

"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.



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 peoples.  
As surely as the earth rolls  
round.  
As surely as the glorious sun  
brings the great world upon  
wave  
Must our Cause be won?

Vol. 2. No. 15.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1925.

PRICE ONE PENNY

## Historic Strikes.

### GREAT FIGHTS OF THE WORKING CLASS DOWN THE AGES.

B.C. 2170 (about).—Fifty thousand labourers employed on the building of the Great Pyramid (commonly called Cheops) complained of the food furnished them, and refused to work. They were cut to pieces by the troops, several thousands being killed. The remainder went back to work.

B.C. 701.—Over 30,000 labourers employed by the Chinese Emperor on the embankment of the Hwang-ho River, demanded higher wages and ceased work. Seventeen hundred were beheaded and the rest resumed work.

B.C. 29.—Workmen employed by King Herod to rebuild the temple and palace at Jerusalem struck on account of poor food and insufficient pay. Herod ordered out his Parthian Cavalry, which surrounded and slaughtered all the strikers. Herod was nothing if not thorough.

A.D. 47.—The masons employed by Nero to rebuild Rome, after the destruction of that city by fire, struck for higher wages. They were surrounded in the streets by Praetorian Guards, several hundreds being killed. The rest surrendered. Seventeen were crucified and the remainder returned to work.

A.D. 72.—Many hundreds of Jews who refused to work at building the triumphal arch at Tiber were slaughtered by the city garrison of Rome.

A.D. 324.—In Constantinople masons employed by contractors to build a church struck for increased wages. The contractors appealed to Constantine, who ordered several of the strike leaders to be hanged before the church. The rest went back to work.

A.D. 801.—A strike of workmen employed by Charlemagne on a palace at Aix-la-Chapelle was settled in the same way. The men demanded higher wages. Twenty were hanged, and 80 were sent to the galleys in Spain.

A.D. 1069.—William the Conqueror had trouble with workmen employed to build Hastings Castle. Several were beheaded; the rest were sent to France as slaves.

1215.—Magna Charta recognised certain rights of labourers and mechanics. Farm labourers were not to be deprived of their furniture, nor their tools seized for debt.

1271.—Serious riots caused by striking farm labourers at Norwich, England. Many houses were burned, including the fine cathedral. Many of the rioters were publicly hanged, their execution being witnessed by the king.

1381.—An insurrection of farm labourers and mechanics, led by Wat Tyler, was suppressed with great cruelty and wholesale slaughter.

1495.—Great strike in Constantinople. Twenty-six strikers were hanged and the remainder drafted into the army.

1539.—Insufficient pay caused a strike of workmen employed in pulling down a suppressed monastery. Settlement—hanging and imprisonment.

1563.—At the Palace of the Escorial, Spain, masons struck for higher wages. Seven were sent to the galleys, the remainder exiled to America.

1625.—Central Chinese strike of tea-pickers. Seventy-odd were first tortured, then beheaded.

1664.—Labourers at the canal of Languedoc struck for better pay. Dozens were hanged by order of the nobleman who oversaw the job.

1705.—Peter the Great's shipbuilders and sailmakers struck for shorter hours. Some were hanged, more than 100 sent to Siberia, 950 drafted into the army.

1775-1800.—During the last 25 years of the 18th century many trade unions were formed in England, France and Germany.

1799.—Laws were passed in England prohibiting trade unions.

1809.—The Friendly Society of Ironfounders of England, Wales and Ireland were organised.

1812.—Nottingham (England) great strike and riots. Many mills burned by strikers.

1824.—The laws prohibiting trade and labour unions repealed.

1831.—Many strikers and great rioting among Welsh ironworkers. Troops fired on the strikers, killing many.

# MAY DAY, 1925.

Comrades, what of the morn—the new May morn? Why stand ye despairing and despaired? Even though you have been misled and betrayed by, self-seeking, sycophantic place-hunters, masquerading as Labour Leaders, is it too late to seek Heart or Grace; reform your ranks; seek inspiration for the future from the sacrifices and service of the men "like you men" who have passed from our ranks having given all that men can give to the Cause of Labour? Men like Byrne, Nolan, Mallin, O'Carroll, Riley, Partridge, and the teacher and exemplar—Connolly, and many others too numerous to name whose memories abide with us in all our work and harassment of body and mind.

If the Irish working class had known that the work and sacrifice of Connolly, Mallin, O'Carroll, and Partridge in 1916 had been repudiated, is it conceivable they would have let careerists masquerade under the ghostly mantle of Connolly, from 1916 down through the years to the fatal year of 1922, and since? Irish Labour has been disgraced, its traditions broken, its principles outraged by these careerists, who, now in 1925, have been forced to admit that they did not approve of Connolly's action in 1916. But they were all too willing to traverse the country, using Connolly's message, Connolly's work, the sacrifice of Connolly and his comrades in 1916, to gain control of the Union and Labour movement for their own ulterior purposes. Connolly and his comrades were wrong in 1916. Connolly and his comrades are silent in death. Careerists, masquerading as Labour Leaders, live on; they continually mouth phrases from Connolly's work, claiming their political connection with Connolly is unbroken. Yet Connolly died for principles and a purpose that these careerists repudiate.

Let us get back to May Day, 1925, to the principles of Connolly and his dead comrades. Let us take up the task left unfinished by Connolly. Let us take courage by the sacrifices of our comrades, silent in death, yet eloquent in spirit. Let us refresh ourselves in that spirit. Let us determine that the principles of Connolly and his comrades of 1916 are the principles worth living for; that their purpose and objective are ours. Let us re-organise our forces, dress our ranks. A united front of Irish Labour against the embattled front of the Capitalist class in Ireland. Let us relegate these hypocrites, these careerists, that masquerade under the banner of Irish Labour, to the obscurity from which they should never have been allowed to emerge.

Irish Labour stands at the parting of the ways on this May Day, 1925. Which path shall we tread—the path Connolly trod, or the bog of despondency, despair and disunity mapped out by self-styled Labour leaders. It may be a hard, bitter road that Connolly marked out for us to tread, but it is a safe road; the only road men dare travel, and it will eventually bring us to the Land of Heart's Desire—a free land—a land wherein the hypocrite, the Judas, and the careerist shall have no place. The road of political chicanery, of dissimulation, of hypocrisy, of Empiricism, mapped out by these same "leaders," leads to the shambles of civil and foreign war; leads to conscription; leads to eternal wage-slavery; leads to class collaboration; leads to continuous industrial and economic strife, world without end, amen; leads to place and power for the compromising politician; leads to £400 a year and allowances for eloquent Dempseys of the alleged Labour Party. For you and yours of the rank and file—wage-slavery, industrial strife, bad housing, adulterated food, low wages, long hours, early death. It means the perpetuation of capitalism, world without end. If you want freedom, you must be worthy of freedom. You must prepare yourselves for freedom by study, by service, by sacrifice if needs be. Comrades, if you are true to your class, willing to serve them and suffer with them, no capitalist will vindicate you. No capitalist papers will give space to an approval of your same leadership. No, comrades; yours will be the hard, bitter road. You will be condemned by capitalists and the capitalist Press; but deep satisfaction will be yours, and the days will bring victory to your class and the cause will be triumphant. Let us unite this May Day and march breast forward to the dawn. We have a World to gain.

1832.—The Steel Yard Society formed.

1833.—Friendly Society of Operative Stonemasons formed in England.

1834.—Unsuccessful strike of calico printers in Glasgow for better pay.

1834.—Greek London tailors' strike. Also a failure.

1834.—Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders' Union of Great Britain formed.

1835.—Poets' strike in North of England. They got an increase in wages after a long struggle.

1836.—London weavers' strike against Irish workmen. Terrible riots; many lives lost.

1842.—Many strikes in Manchester.

1842.—English legislation for the registration of labour unions.

1844.—First English Co-operative Society formed.

To this list should be added, following a very considerable number of strikes during the nineteenth century, the London dock labourer's strike of 1888-9. This, which proved successful, furnished one of the best evidences of working-class solidarity then known, and laid the foundation of the New Unionism, with wider organisation and political action as its methods.

but was mean enough to try and evade the repayment, and it was only when the Secretary of the Gas Workers' notified Mr. Grey of the absolute dishonesty of this clerk and one or two others, that they made any attempt to pay; and I believe they have now paid in full.

To sum up, if things were to be done over again, I for one—and I know others—would think twice before estranging myself from my fellow-workers. Sincerely yours,

"INSPECTOR"

## Even the Boss Despises the Scabs.

To the Editor, "Irish Worker."

Dear Sir,

I will be obliged for a space in your paper in order that its readers may be made aware of what I deem the base ingratitude of one of my fellow-workers in the Gas Company.

Some time ago, the father of a junior clerk here died, leaving six or seven young children and widow to mourn his loss, and penniless. A certain man in the employment and attached to the clerical staff, hearing of the dire distress of this family, organised a "draw" for the deceased's kit of tools (he had been a carpenter). This man "friend-in-need" worked night and main to make the project a success, and that he succeeded was evidenced by the fact of his being able to hand a sum of fifty odd pounds to the widow and orphans. Last week the man who had done all this and his own trouble by the death of a brother to whom he was deeply attached, and his fellow-workers in the clerical department (amongst whom he is deeply respected) sent a wreath as a mark of their sympathy, and the clerk who undertook to collect the price, had, of course, no difficulty as all were only too willing to be associated with it, except the clerk whose family he had so benefited and whose mother and helpless children he had done so much for. This I don't know whether to call him man, boy or scab—absolutely refused, and tried to make a jeer of the collector.

Well, to a certain extent, I am not favourably placed to criticise this young scab, as I am none or less of a fellow delinquent in his recent past; but I certainly could not stand for such ingratitude.

This young prig is an Irish speaker, works the Paine, and is, I understand, Secretary of some unit of the Gaelic League attached to St. Columba's Branch, Blackhall Place. I have always supported the League and admired its excellent work, and I sincerely hope that this type of person is an exception in his ranks, for if the contrary was the case I would say "Avant, the Gaelic League."

Up to the strike of the Gasworkers last May, every employee, from the labourer to the highest-paid clerk, was belonging to the Union, with a couple of exceptions; and to their credit, it must be said, every one walked out at the call, except I (as almost ashamed to state) the particular section to which I belong. Every one of us, Inspectors and Chief Inspectors, remained in; one only was manly enough to go with his fellow-workers. We remained loyal to the Company for mundane reasons; but it has been clearly demonstrated, from expressions of our chief official to representatives of the Gas Workers' Branch as well as many other actions of his, that he does not appreciate our disloyalty to our comrades. As an instance: At the mortified meeting last December, the Inspectors who went out on strike got 21 times the increase of any that remained in, and some got no increase at all. I must admit that this was a take-down to all of us; but in what way do the remainder of our fellows regard us? I (at all events) am not under any delusion over the matter, for I know we are treated with disdain. The men are taking orders from us as they did before the strike simply because they believe they are not in a position to hit back. But as soon as their Union is financially strong enough to support them, we Inspectors may as well prepare ourselves for the order to toe the line or get out.

This clerk, to whom I referred in the first part of my letter, went out on strike and was glad to accept a loan of £1 given to all the strikers.

(Continued on previous column.)

AMUSEMENTS

GRAND CENTRAL CINEMA.

"THE MOON OF ISRAEL."  
Sir Rider Haggard's Novel.  
Showing at 2, 4.15, 6.30 and 8.45 p.m.

Coming:  
"HOT WATER."  
HAROLD LLOYD'S Greatest and Best

MARY ST. PICTURE HOUSE

Thurs., Fri. and Sat.:  
EDMUND LOWE in  
"THE BRASS BOWL."  
An Exciting Mystery Drama.  
First Time to Dublin.

Monday Next—  
LEO MALONEY in  
"KING'S CREEK LAW."  
His First Big Western Picture.  
First Time to Dublin.  
"Iron Man" Serial, Etc.

GRAND CONCERT

AND  
DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT  
In the QUEEN'S THEATRE,  
SUNDAY NIGHT, 3rd MAY, 1925  
At 8 o'clock.

The Republican Players will present—  
"The Young Man From Rathmines."

All the well-known leading  
Artists! Come and enjoy a  
good evening's entertainment.

Dancing, Singing and plenty  
of laughter

Doors open at 7.30 p.m. Popular Prices

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND  
NOTICE TO  
BRANCH SECRETARIES.

The levy of One Penny per week for the "Irish Worker" must be enforced on and after this date.

All money realised by this levy must be entered separately on the Weekly Cash Return, and remitted in full to Head Office each week without fail.

Branch Secretaries are requested to notify Head Office of the number of copies of the "Irish Worker" required each week for distribution to the members of the Branch. This notification must be given not later than Tuesday of each week.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND  
NO. 1 BRANCH.

A General Meeting of all members of the above Section will be held in Unity Hall, Marlboro' Street, on Thursday, May 7th, 1925, at 8 p.m. Jim Larlin will address the meeting.  
By Ogler,  
NO. 1 BRANCH COMMITTEE.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND  
DUBLIN NO. 1 BRANCH.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS  
Members are hereby notified that on and from May 1st, 1925 the Office Hours for No. 1 Branch are as follows:  
Mondays to Fridays, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
Saturdays ... 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Sundays ... 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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"AN INJURY TO ONE IS  
THE CONCERN OF ALL."

IRISH WORKER

EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

THE IRISH WORKER will be published weekly—One Penny—and may be had of any newsagent or newsboy. Ask for it, and see that you get it. London Office:—Room D, 143 Fleet St., E.C.

We do not publish or waste time on anonymous contributions.

Subscriptions, 5/- per year; 2/6 for six months, payable in advance

We are not responsible for views or opinions expressed in Special Articles.

PHONE NO.—DUBLIN 2686.

Communists and Ireland.

The Dublin daily press, with an equanimity that indicates they have received instructions from the masters are on the track of the bold bad men. It would appear, according to the Reuter Agency, which, as everyone knows, cannot tell a lie, that Europe is threatened with Communism and that being so, the time has arrived for "Civilization, Christianity and Small Nationalities" to sound the tocsin of alarm and rally their forces.

It need scarcely be said that the Irish brand of capitalism is identical with that in every other land, that it arises from the same causes—selfishness and greed—and produces, everywhere, the same results. It is a cardinal principle with governments in all countries to maintain the supremacy of the possessing class, and the history of peoples shows a continuous struggle on the part of the ruling classes to keep the masses of humanity in subjection. Go back as far as we choose, we find the same principle underlying the policy of governments—Egypt, Rome, Greece in the old days; Spain, Holland, France, England, Italy and the German States later; and, in our time, these same nations aid others—many of them developed into Empires—maintaining the continuity of the age-long tradition.

Until the last blow shall have been struck by humanity in the fight to achieve freedom, until the last fetter shall have been broken, the forces of greed will operate in defence of their selfish interests. To think otherwise is to close the door to reason. In the war on the masses no weapon is too frightful if it achieves its purpose, and in dealing with ordinary humanity the most potent in preparing it for acceptance of the holocaust that invariably follows the ultimate clash of national capitalist interests, is that of lying propaganda.

It has been said that every tyranny contains within itself the seed of its own destruction, and here that is the Great War, conceived in Imperial arrogance, proves. Out of the welter of that terrible time arose a nation, sick to death of the great horror, yet inspired with a determination to end once and for all the possibility of a recurrence, and though harried almost to destruction by the combined forces of the world, it broke their effective resistance and laid the sure foundation of the world that is to be Russia.

Yet, the fight is not finished—it has hardly begun. Outside the Union of Soviet Republics the struggle of the masses against their rulers goes on with varying degrees of success. But the result is certain. As the struggle proceeds it will increase in bitterness. Here, in Ireland, we are seeing the beginnings of the offensive, and in the two principal Imperial organs—the "Irish Times" and the "Irish Independent"—the mode of

attack reveals itself. It is amusing to see the papers that called out for the blood of the man of 1916—calling to be accepted as the defenders of the nation's liberties. It is tragic that there should be a section of the people led astray, but that will right itself. In the history of the "Independent," as of the late "Freeman's Journal," subservience to British Imperialist interests has always been a secret guiding principle. The "Irish Times" has no past of which Ascendancyism, being Ascendancyism—has any reason to blush. Always it has been an open enemy, though in the role of "Kindly Irish of the Irish," it is not a pleasing spectacle.

In treating of the attitude of the Irish press towards the workers, it will, so far as to have the right perspective, to consider its past activities. In recent years the "Irish Independent" has been associated with wholesale condemnation of the 1916 Insurrection and its later developments. Not that the "Independent" is averse to the idea of a war, for did it not, during the great massacre, publish daily, with unctuous mouthing, lists of the "heroes" who were not thought during that time, direct incitement to organised murder in the shape of appeals to Irishmen to enlist in the British Army? No! the "Irish Independent" is not concerned with the sanctity of human life, but it is its settled policy that if Irishmen are to die on the field of battle, it will be for some other cause than the freedom of their country.

It is not a far step from demanding of the British Government the murder of James Connolly and Sean MacDiarmid to demanding of the Free State the murder of the rank and file of the working class. The "Irish Times," as well as the "Independent," are concerned for the future of Irish capitalism, and in order to make a case for any new developments of policy that may be thought advisable, are working up propaganda, a la Reuter, to justify action. But in all the tirades against the only existent Workers' Republic, to give the U.S.S.R. the title, by which its scope is more popularly understood, no mention is made of the campaign of blood, instigated by the Empires of Europe, Asia and America, to crush the workers of Russia in the dust, nor of the international conspiracy to prevent the victorious emergence of the proletariat of the world in their struggle. Blood and murder are all right and strictly in accordance with moral principles, when the aggressors are the spokesmen of "Christianity, Civilization and Small Nationalities," but when the downtrodden mass of the people raise their hands against the massacre of their fellows, it is, according to the press in Ireland and elsewhere, the duty of the governments of the world to prepare for action.

"Prohibition" in the  
Dublin Workhouse

PITIFUL PLIGHT OF INMATES.

Hitherto it has always been the custom to allow some people who have small shops in the vicinity of the Dublin Workhouse to come in daily to that institution and sell their wares to poor old and infirm inmates who might have some little pocket money to spend. These dealers, all most hard-working, respectable people, were most attentive to the needs of the inmates and supplied tobacco, snuff, matches, tea and sugar, etc., at the lowest possible prices to suit the purses of the poor people; in fact an old woman or man could get a pinch of snuff or a pipe of tobacco for a couple of pennies, as the case might be.

The newspapers were also brought in regularly, so that the unfortunate prisoners of poverty were at least partially kept in touch with the outer world. It was a regular boon to those poor inmates—those inmates who can neither "work nor want," and who are utterly helpless as far as vindicating their cause or defending themselves are concerned. Yet they are "one of our bone and flesh of our flesh," the failures and "foils and jets" of our social system, and many of them have not a stain on their characters, except in misfortune, which has left them in the poorhouse, forsaken, isolated and alone. The Board of Guardians, and later, the Commissioners always allowed the privilege above-mentioned, but now, by a stroke of the pen, the Commissioners have disallowed the privilege, and rigidly debarred all newsvendors and dealers from entering the precincts of the workhouse, with the result that the poor aged and infirm inmates are completely isolated from the outer world "like lepers in a den," in such a manner as would disgrace the rule of the Sultan of Turkey in its worst days. It is a disgrace to civilisation

and a blot on Christianity in this supposed humanitarian age. It is bad enough to have those poor helpless people behind barbed wire entanglements as the citizens can see, but to deprive them of a newspaper or a pinch of snuff or a smoke of tobacco is going beyond civilisation altogether. And I am sure the working class of Dublin or the citizens in general will not have it once they probably comprehend the facts, which anybody can do by enquiring for themselves on the spot; and it would help matters greatly if the independent, justice-loving newspapers of Great Britain and Ireland would copy this letter from the "Irish Worker." I wonder how would Mr. Commissioner Lysaght like to do without his smoke of tobacco and his morning newspaper; and he is living out of the rates (only much better, of course) the same as the poorest inmate is. But the searchlight of public opinion will be brought to bear on petty cowardly tyrants no matter where they may crawl, and public opinion cannot be ignored as those "Commissioners" of the poorhouse shall shortly see.

Support the Workers'  
International Relief.

HASTEN TO THE AID OF THE  
STARVING PEASANTS  
OF IRELAND.

The Peasant International to the  
Peasants of the whole World!

Last year's harvest in Ireland was almost completely destroyed by a natural catastrophe. Our brothers, the Irish peasants, have reaped from the fields which they have filled with the sweat of their brow, only bitter misery, Poverty and privation have visited them in their wretched cabins. In the Northern districts of Ireland there has been reigning for many months a cruel and merciless foe—Hunger. Without distinction, Death is snatching away the old and the young, the big and the little.

And "good old England" of his Majesty the King and the "fioble" lords; bourgeois England of the refined stock-exchange speculators is celebrating a joyous funeral feast over the graves of the Irish peasants.

Philistine England—the England of the Bankers, the England of the business people, who "aint" sold out of the bloody sweat of the slaves in their subjected colonies; this England, of course, does not move a finger in order to alleviate the suffering Irish peasants and their children who are perishing from starvation.

The terrible starvation of the thousands of Irish peasants is only a welcome ally for the English stock-exchange sharks, for the hypocrites, for the preachers of "Christian brotherhood," for the "enlightened" civilised landowners.

It has always been their highest "statesmanship" and is still now the policy of their Great Britain, to spread slavery everywhere with fire and sword, and based upon this, to let the mistress over lands and seas.

In spite of this the iron heel of English capital has not succeeded in suppressing the national revolutionary movement of the Irish peasants and workers. Under no circumstances must it be permitted that this revolutionary spirit be crushed by the pitiless ally of the ruling classes—Hunger.

The corrupt press of the English bankers is endeavouring to maintain silence concerning the horrors of the famine which thousands of our Irish brothers are perishing. But in this it will not succeed. We will not keep silent; we cannot keep silent!

Peasants and agricultural workers of the world!

The Peasant International, which unites many millions of peasants of the world, and which, hand in hand with the working class, is fighting for the emancipation of the peasants from the century-old yoke of suppression and exploitation by the international bourgeoisie and landowners—the International Peasant Council calls upon the peasants of all countries to come with all their forces to the aid of the peasants and workers of Ireland who are engaged in a death struggle with starvation. This help will be the best support to them in their heroic struggle for the emancipation of Ireland, for the common cause of the workers and peasants.

Peasants and workers of all countries!

The whole of the working class of the world has already responded to the

desperate cry for help of your suffering brothers, the Irish peasants. The Workers' International Relief (W.I.R.)—this thoroughly proletarian and powerful workers' organisation has already come to the aid of the starving rural population of Ireland and is organising through its committees in all countries for the collection of money, food, etc. The first kitchen and feeding centres of the W.I.R. are already at work in the districts of Ireland affected by the famine.

But the need is still great. The relief action of the W.I.R. on behalf of the Irish peasants and land workers must be supported by all peasants, as well as by all workers of the world.

Do not allow hundreds of thousands of your brothers, tired fighters for the cause of the emancipation of all peasants and workers, to perish. May every peasant, every land worker hasten to contribute his share, be it ever so little. Many poor can feed a starving man. May the peasantry of all countries support and further extend the relief action initiated by the W.I.R.

The workers have already hastened to render help. Therefore, come also to the aid of your starving Irish brothers.

Support by your contributions, the relief action which is being carried on by the W.I.R.

Denounce the shameful policy of the English landowners and financiers!

Long live the brotherly solidarity of the peasants and workers of the whole world!

Long live the victory of the cause of the workers and peasants throughout the whole world!

Long live the Workers' International Relief!

Long live the Peasant International! Peasants and workers of all countries unite!

On behalf of the Presidium of the International Peasant Council—

- Dombal (Poland), Renaud Jean, Marius Vazeilles (France), Oudin Rydylo (Czechoslovakia), Gervoy (Bulgaria), Richard Burgi (Germany), Orlov (Soviet Union), Géro (Scandinavia), Alonso (Spain), Odinez (Ukraine), Chudakulov (Uzbekistan, Central Asia), Nguyen-Ai-Quac (Indo-China), Ursulio Galvan (Mexico), Green (America), Kim Chaijashi (Japan), Teng (Estonia), Ruggero Rossi (Italy).

WORKERS CONTINUE SUPPORT OF  
FITZPATRICK'S MEN.

The strike continues in the carriage firm of Messrs. Fitzpatrick, Hanover St., against the employment of non-union labour. The men are carrying on in fine spirits and they are receiving good financial support from their fellow-workers in other firms. The list of collections for last week is published below.

Grocers' Porters (per Maloney)	0 10 5
Merchant Drivers	1 5 0
Coast Line	1 15 6
Leasick	0 17 0
Farrill	6 1 0
Sheridans and Downey and Neville's	0 19 6
Thompsons	0 18 0
Grain Steamer Collection	0 17 6
Nicholls' Carriers	1 6 0
Gray's	1 0 0
Dublin General Steamship Co.	0 7 4
Anglo Mex	0 53 0
Cullen Allen's	0 9 0
British Steamer per C. Deans	0 11 0
Gillans	0 9 0
Up-town Collection	0 8 6
W. W. Kennedy's	0 11 0
Wheeler	1 6 0
Flower & McDonald	1 2 7
J. J. Carroll	0 15 8
O'Keefe's	0 14 6
McCarthy's (Banksmen)	0 6 0
Goote's Express	0 8 0
Nicholls' Banksmen	0 13 6
North City Milling Co.	0 7 0
	98 12 7

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The first meeting of the elected Executive will be held in Unity Hall, on Sunday, 3rd May, at 4 o'clock.

NOTICE.

REDUCTION IN PRICE.  
On and after 2nd May, the price of the "Irish Worker" will be One Penny per copy.

On and after the above date all members of the Workers' Union will receive a free copy of the "Irish Worker," either from the Branch Office or from the Shop Steward, when paying their contributions.

# JOHNSON versus LARKIN.—Full Report of the Case

How was published a verbatim report, as stipulated by the court, of the proceedings of the cross-examination of Johnson by Albert Woods, K.C. No comment is required upon the damning admissions made by Johnson regarding his opinion of the Irish Independent in 1916.

- Johnson was composed of the following:
- James McManis, 11 Leinster, St. St. Vincent.
  - William McEwen, 1011 Mary St. Draper.
  - William McKeown, Glasgowian, Health Road, Ballybride.
  - Joseph Archibald, 6 Sarsfield Avenue, Monkstown, Merrett.
  - R. L. H. Heade, 32 Arden Quay, Gent. Thos. J. Loughlin, 19 Parliament St., Gent.
  - Michael Fleming, 59 Thomas Street, Draper.
  - Park Vaughan, 166-6 Capel St., Vintner.
  - John Kearney, "Grovefield Villa," Crumlin, Gent.
  - Walter Scott, 2 R. Sackville St., Tailor.
  - Thos. O'Grady, 21 Cork St., Vintner.
  - Daniel Canny, 128 Capel Street, Grocer.

### The Plaintiff was cross-examined as follows by Mr. Wood, K.C.

Mr. W.—Of course if you did say what is in the "Independent" would you have said to shoot down the workers? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—You say No? Mr. J.—No. Mr. W.—Of course you say that the "Independent" is not a fair and accurate report? Mr. J.—It is not a fair summary of my statement.

Mr. W.—But the "Independent" has this phrase in it: "The evil of unemployment was as serious as that other problem that confronted the Government two years ago." That was the Republican problem. Mr. J.—The problem of disruption in the country.

Mr. W.—And would have to be dealt with in the same manner—wasn't the problem of disruption dealt with in the same manner of shooting down? Mr. J.—It was dealt with in the organization of an Army.

Mr. W.—What for? Mr. J.—To maintain order. Mr. W.—To shoot. I put it to you, Mr. Johnson? Mr. J.—All armies of a military kind usually do.

Mr. W.—The Free State Army was an exception? Mr. J.—It did shoot.

Mr. W.—And wasn't it organised to shoot? and shoot to the uttermost? Mr. J.—Presumably it was organized to shoot.

Mr. W.—And did it shoot to the uttermost? Mr. J.—Yes. Mr. W.—Sergeant Hanna objected to this line of cross-examination on the ground that it did not arise out of any issue of the case and was not to the credit of the witness.

Cross-examination resumed.

Mr. W.—The problem that confronted the Government two years ago was the problem of disruption in the country—that is so, Mr. Johnson? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And it would have to be dealt with in the same manner, that is, to be shot down. Isn't that so? Mr. J.—It was dealt with that way.

Mr. W.—The "Independent," published on the 25th May, 1924, the summary of your speeches made in the Dail in which you have admitted to me that it contained two phrases—one, that the problem that confronted the Government two years ago was the Republican problem and would have to be dealt with in the same manner—that is, to be shot down.

Mr. W.—Isn't that meant to anyone reading the "Irish Independent" that it was the interpretation of your speech in the Dail that you were calling upon the Government to shoot down the workers? Mr. J.—Well, I wouldn't think so. I wouldn't imagine it.

Mr. W.—And I therefore put it to you, Mr. Johnson—I will leave it to the jury—I therefore put it to you, Mr. Johnson, that you did not imagine it because you took no action against the "Independent"? Mr. J.—I took no action against the "Independent" because I didn't think there was any evidence in that of ill-will towards me. It was merely an unfair condensation of my speech.

Mr. W.—It is not fair and it is not accurate. Isn't that so? Mr. J.—It is not a fair or accurate condensation.

Mr. W.—Therefore you have a cause of action against the "Independent"? Mr. J.—I don't think so.

Mr. W.—Were you advised that you had no cause of action? Mr. J.—I did not raise the question at all.

Mr. W.—You never raised the question? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—Not until Mr. Larkin's paper came out on the 24th May? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And then on the 30th May you served Mr. Larkin and his paper with a writ? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And you brought several applications in Court in respect to it? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And I think I am right in saying that you failed in some of these and that the expenses were paid by the Labour Party cheque? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—What? Isn't that so? Mr. J.—One cheque was paid.

Mr. W.—Drawn on the 19th August, 1924, on the National Bank, Ltd., for £30. Mr. J.—I signed those cheques and Thomas Farnon of the Irish Labour Party and Trades Union Congress?

Mr. J.—Yes, one cheque was paid.

Mr. W.—In putting it to you, Mr. Johnson, that this action is an action, not by you for your character, but by the Labour Party as against Larkin?

Mr. J.—The Labour Party knew nothing about it until I had taken the action.

Mr. W.—And then they paid the cheques? Mr. J.—They paid that cheque.

Mr. W.—And the occasion of this arose in May 1924? Mr. J.—1924.

Mr. W.—And this is April, 1925? Mr. J.—Yes, and the reason is that you have obstructed the passing on of the case.

Mr. W.—You obstructed the passing of the case—we could obstruct it, of course. Mr. J.—You did.

Mr. W.—You issued your Writ on 15th May and you didn't bring on your Statement of Claim until November? Mr. J.—We didn't serve the Writ for a long time because Larkin was away out of the country.

Mr. W.—On the 20th May you issued your Writ. I put it to you now that the writ was reported in the "Independent" and published later by Mr. Larkin—that you complain of these words as causing you damage as used by Mr. Larkin—Isn't that so? Mr. J.—The words that Mr. Larkin used—the article in the paper—the comments and the quotation from the "Independent," taken together undoubtedly caused me damage.

Mr. W.—Isn't your action here—part of your action here—based on the accurate words which were reported in the "Independent"? Mr. J.—It is based upon comments. The comments were based upon the report.

Mr. W.—Doesn't your real complaint arise out of what was actually in the "Independent"? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—Wasn't the same report in every newspaper in Dublin? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—You say what was in the "Freeman's Journal," I suppose. Mr. J.—No, I think I didn't. I saw what was in the "Irish Times."

Mr. W.—What? Mr. J.—I saw what was in the "Irish Times."

Mr. W.—You saw what was in the "Irish Times"? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And in the "Irish Times" it was reported as "Rising Tide"? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And it is said that Mr. Johnson said the Government was bound to take notice of the representations made regarding Pensions?

Mr. Wood objected to the "Irish Times" report being used on the ground that same was not proved by the person who wrote it.

The "Irish Times" report was ruled by by the Court.

Cross-examination resumed by Mr. Wood:

Mr. W.—I am right in this, I think, that not only did you not take any action against the "Independent," but you did not make any objection to the accuracy of the report as contained in the "Independent"? Mr. J.—No, I didn't.

Mr. W.—But there was some kind of election going on in August? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And you had started your action? Mr. J.—In May, yes.

Mr. W.—And then I put it to you that on July 25th, 1924, you made an attack in the Dail upon the accuracy of the journalism of the "Independent" and the Dublin Press? Mr. J.—I don't remember the date. I made some comments in the Dail. I made some comments in the Dail.

Mr. W.—Didn't you make a charge to the effect that the Reporters reported you accurately, but that the Pressmen, the Editors and Sub-editors, had condensed your unfairly? Mr. J.—I don't remember the exact terms of what I said, but if you will refer me to the reports of the debates I will say whether that is exactly what I said. I don't think it is quite what I said.

Mr. W.—Didn't you send a resolution to the Pressmen? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—Mr. Johnson, did you see the "Independent" of July 26th? Mr. J.—I see it every day, so I presume I saw it on that day.

Mr. W.—And I put it to you that you had made a charge that the Press was a traitor and was going over to capitalism and that his services as Labour Leader were for sale in the market and that the Plaintiff had thereby betrayed his followers and supporters? Mr. J.—I complained of that.

comment in the Dail upon reports which appeared in the newspapers and speeches made in the Dail.

Mr. W.—All speeches made in the Dail? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And did you ask the "Independent" to publish a copy which you had addressed to the Chairman of the Press Gallery? Mr. J.—I think I did.

Mr. W.—And did you complain that your reports were hacked—the reports of your speeches were hacked? Mr. J.—I have not a copy of the material I sent, but I wrote to that effect—that information I received from Reporters when I had drawn their attention to the discrepancy between the speeches and the reports—the reports had told me that it is not what they sent in, but what was done in the office in the cutting down of the reports.

Mr. W.—And what I want to say to you is this—you then did complain to the "Independent" specifically of this article? Mr. J.—I did.

Mr. W.—On the 21st May? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And was the reply of the defendant to this effect—"We leave the specific case on which Mr. Johnson relies in his letter to the judgment of ordinarily intelligent men"? Mr. J.—The reply of the Defendant?

Mr. W.—We leave the specific case on which Mr. Johnson relies in his letter to the judgment of ordinarily intelligent men? Mr. J.—That was the comment, I think, of the "Independent."

Mr. W.—That was an invitation to you that if that was anything unfair or inaccurate in their report of your speech of the 20th May that you should go before ordinarily intelligent men—a Jury I suggest to you? Mr. J.—You may suggest it.

Mr. W.—I may suggest it? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—But you, of course, didn't take advantage of that invitation? Mr. J.—I didn't imagine that it was their intention.

Mr. W.—You never wrote a letter even to Mr. Larkin to suggest that the report in the "Independent" was inaccurate? Mr. J.—I don't know.

Mr. W.—And you never wrote a letter until these allegations were made as to the inaccuracy even of the "Independent" itself? Mr. J.—I was not thinking of the allegations when I made that speech.

Mr. W.—Now in respect to this year-old complaint, I put it to you, Mr. Johnson, that you consider the report of the Irish Independent when it appeared on the 21st May as fair and accurate? Mr. J.—I didn't consider it at all because I took no notice of it until I saw it in the "Irish Worker."

Mr. W.—But would you agree in this—that if it did fairly and accurately report you that it was an invitation to the Government to shoot down the workers? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—You don't? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—Standing alone by itself, that speech in the "Independent"—could it do you any harm? Mr. J.—I don't think that it could do me very special harm because I don't think the workers took particular notice of that if it was kept separately.

It is only when it was brought into collision with other acts that the harm arises.

Mr. W.—I think I am right in saying that you told my friend that the only circulation of this wretched "Irish Worker" is amongst Mr. Larkin's own followers? Mr. J.—I didn't say anything of the kind.

Mr. W.—Has it a large circulation? Mr. J.—I don't know what the circulation is.

Mr. W.—But no decent person would buy the "Irish Worker"? Mr. J.—I only know it is sold and it is chiefly in the streets with newsboys, and it is also sent to Branches of Trade Unions in the country.

Mr. W.—And I think that I am right in saying that the members of which you complained are that Mr. Larkin meant and was understood to mean that the Plaintiff advised the Government and were thrown out of work must be shot down even as Irregulars were—that is the first complaint you have? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—I will deal with that afterwards. The second is that the Plaintiff was a traitor and was going over to capitalism and that his services as Labour Leader were for sale in the market and that the Plaintiff had thereby betrayed his followers and supporters? Mr. J.—I complained of that.

Mr. W.—Tell me, Mr. Johnson, when did you first join the Labour Movement? Mr. J.—I think in 1895.

Mr. W.—Did you then join the Independent Labour Party? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And am I right in saying that the Independent Labour Party is a Socialist Party? Mr. J.—It is.

Mr. W.—And that it is in favour of the overthrow of Governments based on a Capitalist system? Mr. J.—I don't think it used those phrases.

Mr. W.—Suppose it doesn't, isn't it a fair and accurate condensation? Mr. J.—No, I don't think so. It doesn't use the word "overthrow" and it doesn't use the word "Capitalist" in these terms at all. It speaks in terms of political movements. It doesn't speak of overthrowing; it doesn't use that kind of wording.

Mr. W.—Peaceful persuasion? Mr. J.—Ramsay MacDonald was Chairman of it.

Mr. Wood—Even the best forsake the faith, you know, Mr. Johnson. You will agree that it is a Socialist organization and has for its object the establishment of a Socialist Commonwealth? Mr. J.—Yes. I think that is the present phase—I am not sure.

Mr. W.—And a Socialist Commonwealth is that state of Society in which the land and capital are communally owned? Mr. J.—I don't think that is the phrase. The point of my remark is that in 1895 the Constitution was different from the Constitution of today. I am not saying that it is more extreme or less extreme, but that it was different and I am not aware of the present Constitution.

Mr. W.—Then may I take it, Mr. Johnson, that you were a Socialist in 1895 and you are not a Socialist in 1925? Mr. J.—You needn't take that at all.

Mr. W.—Have you departed from the faith or are you still full in the faith? Mr. J.—If the Council will tell me what he means I will be able to answer him.

Mr. W.—I think the Jury will understand. Mr. J.—The Council asks whether I still believe in the doctrines of the Independent Labour Party. I think in a general way I do.

Mr. W.—In a general way you do, but not in a particular way? Mr. J.—You would have to quote the particular case and then I will answer it.

Mr. W.—Do you believe in the establishment of a Socialist Commonwealth? Mr. J.—I believe in a Commonwealth of which the workers of all kinds are the dominant interest.

Mr. W.—You take exception to the word "Socialist"? Mr. J.—I don't. If people understand it—there are so many different definitions.

Mr. W.—I drop the word Socialist. Must the Commonwealth which you support be ultimately International? Mr. J.—It may be the aspiration towards International.

Mr. W.—And do you look that way to a transition from Capitalism to Socialism? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—The founding of a Commonwealth? Mr. J.—The founding of a Commonwealth in Ireland.

Mr. W.—And you are still a Socialist? Mr. J.—In my own definition.

Mr. W.—But not in the definition of Ramsay MacDonald? Mr. J.—I would ask his definition to be put before me first.

Mr. W.—If I give it to you would you accept it? Mr. J.—I will listen to it and answer it.

Mr. W.—Now, Mr. Johnson, let me come to another matter. In addition, you were a Socialist you say, and as a Socialist and a member of the Independent Labour Party, am I right in saying that one of the things you favoured was the prevention of war, the abolition of conscription and militarism in all forms and the liberation of subject peoples? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—You remember the old phrase? Mr. J.—I don't remember the old phrase. I don't think it was an old phrase. I think it is a new phrase.

Mr. W.—But, anyway, what you were out for was that you were living to prevent war and to abolish conscription and militarism? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And having been devoted and dedicated to peace, did you in 1914 support recruiting? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—Weren't you an active advocate of recruiting? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—You were then a member of the Executive of the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party? Mr. J.—I think I was.

Mr. W.—Do you remember a Resolution being passed denouncing war and were you and Mr. Hill the two persons who objected to the Resolution? Mr. J.—No, I won't accept it in that form.

Mr. W.—But you didn't approve of the Resolution? Mr. J.—May I read the Resolution?

Mr. W.—I am content—if you would just answer the question first, Mr. Johnson. Mr. J.—I want to know what you are referring to; perhaps you will tell me what you are referring to.

Mr. W.—Was there a resolution passed by the Executive of the Irish Labour Party and the Trades Union Congress against the war? Mr. J.—I do not remember. I expect there was, but I cannot remember. Do you mean the Executive of the Trades Union Congress?

Mr. W.—Yes; the Executive of the Irish Labour Party and Trades Union Congress? Mr. J.—I cannot remember. Let me explain. The Congress of that year, 1914, would meet in Whitinside

and the War didn't begin until August. There are no public records of what happened at that Executive of the Congress as I cannot remember whether there was any resolution passed at that time or not, but I believe in the fact that there was a Resolution passed.

Mr. W.—And were you a dissenting voice? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—Did you in 1914, when the War broke out, did you take the line of Imperialism? Capitalism and Militarism against the workers? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—Didn't you support the War? Mr. J.—No, not in the sense to which you are referring.

Mr. W.—Did you believe that the cause of the war was the common people of the Western Nations had won was bound up with the success of France and Britain? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And having that conviction did you support them? Mr. J.—What do you mean by support?

Mr. W.—By action or word? Mr. J.—I took no public action and support.

Mr. W.—Did you support them by action or word or thought? Mr. J.—I hoped that the German Imperialist forces would not win.

Mr. W.—Did you support France and Britain by act or word? Mr. J.—I don't remember that I used any word in support in any public way whatever. I may have done privately.

Mr. W.—In so far as you were concerned as a Leader of public opinion did you at all support Great Britain and France in the War? Mr. J.—It depends upon what is meant by support. I was a citizen living in Belfast, a member of the Dublin Trades Council and in any question that arose for decision as to whether I favoured the Allies or the Germans I supported the Allies, but I took no active part. I made no public proclamation of any kind one way or the other.

Mr. W.—And you threw the whole weight of your opinion such as it was on the side of Britain and France? Mr. J.—Threw in the whole weight.

Mr. W.—Any weight? Mr. J.—Except by thinking and private conversation.

Mr. W.—And by your decisions? Mr. J.—I don't understand that.

Mr. W.—The jury might. Now, Mr. Johnson, in 1916 when you were the President of the Irish Trades Union Congress and Labour Party did you agree to send your faith and did you say that in common with the mass of your countrymen you believed after the outbreak of the war that the cause of democracy and the advance of such liberty as the common peoples of the Western Nations had won was bound up with the success of France and Britain, and did you say you held the same opinion still? Mr. J.—I did, and I went on to say "I held to that opinion with some enthusiasm and despite the efforts of our Government to change that the governing methods of ruling classes are much alike. I held the same opinion still, for France is still a Republic more firmly established, but our enthusiasm becomes dulled when one sees that those very liberties that we prized ourselves were worth the sacrifice of life to defend, liberties only won by our fathers from the hands of their aristocratic, feudal and capitalist rulers, after the sternest struggles, have been steadily stripped from the people by their present rulers almost without a protest."

Mr. W.—While you were holding yourself on the side of Great Britain and France in that speech, weren't you also at that time—hadn't you, 1916, just passed? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And hadn't James Connolly, Richard O'Carroll and Peter Maeken been shot? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. Justice O'Shaughnessy—You must confine this case to reasonable limits, if we are to go into the past history of Ireland.

Mr. W.—Johnson is part of the past history, and he says he hasn't changed, and I want to show he has. In the same speech in which you were declaring your allegiance to Great Britain and France, I certainly lamented the death of Connolly, O'Carroll and Maeken.

Mr. W.—And you were laying wreaths upon their graves to use an expression of your own? Mr. J.—I will accept that.

Mr. W.—And, of course, you were declaring "We must all look at life in all its aspects from the point of

(Continued on col. 4, page 4)

IN THE U.S.A.

From Our Correspondent.

New York, April 15th.

Sentenced to 46 Years For Being Class-conscious.

The week has been prolific in events going to prove that this great Free Republic is run, not by and for the people, but by and for the masters.

Two soldiers have been sentenced—one to 16, the other to 26 years confinement in a military prison—for the terrible crime of "class-consciousness."

It happened in the Hawaiian Islands where American missionaries are spreading the Christian religion, where American capitalists are "developing the resources," and where the American Army is the supreme law of the land, or, to use a Saorstatian—"the will of the people."

Union organisers followed the capitalists and the natives who cut the sugar cane and cultivated the pine-apples demanded enough wages to provide them with two meals of rice each day. They were flogged for their impertinence and got back at the boss by shooting or "kneeing" a couple of these native overseers who wielded the "cat o' nine tails."

Among the soldiers of the U.S. forces were men, young men, whose souls revolted at the brutal exploitation of the natives by the Sugar Trust. They wrote a protest against the murders to the local press and signed it in full. They also tried to start a branch of the Communist Party, and by a collection in the barracks favoured the sending of a couple of young native labour leaders to Moscow, where they could be trained and schooled in the best ways of combating the greed of American capitalists.

The Governor-General and the head of the Dail and Seanad bestowed on the "educated" section of the natives by an American edition of Lloyd George, was Major-General Woods. His son, also a private in the occupying forces, has also been sentenced to 16 years from the service. No, not to the Bolshevik, but because he made three millions in three months by gambling in sugar stocks on Wall Street by the aid of the Government cable and cable employees.

This bright boy's father was horrified—at the Bolshevik among his troops and ordered a court-martial of two ring-leaders. Result, 16 years' penal servitude, without the option, and 26 years for the second defendant.

The Court record and digest of evidence, have many items of interest for class-conscious readers. The military intelligence officer interceded in a letter from the prisoners to the Third International, the Secretary of the affiliation of the "Hawainian Communist League." This same witness for the prosecution placed in evidence the following remarks made by the leading malfactor after the massacre of strikers by the military:—

"I'm sick and disgusted with the whole damn country, and I wish I could get everybody in it. I wish I could get where I would never hear the name of the United States again. Flag and country are a disgrace to humanity."

"A more serious offence was committed against Section III. of the 62nd Article of War. The section reads:—

"Any officer who uses contemptuous or disrespectful words against the President, Vice President, the Congress, the Secretary of the United States, the Secretary of War, or the Governor or Legislature of any State, Territory or other possession of the United States in which he is quartered shall be dismissed from the service or suffer such other punishment as a court-martial may direct. Any other person guilty of military law who so offends shall be punished as a court-martial may direct."

The prosecution quoted the prisoner as stating:—

The Rectory, Glencolumbkille, Co. Donegal, 28/4/25. Robert Stewart, W.I.R. Dear Sir, I have been asked by your representative who has charge of this locality to say a word about the condition of the people of this place. They are very poorly off, and I think, some in want. Their first requirement now is seed for their potato crop. Some have the ground turned up, but no seed to put in. The season is running out now, and if relief in that way is to be given it should be done at once. Yours faithfully, T. H. MEARA. (Rector).

and vote and pray for a "Republic" of the capitalist model. Let us all keep the Gaelic model in view, the nearest approach to which is the U.S.S.R. (Russia).

U. S. S. R. Recognition.

All evening papers to-night carry cables from the Washington correspondents stating that the U.S. diplomats are much annoyed because of the Russo-Japanese arrangement which virtually closes the "open door" arrangement with Japan and China. They state Russia means to close the door and then strike the only way to again open the door is for the U.S.A. to formally recognise the United Socialist Soviet Republics (Russia). Sinclair, after his acquittal, journeyed to Washington, saw the President and Secretary of State and protested to them against the decision of the Moscow Workers' Court cancelling his grant of oil land in Saghalien. The Japs have since signed up for the same oil fields and he states that Japan and Britain will now control the world's oil output. He favours recognition immediately and the President is thinking it over.

Free Speech.

In Patterson, N.J., the silk-workers recently went on strike because their wages were reduced, hours lengthened and the number of looms they had to handle were increased. The silk manufacturers prefer foreign non-English-speaking immigrants as workers. They are usually hungry, glad of any job and anxious for work. After a few months they learn to think—they then strike for more money.

During the recent strike the head of the police, at the request of the silk manufacturers, issued an order forbidding a strike meeting in the union hall of the silk workers. They insisted on their right to meet in their own union hall, with the result that the police were turned loose like Cossacks to break the strikers' heads. There is an organisation called the Civil Liberties Bureau in this city whose work is to safeguard the right of free speech and assembly guaranteed in the Bill of Rights, which the earliest revolutionists drew up and embodied in the constitution which they cut loose from the George III. of pious and immortal piety.

The Civil Liberties Bureau announced that the police acted unlawfully and proceeded to organise a protest meeting of strikers outside the City Hall. The police chief also proclaimed this meeting and broke it up, arresting one of the strikers as he read the "Bill of Rights." The Judge, who owns a few silk mills himself, sentenced the organiser of the meeting to six months under a law enacted in 1798, which forbids an unlawful assemblage.

Incidents like this are rapidly causing many thousands of U.S. workers to become class-conscious. As the new government of the master class in Ireland is enacting legislation to curb and curtail the liberties hitherto enjoyed by the working-class it will be the duty of Irish workers to defend their rights even if it means jail. One consolation is that we get three meals a day regularly in jail, and thousands of Irish workers would consequently be better-off inside than out. It would also increase the cost of the Government. It may yet be necessary for 5,000 Dublin workers to decide on being arrested on the same day. It would be a new kind of strike that our masters would not relish.

A CORRECTION.

In our issue for March 28th, in the course of an article on the disbarment of Elmer Smith, the I.L.W. lawyer, it was stated that the Centralia riot took place in 1918. This was an error. The riot took place in 1914 and the trial was not held until the spring of 1920. It may yet be necessary to insert this correction by the "Industrial Worker."

BRANDED.

By HUGH GEMMELL

"The experience of slaves and anxious, I believe, demonstrates that the work done by slaves, though it appears to cost only their maintenance, is in the end, the dearest of any." Adam Smith: "The Wealth of Nations."

One day recently I was musing on the passage of time and reflecting on the changes recorded by written history. In particular I was thinking of the days of Chattel Slavery when the slave had an iron collar fastened round his neck and the name of his master clearly engraved upon it. These were galling and oppressive days, and in our school books we were tutored in the pathetic misery of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and piously taught that "B-r-r-r-r-r-r-s never, never, never shall be slaves."

It is true that slavery was officially abolished in Britain by Act of Parliament about the year 1836, but if we are no longer chattel slaves, are any very much, were slaves, and tied very definitely to a class even if we are free to move from one individual employer to another. Nor are we free from the galling and insolent branding of our masters, because only yesterday I met a handsome young member of the working-class garbed in an attractive blue uniform, and official collar, branded in the collar, so that all who run may read the name of his owner—"Thos. Cook and Sons."

Like a far-thing flame of flashing fire the searing thought of the slave's iron collar swept through my mind; the ages were spanned in an instant and I realised that society still rested on an unfree class, fettered to the productive machinery of modern times and bearing the brand of the owner. It was a dreadful discovery and I immediately looked around to discover any fresh evidence of my slave condition. I went into Lipton's, and there behind the counter were a dozen slaves, all branded on their collars with the name of their exploiter.

From one place to another I went, seeking for freedom and individualism, and everywhere I went I encountered hordes and droves and crowds of slaves, many of them in the uniform of their lord and master, and most of them with the infamous badge of their servile state.

In the shipyard and factories I found a deadly uniformity, but no uniform, unless the dog-bane be considered a uniform. On inquiry as to why they had no uniform supplied to them I was sarcastically informed that the work was so dirty and severe on the clothing that the employer considered the expense of upkeep too great, and therefore imposed the burden on the slave class. But, said my informant, "are branded all right," and producing a brass check from his pocket he showed me his number and told me that that was the brand of his master and that he gave it to a time-keeper to hold for him while he produced wealth for his employer, and that if he tried to escape work without taking his badge of servitude with him, he would not receive any money and, therefore, no food, clothing or shelter.

Later, as I wandered my way among the crowds in the streets, I encountered numerous men in a blue uniform, and on their collars a letter and a string of numbers. These men were tall and strong-looking, walking about leisurely and casting eagle glances at the people around. These, I was told, were favourite slaves and were given special conditions and privileges to retain loyalty to the employing class whenever they were threatened with danger by a revolt of the hordes of less favoured slaves. Others, too, I encountered, dressed in uncouth garments of a dingy colour, and these were men of swift movement, alert, agile and purposeful. They were called soldiers and real modern assurances of the workers when they revolted against their servile state and attempted to gain some measure of freedom. This was known as a strike and the workers had preserved a long list of butchers, from Peterloo to Belfast, when the employers had used their soldier slaves to shoot down their productive slaves.

These were terrible discoveries to make in the year of Christ, 1925. It seems that we have no freedom at all to-day, despite the platitudes and assurances of the hiring licks of King Capital. Yet, freedom cannot be far distant, and once free, the working slaves of to-day cannot enslave another class, because there is no social stratum beneath them, and when Democracy reaches out to grasp the prize of liberty, which all the ages have striven for in vain, their act of

Johnson v. Larkin

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view of the bottom dog" Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And that James Connolly saw everything from that standpoint and his life was one long sustained effort to voice aspirations and stimulate ambitions in the poor and the disinherited; to break down the forces of capitalism and all these social, political and economic tyrannies which are but the expression of capitalistic power? Mr. J.—Yes.

Mr. W.—And you were at one with Connolly when he was fighting Britain? Mr. J.—I was not at one with Connolly when he was fighting Britain.

Mr. W.—Oh, I see; you were not? Mr. J.—No.

Mr. W.—Were you at one with Britain fighting Connolly? Mr. J.—That was the point of divergence which I at that time took from him when I had been—if I may say so—listening to his speeches and reading his writings and hearing him in private conversation on matters of social and economic change; I supported him to the full, but I didn't at that time follow him in respect to his attitude towards the War.

Mr. W.—Then, Mr. Johnson—I put it to you—were you in the alternative attitude—at one with Great Britain in fighting Connolly? Mr. J.—No change took place between 1914 and 1916 and Britain didn't fight Connolly until 1916.

Mr. W.—Were you a supporter of the Russian Revolution? Mr. J.—A supporter?

Mr. W.—Yes, Mr. J.—I was glad to see the Russian Revolution—yes.

Mr. W.—Were you in favour of it? Mr. J.—I was glad to see it.

Mr. W.—Are you now a supporter (let us see where your opinions are and whether you have moved)—are you now a supporter of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat or Parliamentary democracy? Mr. J.—I am not a supporter of the dictatorship of the Proletariat.

Mr. W.—But you are a supporter of Parliamentary democracy? Mr. J.—I believed in Parliamentary democracy.

Mr. W.—Were you ever a supporter of the Dictatorship of the Proletariat? Mr. J.—I had no objection to the attempt to prove that the workers should be the ruling forces. I may have used the phrase. I am not sure. (To be continued.)

WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL RELIEF.

From our Committee, regular reports are now coming in. In every case the need is still great and growing. An extract from a letter from Carrowkeale, Lahardane, states:—"Enclosed you will find receipts for seed potatoes, and I thank the W.I.R. Committee on behalf of those who received the seed potatoes, and clothes. No words of mine can express to you how much appreciated your kindness was with the poor, semi-starving peasants. I had to turn cows away without anything for them. Their sad, sorrowful tale of poverty is heart-rending. Poor souls! they try to conceal their extreme state of misery to the last. I have visited little thatched cottages (3) where families to the number of ten and twelve huddled together in a place unfit for human beings."

Another letter from Ballina:—"As to the general situation, it is very little if at all improved from that of just months ago. The position here is just the same as you found in Ennis, Carratigue, and round that way. There are many families that have not had the material for one good meal in their homes for the past two months."

At the meeting of the Executive Committee on Friday last, Mrs. Despard and Jim Larkin reported on the Congress of the British Section of the W.I.R., which they attended in Battersea Town Hall. The W.I.R. got a magnificent reception from the Labour movement. Brass bands accompanied the workers and their children who marched as an escort to the W.I.R., and out of compliment to George Lansbury, Chairman of the British Section. This week's contribution list does not include British list as the increased evaluation of the "Irish Worker" com-

justice will disrobe them of their uniform of slavery and strike the hated collar of servitude from their necks.

As Robert Burns said:— "The solemn League and Covenant, Whiles brings a sigh and whiles a tear But Sacred Freedom, too, was there; If thou'rt a slave, indulge thy spear."

Table with 2 columns: Name of organization and amount. Includes Dublin Operative Butchers, Benefic Section, Workingmen Branch L.L.P., etc.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND NO. 1 BRANCH BAKERY SECTION

A General Meeting of all members of the above Section will be held in Unity Hall, Marlborough Street, on Sunday, May 3rd, 1925, at 12.30 p.m. Business of the utmost importance to all members will be discussed. Absent members will be fined. By Order, NO. 1 BRANCH COMMITTEE.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND NO. 1 BRANCH CHEMICAL SECTION.

A General Meeting of all members of the above Section will be held in Unity Hall, Marlborough Street, on Sunday, May 3rd, 1925, at 1 p.m. Business of an important nature will be transacted. Admission by 1925 card. By Order, NO. 1 BRANCH COMMITTEE.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND DUBLIN NO. 1 BRANCH.

A Special Meeting of all Shop Stewards will be held in Unity Hall on Wednesday, 6th May, commencing at 8 p.m. Jim Larkin will attend. By Order, Executive Committee, JIM LARKIN.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND COUNTY COMMITTEE.

The Monthly Meeting will be held in Unity Hall on Sunday, 3rd inst. at 3 p.m. By Order, H. MCCARTHY, Sec.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND. BOOT BRANCH.

The Committee of the above Branch has passed a vote of sympathy with John Fitzsimons on the death of his wife.

"THE WORKERS WEEKLY." Every Thursday. Price One Penny. The paper with the largest weekly net sale in the British working class movement, despite the newsagent's boycott. The paper for the active worker. The paper with the courage of its convictions—vide "Western Morning News." Agents wanted in Ireland. Write for terms, to Business Manager, 16 King Street, London, W.C. 2.

ADOPTION OF HOSPITAL LEVY.

Members of the Dublin City and Dublin County Branches are notified that the Hospital Levy of 6d. per quarter (the full amount, that is, 2/- being payable within the first six months) will come into operation on and from 1st May, 1925.

"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 Finlan Lalor.



Edited by Jim Larkin.

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

Vol. 2. No. 16.

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 1925.

PRICE ONE PENNY

## CONNOLLY—THE MAN.

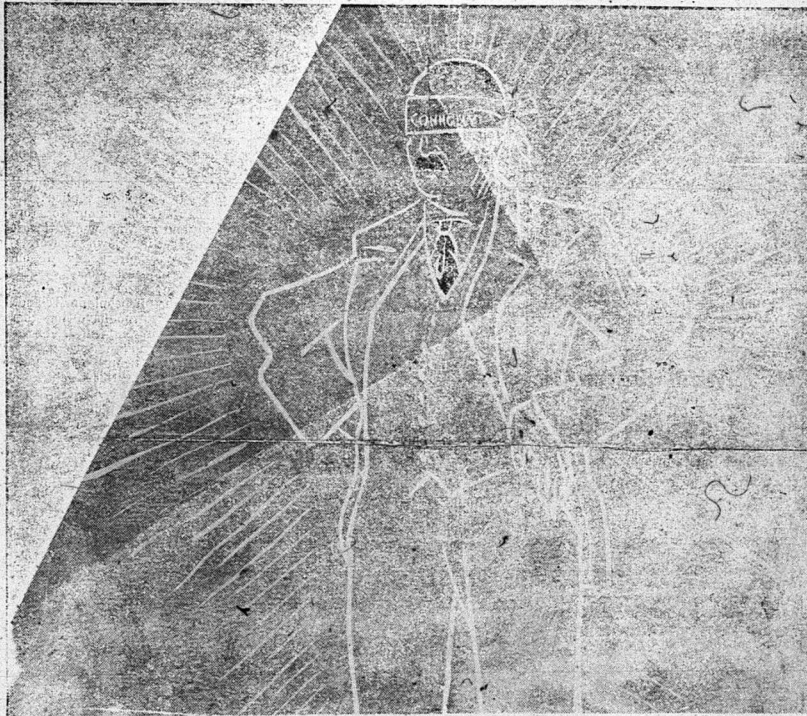
We are told that Connolly first saw the light in a labourer's cottage outside the town of Clones, County Monaghan, June 5th, 1870. The first ten years of his life (the formative period) were spent in his father's shilling. The family, by force of economic laws, was compelled to emigrate. They chose to go east instead of west. At ten years of age Jim was listening to the new gospel of discontent expounded on the streets and squares of the Athens of the North, Edinburgh. Quick to appreciate the logic of the situation that this new economic gospel applied itself primarily to the dispossessed the lad Connolly, who was then already bound to the wheel of industrial slavery working from dawn to dusk, reacting from the denial of physical and mental liberty, applied himself to study and in the fervour of youthful enthusiasm went out into the high-ways and byways to give to others a full measure of service, an aposthesis which ended with his final act of sacrifice to his class on May 12th, 1916.

From the days of his boyhood he never wearied in his task, never lacked enthusiasm, never once looked back. Though his days were darkened by denials of opportunity, by the poverty and privation, by hatred and abuse unmeasured in volume and from all sections of society, and applied in all places in which his restless heart and world-weary feet had travelled. This can be said of him with every truth—whether he stood with one or with a thousand, he stood undismayed. He was proof in himself of the triumph of mind over matter. He symbolised in his life-struggle the age-long struggle of his class. Sometimes swayed by the arrows of misfortune, deserted by false friends, misunderstood, and unsupported by comrades, he was never disheartened or defeated.

Even in death his traducers cease not their attacks. The base betrayers of their class, the so-called Labour Leaders who mouth lip-service to his memory while, at the same time—and the shame of it—within the measure of ground that holds his incorruptible heart, they dare to misinterpret his message, and decry his sacrifice; and then another group, who, with the courage of coyotes, attack in death with bitter words the man they dared not face in life.

This is not the time to write of all this man Connolly gave in service to

## IN MEMORIAM



CONNOLLY DEAD YET SPEAKETH.

Comrades! For why and what are you waiting? Many who failed me in life, now exploit my work and memory in death. Surely you will not forsake me or fail to carry on the task!

his class, but it is the time to reflect on the past, to study the problem that confronts us and to plan for the future. To those of you who accept Connolly's principles, his purpose and objective, prepare for the task; educate, organise, agitate. Connolly studied to educate himself that he might educate others. He always advocated organisation, for he knew that organisation means power. He sacrificed himself in combatting the Goblins Dead who had gone before him. Connolly's way is the only way.

### 1898—1925.

This is Jim Connolly writing in 1898. How appropriate some of the matters contained there in are when applied to the present position. Our readers will take particular notice of the last paragraph.

One of the '98 Executive is reported to be an advanced Nationalist. If he was present at the banquet, why did he not protest? If he was not present, why did he not repudiate the action of those who used his name in that connection? Was it because he did not like to expose the fly-by-night hypocrites who call themselves nationalist journalists? Or is he himself as great a hypocrite as they? This gentleman is an official of the Irish Institute of Journalists who gave this dinner—Treasurer, in fact—and, as such, directly responsible for this loyal toast. Let him answer, but let him and all others take notice that there is now entered into the journalistic world of Ireland a new factor in the shape of a newspaper pledge, which we here make to our principles of the United Irishmen in accordance with the changed economic and political development of the times. In accordance with that pledge, which we now make to our readers, there descends upon me shouldered the duty which we accept with pleasure of relentlessly exposing to the public gaze and transmitting into the files to which they belong, all the horde of middle-class, priestless and political wire-pullers who have so long consanguinated and weakened our national faith. Let those "hirelings of England in the green livery of our country" take notice.

—SETANTA.

## THE FAITH OF A FELON.

Connolly Commemoration Meeting. Every Man and Woman, Boy and Girl, Members of the Workers' Union Must Attend

### QUOTATIONS FROM CONNOLLY

We have no National Government; we are ruled by Englishmen and the servants of Englishmen, whose object is the interest of another country; whose instrument is corruption; whose strength is the weakness of Ireland; and these men have the whole of the power and patronage of the country as means to seduce and subdue the honesty and the spirit of her representatives in the legislature.

That the Conquest of Ireland had meant the social and political servitude of the Irish masses, and therefore

the Re-Conquest of Ireland must mean the social as well as the political independence from servitude of every man, woman and child in Ireland. In other words, the common ownership of all Ireland by all the Irish.

The worker is the slave of capitalist society; the female worker is the slave of that slave. In Ireland that female worker has hitherto exhibited in her martyrdom an almost damnable patience.

Those who prate glibly about the

"sacredness of the home" and the "sanctity of the family-circle" would do well to consider what home in Ireland to-day is sacred from the influence of the greedy, mercenary spirit born of the system of capitalist property; what family circle is unbroken by the emigration of its most gentle and loving ones.

Stocking the products of the agricultural co-operative societies in time of industrial peace, the workers would enjoy their credit in time of war; then the trades union in time of peace could

invest its funds in the co-operative societies; in time of lock-outs or strikes it would fight with food guaranteed to its members by such societies which for the food required would be able to pledge their credit to the organised co-operative farming community.

Trade union funds instead of being deposited in banks to be let out by those institutions to capitalist exploiters, could be placed to the credit of soundly conducted co-operative enterprises.

Therefore political power must, for the working classes, come straight out of the industrial battlefield as the expression of the organised economic force of Labour; else it cannot come at all. With Labour properly organised upon the industrial and political field, each extension of the principle of the public ownership brings us nearer to the re-conquest of Ireland by its people; it means the gradual resumption of the common ownership of all Ireland by all the Irish—the realisation of Freedom.

AMUSEMENTS

GRAND CENTRAL CINEMA

LAST THREE DAYS OF 'THE MOON OF ISRAEL' Greater than the Ten Commandments. Next Week HAROLD LLOYD in 'HOT WATER' Also Series Dr. Fu Manchu and The Go-Getters.

THE ELECTRIC CINEMA TALBOT STREET

Simlly next, May 10th, 1925. DUSTIN FARNUM in 'THE BUSTER.' A thrilling romance of the Western Range. Mon., Tues. & Wed., May 11, 12 and 13: LEO MALONEY in 'KING CREEK'S LAW.' A romantic story of the Plains. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., May 14, 15 and 16. JOHN GILBERT in 'JUST OFF BROADWAY.' An absorbing romance. Full of thrills.

MARY ST. PICTURE HOUSE

Monday next—'I WILL REPAY.' A thrilling story of the famous Scarlet Pimpernel and his dare-devil exploits. Seven reels of sheer joy. Also 'The Iron Man,' with Albertini.

DUBLIN DOES IT.

The Minister for 'Justice' is pleased to announce that the estimate for the maintenance of the Civic Guard is £1,463,976.

He is providing for 850 stations outside the Metropolitan area, and 20 detective stations. The detective force wears plain clothes and carries guns. It consists of 3 Sergeants, 6 Inspectors, 29 Sub-Inspectors, and 192 Guards, in addition to 100 specially-selected Guards and about 50 Extra Army Officers. The characters of these men had been carefully scrutinised, but the report does not mention by whom. With that force we should be well looked after, but...

What about this:—Of the 1,697 deaths of persons belonging to the Dublin Registration area during the quarter ended December 31st, 478 were under five years of age, including 365 infants under one year of age; the latter representing a rate of 135 per thousand.

'Turn out the Guard,' but will their Green and Tans of Black and Blues find a remedy for this wholesale Child Murder, the normal product of capitalist ownership of the land, the factories, the houses, and consequently the lives of the Irish workers?

A million and a half for the Guards to protect the blackguards who profit by conditions which condemn these little children to death and their parents to starvation.

Fitzpatrick's Collection.

Table listing items and prices: Globe Express (5 s. 8 d.), Sheridan Bros. (0 4 6), Nichols' Banksmen (0 14 6), E. O'Brien (0 16 6), Cullen Allens (4 10 0), Gallagher (0 11 0), O'Keefe (0 8 6), Coast Line Carters (1 15 0), Leans (0 17 0), Thompsons (0 14 0), W. W. Kennedy (0 11 0), Warhams (0 12 6), Nicholls' Drivers (1 10 0), Grays (1 4 0), Flower and McDonald (0 12 6), O. & R. Fry (0 14 0), Kennedys, Boyne St. (0 6 0), Wordies (1 1 0), Lynches (1 2 0), McArthur's Banksmen (0 6 0), Gillens (0 10 0).

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'AN INJURY TO ONE IS THE CONCERN OF ALL'

IRISH WORKER

EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

THE IRISH WORKER will be published weekly—One Penny—and may be had of any newsagent or newsboy. Ask for it, and see that you get it. London Office—Room D, 143 Fleet St., E.C.

We do not publish or waste time on anonymous contributions. Subscriptions, 5/- per year; 2/6 for six months, payable in advance. We are not responsible for views or opinions expressed in Special Articles. PHONE NO.—DUBLIN 2686.

Workers Paid One-Penny per Hour by Belfast Company.

Three very charitable gentlemen have made their appearance in Belfast, imbued with a spirit of love and brotherly feeling for their fellow-creatures.

Messrs. Douglas and Green, linen merchants, Belfast, are two of the trio, the third being one John Moore, a grocer, of Sullyward. The firm of linen merchants pleaded that the competition from Germany and Japan was the cause of their underpaying their outworkers, when summoned before the local court. The workers were paid 1d. and 1 1/2d. an hour for finishing pillowcases, whereas the Trade Board rate was 3d. On the piece-work rate they were paid 2s. per half dozen pillowcases, and out of that 2s. they were forced to pay 4d. for thread.

When this firm of sweaters found they were cornered they attempted to excuse themselves on the plea that they knew nothing about the rates paid, and that they only gave out the work on the solicitation of their agent, John Moore.

The latter gentleman was also fined for paying the workers partly in groceries, which were 'specially priced' for these workers for whom Mr. Moore had so much brotherly love.

Except for the part played by Mr. Moore, the case is somewhat similar. From the point of view of sweated conditions to that which caused a strike in a shirt factory in Parliament Street, Dublin, some five months past. Whether it is a Free State or a Northern Government, the workers always get the lash, and the abolition of partition will not stop this robbery of the workers. The only thing that will stop it is the wiping out of that 'partition' which divides workers from worker, slave from slave, and which for centuries has been the root-cause of the misery, starvation and mental physical and moral degradation from which the working class have suffered—are still suffering.

THE TULLAMORE VICTORY.

The foreman mentioned as signing an agreement in a public-house in connection with the Tullamore Quarry dispute, was not Harry Flynn as might have been understood from the article.

RONNOC.

A Review.

PAST AND PRESENT.

History has a knack of repeating itself, and looking back over industrial history and reviewing those as they appear to-day, we find on close examination that the workers are but set-to-day just as they were in the early days of their industrial life, only by the employer and capitalist class with all its devilish systems to crush and mislead the common worker, but also by men of their own class; creatures who, by subtle means and honeyed words, creep into power in industrial organisations and then used their power to still further exploit the worker for their own aggrandisement. Here in Ireland more than anywhere in the civilised world we find that as in the past so in the present we are up against the tyrannical employing class and the arch-traitors to their own class—the workers—who act as scabs.

This state of affairs would seem at first glance almost a hopeless position from a worker's viewpoint, were it not for the fact that there is still a vanguard true to the principles which have always animated the fighting forces of our class.

Profiting by experience of past methods, used in and out of the industrial field to keep the workers in subjection, we arise once more to face the problem of workers organisation.

With this object, the 'Workers' Union', stands head and shoulders over any organisation in Ireland, determined at all costs to carry to fruition the basic principle that 'An injury to one is the concern of all.' And to achieve this, each class-conscious man—the man who believes he has rights and 'dare maintain them'—must do his part.

We need not bother at the moment about those of our class who have proven themselves spineless creatures and brainless leeches.

Our hope in the future lies bound up with those who have been through 'Hell,' and still stand by their own class. These men stand by Jim Connolly, remembering his ideals and his great sacrifice for the cause of the worker—a cause, the noblest and grandest of all, the best fighting for—'Liberty for the broad masses.' This cause is the true meaning of the coming into being of the 'Workers' Union of Ireland'—a Union that means no betrayal of the worker.

The Union that, since its inception a few months ago, has had to fight the combined attacks of the Employers' Federation in massed formation, the Press, the middle-class, the aristocracy, the scab agents' provocateurs; and in spite of all their attacks the Workers' Union not only survives, but is spreading throughout the whole of Ireland.

Men from all counties in Ireland are awakening to their responsibilities and enrolling as members, and latest information from our Organisers' Reports prove that Leix and Offaly, Meath, Louth, Carlow, Kilkenny, Kerry, Kildare, even Cork have sent out the S.O.S. and wished to be organised in the Union that stands for progress in the Union that stands for 'Liberty for the broad masses'—the Union that has class-conscious leaders—destructive to the ruling few, but in the last analysis constructive for the many who produce all, but do not benefit by their production.

ORGANISER O'HARTE.

To the Unconquerable Irish Working Class.

A manifesto calling for the formation of a Workers' Party of Ireland and a proposed constitution as well as a suggested programme of immediate demands, will be issued to-day. Unfortunately, our space is too fully occupied to produce it as part of our contents. We commend it to all our readers and to class-conscious Irish workers as a means of uniting and investigating the whole working-class movement in Ireland. The manifesto is enclosed by the Executive of the Irish Workers' League and by active workers throughout the country.

Copies of manifesto and constitution can be obtained from the members of the Conference Arrangements Committee, viz:—

- W. Ankinson, Seánbhán, Howth Road; Dublin; J. Sutton; R. Mooney, Galkyd Park, Ballybride; R. Stewart, 47 Parnell Square, Dublin. An Inaugural Conference and demonstration will be held in the Mansion House on Sunday, May 24th, in the afternoon and evening.

IN THE U.S.A.

(From our correspondent.)

New York, April 17th.

Senator Jimmy Moran.

The general strike of the hotel-keepers union has been getting some stray thoughts on my mind, to the newspapers about the Dublin workingman. Is Jimmy's own words—

'Speaking of the same leads me to discuss the "dole" an institution which which our Americans fortunately are not burdened. There was ineligibility in the form of providing money to the State, out of Government funds for the unemployed and hungry. An unemployed man got something like that a week with additions to that sum for his wife and for each child.

'After this system was put into operation it was difficult to get men to go to work. They would say, naturally, when offered a job at low wages: "Why, I get that much for doing nothing." I'd be foolish to work for it.'

'The "dole" was made use of up to the hilt, by striking workmen, too. They would live on Government funds to get their support, and after a taste of public support it was very difficult to get them to work at all.'

'According to this, if the dying Transport workers strike or "lock-out" pay, Minister Egan Blythe will, or, according to the Senator, did give it to you.

Asked by the reporter, in Napper Tandy's words, "How is poor old Ireland, and how does she stand," the Talbot Street Senator replied—

'They are beginning to stop the talking and fighting among themselves and are getting down to work.

'There is unrest and discontent, certainly, in the same degree that it exists all over the world. The post-war microbe bit people in Ireland, too. Among those who have not, there is a feeling of resentment against those who have, and in some cases the "have-nots" attempt to take by force what they want. But I believe things are settling down a bit.

'I have great hopes for Ireland. It will be a great country in its own right under its own Government in the end.

Jimmy forgot to tell the papers that when Ireland has its own Government, all able-bodied males will have to produce a card stamped by a workers' delegate stating they have done so many hours' work, before even "Senators" get a felled entitling them to a meal and a bed at the expense of the State.

'The millions of "have-nots" will one day decide to make the few dozen who "have-it-all" go to work. Speed that day along, brother. Join the Workers' Party.'

The Business Element.

The fate of the trial of the millionaires and hard robbers was decided before the Government could proceed to sue the Bethlehem Steel Company for fifteen million dollars taken from the Government during the war-building period.

Multi-millionaire Charles Schwab, head of this company, was one of the "patriots" who volunteered his services to the Government for "one dollar per year" during the war. This patriotic type led the hunt for draft dodgers and demanded the jailing and shooting of all "Reds" because they were in the pay of Kaiser Bill.

This particular "patriot" was made head of the Emergency Fleet Corporation as he owned several ship-building yards. He swindled several million dollars worth of work to his own yards, which he then turned to the cost plus system. In other words he found the men and material and the Government paid the wage and cost bills each week with the "plus" which meant the profits and wear and tear of his machinery added on.

Hundreds of millions were grabbed by the "patriotic" war contractors in this way, and the war period produced 33,000 new millionaires, most of whom were "dollar-a-year" men.

When Congress howled at the time about the hundreds of millions going to war contractors, the "business element" and newspapers created the fiction that the men's unions were formed because they were demanding "eighteen wages for the workers. And the newspapers would only wear silk shirts and were even to their work by their private chauffeurs, and would only work two days per week.

This was the smoke-screen behind which the "patriots" robbed many

millions from their Government, and Schwab, who will undoubtedly be acquitted with apologies from the Judge, is surely one of the many millionaires whose benefit and increased luxury millions of workers were sent out by Cabinet and Presidents and Kings, to "fill each other so that "democracy" and "constitutional Government" might flourish.

Until such time as every working man is in a union and federated, no union all lands are linked up with unions the world over, there will always be the danger of "Cabinet" and "Presidents" sending millions of us off to war to murder our own fellow-workers and brothers.

Let us start in Ireland and federate on unions for common action. All other countries are moving too rapidly for the peace of mind of our masters.

A Labour Leader.

The difficulties of a Government to successfully operate ships where "private shipowners are determined to control sea-borne trade is further illustrated by the decision of the Shipping Board to sell five Government steamers plying between Frisco and the Orient. There are three lines in operation and the Government line is the only one making a profit. Last week it was reported this paying line had been sold to the Dollar Line whose bid was only five millions, two millions less than the offer of the competing line. The public and newspapers are taking sides as between these two companies, ignoring the fundamental as to why a paying line owned by the people has been cast into the maws of hungry capitalists.

The Shipping Board is run for the Government by a "patriot" ship-owners. They have sold or ordered to be burnt, fleets of modern ships that would have made the U.S. the leading mercantile power. The ships were sold for a song to companies by these same "patriots," who ordered the sale.

The deciding vote at the Shipping Board meeting ordering this recent sale was cast by one T. V. O'Connor. Years ago, Terry O'Connor worked on the quays here, and acted as delegates. When the war came, Terry took Gompers' orders that the ships must sail, union badge or no badge.

Like some Dublin labour leaders whose names need not be mentioned, Terry knew the side the bread was buttered on, and went over to the ship-owners. He counselled the workers comrades during the war because they were reds or aliens, or spies or pro-foreigners, or draft evaders.

Before the war finished he had a couple of houses and motor cars, and the shipowners found him good jobs, or rather "positions," as the respectable Irish call it, until they finally had him sitting with them on the United States Shipping Board, sabotaging the efforts of the more honest American legislators to create a national merchant marine, and so crush the monopoly of American passenger and cargo trade by the British shipowners. And his vote turned their latest trick.

'Dollar,' a multi-millionaire whose lawyer did not get the ships, is of the more despicable type of capitalist. The La Pottette and the Jones law benefited American sailors; guaranteed them a fixed bill of fare, had them and pay in foreign ports every five days. It also ordained that the crew must speak the same language as the officers, and fixed a minimum wage. Dollar immediately cancelled the U.S. registry of his dozens of ships and entered them under the British flag because he was determined to carry his crews of coolies, who were only requirements were a pot of rice and a sack to sleep on.

Such is the type of skunk that the renegade Irish ship-worker, at the bidding of his masters, has helped to progress of the Dublin T. V. O'Connors!

THE FAITH OF A FELON.

JIM CONNOLLY, EXECUTED MAY 12th, 1916

COMMEMORATION MEETING

will be held in O'CONNELL STREET SUNDAY, MAY 10th, at 1 o'clock

Men and women who live for the principles Connolly and his comrades died for will speak to his memory.

City Bands are invited to attend.



MAY DAY.

Johnson v. Larkin

Continued from col. 5, page 3.

And he answered that he had made the statements I noted, and he admitted that he had said on the 9th March, 1923: "I think it well to say that it is the opinion of those of us on the benches... and I am sure, of the whole House—that the attempt to break up the social fabric, once it is seized upon by the people, will cause the country, at any cost, or any sacrifice, to rally to the defence of the State. I think it well to send out from the Dail that, despite any increase in estimates that may be called for, even though it be increased and multiplied 100 times, even though the private resources of the people are going to be brought to nothing—still, for the sake of maintaining society in this country, the opposition to society must be resisted and overturned." That was a perfectly proper observation by a man who wishes to support a Capitalistic Social Fabric, but a perfectly improper statement from a man who professed to support therewith—a Socialist Commonwealth, the abolition of War and the creation of a Dictatorship of the Proletariat. He states: "I think it well to send out from the Dail that, instead of any increase in the estimates that may be called for, even if it is increased and multiplied a hundred times, etc." Lenin and Trotsky were supported in 1920 were in opposition to the Russian Social Fabric. He was then their supporter, but in 1923 his dictum is—opposite to society must be resisted and overturned. That may be perfectly right, but does it not prove that he has moved in the direction in which these Communists say he has moved—towards Capitalism? The members of the Jury, I know I have a struggle in my mind. I know I have, because I know the matters with which I am dealing are not current thoughts in your minds, and raise an issue which Mr. Johnson should never have raised. But once the matter is raised, it is my business as advocate to pursue it to the uttermost. I am only doing what I would do for any one of you—nothing more. And I have always done that and I always will do it. Members of the Jury, I will pass now as quickly as I can and deal with just one more matter. A lot of statements have been flung at the printer. Well, he is a young man.

Mr. Justice O'Shaughnessy:—You do not represent the printer? Isn't it Mr. O'Shaughnessy?

Mr. Wood:—That is so.

Mr. Justice O'Shaughnessy:—Well, I think you might let me deal with that.

Mr. Wood:—I am leaving that to him. Well, I am entitled to say that they have been sworn to try that Mr. Larkin paid three guineas a week for skilled assistance so as to try and keep within the law. Now if you believe that—referred to the fact that the Independent report was never challenged as being unfair or inaccurate, and then when the Independent advised him to have his report left to the judgment of intelligent men, he refused to do so, and then if you are very small proprietors, but if you are satisfied that the Independent reporter was correct, that asks yourselves in justice what can you take out of the speech except what it obviously means, an intention to shoot the workers? That speech was delivered by a man who, a few months previously, had pledged his party and himself to work to the best of his expenditure increased a hundred times—the man who had said that even though the private resources of the people are going to be brought to nothing, it must be done. That is the mind of the man in March, 1923. He is subsequently uttering the words complained of and left them to the judgment of intelligent men, but Johnson is called to the witness stand and he was blood brothers on the same platform up to 1914. They were blood brothers in the Independent Labour Party, when they were out for the same principles, apparently up to 1919. They were blood brothers in respect to the achievement of a Dictatorship of the Proletariat, but Johnson is called to the witness stand and he says that Larkin was eight years out of Ireland. One man maintains his principles and goes to prison; the other man recedes from his principles and goes to Parliament. Deal justly between the parties. I have never asked any Jury to do anything but justice. Do justice in favour of Larkin in this case. He is a hard-hearted man and he is a hard-headed man. The issue—no like Mr. Johnson, quibbling and running and dodging like a fox in a trap. (Counsel here read the defence fully.) That is our defence and it is a just and right defence, and I have not spoken one word outside it. How has Mr. Johnson been injured? If you come to the conclusion that this article was defamatory and was not supported by privilege, and was not a fair and honest comment—as between these two men, to whom would you like to give a verdict and for how much? It is all for you. The report of the speech of which he complains was published in another paper

and it was uncontradicted and unchallenged. Larkin opposed it and commented upon it. He is an eloquent man after all and you will do him justice. Abuse and vitriolic suggestion will not take away from Mr. Larkin. I started by asking you to believe with me, and to be convinced by me, that this was not a bona fide action and that it was an action not for Johnson's character, not for compensation for damage done to him, but one in a series in the attempted process of exterminating Larkin has been derisively scorned, persecuted, hunted; civil actions, criminal actions, verdicts, bankruptcies, imprisonments have been organised against him; but the spirit of the man remains, and he remains here to-day, a reproach to his former associates, an elemental human force fighting for, and struggling for, elemental human justice for the poorest of the poor. Ah, Members of the Jury, the spirit of the man, the passion of his devotion to those whom he has sought to lead—is it not of the highest? Is it not of the eternal? Oh, would that those who have decreed and followed him, following him with pestilential revenge, had the courage and the sacrifice that this man has achieved, to achieve what this man has achieved. I told you that I am not apologising for Mr. Earkin. He is beset by every force to destroy him in the Labour Movement, and he was certainly reviled yesterday by Sergeant Hanna. He has certainly been persecuted. He has been proved to be without money; he has not a shilling when he may be his head, but he has one thing place in the minds of honest elemental men. They may be poor men. They may be desolate, oppressed men, but he is ostriched in their hearts and he is eternally secure in the minds of people who live only to do good and to think good. We may not approve of his policy; we may condemn his methods; but we may not condemn his aim, not only approved of his humanity, but approved of the results which he has achieved. Many people, and even you may think with many throughout the world, that the wage-earner everywhere is better because Larkin has lived. Take him with all his shortcomings and all his faults. I ask you—Isn't that a great human force that you saw here yesterday? Buffeted and betrayed by his own disciples, he bears nobly the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune. He has suffered and suffers for the poorest of the poor. His cause is our cause. It is your cause. It is the cause of humanity. You are the final arbiters upon all the questions which will set you free. You are the human element in justice, and when you are coming to your decision in this case, addressed as you will be and have been with vehemence, I will ask you with all reverence to recall the money-changers in the temple—where they were driven out of the temple, what did they think of Him who drove? Did they not think the mob who assailed before the judicial tribunal of that day and without win—down? Away with Him. You purify represent the human element in justice and the Law. I appeal to you in the name of justice which you cherish and preserve. I appeal to you as the soul of the people of whose liberty you are the custodians, whom you are balancing the scales of the law, and you, in the solemnity of your conscience, you come to consider all this. I appeal to you that you will not be found to cast a stone at the man of the people.

CLASS LAW.

Under an Act passed by the British Parliament, workmen's compensation has been reduced from 55% per week to 41%.

The Free State Court of Appeal has also decided that no workman resident and working in the Free State can recover compensation from an English firm in respect of workmen's compensation through a Free State Court, but must sue in an English Court.

AN ARTICLE WAS SUBMITTED BY RODERICK JAMES CONNOLLY. THE PRINTER HAS REFUSED TO PRINT THIS ARTICLE. WE HOPE, HOWEVER, TO PUBLISH IT AT AN EARLY DATE.

The fact that the working class is divided instead of being a solid mass. Let us unite; let us come together as a class, and let us march forward to victory.

Referring to the Grocers' Assistants' strike in the City of Dublin, he said that these men had gone out to do a human work—to improve the conditions of the women workers who are being overworked and underpaid. The so-called leaders of labour are trying in mischievous ways to encompass the defeat of the workers, but they dare not come out in public to do their work. All round us we find brutal selfishness and deceit, but the Grocers' Assistant will win out, and meantime let no one of us enter a shop where pickets are on duty.

The appeal to Dublin workers secured a good response. Despite the uncertainty of the weather, a crowd of five thousand people assembled at Doreport Place.

John Lawlor, who presided at the meeting said that if the workers of Ireland were united and a solid body, we would have celebrated May Day in its proper fashion by a stoppage of work during the day.

John Farrelly moved the following resolution: That this meeting of Dublin workers deplores the lack of real unity and solidarity in the ranks of the Irish working class, and pledges itself to work for National Trade Union Unity.

It welcomes the efforts put forth to establish one Trade Union International for the whole world, and supports the Anglo-Russian Trade Union Unity Committee in their actions for such unity.

This meeting further declares its solidarity with and loyalty to the Workers' Republic of the Soviet Union. To all prisoners and captives of Capitalism it sends fraternal greetings. It calls upon the workers, through their Trade Unions, co-operative and political organisations, to unite for their common defence against capitalist attacks, and to carry the war into the enemy's camp by their demands for reduced hours, higher wages, decent housing conditions, and work or full maintenance at Trade Union rates for all unemployed workers.

Comrade Bob Stewart, who seconded the resolution, said that the workers' ideal of May Day, since its inception in 1889, is that of a day of International solidarity, when labour all over the world demonstrates in mass; would lay their plans, demonstrate their solidarity, consider the ordeals to be faced without glossing over any difficulties. May Day has come to be a day of International significance, and meetings and demonstrations, large or small, are held all over the world to show the unity of purpose and aim of the working class.

The fact that we are not able to demonstrate by a stoppage of work in Ireland reflects on somebody, and it is our duty in the name of international solidarity and in the name of the workers of the world, to wipe out this stain from the character of the Irish working class.

It is our duty on this May Day to pledge ourselves to fight to hold our ranks steady, even over the capitalists; to consolidate our ranks; till we are one fighting force; till men and women of the working class all over the world shall recognise their unity of aim and purpose, and then we shall go forward to a new society in which the worker shall control and in which we shall have a real organisation built by the workers. Our watchwords must be—Trade Union Unity, National and International.

John Larkin was received with wonderful enthusiasm, cheer after cheer being raised from the huge gathering.

He said it is an extraordinary thing that after thirty-six years we have not got sufficient courage to give expression to our class solidarity by a stoppage of work.

From one end of Ireland to the other, organised crime stalks the land. This state of affairs is caused by the system of government. The criminal is the victim of conditions, the victim of want, of the organisation of law and order in a country; the victim of the law of education, etc. But what about the criminal capitalist and Judiciary in this country? Laws are made in this country that are an insult to humanity and passed against the common people.

Workers' International Relief

That the situation in the West is growing more desperate appears from the reports of our distributing committees. This is further confirmed by a report herewith from Ardara, Co. Donegal, in these terms, viz:—

I certify that distress is acute in this district. I am in a position to state positively that in many cases starvation is not very remote.

CHARLES H. PALVEY, Medical Officer.

Surely that is sufficiently explicit and ought to silence those Free State Ministers who have been vicious enough to turn the weight of their office against the suffering people from whom "starvation is not very remote." The "Daily Herald" special correspondent, from personal investigation in Mayo, certifies to conditions of starvation and desolation there.

Further List of Donations for Irish Fund from April 22nd.

- Shillware Socialist Club and Institute, Limited ... 4 0 0
Manchester, Publishers Branch No. 112 of N.A.F.T.A. ... 2 0 0
York, Teachers' W.G.C. ... 2 0 0
Cotton Branch of I.L.P. ... 0 10 0
Aberdeen Branch C.P. ... 0 10 0
1720 Branch T. & G.W.P. ... 0 10 0
Hansard Lodge, D.M.A. ... 0 10 0
Hansard W.G.C. ... 0 5 0
Barrhill Branch W.G.C. ... 0 5 0
Tomelton Lodge B.M.A. ... 2 0 0
Lancaster, W.G.C. ... 2 0 0
Exclusion, Stones, Gasswood Branch ... 5 5 0
City Crozier ... 10 0 0
N.S.O.B. & S.P. & D. ... 0 15 0
Tantion Branch I.L.P. ... 0 10 0
West Hartlepool W.G.C. ... 2 0 0
York, Teachers' W.G.C. Branch ... 2 0 0
Ridley Branch W.G.C. ... 0 10 0
West Ward Labour Club, Bradford ... 2 0 0
Bromfield Branch S.L.P. ... 2 0 0
Derry, W.G.C. Branch, S.L.L. & P. ... 2 0 0
Stockton-on-Tees Branch, S.L.L. & P. ... 0 7 0
Chelsea Trades Council and Labour ... 2 0 0
A.C. ... 0 4 0
National Society of Brushmakers ... 3 0 0
The London Committee W.L.R. ... 0 10 0
Stafford, W.G.C. Branch, S.L.L. & P. ... 4 0 0
Brighton C.P. ... 3 0 0
Hertford Branch C.G. ... 3 0 0
New Zealand Trades and Labour Council ... 4 0 0
Hoveand Cadman and Parwell Branch C.P. ... 0 5 0
Crane Drivers 171 Branch T. and G.W.P. ... 3 0 0
Hford and District Trades and Labour Council ... 0 10 0
Hall Lane W.G.C. ... 0 10 0
Bodlington Radical Club, Political ... 1 0 0
Gordon Branch W.G.C. ... 1 0 0
G. D. Blake, B.S. ... 0 10 0
Marble W.G.C. ... 0 5 0
Hartford W.G.C. ... 1 0 0
Pesham W.G.C. ... 1 0 0
Tottenham Branch N.T.G. & M.W. ... 0 11 0
Blington C.P. ... 0 10 0
Conciliator A.R. Ball ... 3 0 0
A.C. ... 0 5 0
Lockerside Lane W.G.C. ... 0 5 0
Cross House Miners' Union ... 0 2 0
F. Stubbly, Collection ... 0 10 0
Smeeths, Blyth I.L.P. ... 0 10 0
Lochninch W.G.C. ... 0 5 0
Barrow J.P. Collection ... 0 5 0
W. W. W. Collection ... 1 10 0
Bosley Heath W.G.C. ... 0 5 0
Oakdale W.G.C. ... 0 5 0
Patternmakers' Glasgow, North ... 0 10 0
Hendon Branch ... 0 10 0
Hendon Branch ... 0 10 0
A.L.F. 11th Branch ... 0 5 0
A.L.F. 12th Branch ... 0 10 0
Pollockshaws Branch I.L.P. ... 0 10 0
Stonewall Whitechapel Branch I.L.P. ... 0 10 0
Peebles Branch I.L.P. ... 0 10 0
Union ... 0 10 0
Tailors' Union ... 0 10 0
Agricultural Union ... 0 10 0
Union Branch Furnishing/Trade ... 0 10 0
Glasgow 21st Branch N.T.R. ... 0 10 0
Glasgow Woodworkers' Union ... 0 10 0
South ... 0 10 0
Paisley Local C.P. (Collection) ... 0 5 0
Dumfries Branch W.G.C. ... 0 5 0
Exeter Labour Party ... 0 10 0
W. R. ... 0 10 0
Astron-Mersey W.G.C. ... 0 10 0
Socialist Teachers' Society, Glasgow ... 1 0 0
Neshon Branch A.S.L.E. & P. ... 1 0 0
Bosley Heath I.L.P. ... 1 0 0
Horsdon Branch W.C. ... 1 0 0
C. Carter (Collection) ... 1 0 0
Paisley Branch N.T.D.A.W. ... 1 0 0
Tottenham W.G.C. (Collection) ... 1 5 8
Total ... 57 2 6

Contributions Received at 47 Park Square, Dublin, up to 6th May.

- Mr. McPhillips, Parnell Street ... 4 5 0
Mr. Kelly, Canal Street ... 0 0 0
Mr. Jones, Kings Street ... 0 0 0
Mr. King, 118 Canal Street ... 0 0 0
Mr. Rafferty, 126 Canal Street ... 0 0 0
Mr. Kantor, 136 Canal Street ... 0 0 0
Mr. Ryan, South City Market ... 0 0 0
Mr. Magin, South City Market ... 0 0 0
Mr. Spino, South City Market ... 0 0 0
Mr. McGrath, Angier Street ... 0 0 0
Mr. Ryan, Angier Street ... 0 0 0
A Friend ... 0 0 0
Miss Reynolds, Red Hill ... 0 0 0
Mr. Duane ... 0 0 0

Table with financial figures: Mr. Jackson, Greenock ... 1 0 0; Mr. Shilbury ... 0 2 0; ... Grand Total ... 11 5

WHAT A STATE.

Mr. J. J. Walsh, head postman for the Free State, has been letting it rip once again. At Cork he said:—

"Unless they recoiled themselves to long hours and hard work and the best wages industry could afford, they were merely relegating large numbers of helpless people to poverty and emigration."

Who is to determine the best wages that industry can afford? How will longer hours and harder work prevent emigration? Is there any navy, flogger, taylor, carpenter, casual labourer or street newspaper seller who does not work as hard as J. J. Walsh? Are they free of poverty, although they have worked hard? What a pitiful spectacle these shabby Irish Cabinet Ministers make with their egregious conceit and their even an elementary understanding of economic or social science.

BUILDING WORKERS' SECTION

The following vote of sympathy was passed by the Committee of the above Society at their last meeting:— That we, the members of the Building Workers' Committee, tender our deepest sympathy to Mrs. McDonnell in her sad bereavement due to the death of her son.

BAKERY SECTION

At a meeting of the Bakery Section Committee held on 30th April, 1925, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:— That we, the members of the Bakery Section Committee tender our deepest sympathy to Michael Hurley in his sad bereavement, due to the death of his son.

IRISH WORKER LEAGUE

GENERAL MEETING

FRIDAY, 8th MAY in UNITY HALL, 8 p.m. Business: Proposed Workers' Party of Ireland.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND

AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

All baskets of cads will take place in the Vegetable and Hay and Straw Markets on Tuesday, 12th May, and Friday, 15th May. All members are warned to carry their cards on these days.

WORKERS' UNION OF IRELAND

ORGANISING MEETINGS

will be held on NEXT SUNDAY, 17th MAY, as follows:— South County Dublin. Bray ... 11.30 a.m. Dun Laoghaire ... 3 p.m. Deansgrange ... 5 p.m. North County Dublin. Finglas ... 11.30 a.m. Coolock ... 2 p.m. Malahide ... 4 p.m. Swords ... 6 p.m. Prominent speakers will address the meetings.

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