bicycles for Sale, from 12s. 6d. to £4; value extraordinary; Reliability guaranteed; all great makes; but make sure of the right ahop—38b Talbot street, Electric

NEW Bicycles, from 6s. monthly; Hobarts, Hudsons, and Kynochs, or £3 17s. 6d. cash, no reference required. See the new Taxi-Bicycle. 38b Talbot street (Old Verdon Hotel).

ADD TYRES from 2s. 11d.; Special Purchase; the Dream of Gerontius realised; Tubes from 1s. 11d.; Mudguards, 8d. pair; Pumps, 8d.; Outfits, 21d.; Enamel, 3d. 38b Talbot street (the Sumy Side).

300 SECOND-HAND Bicycles wanted for hiring, prompt cash paid, or highest value allowed for exchange; "Bring in the Old, bring out the new." 38b Talbot street (few doors from Theatre)

1,200 CYCLISTS Rejoicing; here in Talbot street; "M'Hugh Himself"; Repairs by Expert Staff of Men only; charges 50 per cent, less than anywhere else; Piating, enamelling, 25s, 38b Talbot street (nextaSinger's). 2,350 FAR away Customers; send on for your

Cycle requirements; delivered anywhere next morning, from Baltyhooley to Tory Island; catalogues free. Address—Mr. T. M'Hugh, 38b Talbot street.

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#### WOMEN WORKERS' COLUMN.

Keogh's Sack Facto v.

Every bour, every day, and every week, bring forth fresh tales of unjust treatment to women workers;

Last week we threw a little light on the workings of Messys. Keogh's Sack Factory. This week we will throw a little more, so that a'l workers, and those interested in the working women will get some idea of the conditions under which these women work

The following are some of the conditions:—

As many as twenty women and girls

As many as twenty women and girls working in a small loft, which is very inadequately ventilated.

Women working as long as nineteen years in this firm and only receiving 6s. per week.

Lavatory arrangements so inconveniently placed that the women have either to suffer, and therefore allow their health to be injured, or else depend upon the kindness of the people in the next door establishment to allow them the use of their sanitary arrangements.

Owing to the nature of their work—sack repairing—many of these women are working from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in dust and dirt, the fames of which they are continuously inhaling. Others, again, are employed in loading drays and lorrys. This work consists of lifting heavy bales of sacks on to the yokes. Work such as this is heavy and laborious for men; what then, think you, must it be for women?

Another very bad system which is practised in this firm is, that the women are paid any time during the week, sometimes they are given ze. on Tuesday, 2s. again on Wednerday, and, perhaps, the same amount on Thursday and Fridey, and the consequence of this system is that when Saturday arrives many of these poor within come out of that factory without as much as one halfpenny. How then are they going to provide for themselves for the Sunday?—Sanday, a day of rest and peace—it would be more appropriate to say, a day of huager and variation for these poor slaves.

Many of these women have to work far harder than men, and in return get less than one third of a man's wages. Is it any wonder that unscrapulous employers prefer to employ women workers? It matters little to them that these women before they are forty years of age are old, decrepit women. No. They have got the best years of these women's lives. They have plundered them of their health and strength, and they may now go to swell the numbers in one of the workhouses.

The women workers in this Firm were told that only for the goodness of Messrs. and Mrs. Keogh employing them that these women and their families would have to go to the Union is any worse than being employed in Messrs. Keogh's sweating den, then God help the immates of the various Unions. It is no use Mrs. Keogh trying to pose as a philanthropist. She is not running her factory for the benefit of her employees, but if she would try to be a little more humane and fair-minded, it would be to the benefit of her employees and also herself.

THE SECRETARY IRISH WOMEN WORKERS' UNION.

DEAR MADAM,—It is satisfactory to note that the women of historic Wextord, who so warmly appreciated Mr. P. T. Daly s sacrifice and sufferings in the cause, have taken the initiative and become the piomeers of the provinces. May their union be to them a tower of strength, as most assuredly it will be.

Now, all women workers in Ireland—North, South, East and West—shou'd at once fall into line with their sisters of Wexford. The working class are the Irish people, the sons and daughters of Ireland. We want them all. There should be no vacant seats at the hearth. She wants no favouring, cringing, servile slaves. She wants noble women and brave men.

It is the bounden duty of every woman to see that she receives a living wage for her work, that her work is performed under conditions favourable to health, and that employer and foreman treat her with the erdinary courtesy of every-day life. How is it to be obtained? By membership of the Union. The Union, by the sense of security and protestion it affords, foaters a spirit of self-reliance and self-respect without which me woman is noble, no man brave.

I am, dear Madam, yours truly,

/Irish Workers' Chair.

Choir practice will be held as usual on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m.

Irish denoing taught on Thursday and Friday evenings.

Irish language class will commence on Tuescay evening next May 7.h. All intending pupils to make application to the Secretary of the Irish Women Workers' Union. This class will be taught by a native Irish speaker.

Comfortable Lodgings for Respectable Men

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7 Mariborough Place, City.

SAMS (Irish)—2 lb, Jun, Sid.; Raspherry, Stank Oursent, ElECUITS—Jam Puls, Butter Orenne, Bernsten, 64, per lb.

2. HYDEM'S, S9 Bride Street,

The last Dance of the sesson will be given by the Irish Women Workers' Union on May 12th, 1912.

A Cincerella Dance to be held in Liberty Hall.

As we are only issuing a limited number of tickets, it is advisable for those intending to take advantage of an enjoyable

dance to precure their tickets at once.

Tickets can be had any evening from the Secretary of the Irish Women Workers' Union.

Tickets ... 1s each.

All communications for this column to be addressed to—
"D.L."

Women Workers' Column,
Liberty Hall,
18 Beresford Place.

#### Irish-Ireland Notes.

By Az Spanien Paracu.

THE DUBLIN FEIS.

The Inter Class compatitions of the Dublin Feis were held during the week, and were most successful. They were all keenly consessed and the outstanding feature was that the marks scored were very high. This shows that the teaching of the language is conducted in a thorough fashion and that the students are applying themselves to the self-imposed task with seal and determination.

On to morrow (Sanday) the public competitions will be held at the Thatch. These include the competitions for the best Gaelic Speaker, History in Irish, and also these in Choral and Solo Singing, Recitation and Dancing.

Last year large numbers attended at the Thatch and the competitions proved exceedingly interesting. It is certain that they will prove even more interesting on this occasion as the number down to compete is large and their excellence is well-known. The St. Laurence O' Foole Pipers Band and the St. James's Brass and Reed Band will attend and dissourse suitable selections during the evening. Short addresses will be delivered by Dr. Douglas Hyde, President of the Gaelic League and the Very Rev. T. A. Fitzgerald, O.S.F.

The Dablin Feis is growing in importance every year. It is an excellent criterion of the work done by the Branches during each Session. It serves to bring the work of the League before the public. The value of this work is patent to everybody.

Each unit of the nation should assist in it. The Committee in charge of the Feis are sparing no pains to make next Sunday's function as entertaining as possible. They confidently hope that the public will show appreciation of their effints by attending in large numbers. No better way could be imagined for spending a Sunday afternoon. Proceedings will com-

The following time table has been arranged for the Dancing Competition:—

1.30 p.m.—Double Jig and Reel (Juniors).

3 p.m.—Single Jig and Hornpipe (Juniors).
4.30 p.m.—Hop Jig and Double Jig

4.30 p.m.—Hop Jig and Double Jig (Seniors).
5 p.m.—Three Hand Reel.

6 p.m.—Reel and Hornpipe (Seniors).
The Stewards appointed for this platform are—Padraig O Coallachain, Micheel
O Foghludha, and Aodh O Laichir.

The Feis Committee request that all Competitors be in attendance punctually at the times specified.

THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE GAELIC LEAGUE GORS TO AMERICA.

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee of the Gaslic League it was decided to send out yet another delegate to the Gasla across the sea in the person of the General Secretary. It is reported that owing probably to stress of work Sean Leake, one of the delegates, lost his voice.

With the no-far-distant day dawning—the day when we'll be all loyal subjects of his Brittanio Majesty (I don't think) the Home Rule Bill under discussion, and the active interest evinced therein by the more determined, and certainly more National section of the American Irish, it is very desirable, from Sean's point of view, that he appear not for some time on Irish-American platforms. It might injure his chance of being one of the 42,

on see.
We rather sympathise with Padraig.
It'll want to be careful now.

He'll want to be careful now. Speaking in all seriousness, we would like to cak the thinking members of the Executive Committee of the Gaelic League do they really imagine that this wholesale sending of delegates to America strengthens the position of the Language Movement here in Ireland by one lots? Is it not apparent that the whole thing is a little overdone? If half the moneywe won't mention energy; when we want to find energy we look to the members of the Dublin Coiste Conntair-expended on the American delegate business were spent in strengthening the League in the City of Dublin and in the Province of Leinster we would venture to say that the return to the League both morally and francially would far exceed that yielded by the present or any American delega-

If report speaksth truly, it is now a common saying among Gaelic Leaguers, "Go to America and look for it.

Verily the fool bath his eyes on the end of the earth. Poor Ireland.

Communications to be addressed An Spailpin Fanach, care of Editor, Intal Worker.

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#### TRADES SOCIETIES.

Football Clubs, and any other Working Class Societies requiring rooms for meetings, &c., would do well to call on Caretaker.

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Finest rooms and accommodation in Dublin.

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

——THE——

### Irish Worker,

EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

THE IRISH WORKER will be published weekly price one penny—and may be had of any newsagent. 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. for six months, payable in advance.

months, payable in advance.

We do not publish or take notice of anonymous contributions.

DUBLIN, SATURDAY May 4, 1912.

### May Day in Ireland, 1912.

Another May Day come and gone.
Another year passed and the Irish working class stand despairing, despised and inarticulate, while their brothers the world over are gathering together like the rush of angry waters. Whilst their brothers the world over in untild millions—raise their voices demanding their due share of God's great gifts to man, the Irish Working Class remain dumb.

Will nothing rouse them? Will nothing make them realise their responsibilities; are they willing to remain in a state of mental come and physical lethergy whilst the workers of other nations, ay even the stolid Englishman, the phlegmatic Scot, the exuberant Welshman is joining in the world-wide rejoining of the army of labour singing their deathless song of discontent—reaffirming their belief in the principles of solidarity and human brother-hood? We Irish workers sit moody and

hood? We Irish workers sit moody and disconsolate. It was not ever thus. When the downtrodden of France rose in their unquenchable might Ireland's workers also attempted to break the chains. When America rose against the tyranny and oppression of an alien government Ireland gave her quote in men and money to assist them. When the redoubtable Fergus O Connor and Broaterrie O'Brien two Irish exiles roused the English workers with their five paints of the Charter, so to, here at Home the democratic section of the Iriah nation again made an attempt to advance the cause. And now when opportunities present themselves such as never offered before, we workers in this country forget-or if it is not forgetfulness, it is sheer apathy and cowardice, always trusting and hoping instead of doing. As long as we are told what a great race we are, what magnificent people we were before Strongbow or some other land pirate came amongst us, what great things Kelly, and Burke and O'Shea have done in other lands and amongst other peoples, we sit and smile, mataphorically pat ourselves on the back, and boast of our past. There has got to be an ending of the self-glorification business; no more of the "goed old has been." It-is-the-good-man-to-day-and a-better-man-to morrow philosophy that must be instilled into the Irish working class. Let us give up living on memories: realities are the things that matter. We who are living have to assume our responsibilities and earry them into effect. If our forefathers living under oppressive laws and conditions of life, that we of to-day shudder at, were good man and true, the more reason than why we living in these namby pamby days should prove curselves as good mea as those who went before. If we trail the banner in the dust that our fathers always held aloft in good or bad times, what will those who come after us think of their torbears? Not with pride will our children look back but with

whame and disdain. We have never had

cause to feel shame for those who went

before us, then, in the name of all we

hold secred, in the name of our race, let

we of the Irish working class determine

this May morning that the sun will not go

down on our resolution to press forward

ever forward, realizing our respensibili-

ties, cherishing our hopes, and determined, come weal or wee, to achieve our expectations. To the workers of all lands, we, therefore, in the name of thenewly-awakened Irish proletarian class give our comrades greating. We, too, in Ireland rejoice with you, brethren, hoping and ever striving that the good day will bring the best.

## The Right Way to Read History.

We have to confess that our reading of history stems all awry; or we pause! mayhap we have read our history upside down. We are told on the undoubted authority of a cabinet minister that Tone, Emmet, and other heroes of our race gave up their lives in the in erest of the British Empire; they died, according to this eminent historien and equally eminent liar, so that they might give the opportunity to countless millions of their race to sing "God save the English King," And then to confirm the English historian's statement, we have "Dear' Dillon doctoring history. He, the descendant of an Irish King, admits-nay, goes further!-he ascerts that he, the infallible, is the inheritor of tae genius of the Irish Race! He objects to the language-of course. That, speaking from personal knowledge, the only reason for Emmet's decapitation was that Emmet insisted upon singing "God Save the King"; that Tone died because he was not allowed to hoist the Union Jack on his ship instead of the Republican tricolor; and, of course, M Cracken, Russell, the Brothers Sheares, Fitzgerald, and the thousands who were brutally hanged, shot or burned, the millions who were exiled, all of these women and men who have gone before protested and sanc tified their protest with their life's blood because they were not allowed to join ia singing "God Save the King." | Even the common or garden M.P.—such as Shortt, of Newcastle - also condescend to teach us, common Irisbry, History. This painstaking student of Lish History has preserved cuttings from newspapers proving the unalterable loyalty of the men of '48 to the British Empire. What a pity they did not preserve the cuttings from the throat of Robert Emmet! Far more eloquent than the death mask; far more eloquent than the mouthings of a Churchill or the platitudes of a Dulon! Or why not show the rope that hung M'Cracken; the triangles at which our forbears were scourged; the fire at which the pitch was heated; the prison cell in which they were incorcerated; the emigrant coffin ship on which they were forced to sail for a distance, until the time arrived to sink her and those unfortunate exiles aboard! Short as our own memory is it is not too short to in the name of humanity dont inselt us by suggesting we care about your Empire or King, and that this is the price to be paid. We demand justice.

They give us a bargain—a quid pro quo the right to pass certain legislative measures; certain privileges are stripped from political hirelings, who at present dominate this country, and we are to give our soul-the soul of the nation-not pounds of butter. Winston, in exchange. Our name and race—the soul of our race is to be given up for honour (?)-Oh! indelible stain—of entering into the councils of the Empire, and the opportunity of joining in that joyful, but inharmonious refrain, "God Save the King." Will all choirs and places where they sing, commence practising the new National Anthem. not a "Nati m Once Agais," but a "Nation Ne'er Again." And then the advantages: Instead of the bigoted Orangeman monopolising the barrel organ tune of "God Save the King' to himself, we get our whack at it. No more may Kettle object to the "Rebel" Murphy hoisting the Union Jack on "The Independent' office and applicate most abjectly for so doing. No more danger of Rowan, the patriot, lesing his Government job for protesting. We will all be Union Jackers. What will the poor Trinity Hooligams do then to cause a row? Why life won't be worth living; a very hundrum sort of existence, nothing to do but attend parliament and sing "God save the King;" frightful. We will have to consider ourselves, of course—a few hundred thousand women and men will have to work as usual, with possibly less pay and under worse conditions for a time at least, for it is a law of nature you cannot "sing without seed." So while the "respectable" people sing "God save the King" we will have to work to provide them with seed. See how everything is so wonderfully arranged, and yet I am afraid reconsidering the matter that it is not we who have been reading history upside down, but the eminent cabinet minister who is not an historian but a master of terminological inexactitudes; and the doctor who won't be allowed to doctor our opinions and the M.P. who somes so far short of the real mind of the common people of this sountry. We are not demanding Home Rule to enable us to join the terri orials, militia, ner even the police; we are not demanding Home Rule b cause we want to take our part in the Councils of the Empire: we are not demanding Home Rule because we want to sing "God Save the King." We are demanding it because of whom we are; because it is in our very marrow; because of the men who died that we might live; becaus, in a word, we want Home Rule that WE MAY RULE OUR OWN HOME.

City Printing Works
13 STAFFORD ST., DUBLIN,

SAILORS' AND FIREMENS' UNION.

(Dublin Branch).

Important Conference of Irish District
Officials.
On Wednesday at Liberty Hall, Dablin,
the head offices of the Transport Union
and Branch office of the S. & F. Union,

Mr. Albert O'Hea, Derry, presided, and Mr. J. H Bennett, Belfast, acted as secretary. The other members present were-Messra. J. Bennett, sen., Cork; George Burke and Patrick M'Guinness, Dablia; G. W. Hayes, Waterforl; J. White, Newry and Dandalk; Peter O'Connell, Wexford; James Larkin, Dablin; R.

a specially convened conference of district

The proceedings were not open to the Press, but in an interview with Mr. James Larkin and Mr. Bennett, of Belfast, it was ascertained that a demand is being made for a uniform rate of wages in Eug'and, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales of 32s. 6d. per week for seamen employed in all vessels, coasting or otherwise, these wages to be paid weekly. It was stated that special emphasis was being laid on the question of undermanning, it being alleged that nearly all the vessels starting from ports in the United Kingdom are without their full complement of crews.

With regard to the statement made in the London "Daily Telegraph" yesterday to the effect that the shipowners had expressed surprise at these demands, Mr. Larkin said, that the demands were not new by any means, and that the shipowners knew all about them. It is also alleged that the Board of Trade did not do its duty as regarded inspection of boats on yes els, the majority of those boats being, it is stated, unseaworthy.

Our representative was informed that the membership of the Seamen's Union had greatly increased latterly, and Dublin was one of the best organised ports in that respect in the world.

RESULT OF THE CONFERENCE.

The conference broke up at 3.30 o'clock, when copies of the following resolutions, which were passed unanimously, were handed to the Press:—

Proposed by Mr. R. Nugent, Drogheda; seconded by Mr. Hayes, Waterford; MANNING SCALE.

"That we, the representatives of the seamen and firemen of Ireland, are of opinion that the time has arrived—and it has been clearly demonstrated by the Titanic disaster, whereby there was a great loss of life—when pressure should be brought, not only by trades unionists, but also by the general public, upon the Government to take immediate steps to bring about an efficient manning scale both for the deck and stokehold."

Proposed by Mr. J. Bennett, Cork; and seconded by Mr. George Burke, Dublia -of the National Sailors and Firemen's Union, consider that as the Titanic disand the terrible loss of life occasioned thereby, has clearly demonstrated to the whole world the insufficiency of boat accommodation in case of socident, and the want of a sufficient number of skilled seamen, we call upon the Government to take immediate action to see that a sufficient number of efficient men are engaged for the proper running of all British ships to ensure the safety of every passenger and every member of the crew.'

WATERFORD BRANCH.

At a meeting of the Waterford Branch of the National Sailors' and Firemen's Union last evening, Mr. George Hayes, Secretary, presiding, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

"That we, the members of the Waterford Branch of the National Sailors' and Firemen's Union, in meeting assembled. hereby call on the Government to immediately take such steps as shall ensure the sufficient and efficient manning of all British ships; and, further, with a view to the safety of the lives of passengers and crews, that sufficient life-saving appliances be made a compulsory requirement of all shipping companies sailing under the British flag. That copies of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the President of the Board of Trade, the member of Parliament for the City of Waterford (Mr. John E Redmond), Mr. Ramsey M'Donald, the Leeders of the Liberal and Conservative Parties and the Press."

#### T. P. O'Connor, M.P., on the Irish Labour Movement.

IRELAND FOR LABOUR.

"For a gold many years yet we shall be concerned with the problem of the peasant in relation to the land. The economic necessities of Ireland for the lest two conturies have operated to make land cultivation the sole resource of the population, while industry and commerce have stagnated. Those necessities will become less stringent under a wise and beneficent administration of Irish affairs at home, and agriculture will take its proper place in the economy of the country. The craftsman and artisen will re-appear; and our political life will be conditioned by the development of these two great interests—the agricultural and industrial interests side by side. The urban populations must necessarily view politics from a Labour standpoint, and can towards the Socialistic ideas that permeate the industrial movement all over the world."—T. P. O'Connor, in the " Christian Commonwealth."

Answers to Gerrespondents,
BAILLIE MUIREARD, Darvel, Lenerhybire
political too lots to head; next week,

### For the Pigs Moryah!

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER DEAR SIR-I happened to be within ear. shot of some busolic and prosperous people the other day while engaged in refreshing the inner man, and, without wishing to eavesdrop, I could not avid hearing something of their conversation which ran on the topic of the conviction and imprisonment for two months of seemingly, one of their own class, to wit a dairyman. I gathered from this conversation that a gross miscarriage of justice had occurred, insemuch as the man whom they were speaking of had simply made up the concoction of milk and water for his pigs, and it was not his fault, or by his instructions, that it was put on the counter for sale to the poor. I believe there is talk of the Dairymen's Association getting up a petition for his release. Sir, there must be a mistake! Dublin dairymen don't deliberately do sad things. Never? Well, HARDLY SYMP.

What The Clarion thinks of Hame Rule
"We claim for the mass of the Irisk
workers not only the right to govern their
country, but also the right to own it.
"What the Irish people need, and have

AQUA PURA.

Yours truly,

meeded for many conturier, is deliverant from the titled English robbers whe squander the produce of Irish lend and of Irish labour in English luxury and Continental vice."

Mrs. Robinson, 74 Years of Age, Recued by Bert Campion, from a Watery Grave.



MRS. ROBINSON.

Campion, up to now, has received as acknowledgment from Captain M'Combie who misrepresents the Royal Human Society in this port. This matter require looking into, and this gentleman, M'Combie, wants shifting. Case after one of rescuing from drowning has occurred in this port and no cognisence taken of them. Without one is a Freemason, like M'Combie, or a policeman, you cannot get adequate recognition for risking you life in saving others. It has become a public roundal. We will return to this matter next week.



BERT CAMPION.

Socialist Party of Ireland.

A MASS MEETING

IN CELEBRATION OF LABOUR DAY

WILL BE HELD ON

Sunday, 5th May,

BERESFORD PLACE.

Workers I attend in your thousands

-RIDE-

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and I Blackhall Place.

### GALLAGHER'S MINERALS.



Insist on getting your Drinks supplied in bottle like the above.

Grim Stories by the Titanic's Crew.

" 'TOFFS WENT FIRST."

Plymouth, Monday Evening. With all but the one or two members of the crew who live in this city on board, a special train pulled out of Plymouth at four o'clock this afternoon, leaving no traces save those of memory of the awful tragedy whose living witnesses returned to England through this port.

CREW AND STREBAGE WITHOUT WARRING. "The first few boats m stly contained "toffs," said a trimmer; "the steerage people were too far below deck to understand what was going on. And I heard an officer myself telling some Italian women, at a time when I had begon to fear the very worst, that there wasn't much danger. Then he said, Stand This was on the lower deck. Above bosts were being lowered, and when I got upstairs I found that though I hadn't been warred my own boat was already away."

No FAITH IN COLLAPSIBLE BOATS.

Charles Judd, the fireman, whose story I related in part yesterday, told me he had gone t oroughly into the matter of collapsible boats, and was prepared to give evidence at any court of inquiry against their use.

"Those people who think they're so nice," he said, "cught to have seen us struggling to open them during the lest few moments of the 'Titanic' We had four aboard and not one behaved decently. One was badly ripped and stoven by opening; the one I was swept into from the water never properly opened. I distinctly heard myself when we were all trying to pull her out into position a sharp crack on her keel that sounded exactly as if her back broke. If it had been a choppy see none of these canvas boats would have lived ten mements am ng the firsting blocks of ice.

FROM ONE DEATH TO ANOTHER. "Six people died in my boat from exposure, two of them in my own arms. The first one I'll never forget. She was a young lady, a bride, perhaps, and who was swimming very pluckily through the water. 'Take care of me,' she said to me. as she came up to our beat, and as soon as I could get a good posi ion I took her under the arms and pulled her in. Only then I saw that she had nothing on but a nightdress and a long black cloak. She had rings on her fingers enough to keep her the rest of her life, but they were no good to her then. It must have been half an hour we sat on the edge of the boat, I steadying her with my arm, chafing her limbs and cheering her up.

ONLY ROOM FOR THE LIVING.

"Suddenly I noticed her head had dropped forward and she was still. I tried the tests every man on board shipboard knows, and found she was dead. So the next time the boat listed I let her slip gently overboard. We only had room for the living. A trimmer was next, paffing and exhausted. I pulled him in, too, but he died in a few minutes. The cold was awful. All the time I was sitting myself with icy water above my They took me aboard the 'Carpethia ' in blankets."

LET THE FOREIGNERS GO.

There is another reason. I learned from other members of the crew why more third-class passengers were not saved It is because a mebody among the officers started the cry, "British first." This, of course, did not discriminate against Americans, but it encouraged forcing back into the water Portuguese (even the women), Itslians, and other foreigners to save people was cried for help in English. "A British life above all others," was the word passed round," gaid a seamen to me. 'There was no command so far as I know to get the steerage people up on the decks ready for the bests. There were loss of babies on the deck during the last moments. One Portuguese woman had three. God knows where they all went to, but we're all pledged to tell all we know, no matter

-" Daily Herald."

#### SIGNAL TO " DOWN TOOLS."

The Liverpool secretary of the Seamen's and Firemen's Union states that vessels refusing to grant increased wages will be a signal for men to "down tools," and that the Cardiff and other men would strike in sympathy.

INCREASE GRANTED.

The owner of the steamer, "Gulf of Venice," held up at Garston, having agreed to pay increased wages, the Union officials have withdrawn their opposition to the

The Garston Transport Workers have resolved to refuse to coal, load, or store ships carrying blacklegs or Chinese

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#### Waterford.

I had been laid off for some time past, and consequently unable to attend to my writing up of notes to the WORKER. I trust that my readers and contributors shall not therefore, think that I had been

wilfully neglecting them. Some time ago I drew attention to the refusal by the R.M.O. of the District Lunatic Asylum of the carrying out of the attendants annual dance and the very mean method "his Lordship' adopted in trying to prevent a night's amusement to

so worthy a class of public servants. I am now pleased at having to record the withdrawal of all objections to the annual dance in future on the part of Dr. Oakshott. The oak of Trades Unionism when properly carried out is a very hard shot, Doctor. Thanks to our old friends on the Board of Management-Messrs. O'Hanlon and Quinlan—who raised the question, and I believe the Doctor was made to feel the shame of his action and promise that he should never again be guilty of similar conduct. No more bogue votes schall be cast for or against the Dance. Very many of the working classes here

felt very keenly the effects of the coal

strike. But our city fathers, as the rulers

of the city, took no notice of the suffer-

ings, through no fault of their own, of their poor subjects, and when the Mayor had been approached in the matter with a view to getting Waterford to follow the example of Dublin and Cork in the opening of a public autscription to relieve the distress prevailing at the time, his Worship could not see eye to eye with the deputation which waited on him on behalf of the workers, so that a Collecting Committee of the Trades Council had to undertake the duties of those great Nationalist City Fathers of ours, with the result that the amount collected was sufficient only to give a mere pittance of 3/each to something like 300 men out of employment for seven weeks. And I am fur her informed that when some of the Orty Fathers had been waited on and appealed to for a subscription, they not only refused, but insulted those who had so appealed to them and the workers in general by statements as to how such assistance was to have been spent in the public houses. Of course, the insulting manner of those was only a clock to cover their refusal to help the workers in any way. One T.O, I am informed, refused to give anything to the working classes because he happened to have been criticised in the IRISH WORKER previous to the January Municipal Elections. Such is the cepth of the vaunted charity of many so-thought charitable gentlemen in Waterford. Well, there shall come another January election, and the worker who casts a vote in favour of the reelection of these gentry to the Municipal Conneil would not be morth his salt new even the name of man. These names shall be kept in our records and given to the workers when the proper time.

The Irish Mutual Trading Stamp Company has opened new premises here, and I take this opportunity of warning the workers against being defrauded by this system, which has been put to flight through the instrumentality of the INISH Worker in Dublin, I trust its effects shall be just as successful in Waterlord; and in my next contribution I shall give the names of some of the shopksepars who now trade under those stamps.

I notice an appeal to the cisisens through the defunct Branch of the United Iriah League for their subscriptions to the Parliamentary Fund so as to have their names published in the list of subscribers. The meeting ir. m which this appeal originated was held in the Mayor s office, but no such meeting sould be convened for the purpose of raising a fund to assist hundrads, age thousands, of starving human beings when they had been asked to do so Oh no: they feared John Redmond's Fund would not have been subscribed to if the appeal of the hungry children had been taken up in preference to it. However, we shall hear no more of this fictiteus league again, whether threatened evictions come off or not, until the Parliamentary Fand again needs replenishing.

Labour Day shall be calebrated in Waterford on Sunday next, and I trust it shall be a record day here in the cause of labour considering the number of organised bodies which have come inte existence since last Labour Day.

Wolfe Tone and United Irishmen Memorial

Cammittee.

DAWNING DAY.

The above Committee met on Tuesday evening at 41 Rutland square to complete arrangements for the forthcoming Concert to be held in the Foresters' Hall on Monday, 3rd June. The Committee have arranged an excellent programme of Irish music, singing and dancing, and have obtained the services of many of the most prominent Dublin artistes. We can, therefore, confidently recommend all the Nationalists of Dublin to patronise this Concert, as they shall not only be assisting in the project of erecting a suitable monument to Wolfe Tone and his comrades. but shall procure for themselves an evening's entertainment such as has seldom been equalled.

to the The Thatch Drumcondra), on to-morrow Sunday), 5th May,

Dancing, Brass and Pipers' Bands, Areyou coming? Admission, 6d,; children, 3d. Competitions start at 1.30,

Labour and the Re-Conquest of Ireland.

With the advent of the Home Rule Bill, and the gene al expectation that ere long Ireland will regain some little control of her own affairs there is bound to be a shaking of the dry bones of civic government in this c.un'ry, a general inquiry into the functions and power, and above all into the possibilities of collective or governmental action in raising the social standard, and otherwise making for the improvement of the life of a people. Such an inquiry has been too long delayed; the working class in particular has been too long content to regard itself, and be regarded by others, as of no account save sa a voting machine in the hands of politicans who drew their irspiration from sources outside the ranks of labour, and founded their policies and programmes upon considerations into which the needs of labour can scarcely be said to have ever entered. This statement may seem somewhat overdraws to those who in the past have hung rapturously upon the words of some of our many perfervid politicians elequently declaiming about the "wrongs of Ireland, but recent events have lent more than a semblance of truth to our statement Recent events have proved its complete

A recapitulation of some of those events which corroborate our statement that the needs or hopes of labour in Ireland exerted no influences upon the policies or programmes of Irish politicians would take too long, and occupy too much space in the IRISH WORKER, but a few of the more

recent may well be referred to here. Some few years ago the working class democracy in England alarmed by the evil effects of the capitalist system upon the more helpless of the poor sommenced an agitation in favour of a law authorising school authorities to feed the children attending school. The agitators insisted that it was perfectly needless cruelty to attempt to thrust education upon a child whose stomach was wholly, or even partially, empty; that half-starved children could not as a rule develop into inte ligent, respectable citizens; that the State, which for its own safety had insisted that children must be educated, should also for the same reason make provision that children should be kept in a proper physical state to receive any benefit by this education, and that the feeding of children of the working classes out of public funds was no more a charity or demoralizing to the recipients than the feeding, clothing, and educating of the children of the Royal Family out of the same perso. As a result of this agitation a law was pessed in England, and afterwards extended to Scotland, giving school authorities permission to use a portion of the school rates for this purpose. This planty permissive and Upilonal measure was not what the Socialist agitators had saked for, as it left the children at the mercy of any accidental reactionary wone district, instead meeting a national want by a national obligatory measure. It would have been as sensible (or as feolish) to leave the duty of educating the children to be at the mercy of each district as it was to leave the duty of feeding them. But even this emasculated, permissive Bill deprived as it was of its best festures, was still deemed too good for Ireland, and Ireland was, at the request of the Home Rule Parsy, left out of the Bill; and in this exclusion the Unionist Party were in perfect agreement with their Home Rule enemies (f). "Two souls with but a single thought." The trade unionists of Ireland were never consulted upon the measure, meither were any other representative body of workers, nor any Urban, Rural District Council, Borough Council, County Cancil, nor any elective body in where election the votes of the working

A similar barrier against Ireland was set up in the case of the National Issurance Act. This Act, also the result of Socialist pressure upon the English governing class, proposes to establish in Great Britain a system of compulsory inserance against sickness. In return for on tain monios compulsorily and automatically deducted from the pay of the worker, other monies paid by the employer, and still others paid by the Government, a worker is guaranteed a sum of money, 10/- per week for 26 weeks, together with free medical attendance and medicine. As this Act gives the right to the workers to choose his or her own dector, and then to satisfy their own individual preferences, the concession of the Medical Benefits is felt to be the most important and beastcent part of the Aca it is also a provision making for true economy both in fands and in health. In funds, because when a sick worker can procure a good decter and proper

class are a determining factor. Thus the

local authorities of Ireland were, at the

request of a Party clamouring for Irish

control of Irish resources, denied the

right to use Irish funds for the feeding of

Irish childien.

SIMPSON & WALLACE, The Workingman's MEAT PROVIDERS,

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medicine the time of s'ckness will be proportionately shortened, whereas if the only medicine or doctor available were such as eculd be afforded out of a sick pay of 16/for a man, or 7/6 for a women, either the food or the medicine would have to be curtailed, with disastrous results to the hopes of a speedy recovery. And thus the period in which the patient draws sick pay is inordinately lengthened with serious results to the funds of the Approved Society.

Free medical attendance and medicine also makes for greater health for the workers, as a sick worker who could get treated in time would often be able to avert entirely sickness which, left untreated, might develop into chronic ailment or lifelong incapacity.

Yet, thanks again to the Home Rule Party-this eminently useful, indeed the mest useful, provision, was left out of the National Insurance Act as applied to Ireland.

Thus Irish workers, men and women. are contemptuously prevented from benefiting from the most salutary clause in the Act, and the only excuse offered is that there is a dispensary system to which they may apply. A dispensary! What feelings of leathing and anger the name arouses in the mind of every Irish worker who has had to submit to the degrading routine and insulting treatment of the dispensary doctors and officials!

The bitterness of the lot of the honest workers is never so soutely felt as when grim necessity compels some of our loved ones to make that hated pilgrimage to the dispensary for medical attendance or medical relief in our days of affliction. How many of our class have suffered and languished and died of their sickness rather than send those dear to them to endure the humiliation of asking help at the dispensary? But in the opinion of the Home Rule Party the dispensary is good enough for the Irish working class, and again without saking for one single expression of working class opinion on the matter the workers of Ireland were thrust out of benefit.

The Convention on the Home Rule Bill was another glaring case in point, illustrating the utter absence of regard for working class opinion on the part of our politicalileaders. No more unselfish supporters of any movement for National freedom have ever existed in Ireland than the workers. Is season and out of season they have been true to Ireland. When every other class in Ireland went wrong the workers remained keysl; Whan pricess and farmers, and shops espers and all who had benefited by the Paraellite mevement rushed is at the behest of an unsorupulcus English politician to strike Parnell down, it was the workers who sprang to his aid to help keep flying the flag of an independent Irish party. But when a Convention was called to consider whether Ireland should accept the present Home Rule Bill, a Convention trumpeted forth as expressive of every phase of Irish national opinion and every shade of Irish feeling, the workers of Ireland were again excluded. Net a single Trade union, Trades Council, nor other organization of the Irish working class were invited to send delegates. It would seem that the Home Rule Parliament is to be representative of everybody in Ireland-except the Irish women and the Irish workers. But it would be safe to prophery that these two sections of the Irish race have a few lessons in store for their lords and masters.

In following articles we intend to deal with some problems of Irish Governmeat, and will attempt to focus and enlighten the public opinion of the working class upon the phases of those problems most interesting to it. For a beginning we may state that without at all endorsing Mr. John E. Red sond's statement that this Bill is a "final settlement" of Ireland's claim, we are prepared to accept it as a working measure of reform, by means of which we may scoure a footbold to enable us to still further extend our grip in the future over our country, and thus over our own lives. But a final settlement it is not. There is nothing final in human affairs, nothing final in the possible developments of national interests, no final limits to the march of

the mind of man. The goal which the Labour Movement of Ireland sets before the Irish worker is nothing less than the comple's reconquet of Ireland. To that end we propose to de vote all our energies, all our intellect, all our political powers, all our industrial resources, and all we can empess or acquire. This is the Irish expression of that world-side struggle of the workers for the mastery of the earth. ×

JAMMS CONNOLLY, Belfast.

Kingstown, Bray, and Deansgrange. (FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

All along the line there seems to be a slight improvement in work; but how long it will last is another matter. It is hoped that the work will continue to increase, notwithstanding that the summer is upon us, and it generally brings with it sunshine, but that brilliancy will not maintain the working man's family. The Kingstown Urban Council are going to build some new cottages for the working oless, and when they start the job we are expecting that all the men living in the district will get their share of the employment in the construction of the houses.

All the men in this area ought to be ocming up to join the union, in view of the Insurance Act approaching innovation. It should be understood that the Act comes into force on the 15th July next, and men and boys (over 16 years) should secure their enrolment in the union, so as to enable them to obtain the benefite when the Act is in operation.

It is deplorable to have to say that some men cannot realise the false position they place themsleves in by keeping outside the union; then, when anything occurs in their employment they come to the union officials to know if they can join. I can say that, in future, they will come "too late" for protection, unless they are already members for some period the union will not interfere in their interest. and, with Home Rule on the h.rizon, there is no greater question at stake than the conditions of labour and the wages of the working man.

Then, why not the men themselves tate an interest in themselves and their families. Do they think that with the Home Rule Regime in full swing, the Irish working man's condition will be improved. Wait, and see!

An t-Oireachtas agus an Sugradh Gaedheal, 1912.

Dancing, Cycling, and Pipers' Bands' CHAMPIOASHIPS OF IRELAND

An Sugradh Gaedheal (Gaelic League Athletic Carnival),

Sunday, 30th June, 1912.

Competitions in Singing, Story-telling, Oratory, Recitation, Fiddle, Flute, &c.,

#### Oireachtas

From Monday, 1st July, to Friday, 5th July, 1912.

Syllabus from Hon. Secs., 25 Parnell

Something of Interest to Women Workers.

#### Garrick's Boot Stores 61a TALBOT ST. (under Railway Arch),

22 ELLIS'S QUAY, DUBLIN.

Are now showing a Grand Variety of Shoes in all the Latest Shapes and Colours at 1/11, 2/6, 2/11, 3/6  $3/\overline{11}$ , 4/6 and 4/11 to 7/11. Ladies' Boots, 2/11, 3,11, 4,6, 4/11 to 10/6. Value Extraordinary.

Comments unnecessary where our Men's Boots are concerned,



Men's Sound, Solid Hard-Wearing Goods—the goods that have made our name a byword throughout the Country for the greatest value in Boots.

Men's Whole-Back Bluchers, handpegged or nailed, 6/-; Men's S.P. Bluchers, sprigged or nailed, 5/-; also light at 5/11, 6/11, 7/11, 8/11.

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BELTON & Co.'s Establishments will close on Wednesday at 1 o'clock. Off all Purchases made on this day between 9 and 1 o'clock DUBLIN FEIS.—All Dublin is going we will allow to per cent. discount.

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For First-Class Provisions AT MODERATE PRICES.

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Manager—Ald. T. Kelly.

TRADE

#### The Dead Level of Equality.

"Show me two men who are exactly alike. No! of copies you can's Then how are you gring to make to all equal?' Such is the type of ques in, delivered generally in a tone of bluetering selfassertion, one is often called upon to answer on venturing mildly to suggest to the intelligent British electorate that they would do well to consider the advirability of taking over the management of their

It is strange that so many should be unable to conceive of any kind of "equality" other than a drag and changeless uniformity, a state of things in which all men are constructed according to a pattern. Nevertheless, we have abundant evidence that such confusion does exist, and is deliberately fostered and encouraged by the hirad defanders of the capitalist regime, which renders it all the more essential that the true position should be made clear.

Such "equality," of course, is the last thing in the world that workingmen as a body w. u'd with to see. It is no part of our creed that everybo'y shall disp'ay an equal amount of skill in doing everything. What is wanted, on the contrary, is a state of things in which e ch individual shall have, as nearly as possible, an equal chance of making the best use of the capacities he possesses.

Meadless to say, that is exactly what the majority of individuals do not get under existing conditions To-day, notwithstanding the fact that wealth was never more plentiful, no man's power over nature more complete, the bulk of the population are handicapped to a greater or less degree by the difficulties of obtaining a livelhood which makes it impossible to arrive at a true estimate as to the relative merits of those who compare the community. In a siciety where some are born rich and others poor, some live in palaces and others in slums, some receive a university education and others leave school at fourteen to take their place in the competitive struggle, it is obviouly out of the question to judge according to results, which would probably have been much the same had conditions been reversed. He would be a fool who sought to ascertain the comparative heights of a number of men by standing them down the side of a hill. To be in a position to say who are tall and who short, he must have them placed upon level ground. Society, in order to use the material at its disposal to the best advantage, must proseed upon similar lines, and see to it that men are placed upon something like an equal footing, and given the same facilities for the development of their facultier. Not until this has been done will it be possible to form anything like a reliable estimate regarding their respective values to the community.

It is characteristic of the numerous stock objections that are urged against us from time to time that ha dly one of them can not upon examination, be shown to apply with far greater force aga existing social order. Passicularly is this the case with regard to the popular begey of the "dead level." In reality it is the present system that is ever tending in the direction indicated. It is espitalism, with its a rdid struggle for bare existence, its grime and smoke, its miles of mean streets, its rows of squalid houses, its endless round of drudgery, which is fast removing all traces of individuality from among the masses, which brieds types rather than men, and reduces human beings to the level of mere machines for

the grinding out of profi's. It is not too much to say that as long as competition remains the basis of our industrial life, any real progress towards a higher culture as far as the masses of the people are concerned is impossible. In his ' Ethios of Socialism," Belfort Bex points out that to a hungry man food is everything; to one who is i'l physically, health represens the embodiment of hunan happiness Once however, the eraving is satisfied, once hunger is appeared or health returns, other wants previously unnoticed make themselves felt, new interests arise, and the thoughts are turned in other directions. So it is with the race as a whole. As long as the majority lack security in the means of existence as long as there is uncertainty regarding the supply of material recessi-tive of life, the bread and butter question must of necessity be first and foremost; but once let there things be guaranteed to all, let food, clothing, and shelter come as a matter of course, and be as much a part of the scheme of things as the rising and setting of the sun, and the problem of how to exist will cease to absorb the bulk of our thoughts and energies. We shall then be able to consider the question of how to live and cultivate the higher and less brutal side of our

It is only under co-operation when organisation has been substituted for anarchy in industrial affairs, and when co-operation for the public well-being has supplanted the senseless and bratel competition of to-day, that fair and healthy competition in those things worth competing for will be at all possible There is nothing in the least ennebling in taking the bread from another man's menth when there is enough bread to go round. On the other hand, it is, and always will be, considered creditable to win a race or to get a picture into the

UNIONISTS T

Royal Academy. Co operation by removing the necessity for out-throat competition for a e former kind, would give the utmost stimular to that spirit of emulation and healthe rivalry which is inherent in the minds of men. Its effect would be not to grind down the people to a dead level of medicority, but miraly to place the n on something like level ground in the matter of opportunities for self-

And so to all who perceive the cramping effects of wage slavery on the energy and genius of the race, to all who wish to see merit recognized, to all who would gi . mes the opportunity of realising the best that is in them, we appeal without hesitatation to come and join us. Let them throw in their lot with us and hasten forward the time when the sirdid and material cares we know so well shall have passed away and outliere and learning be no longer the privilege of the fortunate few, but the common heritage of all.

#### Correspondence,

Insanity of Bricklayers.

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER. DEAR SIR,-In locking over the magisterial investigation of Sam Kennedy's insanity and comparing it with the condi-tions of other trades, I find it would not be necessary for your correspondent to go so far as Glasgow. Few of the Dublin bricklayers have built houses for themselves. The same thing applies to members of the other building trades, of which there are a number. Perhaps your correspondent and the magistrate has based his judgment in Kennedy's case on the old sdage, "Fools build houses for wise men to live in." If the Irish magistrates were to take a similar view there is no doubt the brick and stonelayers here would be very busy building additions to the existing institutions for the accommodation of their fellow workers. If the same decisions here applied to all the producing trades there would be there and then an end to lunacy. forsooth; the minority would then be tenths of the persons so retained is due to

sir, you will sgree there is nothing more likely to upset the equilibrium of a workmen than enforced idleness Let your readers picture for one moment an un'ortunate man in search of employment from day to day, and returning at nightfall to he met by a starving wife and family crying for that which he cannot procure, How many of the human family under such conditions—and you know there are thousands-could exclaim "Nil descerandum"? I could state a number of cases in detail, but as your valuable space is limited, suffice to say if there is not a change in the present administration lunacy, imprisonment, etc., will in all probability be the means of solving the unemployed problem, which, I regret to state, seems to be a puzzle to our so called administrators. Hoping poor Kennedy's

DUBLIE APPRENTICE.

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER.

Dablin, 28th April, 1912. DEAR SIR -I write you those few lines, hoping you will not be offended with me for being so importment I have been told by a friend to write to you and ask you to come and see me, as I have not the power to go to see you. I am paralysed all on the left side. I am 19 years of ege and I am afflicted since I was thirteen months old, so if you could help me in any way I would be very thankful to you, as my father is cut of employment, and I not being able to do anything for

I conclude, dear sir, hoping you will not be angry with me. I remain your aumble servant.

[We have over 100 philanthropic and benevolent institutions in Dublia, apart altogether from hospitals, and yet this boy is lying uncared for. We can give the address of this poor youth to anyone who cares to investigate the case - Et.]

EVERY WORKINGMAN SHOULD JOIN

St. Brigid's Christian Burial Society, RINGSEND.

Large Divide at Christmas. Mortality Benefits. Meets every Sunday, 11 till 1 o'c. One Penny per Week, Estd. 52 Years,

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER.

SIR —It appears to me to be, in a very marked degree, andignified and unbecoming in Ir shmen, whether as individuals or as public bodies to be so exceedingly -ave. almost alsvishly-enthusiastic, and lavish in publicly proclaiming and sounding the praises of the projected Home Rule Bill To my mind such a spirit is to be deeply deplored in a people whose forefathers enjoyed freedom in the most extended acceptation of the term, and whose mo'herland was a centre of learning and civilization, when the inhabitants of the country, nowcalled England, roamed the words in a state of nudity.

I do not wish to be taken as asserting that Irishmen should not inwardly feel glad that their country is perhaps about to enter into a brighter era, but I consider such extravagant outbursts as have taken place much to be regie ted.

Ireland has alm st exhausted herself in years of sgitation for legislative independence. To sustain and extend this agitation she has during all these years been appealing at home, and reduced to the humiliation of begging abroad for finan cial assistance And now, at best, we are not promised in its entirely that of which we were by the basest treachery, bribery, and corruption robbad. Such being the case whence there nauteous congratulations and rej icings which are eminently calculated to prejudic ally influence the insertion of very valuable and absolutely ne essary amendments later on.

Should we be granted even this launered incomplete measure of Self-Government then, verily, a golden and auspicious day will have dawned for the workers of Ireland, inasmuch as they will be in a position, if sufficiently prepared, organised and educated, to send to the Irish Parliament an adequate number of labour representatives who will strenuouely and unselfishly work for the amelioration of the working man's condition.

I carnestly hope that the workers of Ire'and will clearly perceive and be thoroughly prepared to utilise to the fullest extent the splendid opportunities that will be presented to them in the event of the passing of the Home Rule Bill.

Let them start operations by making, when the opportunities present themselves, a manly, independent, and intelligent use of their numerical strength and votes by doing their utmest to return, on every possible occasion, educated and honest libour men to represent them on all public bodies These representa ives will thereby acquire an experience and knowledge of the administration of local affairs, which will qualify and make them compatent to take their places in the Irish Parliament, there to be able exposents and zeedous and indefatigable advocates of the cause of the toiling masses of Ireland.

MICHAEL CABILL

#### How Long, & Lord, How Long?

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER.

BIR.-It may interest some of your readers who are unacquainted with the methods adopted by the members of the Belfast Corporation in dealing with their employees who have the misfortune to be outside the army of black-coated, tallhatted officials who henour the ratepayers by accepting salaries for their more (r less valuable services.

Some time ego the people who have e at ol of such things decided that the time had arrived when the salaries and wages of all the employees should be increased, and, of course, it was absolutely necessary that the labourer on the street should share in the bezeficence of the philanthropists, who pay them 3s 4d per day of 9 hours, when they are employed. There are a good many days in the year When work is suspended owing to the inclemency of the weather, holidays, etc., and in consequence the average daily pay is considerably reduced; so it was deeided to grant the labourer who was lucky enough to be employed by our City (step) Fathers an advance of is. 61. per week, or  $7\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Not a bad advance. you will say—sgreed; but wait. At a later meeting, I have been told (when receive greater reward for their more strenuous labour and langer hours, are debarred from participating in the paltry rise of weges granted by the hypcorites who profess to deal fairly by all classes

proportion of the average number em-

P. J. KAVANAGH.

Gud West ' then Melmele ployed. In fact, I have known periods in at least one division where there was only about half a dozen men employed for nearly the whole of the winter months. But there was no reduction in the clerical

To me it means that these philanthropic gentlemen, whom THE WORKERS have pleced in power, wanted to share some of the spoils of office with their friends in the clerical and superintending depart. ments, and they concluded that it would be safest to at least pretend that the WHOLE of the workers shared proportionately is the prosperity of the different

departments. "I crave an ampler wider sphere,

or superintending staff.

I lie er bleed at every vein, Than stifle midst these hucksters here: These lying slaves of paltry gain."

#### Titanic Items.

Have the White Star Line Gone Mad?

"Those that the gods wish to destroy first they drive mad!" Surely the gods have decreed the destruction of the White

For what have been the actions of the company a noe the sinking of the "Titavic?"

First came the false telegrams any opucing the safety of all the passengers and orew and the towing of the liner into port. These, Mr. Franklin, an official of the company, admitted, had originated from the effices of the company, though he was sure (!) no reponsible person had sent

Then came the attempt to get survivors of the crew sent back at once to England without examination by the United States Senate. Did Mr. Ismay want to burk inquiry?—people began to ask.

Surely a same company would know it could not burk inquiry. Surely a sane company would know what terrible impression these false telegrams and that rushing off of witnesses would create in the public mind.

Admiral Mahan's Challenge,

We pass by the evidence of Mr. Ismay at the Senestorial inqury. He will have to give that evidence once again in England. He will have to explain his position of helpness and ignorance on the "Titanic's" decks. He will have to refute the challenge that Admiral Mahan, the famous American naval expert, throws down so boldly :-"Mr. Ismay was in no sense responsible

for the collision, but when the collision had cocurred he was confronted with a wholly new condition for which he was responsible and not the captain-viz., the sinking of a vessel without adequate provision for the saving of 1 fs. Did no obligation as to particularity of conduct rest upon him under such a condition? I hold under that condition so long as there was a soul that could be saved the obligation lay upon Mr Ismay that that one parkon and not ne in the beat.

"M re than 1,500 perished. Circumstances may jet be developed which may justify Mr. Ismay's action completely, but such justification is imperatively required.

We pass by the futile comments of the "Daily Mail," which has been reporting day by day Mr. Ismay's evidence before the Seratorial inquiry, and now complains naively that he is being condemned unheard. Admiral Mahan waited before he challenged, and now he wais before he finally condemns. And we have said enough of Mr. Ismay; we cannot write of him with any degree of composers. We know of his acts and his failures to act. his name is known to us all, and his reputation is safe in the hearts of all Englishmen. We leave him to the judgment of

Yet, was it not the first and greatest act of madness of the White Star Line that their president did not drown?

The "Olympic," twin ship to the "Titanic," has lately been on the verge of sailing. Did they greaten the chances of escaps of her stenage passenger? We have not heard of it.

THE MADNESS OF THE LIFEB PATS.

Did they increase the number of lift boats? Oh, yes! they secured a number of collapsible boats - of those collapsible boats whose efficiency in the recent disaster has been so gravely questioned. They provided thirty more boats, but no extra men to lock after them. Were they even the best of the kind that could be obtained? It may be doubted. One report has it that they were old stuff that had been lying about for years in naval and other dockyards. Is that to he believed?

We would sak the question: Were those depositions taken by Mr. Harold Wolferstan, Solicitor, official representative of the Brard of Trade in the presence of the Mr. Harold Sanderson, managing director of the White Star, Mr. E. O. Greenfell, Mr Furniss, legal representagtive of the White Star, and other officials of the company? Was not this something very like intimidation? And how muca are these depositions worth? Why! they are waste paper! We shall demand that all of them be made all over sgain before the Court of Inquiry, before our Court of

Inquiry, before our Court of Inquiry, a Committee of the House of C ...... But the dig ity of the Britais amen has been wird cased, the ne live trans

of the company and the by men been thwarted, she seamen are g to ree. \* 0 4

THE MADNESS OF DULL .. And the house of our la begins to totter, The mad efforts of the Board and the Line to whitewash each other bagin to fail The whole story of these izzn : a tampt to cover up the clues in tefere us We see this company Cosperate and confounded gauging the we p : the evidence that is present y to prop a nut head, driven beyond pradence, browing caution and decorage to the winds, tearing blindly in its desparation any man that stands in its path.

Those that the gods wish to destroy they first drive mad -with the wadness of fear! It feels upon its conscience—this presperous company—the deaths of the men, women and children cittle "Titanic." its directors have sear :- their n gatly dreams those women and chiling struggling in the swirling waters of the steerage, and heard their despri ng tryand the penic of that dreadful aght he entered into their brains.

But shall these madmen say lorger have control of British ships? Shall they be able still to send out boats

"Well insured—and uade manned to chance the fate of the "litanio"? Shall we risk so easily a repetition of the great disaster? The seamen of the "Olympic" have

said No! and now the seamen co Liver. pool have said No! No ship shali leave their port, they have decreed, bef rage. credited representatives of the Union have declared her means of life siving ample. And what the seamen of the "Olympic" have done and the seamen of Liverpool have decreed we leave is for the seamen of all other ports to decree and do.

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maiures.

THE RAUNT OF TRADERIES AND PROTWORKERS

obliged to support the majority. Therefore, I think poor Kennedy's case will not in any way decrease lunacy in Ireland. It is no doubt an unfortunate affair for poor Kennedy to less his liberty for an offence over which he had no control, and judging from the menner in which he answered the questions put by the J.P., I desire to submit to his friends, if he is a member of a trades union, his committee would have no trouble in restoring his liberty by appealing against the decision of the megiat ate. I have had an opportunity on various cocasions to interchange opinions with a very large number of the tradesmen retained in Dublin institutions. Therefore, I can state that nine-

want of employment brought about in many cases by the management of Irish institutions forcing the inmates to perform the work of their fellow men outside who are taxed with the up-keep of said institutions. This, in my judgment, is putting a premium on lunacy, poverty, vice. &2. and I may say all the affi ctions which befal the human family. I think,

care will focus public opinion on what has now become a public scandal and a disgrace to any Government professing civil sation, I am, dear sir, yours truly,

the proceedings were not made quite so public), it was decided to reduce the advance to 1s., or 5 per cent. Then, you will say, this wasn't so bad, considering that it was done voluntarily by the genilamen concerned. Just so; but sguis, wait and see." It has been further desided that only the PERMANENT employees shall participate in the gene al prosperity, ie, the casual labourers, the men who are employed for the seasonal rush of work, and who are driven at such a pace that very few of the permanent employees sould keep up with, who should in justice

of their employees The permanent men form but a small

Irish Workers should support an Irish House by bringing their Water Bezalfs

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