

"The Anceip E-staife and mean to stand upon is:—that the entire ownership of Ireland, moral and material, up to the sun and down to the centre is vested of right in the people of Ireland."

—James Fintan Lalor.



Edited by Jim Larkin.

Who is it speaks of defeat?
I tell you a cause like ours:
Is greater than defeat can know—
It is the power of powers.
As surely as the earth rolls round,
As surely as the sun rises and
Brings the great world moon
We
Must our Cause be won.

Vol. 2. No. 3.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1925.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Mr. O'Higgins' Tall Hat

"We make no claim to be able to produce a Republic from the tall hat of the Treaty," said Mr. O'Higgins at Carlow. The particular tall hat referred to—with the Crown; in it—has appeared before the public at various times under different aliases. Yesterday it was a "stepping stone"; what it will be to-morrow heaven knows. But, functioning as a hat, it clearly has limitations. "We make no claim," said the Vice-President, "to produce (from the tall hat) a union with the North-Eastern counties... and at the same time relieve unemployment, reduce taxation, and bring down the cost of living." Mr. Blythe, at Cotehill, was equally emphatic as to the future. "We have a political objective ahead," he said, "and it is not the setting up of a Republic for twenty-six counties. We have no desire to change the present Free State into a Republic. Our political objective is unity of Ireland."

"You pay your money and you take your choice." If you are not anxious for or should be opposed to a union with the North-Eastern counties, you have the assurance of Mr. O'Higgins that it's not in the tall hat. Should you be the other way of thinking, rest satisfied on the authority of Mr. Blythe "our political objective is the unity of Ireland."

The unanimity of ministerial opinion in disagreeing on the fundamentals of policy will be noticed. We dare say it is evidence of the freedom of thought within Cumann na nGaedheal. Of the two I prefer that of Mr. O'Higgins. In Mr. Blythe's defence it may be said that he was speaking in Cumann—a border county—where the Boundary question is a burning one; and it was not to be expected that he, who was so strong an objector to heroics and an antipathy to martyrdom, should choose the path of self-immolation.

It has been the continuous policy of the Free State Government to represent their political opponents of all schools, as having no other programme than "five horse and you get grass." In this connection it is instructive to observe the election speeches of Free State Ministers. Mr. Blythe, for instance, who up to a few months ago was prepared to promise anything to anybody and considerably modifies future probabilities. "The Government," he says, "would be able, within a reasonable time, to give some reduction of taxation." What Mr. Blythe considers "a reasonable time" and what, to his mind, the words "some reduction of taxation" mean we cannot say, but the intelligent elector can use his intelligence and, with the knowledge of what the Government have done in the past, forecast the policy to be.

It is not forgotten that Old Age Pensioners, to mention one class, within the Free State are worse off than the same class in other parts of the Empire; that whereas pensioners in England, Scotland and Wales have been definitely promised an increase of their weekly allowance, their Free State brothers and sisters have no such prospect. "One of the budget," he repeatedly stated that the financial and industrial crisis in the country was due to the campaign of "evil" war ended two years ago. The cost of the adventure, according to official reports issued up to a few months ago, has beggared the nation. With the approach of the bye-elections a light seems to have broken on statesmen, and we witness a volte face. Mr. Blythe thinks, now, that the cost of the war has been considerably exaggerated. Mr. O'Higgins' statistics are pessimistic, has calculated the budget, has one black spot is Mr. O'Higgins' tall hat. We think it was Mr. McGilligan, who, some months ago, declared the refusal of his Department to issue statistics, on the ground that they were being misinterpreted. Who the offenders were, we leave an

FAMINE IN IRELAND

WITHOUT FOOD! WITHOUT COAL! HUNGRY CHILDREN, SICK AND BEDRIDDEN WITHOUT HEAT OR FOOD IN THEIR HOMES!

These are the conditions of the peasants in the West of Ireland, who have been reduced by drenching rains and poor harvests to Famine conditions.

The Workers' International Relief has sent its first consignment of food to the stricken people through the Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society, Limited.

Workers, these Irish peasants are members of the class to which you belong. Will you as workers, help them or leave them to Capitalist charity?

WE APPEAL to the British miners to send 100 tons of coal, which our W.I.R. Committees will see distributed.

To the Co-operators for meal, Indian meal, tinned milk, potatoes, food of all kinds, clothing.

Once before the workers of Britain came to the assistance of the struggling Irish workers.

WORKERS, SHOW SOLIDARITY BY PRACTICAL ACTION.

Gifts of food, fuel, clothing, money gratefully received by

HELEN CRAWFURD,
Secretary W.I.R., British Section.

All communications to Unity Hall, Dublin.

The Workers' International Relief is best known to the British workers by its great contribution to the relief of the famine stricken areas in Russia during 1920 onwards. To that relief the workers contributed very well and great things were achieved. Again in Germany, when the German workers were being ground to death by the capitalists during the long Ruhr and Rhineland strikes and the events in Saxony in 1923, the Workers' International Relief was a tower of strength. It brought food and comfort to the stricken strikers; it opened feeding centres for their benefit. It arranged for hospitality and care for thousands of children of the German striking workers in the homes of their French and Belgian fellow workers. The W.I.R. is now known throughout the world. It has united in common activity all sections of the working class movement and its sections operate all over the globe. Now it is coming to the relief of the distressed workers in Western Ireland, bringing no conditional charity, but relief from workers to workers. Its appeals will reach workers in all lands, all of them acquainted at one time or another with death and poverty.

We commend its work to all and urge that whoever can assist by gifts in money or in kind should send to Unity Hall, Dublin, where a representative of the Workers' International Relief Executive will be in attendance.

Workers' Committees are being formed where most needed in Donegal. We hope to be able to give a report of the visit to the affected areas of the British Secretary of W.I.R., Mrs. Helen Crawford, in our next issue.

A Labour Party Candidate and Labour Levies

We see by the Rule Book of the Municipal Employers' Union, Secretary, Thos. Lawlor (Bill O'Brien's candidate), that the members are charged on half-penny per week for political representation. The law says such political levies cannot only be enforced under certain conditions. A Ballot must be taken; each member must sign, on a form supplied, his or her willingness to pay such a levy. The political levy so collected must be kept in a separate fund and properly accounted for. Any member can object to pay such levy without incurring any disadvantage in benefits, etc., for so refusing.

We have taken occasion to read various balance sheets furnished by employers' statements issued by the said Thos. Lawlor, tailor, Old Bill's candidate. We failed to find any statement of a separate political fund, or any account of monies spent under this head. Tommy will get a bump in a few days more. Old Bill got it. In the meantime we call the attention of the members to a letter addressed by a committee of Corporation workers, who invited this Union and its members to hold a joint conference with reference to the action of the usurper (the 3 Blind Mice). The Government Commissioners, now in charge of the Corporation, state and the lives, properties and welfare of the citizens of Dublin in their arbitrary dismissal of employees from various departments of the City Administration. The figures which showed the members 245 for a Visa to Derby and £1 for 290 days at special congress is of the opinion that his way of dealing with the crisis is the best. Sure, Bob, Promotion for Bob. Vicarious for the members. Sure, Bob, visitors is the easy way for Bob & Co. but a hard, bitter road for the members dismissed.

We understand there is £700 in the political fund of the Municipal Employers' Union. Old Bill is going to see it spent on his candidate, Tommy Lawlor. I lost Old Bill some sleepless nights to draw over the illegal collecting and spending a political fund in the almost defunct Irish Transport Union. Some other political shames are due for severe attacks of insomnia before many days. We have advocated to advocate independent Labour representation. We believe in paying for independent Labour representation, but we don't believe in bogus Labour candidates. If the Free State Government want candidates let them run under their proper colours. Independent Labour candidates of the Lawlor-Cullen type cost too much.

THE IRISH MUNICIPAL EMPLOYERS' TRADE UNION,
21 & 25 Whitehall St.,
Dublin.
29th January, 1925.

To Mrs M. J. Sutton,
Acting Sec., No. 1 Branch,
Workers' Union of Ireland,
Dublin.

A chair—The suggestion for the formation of a Joint Committee between your Union and ours to deal with matters relating to Municipal Employers' business, and which was duly placed before my General Committee by your Deputation (Messrs. Stewart, Larkin, and Carroll) on Wednesday night last.

And, in reference to the same, I am directed to write you stating that my General Committee carefully considered the proposals you put forward, and finally came to the conclusion that no useful or practical purpose would be served by the formation of such a Joint Committee, especially in view of the fact that other Unions would be involved in these matters as well as ours. Further, it would be a treat for each Union and not affiliated with the individual matters arising—as a tribute.

With best wishes,
I remain,
Yours fraternally,
ROBERT TYMAN,
President.

DUBLIN DEMONSTRATION TO COMMEMORATE LENIN.

Inspiring Crowds in Mansion House.

By G.R.S.

Unity Hall is the recognised centre of working class life and activity in Dublin and when it was decided to hire the Mansion House for a Lenin Memorial Meeting, everyone got on the job. Posters were printed and posted by our own men. Torches were made the banners got ready and our Life and Drama Band seemed to be playing morning, noon and night in preparation for the great event. Thursday night came and with it brought bad weather, but neither wind nor rain could damp the enthusiasm of the great procession that fell in behind the band in front of Ugly Hall. Through this city of strife and trouble the procession passed like a challenge to the puppet State that under British imperial labels itself "Free."

As was to be expected, the police held up the contingent, apparently afraid that they intended to remade the seab emblems. The "Corinthian." The halt was only momentary, however, and the march resumed more enthusiastically than ever.

The Mansion House was already being filled when the procession arrived, but they got squeezed in somehow.

Councillor John Lawlor, presiding, paid an eloquent tribute to our departed leader, and introduced Bob Stewart. Stewart made a fine impres-

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sion by a quietly reasoned speech which emphasised the wonderful contribution which Lenin had made to the theory, practice and science of Proletarian Revolution. His address to our leaders' special attention to the National question before the revolution, and to its complete solution within the borders of the Socialist Soviet Republics and the contrast between the methods of capitalist imperialism with those of the Workers' Republics made a profound impression upon an audience so fervently nationalist.

Then Jim Larkin spoke and paid his tribute to Lenin "the greatest mind of the century; the leader and guide of the greatest cause that this and the world had known." This great cause of the workers to which Lenin had devoted his life, was so great that even though it were reported by a traitor by the hostile opposition, that had fastened on it despite betrayal and treachery—it was marching on, to complete and final victory. Larkin made a grand appeal for the revival of the Irish Workers' League and told of the Conference that was contemplated for the formation of a revolutionary "Workers' Party of Ireland" which would bring the Irish working class into its rightful place amongst the advance guard of the "Proletariat." This gathering, headed by the audience standing, headed while the band led the singing of the "Red Flag."

Dublin will be heard of again, and yet again in the Labour struggles that lie ahead in the battles for All Power to the Workers.

TAKE NOTICE THAT

owing to the action of the Government in refusing exemption to our Benefit Concert, we are compelled to pay tax on all tickets. We have decided to charge only two pence—2/- floor seats, 1/- to upper part of house. Those who have bought tickets will have them exchanged at door for tax tickets of admission.

Irish Worker League

RE-ORGANISING MEETING.

The Irish Worker League, during the last few months, had seemingly ceased to exist, which was quite understandable when it is recalled the amount of work requiring attention since last summer. However, this inaction of the League has now ended, and on Tuesday night a re-organising meeting was held in Liberty Hall.

John Lawlor, acting as chairman, in his opening speech, laid the agenda before the meeting, consisting of (a) the necessity for a revolutionary Workers' Party in Ireland; (b) Spring campaign; (c) speakers' class; (d) Easter Congress. Comrade Bob Stewart, speaking on the first item on this agenda, thoroughly examined and explained the economic basis of political parties, their composition and utility. Starting from the very bottom he showed how parties were built up in the different classes of society; how the capitalists control and use parties in the interests of the capitalist class, and why it was necessary for the workers to form parties and thus express their political and economic needs. Speaking for over an hour, he kept his audience fully interested in this subject, and when he finished, received suitable thanks for his valuable talk.

Regarding the spring campaign, it was decided that it should be initiated by an open-air meeting on Sunday, details of which will be found in the advertising columns.

The subject of the "Speakers' class" evoked some discussion, and some dozen members agreed to form up in the class. A question was asked about the possibility of running a lending library in the League and the Executive undertook to go into the matter. It was decided that every member should concentrate his attention on the objective of making the League a real live working organisation in order that the Easter Congress may be enabled to draw up and define a future line of action for the League.

It was announced that a Drafting Committee had been formed for the purpose of drawing up a full and complete constitution for the League. Members were asked to send in any suggestions they might have in this connection. All suggestions would be welcome and discussed by the Committee. The constitution drafted by this Committee will be submitted to the Easter Congress and voted on by the members who will have full power to amend it.

The next meeting of the League will be held shortly and will be announced in these columns. Members should watch out for this meeting and be sure of attending as important developments will be dealt with.

FISH MARKET STRIKE.

This dispute has been apparently dragged into the nation-wide onslaught being made on wages by the banking trusts of this country. We have proved in previous issues that the real owner of the fish trawling companies operating in this port and at present engaged in this dispute is the Munster and Leinster Bank. This bank, which is one of the most powerful in the country, is like all banks, interested in practically every form of industry. In conjunction with the other banks it has decided that wages must be reduced. Following out that line of policy the Munster and Leinster Bank sent out an ultimatum to the Dublin fish trawling companies, and these companies, unable to resist, have knocked off the crews of their vessels until such time as the fishermen agree to work at a reduced rate of wages. The men have refused to risk their lives for less than the miserable pittance they were receiving prior to the dispute, and in consequence are walking the streets, in company with the porters from the Fish Market, who have been locked out by the salesmen in an effort to confuse the issue.

The strike has now been in progress some months and is only continued by the obstinacy of the directorate of the Munster and Leinster Bank. The arrival of a new trawler in the port, whose owner is prepared to pay trades union rates, has dealt a bad blow to the companies in dispute, who depended on the scarcity of fish to help out in winning the strike. The men locked out are in good spirits and are determined to remain out till the companies are willing to pay a living wage—which happening will not be long delayed.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

By W. V. THOMAS.

A grim red blot encircling the Earth,
A foul blot stretching far across the sea,
A hangman strangling Freedom at its birth,
A black flag flying on a gallows tree.

Your vaunted freedom is a firing squad
For those who dare to be free men, not slaves.
And on the altar of your war-made god
Stretches a vast expanse of nameless graves.

On Egypt's burning sands the blackened path
Of death and desolation mark the way
Of British justice and its aftermath—
The bloody vengeance of a Judgment Day.

O'er India's snow-clad hills and fertile plains
Gaunt stark-eyed famine creeps across the land,
And millions starve, while your ill-gotten gains
Pile high, well guarded by the hangman's hand.

With valour worthy of a coward's shaft
You killed a captive in a cripple's chair,
His only crime, to strike for Ireland's fate,
Hell is too clean to house his murderers there.

You laid an unknown warrior to sleep
Within the Abbey by the kindly dead,
While in the streets the living soldiers reep
A nation's thanks for the right to beg for bread.

A puppet king in silk and ermine rides
While poverty is hunted to its slums,
The tramp of marching men a murmur hides
And bitter curse is drowned by beat of drums.

The Empire totters to its destined doom
Upon the tide of Revolution's flood.
An epitaph upon a leprous tomb,
A page in history written deep in blood.
("The International.")

OLD LAW IN "NEW" IRELAND.

The fates drove me recently to Dublin Castle; ill-famed of old as the seat and centre of the evils of British Rule. There in the halls of "justice" one would naturally expect to see the alleged new-found freedom of a Free State at least in evidence; but, alas the courts are just as fussy and musty under the new as under the old rule. The writs still run in the name of King George the Fifth. The lawyers, barristers, etc., stalk about in their wigs and gowns trying to appear imposing, but only succeed in looking queer.

All the usual paraphernalia is still in evidence the great unproductive petty-bourgeois legal fraternity with its horde of sly-looking runners, touts and clerks. The policeman on the door, the soldiers on guard at the Castle entrance are all an eloquent reminder of capitalism in its legal form. Strange that in all the tale of battle, murder and sudden death told in this city of recent years that this monument to injustice and aggression should continue to function without any appreciable change. Bankruptcy, fraud, libel and the usual departures from bourgeois rectitude occupy the judges. Frequent appeals to the protection of the law by some trade union bureaucrat against the slashing attacks of the honest fighters for the working class serve to reveal more clearly the capitalist nature of the law as it is operated still from Dublin Castle. When will the Irish working-class learn that "Courts for cowards were erected" and can only serve the interests of those who profit by maintaining things as they are. For the working class this means low wages, miserable houses, unemployment and a whole catalogue of worry and misery which stamps its imprint on the men, women and children of the working class who are, in consequence, more liable to be imposed upon by wig and gown and other equally glaring impositions.
"SPECTATOR."

CONDOLENCE.

No. 1 Branch Committee tender their sympathy to the relatives of the following who have passed away during the past week—
Mrs. McCann, wife of Bob McCann, No. 1 Branch.

Thomas Gallery, No. 4 Branch.
Patrick Byrne, No. 3 Branch.
John Donohue, No. 1 Branch.

"SOLUJ PLACEAR DO"

International Class War Prisoners' Aid



They Are Inside For You—See That You Work Outside For Them.

Behind the bolts and bars of prison cells, in the torture chambers of British Imperialism, are engaged many thousands of fighters for freedom. The rule of British capitalism, with its grinding exploitation of millions of people in Asia and Africa, requires more and more the forceful oppression of any attempt at organisation of revolt against the evil conditions of subjection. Ireland is the classic example of a cultured nation being held in bondage; its economic developments deliberately checked; its toiling masses subjected to starvation, eviction, jails, exile, burnings, and hangings to perpetuate British rule.

Even to-day, by more subtle methods, the British Ascendancy is paramount, and will continue to be so no matter how veiled the form until the Irish working class succeed in organising the complete and forceful overthrow of capitalism. Even with their record of continued revolt against British rule in Ireland there have not been wanting Irishmen and women who were and are ready to condone the even more fearful rule in India, Egypt and elsewhere under the British flag. Irish officers and soldiers have been among the willing or unwilling instruments of the British exploiters, and Irish investors have doubtless shared in the loot. The ferocity of the Imperial plunder game has been covered over by intellectual prostitutes who serve their masters with their sales of "the white man's burden," "the pioneering of civilisation," and all the sickening cant that ruffs through the literature of Imperialism.

The "White Terror," of which British Imperialism was the pioneer, is now emulated by the puppet states scattered across Europe as well as by the defeated German and other Imperialists; always and everywhere it is the working class who suffer and die. The "International" Class War Prisoners' Aid has been established to counteract these capitalist villainies, and during the week from 8th to 15th February is conducting a propaganda campaign to force, if possible, the re-

lease of the many thousands of working men and women languishing behind prison walls. All over England, Scotland and Wales, as throughout the British Empire, meetings will be conducted and collections taken to aid these victims of the class war. Ireland will do its part, and we are pleased to have assistance from working class leaders like Joe Venghan, ex-Mayor of Bethnal Green and W. Gallacher, famous for working class activity on the Clyde and throughout Great Britain. Jim Larkin has been invited to visit the chief industrial towns in Britain. His work will not permit him to do more than two or three meetings. Already St. Andrew's great hall in Glasgow is booked for him. Watch our advertisement columns and posters for announcement of meetings in Dublin and rally to the Red Relief which fights for the release of all prisoners of British Imperialism—the victims of British Imperialism and for those punished and tortured by the Capitalist White Terror throughout Europe as well as in that land of the "free"—America. One Cause—One Fight—One Victory. and Up the working class.

Start an Irish Section of the International Class War Prisoners' Aid.

ALLENS—TOOLS TO BE USED.

SCABBERY DOESN'T PAY AT THE TIVOLI.

Allens, Bilposters, of Pearse Street, Dublin, are evidently feeling the pinch. Every night this week there has appeared a pathetic notice in the evening papers over the name of David Allen & Sons, appealing for experienced men to stick up bills. So far their plaintiff call has been like the voice of One in the Wilderness, and that proverb of telephone girls "no answer" is the sole result.

In many strikes it is easy to calculate roughly the losses of a monetary character sustained by the employer, but in the case of Allens he would be a rash man who would undertake such a task. Not only are they undergoing losses through their inability to accept further contracts, but they are probably in deep water owing to their failure to carry out the contracts they have already; and added to these two factors is still another—the destruction of their hoardings by the boisterous weather of the last few weeks. In many places the hoardings have practically disappeared, and in other cases every scrap of paper has been torn off. Allens are paying dearly for their foolishness in allowing themselves to be used as tools by the Employers' Federation and the Theatrical Association in the fight engineered by these two groups against the Workers' Union.

The root of this trouble, the Tivoli strike, is still agitating the minds and pockets of the Tivoli management. Their belief that trades unionism in this country implies permission for one man to do two men's work is causing quite an unnecessary amount of disturbance and the lesson required to be taught to these misguided business men must not only be driven home with emphasis but kept at home, so to speak, in case they might tend to forgetfulness at a future date. At this house of variety a topsy-turvy process has occurred and the variety is to be found outside instead of inside the house. The pickets have proved themselves to be better entertainers, accompanied by their "friends" and "protectors" the "Hobbits," than the paid scabs who are posturing and playing acting on the Tivoli stage each night. Scabbery never pays and neither do scabs; a truism which our good friend—James, Manager of the Tivoli, is discovering and which he will admit before many days pass by.

WHAT PRICE?

The "Independent" of Tuesday last says: "A happy augury for the success of the Ministerial candidates in the by-elections was the remarkable buoyancy of the National Loan yesterday."

How much truth is there in the rumour that the Government are purchasing the Loan themselves to keep the price up?

A CONTRADICTION.

Wm. Mills and Patrick Savage of Bray, write in to say that the statement in the "Vice" for January 17th is false. They never offered to work for Capt. Reale for 30/- per week, but that the members of the I.T.G.W.U. went to Capt. Reale and said they would join trouble and agreed to work for 30/- per week. When they heard of it they objected, and the I.T.G.W.U. tried to twist round by putting the statement in the "Vice."

The Government City Commissioners and Municipal Employees

The arrangement came to by the Government to consult with a committee of business men in matters relating to financial policy is now a matter of public knowledge. Until recently, the machinations of the business fraternity were carried on secretly and the "average man" was left in the dark.

The decision of Ascendancyism to take its place in the sun has necessitated an open acknowledgment of the long standing alliance, and it will not occur to the majority of "mugs" that the effort to reduce wages in the last year in the Dublin Municipal Service was the thin end of the wedge in the industrial conflict. Nevertheless, it is so.

It is true that public bodies, such as the Corporation, have always been regarded as better employers than the private capitalist, and this arises from the fact that they are regularly elected bodies that they are responsible to the people, the majority of whom are workers, and that the latter look favourably on any proposal to raise the standard of living for any of their own class. But it is also true that the overwhelming majority of public representatives, so far, though elected by the workers, have been actually members of the capitalist class, and whatever measure of "prosperity" the workers have enjoyed as public servants comes from the fact that their claims could not be altogether ignored.

The object of the Government in suppressing the Dublin Corporation cannot be specifically because of inefficiency and corruption, though we hold no brief for that body as constituted at the date of dissolution, for it will be remembered that the Government held an Inquiry into Municipal affairs—and drew a blank. Put plainly, big business in Dublin intimated to the Government that the proper place to start the wage reduction campaign was the Municipal Service, and the official tail of the business dog wagged in sympathy. We have thus the spectacle of a Government, whose Army Department, for one year, showed expenditure not accounted for of £170,000, turning their eyes skywards and appointing Commissioners to purify civic administration.

No Commission of Inquiry was held to investigate Government accounts, nor have Ministers pointed out to the great public that the total amount alleged to have been "robbed" from banks by their political opponents is not 20% of the Government deficit. Purify of administration (Moryah!).

Turning directly to the affairs of the Dublin Corporation we find the Government-appointed Commissioners dismissing, wholesale, public servants (workers, of course) with years of service, in many cases to twenty and more. It has not been alleged against the dissolved Corporation that they pensioned off able-bodied workers to put in their place job-hungry individuals, whose claim to recognition was "for services rendered." We doubt not that, if the Dublin Corporation had had control of the D.M.P. and had attempted to pension hundreds of them off to make room for aspiring individuals, it would have met with the same political purists of Merrion Street who had interfered in the interests of efficiency and economy. All these offences have been committed by the Government that suppressed the Dublin Corporation—all these and more. The most expensive Judiciary in the world have been retired into private life, and handsomely pensioned by the Government that dismissed humble workers, after lifelong service, and compelled the forfeit of their pension. This is the conglomeration that has the audacity to stand in public places and ask for the votes of the common people. If the workers are as great fools as the Government hope, they will deserve all that is coming to them, in the name of, and by virtue of, "the will of the people."

WORKERS' RELIEF TO HELP COMBAT DISTRESS IN WEST OF IRELAND.

As foreshadowed by Jim Larkin at Mansion House Meeting, the Workers' International Relief have taken up the question of distress and famine on the Western seaboard of Ireland. This organisation which has fed thousands of starving children and adults daily during the famine in Russia and shortage in Germany and other countries where lack of food was prevalent, has determined to enter these districts where their help is required with the intention of succouring the starving people to the fullest extent of their power. They have already despatched quantities of tea, milk and sugar to County Donegal from the Irish Agricultural and Cattle Society. This is only immediate relief. The I.R. is hopeful of giving permanent and lasting assistance, while the need lasts.

Judicial Murder of Innocent Men

We have been asked to publish the following appeal by some American Communist Party members...

SACCO AND VANZETTI SHALL NOT DIE

The Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee calls upon all friendly groups and organizations to arrange Sacco-Vanzetti mass meetings in their community on Sunday, March 1st...

The hope that a calm consideration of facts should render a decision dictated by justice has proven an illusion. The hope that human reflection would surmount prejudices and passions of class, nationality and ideas, has been shattered.

The conviction of Sacco and Vanzetti was arranged and secured by confessed perjurers in utter disregard of fact, reason and consideration given to common criminals. That they were born in Italy, that they held economic and social ideas contrary to those of prosecutor, judge and jury were thrown in the scales and a priori held as proof against them.

To carry on this work months must elapse. Meanwhile Sacco and Vanzetti must die in prison. Already the hopes long deferred for justice and liberty have claimed a victim in that Vanzetti has been declared temporarily insane and taken to an insane asylum.

Accidents of birth and prejudice against ideas held even in error shall not be punished by death nor by imprisonment. The innocence of Sacco and Vanzetti must not alone be tried out in Court. It must be the decision of that vast tribunal of honest men and women throughout the country. The sunlight of truth must destroy the intricate web of prejudices and passions of a band of reactionary fanatics and old men tied to the past.

opinions and organizations, to everywhere, join in monster meetings of protest. Pass resolutions. Send a copy to the Governor of the State of Massachusetts and a copy to your local press.

Let the speakers on that day tell the story of this long and a judicial murder. Let the determination and resolve be firm and unmistakable that Sacco and Vanzetti are innocent and must be liberated.

SACCO-VANZETTI DEFENSE COMMITTEE. P. O. Box 93, Hanover Street Station, Boston, Mass.

THE DUBLIN UNEMPLOYED.

Editor, 'Irish Worker'. Mr. Richard Lennon of 110 Parnell Street, Dublin, has attempted and practically accomplished what to us ordinary mortals would appear to be against the odds impossible...

Comment on this is unnecessary. The sympathetic will pity the practical man of the world to-day will possibly say 'Serve right'.

In our grandfather's day "a poor Richard" delighted the hearts of thousands by his wise and witty sayings, but the sayings and the writings of our grandfathers "Poor Richard" were as naught compared to the saws and the pithy pronouncements of our "Poor Dick" - the Oracle of Parnell Street.

From the many I call a few that they may go sounding down the ages - (1) "Mullen is a paid agent of the Free State Government who uses the unemployed as the shock troops of the Republicans."

(2) "We should have a fifty-fifty on a half and half basis. (3) "It is no use your trying to side track the issue."

(4) "Personally speaking from my own point of view. No. 1 is a go. Is it any wonder the country is going to the dogs when a Free State Government pays an agent for such work as described by our "Poor Dick"?"

The general body of the unemployed will be consulted at the proper time and place.

The Green Grocery Store that Mr. Richard Lennon follows so much about, was started by the Council of the Unemployed at the Hall, Devonell Place, as an attempt to grapple with the Profit-eating Evil that so much has been said and written about for the past four or five years.

The Council of the Unemployed has secured another Hall in Francis Street where free meals are distributed morning and evening to the hungry unemployed - as far as the slender resources of the Council allow.

MICHAEL O MAOLAIN, Sec. Council of the Unemployed.

IT FOLLOWS NATURALLY.

According to the 'Irish Independent' Mr. Blythe has not deviated to anyone the best of his next judgment. This explains why his own judgment a few days before, announced confidently to an amazed electorate a coming reduction in taxation. Great is truth!

A Victim of Loyalty to a Principle

Mr. Leonard Arthur Norgrove, has been a victim of having a dump in his house which is now undergoing a sentence of six months' imprisonment.

The detective officers who searched the house stated that they did so because of information received by the police, and since we will get learn of the nature and source of this information, Norgrove states the dump of which it is containing the 'carrot' - a book has been published by the property of the I.R.A. and for safe-keeping this I.R.A. property Norgrove has been sent to goal.

"The Irish Worker" is prepared and willing to shoulder the burden to the limit of its power, and we believe there are many more comrades who would like to share this burden.

Those who are willing to share in our task should forward their remittances to the Subscription, International Class-War Prisoners' Aid, Unity Hall, Dublin.

Already we have received the following gifts, and each week we will publish a list of the names of the donors -

Table with 2 columns: Name and Amount. Includes Jim Larkin (1 0 0), A. Atkinson (0 10 0), M. Sutton (0 10 0), M. Sheppard (0 5 0), C. King (0 5 0), J. J. Linton (0 5 0), H. Fitzsimons (0 5 0), J. Deapay (0 5 0), J. Connolly (0 5 0), P. Byrnes (0 5 0), W. McCarthy (0 5 0), E. Forde (0 5 0), J. Mallon (0 2 6). Total 45 10 6.

THE CATTLE TRADERS UNDER THE IRON HEEL.

There are murmurs in the air of a new shipping line which will compete in the carrying trade in cattle by the route of the S. & O. G. & C. Co. Ltd. of London, a new venture by the Government of a general trading of the cattle trade of Ireland, and the particular individual responsible for the financing of the scheme is one Howard Harrington an Irish-American gentleman, who is agreeable to carry through the project if guaranteed 50% of the carrying trade in cattle by the Cattle-Traders Association.

This is not a new scheme. It is not so long ago since we heard of the SS. Brussels which was purchased by a group of cattle traders with the intention of breaking the combine grip on the cattle trade. But the combine was quite equal to the task of grappling with this new force and pulling wires to the Port and Dock Board out into operation a secret boycott on the SS. Brussels.

In 1923 when the combine fought the dockers for a weekly reduction of six shillings per day, the cattle traders helped the combine, we predicted what would happen to these fellows who said they would "get it in the neck" and waster fight. In the 1923 strike the cattle traders hired scabs and gunmen in an effort to break the strike, but they failed, and now, in return for their "loyalty" to the combine, they have now to pay 50% higher rates. Now they think that, with the assistance of an American financier, they can successfully fight the combine. But like they failed to break the 1923

strike, so will they fail to break the combine or even shake it sufficiently to make it lower rates, because behind the shipping monopoly is the railway monopoly, the banking monopoly and dozens of other monopolies, all owned and controlled by our Government.

IRISH NATIONAL UNION OF VINTNERS' GROCERS' AND ALLIED TRADES ASSISTANTS...

Head Office, 20 Parnell Square, Dublin. 3rd Feb., 1925.

Dear Comrade, We are in receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst., embodying an invitation to your Special Propaganda Meeting to-night...

We would like you to make known to those who are fortunate enough to be able to attend that we welcome at this important juncture any effort on behalf of the Worker to unite those who are travelling towards the same objective.

We take the liberty of sending a couple of members of our organisation whom we hope you will have no objection to admit.

Yours fraternally, M. FITZPATRICK, E. COONEY, V. J. FORDE.

TAXING THE SPOILS.

What does all the talk about taxing profits amount to? If you caught a thief in your hen-house, he had taken 5% per cent of your hens, would you tell him that, if he would give you back a quarter of them and allow you to recover 40 or 50 per cent of future stealings, you would do nothing to stop his stealing?

Irish Worker League

INTERNATIONAL CLASS-WAR PRISONERS' AID.

Great Meetings of Protest for the Release of the Captives of Capitalism. There are 160 in British prisons, 400 in Six-County prisons, and 200 in Free State prisons.

Come in your Thousands to the 'Old Spot by the River', Beresford Place, SUNDAY, 8th FEBRUARY, at 3 p.m.

Also to the MANSION HOUSE MONDAY, 9th FEBRUARY, at 8 p.m.

The Bands will be cut. The speakers will include: Jim Larkin, J. J. Vaughan, ex-Mayor of Bethnal Green (London), R. Stewart (Dundee), W. Gallagher from the Clyde.

NOTICE

Thousands of new and second-hand books for sale. You can change each book for payment of 2d. if returned in good condition.

STARKEY - Newsagent and Tobacconist - 106 MARLBORO' STREET, DUBLIN

NOTICES

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND

Head Office: Unity Hall, Marlboro' St.

MOTOR SECTION

A special meeting of all members of the Motor Section will be held in Unity Hall on Sunday, February 8th, 1925, at 12 o'clock noon, sharp.

NOMINATIONS FOR:

- (a) General Executive Committee (b) General Officers (General President, General Secretary, and General Treasurer) (c) Union Trustees (d) No. 1 Branch Committee (e) Section Committee.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND

Head Office: Unity Hall, Marlboro' St.

OPERATIVE BUTCHERS' SECTION

All members of the Section are hereby instructed to attend a special meeting of the Section on Monday, 9th February, 25, at Gardiner Hall. Business as stated hereunder. The meeting will commence at 5.30 p.m. sharp.

By Order, F. CLUSKEY, Section Secretary. JIM LARKIN, General Secretary.

BUTCHERS' PORTERS' SECTION

All members of the Section are hereby instructed to attend a special meeting of the Section at Unity Hall on Monday next, 9th February, 25, at 6.30 p.m. - Business as stated hereunder.

By Order, M. GREENE, Section Secretary. JIM LARKIN, General Secretary.

BUSINESS.

- (a) General Executive Committee (b) General Officers (General President, General Secretary, and General Treasurer) (c) Union Trustees (d) No. 1 Branch Committee (e) Section, Delegates. (This applies only to Operative Butchers, etc.)

TO ALL DEEP SEA CASUALS AND GRAIN DOCKERS.

An Extraordinary Meeting of the above Sections will be held in Unity Hall on Wednesday, 11th February, at 8 p.m.

Nominations taken at meeting, Jan. 28th declared invalid. All financial members must attend on time. Cards checked on entrance.

MILLING SECTION

A Special Meeting of all members of the Milling Section will be held in Unity Hall on Sunday, February 8th, at 1.30 p.m.

Business Important. Absentees fined.

MOTOR SECTION

A Special Meeting of the above Section will be held in Unity Hall on Sunday, February 8th, at 12 o'clock sharp.

Business Important. Absentees fined.

MEETING.

of all members of Johnson, Mooney & Brien's at 12.30, Sunday next, on time. Cards checked.

RESULT OF DRAW IN AID OF RIBBOW OF THE LATE PATRICK KELLY.

Won by M. Doyle, Carters' Section. Highest Score, Thirty-one.

WORKERS' UNION TONTINE SOCIETY

The above Society is open for new members until 1st February. Committee sits in Unity Hall on Sunday from 12 to 2 p.m. Monday from 8 to 10 p.m. Friday from 8 to 10 p.m.

to receive contributions and admit new members. Published by the Proprietors and Printed by The Gaelic Press, 21 Upper Liffey Street, Dublin.

"The Principle I state and mean to stand upon is:—that the entire ownership of Ireland, moral and material, up to the sun and down to the centre is vested of right in the people of Ireland."
—James Fintan Lalor.



Who is it speaks of defeat?
I tell you a cause like ours:
Is greater than defeat can know—
It is the power of power,
As surely as the earth rolls round,
As surely as the glorious sun
Brings the great world moon
Must our Cause be wrong.

Edited by Jim Larkin.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1925.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Vol. 2. No. 4.

Is it Famine or Merely Poverty?

HELP! HELP! HELP!
WORKERS TO THE RESCUE.

Much is being written of the situation of the Donegal and Connemara peasantry. Some writers assure the world that the destitution and misery consequent on the continuous failure of potato crops, the failure of fishing by the inroads of steam trawling, the deterioration of fishing gear and lack of money to replace it, together with the long spell of wet weather which has soaked the turf until it is impossible to use it for fuel, have produced conditions only to be fairly described as Famine. Other writers and some eminent persons in Church and State assure us that the people in these mountainous areas are doomed to destitution and that conditions, although bad, do not depart calamitously from the normal.

If the conditions which I saw in West Donegal, at Kilarc and Teelin, which are no better and no worse than hundreds of such villages, are normal or approaching to normal, then a crime has been permitted which should make every responsible public body and representative in Ireland swear oath and ashes for ever. Maybe it was that I am tender-hearted and too easily impressed by starvation looking out of the faces of little children and haggard men and broken women. Yet, I have been inured to poverty since ever I can remember and have met it stark and naked at home and abroad. I have been through depressions in trade, I have helped to manage and sustain soup kitchens, I have acted on relief and distress committees, I have been down to the depths in strikes and know the hungry path of the unemployed, but I have never seen more pitiful sights nor more hellish conditions of lingering death misnamed life than those upon which I looked in West Donegal. The Kaffir in his kraal is living comfortably by comparison. The Russian peasantry, even the very poorest of them, after years of war, civil insurrection and revolution, are gloriously well-to-do when contrasted with Biddy Donaghue and her five children in her tumble-down shack perched on an inhospitable hillside in Teelin.

Were I gifted with the tragic pen of one of Ireland's poets I would surely burn the shame of Biddy's terrible lot into the hearts of all. The father had gone to try to catch a fish or forage for a handful of twigs to help the fire. And what a fire—it made one shiver at its fitful attempt to burn. And, oh, the pitiful wet faces and shivering forms, which no photograph can ever reproduce effectually, of little Michael, James, Annie, Mary Bridget and the tiny wee mite of a Norah—all beautiful children, but hungry and cold, with the mark of the "White Scourge" already upon them. The mother— heaven help her if the workers don't—what a task and what a fate to overtake a sister of ours in any land. What a commentary on a "Free State" where politicians prate of their capacity to conduct the (lack of) finances of their country, while on these bleak hillside their countrymen and women, with their offspring, endure in all too patient misery unspeakable hardship.

Representing the Workers' International Relief we were enabled to travel in the car of the Workers' Union of Ireland, lent by Jim Larkin at no little inconvenience. We had consigned, through the Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society, tea, sugar, milk, etc., but the railway service is slow and the places ungettable to a degree and our goods were not yet forward. We at once arranged locally for flour, meal, cocoa, and above all coal and had the satisfaction of seeing it delivered into the hands of our Teelin Committee, directed by Mrs. McMurrough. At Kilarc we secured the services of Joe McDevott to form a committee there, and flour, meal, tea, milk, sugar and coal have been sent on. The only thing required now is goods and money, money and goods.

We therefore unite in a concerted effort to bring relief without distinction or discrimination from toilers to toilers. A Dublin Committee is in course of formation and already includes Jim

"Taxation Without Representation"

In 1776, a people, subjects of a King named George Guelf, rose in arms to overthrow the power of a tyrannical Government which had been oppressing these peoples with heavy taxes, and at the same time denying them representation. History has justified those people who rose in Revolution in the American Colonies of the British Empire. There is a film showing in this town at a cinema theatre, owned by a group—one of them a die-hard Republican—the Secretary of the Company another die-hard Republican. This film, produced by a Welshman—Griffith—is called "America." It is shown in a blackleg Theatre, manned by blacklegs. A British Army pensioner is door attendant. President Cosgrave—the grass-green incorruptible—with his entourage, J. J. Walshe, the erstwhile unionman and Revolutionist and other company promoters, masquerading as statesmen, had the audacity, accompanied by prominent Republicans, to go and witness the showing of this film. One of the prominent Republicans who attended this blackleg Theatre wrote a fierce commendatory notice of this film and advised the readers of that 100 per cent. Republican free labour organ—"Simu Fein"—to go and see this film, this ultra-patriot and martyr, Frank Gallaher, who has always been an advocate of cheap labour. We remember the years before 1914, forgot by Gallaher, in giving advice to the unthinking ones who read that intellectual (!) weekly sleep potion, to point the moral and adorn the tale. He could appreciate the Colonists defeating the British Government troops in 1776, but the film, "America," exhibited in the blackleg Theatre, the Corinthian, Eden, Quay, had no message for the citizens of Dublin in 1925. Frank Gallaher was too much concerned to see the trees, but the wood obscured his vision, or maybe he was so obsessed by sitting in the same atmosphere as President Cosgrave he failed to sense the application of the facts depicted on the screen to present day conditions in Ireland. "Taxation without Representation" did not appeal to Frank Gallaher. He could see British uniforms in the style of 1776 in "America." He, like a good many other super-Republicans, could not see the British uniforms on the bodyguard of the King's Representative, President Cosgrave. He could not see a pensioned blackleg, the door attendant, who ushered him to a seat in a blackleg Theatre. We wonder what would have happened to an American pledged to overthrow the British power in the American Colonies in 1776 if he had gone to a public assembly Hall with a group of Tories. The men who rose against British tyranny in the American Colonies were men who knew why they were in Revolution. They were Republicans in word and deed. They were! doctrinaire Republicans and knew why! No compromise weakened their resistance. They had no political or social trading with their enemies, the "Tories." The grass-green incorruptible President Cosgrave's audacity and hypocrisy in applauding the showing up of British tyranny and consequent overthrow in America in 1776 gives one to laugh.

It is so easy to applaud Nathan Hale and Benedict Arnold on the screen in Dublin in 1925. It is so easy to write advertising matter in the form of well-paid reviews or theatrical puffs. It is difficult to hew straight to the line, let the chips fall where they may. It is difficult, if not dangerous, to live true to principle in all one's relation to life's activities and social obligations. We see and hear men and women declare their allegiance to Republican principles one day in the week and practice political, social and economic expediency the other six days. Present day politicians are much like present day Christians. They live up to their professed principles and beliefs at least one day in the week. If one-half the crimes charged against President Cosgrave, his Cabinet and familiars by the Republican spokesmen, writers and apologists are true, one wonders how it is that the prominent propagandists on both sides can meet in the various cultural and social circles and metaphorically fall upon each other's necks. We have heard at semi-private and public meeting charges made by official speakers against individuals which, if true, should place the individuals so charged outside the pale of human society. After the tumult and cheers have died down and the meeting dispersed, one is surprised to see the individuals charged, with infamous crimes and their accusers sitting together in grand stands at football or hurling matches, meeting in league rooms or social centres, passing eulogistic references about each other and generally acting as human beings should. Writers, speakers and public men and women seem to have no sense of proportion as to the meaning and application of words in this unhappy island.

Is it too late to suggest that a line of demarcation should be drawn between those who stand for Imperialism and those who stand for Humanism; any man or woman who supports the Empire and Imperialistic exploitation of the subject peoples of the Empire must of necessity be an enemy of Human Liberty; must be an enemy of cultural expression in nation or individuals. Deeds not words should be the test of sincerity.

Larkin, Mrs. Desmond, Madeline McBrat, Vincent Atkinson, J. Lawlor, J. Fitzpatrick and others. All trades unions, co-operatives and individual workers are invited to participate in our work. Bob Stewart of the Executive Committee of Workers' International Relief is in charge. The Dublin Trades' Council has been asked to put premises at our disposal. Hugh Crawford has been working night and day getting out our appeals to the press of all countries. Now for a long pull and a strong pull and a pull all together to build a relief fund strong enough to allay present misery and to guard against the future.
R. STEWART.

The Executive Committee of the Dublin Trades' Council has just intimated that they will give office and washhouse accommodation, free of charge, to our Relief Committee, and has also delegated two members to the Committee, viz., Councillor P. T. Daly and Councillor John Lawlor.—R.S.

OUR ELECTION PLAYBOYS OF HEROIC 1916 FAME.

We are told there is an election impending in North and South Dublin City. There is an heterogeneous group of persons appearing before the electorate, seeking their support in North Dublin constituency. We have playboys—two or three. One whom we are not allowed to name— at present! We will deal with him in good time. Two others standing in the name of an organisation called Cumann na nGaedheal. One is a Mr. Leonard, Esq., who was much concerned in 1916 about the safety of the Empire at that heroic period. Leonard—sworn an M.P.— supporter of the present junta masquerading as a Government, it is alleged, congratulated the then military despot on the quick despatch they gave the Rebel Irish and the firm manner in which French, Maxwell, etc., all carried out their sanguinary task. We read a pathetic story compiled and supplied to the press by one of the members of the Cumann na nGaedheal Party about their poor candidate, Leonard. We quote this nastily production of the publicity department of the Government Party. "Comrade Leonard, owing to a permanent disability, acquired from a gunshot wound in 1916, would be unable to sound the loud timbre of give voice to his heartfelt devotion to the Empire and her Free State defenders." What a perfect liar this gentleman who compiles the speeches alleged to be delivered by Free State candidates is. Leonard, hero and martyr, is suffering from a facial injury sustained in the explosion of an acetylene lamp, he, Leonard, was lighting—another hero unmasked! We think Leonard has qualified for one of the pensions granted by his government. Badly as the public treat Leonard, two other heroes of the Free State Party had to write to the putrid press to deny that they were guilty of the speeches attributed to them by their own publicity agent, and one of the gents was Donald O'Connor, Free State auditor and auditor extraordinary for the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Why he took exception to the press treatment of the speech he was charged with delivering gives us pause. What a vivid imagination Donald O'Connor can bring to the compilation of figures! We are astonished. We are anticipating the opportunity of asking Donald O'Connor a few salient questions about figures and balance sheets during coming weeks.

And poor Bart. He was trusted implicitly with untold moities by the leaders during the period when no accounts were kept. The gent who ran away from Cork because of his intense love for Union principles, the man with two towels. We can only say his publicity agent did him only half justice.

Such are the Government and quasi-Government candidates in North Dublin City.

The South City E.C. Councillor Lawlor, Ole Bill's candidate, dares the elements. Well, as the inner circle have a few limited pounds to provide free drink for the bowseys who will support Lawlor or any other Bar Fly while he can "fill 'em again" we expect to see in the racing edition of the "Herald" the same story about

Crying for Vengeance

So many years have not passed that the people have forgotten the "proletarian" nature of the Irish Independent. In the course of the past few years, but the country of Murphy's goes on, unchanged in any particular.

In 1916, the blood-guilty rag of Carlisle Building called for the "executions of Connelly and Sean McDermott, and the British Government yielded the demand. For the two preceding years, from the "Independent" was England's chief recruiting sergeant in Ireland for the European slaughter-house. A Night after night during the War the "Evening Herald" published under the heading "Heroes who have fought and bled for us" the photographs of the dupes, cajoled or coerced by employers into the world shambles—all for the benefit of the owners who dallied at home.

Hundreds of homes in Dublin to-day are without fathers and sons—thanks to Murphy's. The money lust of the disreputable gang behind the "Independent" has moulded its policy, and we find it, time and again, warring on the nation to save the Empire in which the Murphy profits, robbed from the Irish people, have been invested.

"The Independent," so hostile to national independence, or to such a measure of autonomy as would loosen the bonds of Empire, looks with particular favour on the present situation in Ireland, which guarantees, in so far as guarantees are possible, the continuance of the department of British capitalism represented by the Murphys, Goods, Barrys, Gouldings, Guinnesses, the Freeman Brothers and all ascendency in general. In the present political crisis the battle-cry is not—as it should be—"Who dies if England lives!" but "Save the Nation" and "Free State in Danger," and joining in the chorus of alarm are the "Irish Times," the "Dublin Evening Mail," the Chambers of Commerce, the Unionist Press of the United Kingdom (now more united than ever), and, latterly, the pillars of Church and State, Bishop Cahan of Cork and Bishop Browne of Cloyne.

Not being the custodians of Dr. Browne's reputation we have no responsibility for his address at the dinner given to "President" Cosgrave at Cork. We should think, however, that a closer regard for fact would have met the case without giving the whole game away. Let us quote the "Irish Times" of 10th February, when we say we had our Government as an honest Government. It has given the world an example of pure Government, intelligent, honourable Government, unbiassed by any selfish purpose and most certainly unstained by even the breath of corruption. It reads like an inscription on a tombstone. Perhaps the course of events will show it to be the Free State's epitaph.

Dr. Cahan followed Dr. Browne in similar vein. "This reunion reminds me," he said, "of one of the grandest gatherings I ever saw in Cork—a meeting in the Assembly Rooms presided over by Charles Stewart Parnell." A remark, we would say, not weighted with consideration for His Excellency at the Viceregal Lodge.

The demonstrations in favour of the Free State, being held all over the country, are all part of the election campaign organised by Mr. J. J. Walsh. In the welter come the daily press, Chambers of Commerce, the forces of ascendency, and some of that same hierarchy that declared the men of 1916 and since to be murderers and so on. History repeats itself. Let those with eyes to see, see the facts. Now, as often before, the Irish people are faced with a crisis. Will they rise to the occasion? Unemployment, with its twin brother, starvation, stalks the land. To be sure, the well fed do not feel the pangs, and so, from the depths of their well-being, they declare there is "no famine."

But there is famine, and it is more directly the result of the act of man than otherwise. It suits the supporters of Government candidates just now to blame existing famine "conditions" on the weather. What making every allowance for the bad harvest, the policy of the Government—or lack of it—is mainly responsible for the widespread poverty. In the cities the holding up of necessary construction work, the dismissal of municipal workers and their replacement by 50/- a week men, while the loan raised by the Government to "develop and encourage industry" was being frittered away in many ways, are among the causes.

Well paid City Commissioners enthuse over the programme of paying the workers smaller wages than they (the workers) may live better. It is not very clear, put that way, but the Commissioners have a better way of stating it. "We must reduce the rates," say the Commissioners,

"and give industry a chance." If wages could, by any freak of economic policy, be reduced to zero, what a fine time industry—and the workers—would have. Yet it is along lines something like that one highly paid Dublin Commissioner are trying to get us to remember that the reductions of wages enforced in the Municipal Service, and the dismissals from the service have reduced the spending capacity of a not inconsiderable section of the citizens, which means, in popular terms, "less money in circulation."

In Dublin and other cities semi-starvation and famine follow hard on each other's heels.

The Free State Government's contribution to the problem is to reduce the purchasing power of the people. As stated before, the major cause of the present situation is the lack of policy of the Government. As a contributory factor thereto may be stated their reckless extravagance, as expressed in a useless army, a huge civil and military pension list and wholesale jobbing, though the Bishop of Cloyne is satisfied there is not in the Government a shadow of corruption even as his brother the Bishop in Armagh is satisfied there is no famine.

With the approach of the bye-elections will come a further and more persistent use of Government Lie Gas. At moment of writing Julius Caesar Mulcahy, T.D., has visions of a further loan of twenty million pounds to provide employment and develop industries. The Government were not able to raise nine millions last time, and that when "we had knocked hell out of them," as our cultured President said. How they propose to raise twenty millions we would like to know. (Perhaps Mother England will do what is necessary in exchange for letting the Boudary dog lie.)

In all these matters the Government are sufficiently evasive to make it clear that they are playing a well seasoned bluff, trying to get us to believe that their policy will be forthcoming at the bye-elections. In the art of fooling the "mugs" the Government have the assistance of the Murphy and other Imperialist papers in Ireland, as well as the resources of ascendency, "nationalist" and Unionist. Shall the combination succeed? That depends on the class-consciousness of the working class leaders.

A WORKING MAN WHO SPEAKS OF HIS CLASS.

When so many alleged labour leaders at home and abroad are basking in the sunshine of a paid-up popularity; when they feel that the smile of a boss is more pleasing than the handshake of a rank and file, it is well to recall the reply of Jack London to an attempt, on the part of a snobbish chairman, to make him out to be something other than a worker and a product of his class.

He was addressing a socialist meeting in Los Angeles, California. The chairman was one of that type that come into the movement out of the intense desire to assist the workers. "He had referred to London as being everything but a worker. He called him 'a ripe scholar, profound philosopher, a literary genius, and the foremost man of letters in America.' Then Jack London took the floor.

"Comrade Chairman and Fellow-workers," he began. "I was not flattered by such an encomium heaped upon me by the chairman, for the reason that before people had given me any of these titles, with which the chairman so lavishly credits me, I was working in a cannery, a pickle factory, had my application in with Murray and Ready (local firm) for common labour, was a sailor before the mast, and worked months at a time looking for work in the ranks of the unemployed; and it is the proletarian side of my life that I revere the most and to which I will cling as long as I live."

Later London grew discontented and finally disgusted with the Socialist Party of America. His statement as to his resigning might well be studied by Irish workers in connection with the terrible degrading of the idealism that has made Irish labour, in the past, the glory and ideal of the world's working class.

My final word," he wrote, "is that liberty, freedom and independence are royal titles that cannot be presented to nor thrust upon races or classes.

"If races and classes cannot rise up and, by their strength of brain and brawn, wrest from the world liberty, freedom and independence, they never in time can come to their royal possessions; and if such royal things are kindly presented to them by superior individuals, on silver platters, they will know not what to do with them, will fail to make use of them, and will be what they have always been in the past—inferior races and inferior classes."

What socialism means is not to abolish property, but, on the contrary, to establish individual property—property founded on labour.—Lassalle.

Three Years to Twenty-One Years

BODY-BOUND FOR LIFE.

The latest information of a definite nature regarding Irish political prisoners supplied by Madame Gonic McBride of the Political Prisoners Committee is such as should rouse every member of the working class, both in Ireland and outside, to instant and determined action.

The list we print below totals 44, and every prisoner was sentenced before the end of 1922, and this leaves, even those with the smallest sentences, to serve another five months, whilst one man has seventeen years lying ahead of him.

PETERHEAD.

Felix Byrne, 7 years; Walter Cullen, 7 years; James Curran, 5 years; Thomas Conway, 5 years; James Davis, 5 years; P. Falls, 5 years; John Flood, 10 years; Charles Gellia, 5 years; John Griffin, 10 years; Frank Humphrey, 5 years; Pat. Johnson, 15 years; John Kearney, 5 years; Joseph Lee, 5 years; Pat Leonard, 21 years; P. McAloer, 5 years; John McGuire, 8 years; Thomas McGuire, 5 years; Thomas McShea, 15 years; James Monaghan, 7 years; Pat Murray, 6 years; Charles Reynolds, 8 years; Jos. Reynolds, 8 years; Fras. O'Reilly, 8 years; James O'Reilly, 7 years; William O'Reilly, 8 years; Bernard Sweeney, 8 years; John Simpson, 5 years; Thomas Trauner, 4 years.

LEEDS.

Sean McCurtain, T.D. for Tipperary (M.P.), 10 years.

DARTMOOR.

Eneas McGibbon, 12 years.

ISLE OF WIGHT.

Barney McGreeff, 4 years.

MAIDSTONE.

Doherty, 5 years; P. Farrelly, 5 years; John Kearney, 5 years; Jos. McGuire, 3 years; P. McCoragher, 3 years; Sean McCarroll, 4 years; J. McMullen, 3 years; Dick McVeigh, 3 years; James Smith, 4 years; Thomas Trauner, 4 years; Hugh O'Rourke, 4 years.—O'Toole, 3 years.

BELFAST.

John McCowley, 5 years.

This is a small list and is merely composed of sentenced prisoners, but there are still many in who are only being held without any charge being made against them.

The agitation for the release of these men is again gaining strength and momentum, and it is the duty of every class-conscious man and woman to get into the surging movement which is demanping, not justice for these men, but human rights.

DUBLIN ON THE MOVE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—From one who heard our City Architect's lecture on "Dublin 50 Years Hence" it was very nice for most of the people present, with the exception of myself, who was asked to pay for admission, and as it was advertised free I went with the idea that it would be of great interest to me as knowing something about building, having built a number of three-roomed houses in nine days per house, finished complete with sewerage, etc., 14 inch brick work.

I really don't think I would hear something about the very urgent problem "Houses for the People," which I think would be more to the point from such an esteemed and highly paid architect. But I came to the conclusion that it is to make his position easy for himself that in making such high-class plans for noble people to live and promenade he finds an easy answer—there is no place left for workers' houses within the city.

It is very nice for the City Architect to be looking forward or dreaming about his grandchildren, while we, the working class, are thinking from day to day about ourselves, our boys and girls, who have no work or homes to lay down their heads to dream.

I was very sorry Mr. Larkin got no chance of saying a word for the working class houses, as our city architect had got nothing in his dream book re workers' houses. Then as to his standardised houses in '50 years hence, President Cosgrave has told us some time ago that there would be no cheap houses until standardised houses would come. I know myself that a system of standardised houses is here at present.

I would suggest that Mr. Larkin, as a benefactor of the working class, introduces an Exhibition of Irish Patents and Materials for cheaper houses and then Dublin would know the ability of the people.

FROM ONE WHO WAS LISTENING IN.

The Real America

By Peter Larkin.

For some weeks a picture entitled "America" has been presented at the Corinthian Cinema which is steadily seals supplied by the Irish Transport Union. This picture has been widely advertised by stunts and posters in the Paid Press, and even appreciation in political journals, one and all, but particularly the last-named, urging that the picture should be viewed as it was a true and vivid presentation of an heroic portion of America's history. The editor of the political journal at least should know whether the picture is a true presentation or not, and any member of the working class who has seen the U.S.A. knows how true it is. Below appears the story of the real America, the America of oppression for the working class and unbridled liberty for the employing class.

The story below tells of the trial of a working man charged with having attempted to organise his fellow-workers into a labour union. The law under which he is charged is known as the Criminal Syndicalist Law, which was placed on the Law Books as a means whereby working men and women who present class solidarity might be imprisoned for terms of years varying from one to fourteen. This law had been framed as a substitute for the Government methods of police-manufactured plots, a la German plot, by means of which union organisers were sentenced by packed juries and picked judges, and well-drilled Government witness to penal servitude. But these police methods having been exposed, another weapon had to be found and the Syndicalist Law was brought forth.

The story is written by Jack Carney, Fresno, California, the state in which 88 men are imprisoned. The writer is one who has an intimate knowledge of the usages to which the Syndicalist Law is put and its results in terms of human misery and suffering.

PETER LARKIN.

You could have sat the stillness with a knife. It was that terrible hush that precedes a crisis, the catch in the throat before an outburst of hysteria.

Dawn crept slowly from under the window shades, as though afraid to comb the tall turrets, eyes of the law, that had burned steadily through the long night of suspense.

Neither father nor hope nor curiosity showed in the faces of those who had spent the night in the courtroom—only deadly silence, and waiting. A man with straining eyes and lips, gray in the early morning light, a group of workers, still soiled with the grime of industry, machines ready to spring into action the instant the brakes were loosed—and behind the closed door the unseen figure of Justice with a balance in her hand—once a fair, young lady, now an old hideous grinning hag.

She was leaning across the barred table, her small white face intent upon the door, sat a woman, poorly dressed. Throughout the night she had sat just in the same position. She was the wife of the man who, for the second time, was on trial for—For what? What hideous crime had he committed that twelve men should be so long in arriving at a verdict?

Day came closer, draining night of its force. Noises, human and comforting, the clang of a street car, the scoping of wheels, pushed their way into the prisoner's chamber. They only accentuated that nervous excitement the crescendo of stillness ready to end in a shriek.

A man, blighted from his youth, cold and emotionless, who had always laughed at sentiment, tried to comfort the woman. His hand rested, with an attempt at reassurance, on her shoulder.

"It seems so—long," she said, very quietly, but anxiously.

The man sat staring ahead, as if he had not heard her. He knew what the verdict would be, even though he tried to fan into a flame the ever-present spark of hope that finds a place even in the man about to swing from the gallows.

"O, God—how long?"

The man leaned over and took her hand, rather clumsily, for he had never known the ecstasy of a woman's real love; he was of those places where men work, sell their labour-power, and buy their light love.

Slowly, pale morning trailed its

length across the room, into dark corners. But the shadow of suspense still hung over all, brooding, sombre.

An then, without sound, the closed door they watched opened. Twelve men, in pale, red-eyed, tache face expressions as a death mask. What was the verdict to be?

Enter the prisoner. Eyes, in which life glowed forth. Eyes that reflected from the soul within first warmth, then triumph, then the pride of a soul set free. His skin had none of the pallor of death; he, of all the men remained, "sh, the night had found in him a piece of granite that dragging time nor dreaded third degree could ever efface. He walked without any effort, smiling as if he were a general returning triumphant from a war.

The woman, his wife, was not so sure of her life. Her love was centred in the man—the prisoner. The love of the prisoner was centred in an organism, though the price of a soul set free. The dark eyes of the woman were lifted, as in prayer, to the jury. Her slender throat pulsed like a beaten animal, who looks pleadingly for relief to his master. Her hands clasped desperately, the nails biting into the flesh. She looked into the face of each of the twelve as they filed past, her lips murmuring words unspoken.

The prisoner appeared unaffected by this drama of life of which his was the chief role. He gazed tenderly at his woman—the woman who had carried his sick, his broken, his youthful belief in an ideal far grander than the ideal of love itself. He reached out an arm in front of the woman as though he would make of himself a wall to shield her from the terrible moment that he knew would soon descend upon her, the moment that would temporarily crush life out of her, coldly, ruthlessly, with the blood-erusted wheels of that Juggernaut, the Law.

"Jury—look upon the prisoner," the clerk commanded. "Prisoner—look upon the jury."

The prisoner squared his shoulders and gazed straight upon the twelve men whose word at this moment was greater, as far as he was concerned, than that of any other man in the world.

"Gentlemen of the jury—have you agreed upon a verdict?" the judge went on with the formula of the court.

The foreman stepped forward. "We have."

"How do you find?"

The foreman coughed once, twice and stepped still closer to the rail of the jury-box, unconsciously conscious of the fact that this was the moment when he would send to a cell at San Quentin for many long years a clean healthy young man. He glanced first at those two who waited most anxiously for his words, then with the usual stereotyped reverence, at the Court.

"Your Honour—we find the defendant—a long pause, while he turned to the prisoner—"guilty!"

The woman collapsed. For the first time the emotions of the prisoner gained the upper hand. He wept silently. He had given his all in a big struggle. Throughout the state there are men and women who think he is something akin to your Christ. Now he is being led way and the woman remains with a cynic to comfort her, who finds himself helpless in a situation where women and tears play a part.

"Good-bye, PHIL!"

All this is not the account of a murder trial. It is the story of a drama that has been acted and re-acted time and time again. The prisoner is one of eighty-eight young men now serving long sentences in San Quentin Prison, California. Eighty-eight men between them must serve one thousand years in prison.

The crime is that they have violated unlaw—the Criminal Syndicalist Law—which makes it a penitentiary offence for outraged workers to give expression to their feelings.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND. PORTRANE BRANCH.

The Editor, "Irish Worker," 10th Feb. 1925.

Dear Comrade,

I am directed to forward you the following resolution (for insertion in the "Irish Worker") passed unanimously at our Monthly General Meeting held on the 25th January, 1925—

"Resolved that we, the members of the Branch of the Workers' Union of Ireland, note with regret the resignation of Dr. Florry, Deputy R.M.S., and

JOHN RYAN, Branch Sec.

Irish Worker League

Owing to the necessity that has, so far as...

For the reason stated the Irish Worker League has not developed as otherwise...

At their last meeting the Executive Committee of the I.W.L. decided, amongst other matters...

To this end the views of our readers are invited.

The following contribution is made by a member of the I.W.L.

The Editor, "Irish Worker"

Dear Comrade, - The policy of compromise with principle, with consequent betrayal of the workers' interests...

In considering the feasibility of such a proposition the will to do is the first necessary, and as the events in the Trade Union world in Dublin...

There are Labour Parties and Labour Parties. It is common knowledge that, without exception, they all subscribe on paper to the ideal of a Workers' Republic...

The establishment of a definitely revolutionary Workers' Party in Ireland, committed to the establishment of a Workers' Republic...

At once arises the consideration whether existing parties are to be classed as actively hostile under existing conditions...

In the Free State the avowedly capitalist parties may be written down as follows:-

- 1. Cumann na nGaedheal.
2. Farmers' Party.
3. Independents.
4. Constitutional Republicans.
5. Business.

Next in order, taking acceptance of the Free State Constitution as an index, comes the Irish Labour Party. It is not necessary to stress its undeniable record...

There is another Party, however, which, though coming second in numerical strength to Cumann na nGaedheal...

As between the Sinn Fein Party and Cumann na nGaedheal there is the difference that whereas the latter have completely identified themselves with British Imperialism...

From the point of view of a revolutionary Workers' Party the Sinn Fein Party, or rather, the militant organisation standing behind it...

OUR ELECTION PLAYBOYS OF HEROIC 1916 FAME.

(Continued from column 5, Page 1)

O. B. Lill, candidate that we read of O. B. Lill, be also ran. And now that the Government are about to die of political meningitis it is necessary to call in Doc Hennessy to write out the death certificate...

WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL RELIEF.

IRISH SECTION.

The following list of subscriptions have been received towards the relief of distress in Western Ireland.

Table with columns for donor name and amount. Includes British Section, W.I.R., Saxon Section, W.I.R., E. Higson, South Gate, London, Miss Heurt, Peckleton, Manchester, W. Higgins, New South Gate, London, Mrs. Reinhardt, A. Harris, Bow Lane, London, Helen Crawford, T. K. Weir, Omdale, North Hants, M. Beane, Ancoats St., Manchester, Mrs. Openshaw, St. Annes-on-Sea, R. Penfold, Brighton, M. H., Miss Batt, Arnside, Westmoreland, Mr. A. Cass, Spangere, G. T. Ellison, Portsmouth, A. E., M. Tillman, Women's Co-Op. Guild, Abergavenny, J. J. Vaughan, Bethnal Green, R. Stewart, Mrs. Ray Walton, Burton-on-Trent, H. F. Banks, Gravesend, Edward and Ellen Blanche, Wallasey, Miss Mulhall, Dublin, R. L. Holton, Camberwell.

A parcel of new underwear - G. W. Graham, Manchester, Lancs.

DEAD SOLDIERS, 1776-1925.

The following poem, whose author is unknown, was written over one hundred years ago during the American War of Independence:-

"The snow lies thick in Valley Forge, The ice on the Delaware; But the poor dead soldiers of King George They neither know nor care. They will not stir when the drifts are gone On the ice melts out in the bay; And the men that served with Washington Lie as still as they."

The poem might be equally as well applied to the Irish War for Independence during the past few years, and the lines referring to the rank and file soldiers are just as true to-day as in 1776.

but that can be accepted only with the qualification

- (a) That the threat of renewed war with Britain, without any immediate prospects of material gain, would induce her to grant the minimum demand of Sinn Fein; or
(b) That the growing class-consciousness of the British worker would make the renewal of the Anglo-Irish War a dangerous venture.

It may be added that a combination of causes (a) and (b) might achieve the same result as either separately.

Getting back to the statement that the militant organisation standing behind Sinn Fein is of importance in that it represents the determination of a not inconsiderable minority to sever the British connection...

The writer apologises to the editor for the length of his letter. Yours fraternally, S.S.

They Shall be Remembered

Owing to the unusual severity of the weather it was decided to "call off" the meeting advertised during last week to be held in Boreford Place on Saturday, 8th inst., to protest against the imprisonment of class war prisoners...

Comrade B. Conway would up this short meeting by appealing to his comrades to attend the huge meeting in the Mansion House, on Monday, 9th instant.

The Mansion House was filled to the doors when Comrade John Lardor took the chair at the great demonstration held to protest against the imprisonment of Class War Prisoners...

The first speaker, Comrade Joe Vaughan (Ex-Mayor of Bethnal Green, London), held his audience thrilled whilst he recounted the terrible sufferings prisoners of capitalism are forced to undergo in all countries...

Similar conditions prevail in Estonia. An example of cruelty in this country, quoted by the speaker, was the leader of 127 Estonian workers. Their leader, seeing that the trial was a farce, exclaimed in the court:- "Enough of this trial-it is a mockery"...

The British Press is silent on the massacres in India, and if any worker attempts to throw light on the terrible situation, the Press lies about and slanders such people.

The British people have been taught that British Imperialism is in Egypt for the good of Egypt, to uplift and educate Egyptians, and to make them good citizens. But now Britain is throwing off the mask and stands now openly for the prosecution of Egyptian workers...

As Jim Larkin stepped forward to address the huge audience, the great hall resounded to the cheers and hand-clapping of the people...

speaker said that very often these so-called crimes are "inspired crimes." Everywhere British Imperialism uses force to keep the workers in subjection, and we, workers, on our part, must realise that no matter what the nationalities...

In the Free State the Government use the very same Imperialist tactics as their masters, England. The Free State Government is Imperialist in outlook and in their treatment of prisoners have even "out Britained the British."

Mrs. Helen Crawford (Secretary British Section, Workers' International Relief) addressing the audience said that the last time she had been to Ireland was shortly before 1916. Since that time Russia had won from England and she hoped that Ireland would come shortly...

This speaker told of the wonderful assistance rendered by the W.I.R. throughout the world and said that she had come here to form a Committee to help the sufferers in Ireland, believing that Ireland should have a say in this expression of International solidarity.

Comrade Bob Stewart, who, although only a few weeks in Dublin, is already well known to the workers of the city and whose eloquent address on the occasion of the Lenin Memorial Meeting evoked much applause...

He asked "why should poverty be normal in Ireland?" He had been told by not a few people that the situation in the West of Ireland is normal. "If," said the speaker, "such is normal in Ireland, then there is something wrong with the people of Ireland."

The speaker, "such is normal in Ireland, then there is something wrong with the people of Ireland." In the present phase of the class struggle against Imperialism the fight is becoming keener and more ferocious. The basic cause of all troubles is the fight for supremacy, and our fight is a fight for the supremacy of our class...

To release prisoners requires more than talk, but jails could not hold our comrades if we are not apathetic; obviously, people who do not protest and continue to protest are looked upon by those who control the political machine as people to be spat upon...

resounded to the cheers and hand-clapping of the people, and as he read a list of Irishmen imprisoned in Six County and English jails, one could hear the comments - some angry, some sorrowfully sympathetic - of his hearers. He told of the torture chambers of England in England, and of England in Ireland, and referring both to the "Workers' International Relief" at present working in Donegal and in the West of Ireland, and to the "International Class War Prisoners Aid" he urged his hearers to give as liberally as possible to the one and to join as class conscious workers in the other...

At the meeting to be held in the Mansion House on Sunday Evening, as advertised in another column, we hope to be able to issue cards of membership to those who have already joined the I.C.W.P.A., and we further hope to enrol thousands more at this meeting.

NORROVEE DEFENDERS' FUND.

Table with columns for name and amount. Includes E. Burke, B. Lynch, J. Ralph, E. O'Malley, J. Keogh, M. Whelan, T. Tracey, E. Reilly.

Table with columns for collection name and amount. Includes Collection at Stanley Street Workshops, Dublin Corp., R. Lynch, B. Conway, T. Whittaker, M. Nolan, W. Derham, M. Skinneder.

Total £13 6

Already acknowledged £9 10 6

Total to date £13 4 6

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND

MOTOR SECTION.

The Committee of the above Section will meet in future on Friday night of each week at 8 p.m.

MOTOR SECTION COMMITTEE.

LOST.

Joseph Barrett, a member of the Workers' Union, has lost three fully-stamped Unemployment Cards in the street. Would anyone finding these cards kindly hand them in at Unity Hall.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND

MILLING SECTION.

A Special Meeting of the above Section will be held in Unity Hall, on Sunday, February 15th at 12.30 sharp.

Important business will be under consideration.

INTERNATIONAL CLASS-WAR PRISONERS' AID.

IRISH SECTION.

Monster Meetings

will be held in THE MANSION HOUSE Sunday, 16th, 8 p.m.

TOWN HALL, DUN LAOGHAIRE On Monday, 16th Feb, at 8 p.m.

Speakers:- Jim Larkin, W. Gallacher, Dundee; Peter Larkin; Bob Stewart.

Rally to the Class-War Victims

NOTICE

Thousands of new and second-hand books for sale. You can change each book on payment of 2d. if returned in good condition.

STARKEY Newsagent and Tobacconist 106 MARLBORO' STREET, DUBLIN

"The principle of state and nation to stand upon is—that the entire ownership of Ireland, moral and material, up to the sun and down to the centre is vested of right in the people of Ireland."

—James Fintan Lalor.



Edited by Jim Larkin.

Who is it speaks of defeat?
I tell you a cause like ours:
Is greater than defeat can
know—
It is the power of powers.
As surely as the earth rolls
round,
As surely as the glorious sun
brings the great, world moon
wave
Must our Cause be won!

Vol. 2. No. 6.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1925.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

**BAREBONES MURPHY LTD.
ALLELUIA!**

Some weeks ago we invited our readers to keep their eyes on the antics of the "Irish Independent" when the Lenten Pastorals should be issued. The rag that takes advertisements from all and sundry and keeps the eye of criticism averted for 51 weeks of the year, is shrivelled in its soul at the iniquities of a wicked world for the remaining one.

The latest example of Independentism comes this week close on the heels of the Lenten Pastorals. The criticism is directed at a clergyman who—shocking to relate—told the truth. The "Independent" feels about it as follows:—"Through a most difficult and trying period the Irish Hierarchy has sought to guide its flock on the moral issues that arose, unmindful of the political controversies involved."

How we remember the unanimous Hierarchyal protest that followed the recitations of Mellows, O'Connor, McKelvey and Barrett, the condemnation of Free State murder gangs, and the other evidences of moral rectitude, "unmindful of the political controversies involved." But the "Independent" like other institutions, cannot fool all the people all the time; and it looks to us as if the restraining influence of incipient sanity has now departed.

Of the many scurrilous rags that have imposed themselves on an unoffending public, the Murphy paper must be the most contemptible! All is fish that comes to the "Independent" net, so long as it is a means to defeat the aspirations of the common people. M. Herriot, "Socialist" and "Provisional," is the enemy of freedom to-day. We agree—but not for the reasons stated by Murphy, Ltd. Yesterday, to-morrow, and to-day, in fact, all the time, Soviet Russia is the obstacle in the road. It would almost appear as if that "Government" were responsible for the fatal slams of our Irish cities, the staggering figures of unemployment, the low rate of wages, the emigration, famine and the host of burdens under which the country groans, if it were not that it is plain that it is due to Murphy, which is Capitalism.

The "Independent" pretenses to hope for an awakening of conscience amongst the electorate, because, as it happens, P. O. Flanagan has said what the average intelligent person is thinking. We have no doubt that will be an awakening, though not in the direction wished for by the Murphys, and it may have the effect of stampeding the leaders of religious thought in Ireland into practising something of the Christianity they are so addicted to preaching. That will be a step forward.

The ancient Romans had a way for the nation of Britain which has lost none of its effectiveness by reason of its antiquity. It kept the wretched natives of that wretched land from thinking of their own worries and incidentally filled them with admiration for their masters. Keeping the populace amused is the art of the ages, and keeping them horrified is its twin brother. The "Independent's" invitation to its readers to search themselves with the prospect of a Soviet Ireland has had no marked effect, for perchance they have put it for themselves that, if the existing conditions in Ireland are the accidents of capitalism, there is surely something to be said for any alternative. The "Independent" has no use for dictatorships, except in Egypt, Italy and India; no use for national independence, where the alternative is inclusion in the "Commonwealth of Nations known as the British Empire," and, in general, no use for any code of ethics or economics at variance with the principle of so much per cent.

Father O'Flanagan's remarks, meant the prostitution of religion to political ends, touches the "Independent" on

J'ACCUSE !

That the group oligarchy, claiming to be a Government within the confines of the so-called Free State, have exceeded even the instructions of their masters and unblushingly executed the worst attempts of the Black and Tan terrorists to stampede the people of this Nation.

They have, since their seizure of power, committed more crimes against the nation than was committed during the seven centuries of English tyranny.

They, and they alone, have been guilty of a crime unparalleled in the struggle of any country—that they did voluntary acquiesce in the dismemberment of this country.

That they used the weapons and means provided by an enemy country to overcome and subjugate (perhaps) their own comrades who scorned to betray.

That they hesitated not to accept the money of an enemy Government to pay for an armed force, many of whom were aliens, and many of these hired fighters had been in arms against this nation during the Black and Tan regime.

That they have admitted by their un-institutional acts, alleged to be passed according to lawful procedure and by the will of the people—but, of a truth, against the people's will and without the procedure of a lawfully constituted State—that they did knowingly and with intent take away the liberties and lives of many citizens of this nation.

That they have admitted they did these and other wrongful acts without authority, except the authority of arms supplied by an enemy people.

That they have taxed the people unlawfully, and levied taxes by the authority of the bayonet, seized property, and disposed of property unlawfully and by force majeure.

That they have collected by force and threats, taxes that were not leviable by them—taxes alleged to be owing to an enemy Government.

That they have forced employers to collect taxes that were alleged to be owing to an enemy Government—taxes that the said enemy Government dare not levy, and taxes which certain of this group oligarchy had advised the citizens not to pay, previous to their usurpation of power.

That they have pandered to the idle rich section of the nation—a section that was in active hostility to the nation, and many of whom were in arms or assisting by espionage, and in other ways, the enemy Government.

That they have kept in power and place many of the known enemies of this nation—creatures who were actively engaged in assisting an enemy Government.

That they have taken from the people the right of representation, both in the legislative and administrative departments of the Government.

That they appointed to judicial office and place their own nominees.

That they have abolished election boards and administrative bodies and placed their own creatures in power, denying the citizens representation or redress.

That they have abused their powers to reduce the wages of the workers on public Boards and on public undertakings.

That they have conspired with the employing class and Finance capitalists to reduce wages and worsen the condition of the workers.

That they have mortgaged the credit of the country for their own advancement and personal profit.

That they have admitted they did unlawful acts and have boasted of their shameful wrongdoing.

That they have outraged every law; their hired minions are allowed nay encouraged to outrage every law or every measure of protection a citizen is entitled to. No man or woman, home or person, is safe from outrage and violence. Armed with the King's writ issued by this group, any offence against person or property is permissible. Never in the history of the earth's people has there been witnessed or experienced such crimes and offences against a people. Nero was a gentleman and a scholar to some members of this oligarchy; Cromwell a saint compared to the principal gentlemen in the east. Every recorded act of tyranny, pursued against the common people during the ages and in every clime has been studied by these modern Neros so that they might put them in use against their own people, to the detriment of the people of this nation and against the welfare and happiness of the common people of this nation.

Their latest divinations, conceived in bigotry and hate, is embodied in their last treasonable act against the peace and safety of the common people. This latest manifestation of the Machiavelian mind that is bringing this country into well-merited contempt, is called the "Treason and Seditious Offences Bill." We hope it will pass, and we prophesy, if it does, that its authors will be the first indicted under its provisions.

It has been considered a crime in other countries to speak, to assemble, to protest, but the mind of the Leix tyrant proceeds to embody an act which makes thought a crime, and a look seditious, a prayer treason. These paper-facile tyrants should read history and learn that the tyrant forges his own axe and the people wield it. "A coward's fear may make a coward valiant."

When we look at the faces of this group oligarchy, we are reminded of Edward Carpenter's words: "And I saw the many menacing, evil faces, creeping, insincere, worm faces—faces with noses ever on the trail, hunting blankly and always for gain; faces of stolid conceit, of puffed-up propriety, of slobbering vanity, of damned assurance."

a sore spot. In its time, that paper, more than any other, has made religion a stalling horse for its own economic activities. In 1913, Dublin saw an alliance identical with the present one, except that the issue then was plainly, Capitalism v. Labour. The Murphy rag may try to divert attention to other than the real issues, but the resistless logic of events is forcing the people to the only conclusion.

The country is faced with acute privation, due to unemployment. Feeling against the Free State Government is so strong that the "Independent" is concentrating in an attempt to focus the eyes of the Irish folk on the ends of the earth. You may have noticed how well the killing is done in Australia this weather, and at home, Captain Keen was never keener. Since the election campaign started in the Free State, M. Herriot has become even more irreligious and the Soviets are going to the dooms. The suppression of political speeches not to the "Independent's" way of thinking continues apace, and with the suppression of foreign "news" centres in Fleet Street, London, it is thought probable the extent of the coming electoral disaster may be considerably minimized.

Whereas, if the "Independent" appears horror-stricken at the decay of morality in Ireland, if it glares frantically to the coat-tails of hierarchy, exclaiming that all is lost; if it feels outraged that an august body should be subjected to criticism, while all the time the fighting average is going to the dooms, there is a margin of hope as to the future.

**The Black North
Awakening!**

**BELFAST UNION MEN RE ALISE
THEIR POSITION**

A comrade in Belfast has sent us a very interesting letter, dealing with the state of Trade Unionism in that city of industry and business.

There seems to be a re-awakening taking place in the ranks of Union men and women, the whites, and a realisation of their position, their needs, desires, friends and enemies is apparent.

A unanimous feeling of distrust and wrath is rampant against those leaders of Union unions who have betrayed the rank and file time after time. When the Transport Union attempted to hold a meeting in Belfast lately it was found impossible to do so owing to the industry of the leading pro-cessor boys members who attended.

Two officials travelled down to Dublin—the Red Baron and Tom Kennedy, who sat in the Executive Office for three weeks. When the Red Baron rose to speak he was met with a hail of questions about his salary, who was for him and why he didn't return. McAnulty tried to get a hearing for him, appealing for him as an Executive Officer who had come from Dublin, but this brought a shout of "No! We don't care a damn; he came from Portadown, not Dublin, and he ain't so black."

McAnulty got up in the audience, to object to a hearing for Red Baron, and it turned out to be a boss in the dock and a hard-nosed slave driver, who relies on his physical strength and brutality to get work done quickly.

Tom Kennedy followed Heron, but likewise failed to get a hearing, and the meeting closed in an uproar.

The Transport Union is flushed in Belfast and the union is striving for a new movement—a movement of workers, a rank and file movement, which will think more of a hungry child or workless man than a seat in Parliament or in the Corporation.

CONDOLENCE.

We regret to learn of the death of our good comrade, Richard Barry, Station Officer of the Fire Brigade, Buckingham Street, and offer our deepest sympathy to his wife and family.

