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DUBLIN, SATURDAY, MAY 18th, 1912.

by

Jim Larkin.

[ONE PENNY.

Who is it speaks of defeat?

I tell you a cause like ours;

Is greater than defeat

As surely as the earth

glorious sun Brings the great world

> moon wave, Must our Cause be

> > won!

rolls round As surely as the

can know --It is the power of

powers.

Labour and the Re-Conquest of Ireland.

... 53.—Vol. I.]

has said that the most de-Fature of Irish life is the apparent lak if the consciousness. It is, indeed, straiter at the people of a nation which indomitable determination in its wrome of r possession of the mere of government should exhibit queity to breathe a civic scul pertions of the machinery as at a ready brought under their That this phenomenon is exolicable is a manner not at all to the listrell' if the citizens of the towns and sities of Ireland is quite true, but true is is it that a full and generous adnission of the adverse influences that save Lindered or retarded the developneut of a civic or municipal, as disinenished from an aggressive or even all-sacrine ng nat onal patriotism, does not ansolve those citizens from the duty if labouring to overcome our national alling in this respect. An Irish muniipality elected by the male and female oters under the present suffrage ought whe in its public activities, breadth of whok and comprehensiveness of amnition for the social well-being and nental enrichment of its inhabitants a sentre of pide to the Irish race, and a hining example of the possibilities of the ulur- of Irelant under free and selfse eming institutions. Its failure to do o, if it does fail, will not, indeed, vitiate adejeudence, but it will unquestionably reaken the powers making in that direcion, as well as sadden the hearts of those the smid the struggles of to-day require he mental aid to be derived from an dealising of the human elements with thom they are allied, and upon whom hey keps to build the future. An almost on plete change in the intellectual viewpints of the mass of the Trish people rould be required to establish in its proper place and relative importance the andern conception of the function of suble belies as a governing factor in rish municipal p lities. It would necessiate such a change as would impel the mblic t regard such public bodies not o much as effensive weapons to be won rom a p.1 ti al enemy in order that they nay be s lenced, but rather as effective oils to be used in the upbuilding of a ealthier social edifice in which to give fiest to the needs of the citizens for

eloument and culture. This is, indeed, the needed point of isw. We require in Ireland to grasp the act that the act of voting at the ballotox is the one set in which we get the ppo tunity to give expression to the soul i the rate; the act in which we give a angible body to our public spirit. The alict box is the vehicle of expression of ar sec al consciousness, by means of it re collect all the passions, all the ideals, il the desires, ail the amb tions, all the trengths, all the weaknesses, all the inegrity, all the corruption, all the elevating spirations, and all the debasing interests I the population and make of them a emposite whele which henceforth takes is place in the history as the embodied out of the race at that period of its deelopment. A people are not to be judged y the performances of their great men, or to be estimated spiritually by the inelectual conquests of their geniuses. he only true standard by which the piritual and mental measurement of a eople can to taken in modern times is y that Listure drawn of itself by itself, then it, at the hallot-box surrenders the are of its collective destiny into the ands of its elected representatives. 🗴 The cinestion of whether such elected

ssociative aids o their individual de-

ersons have or have not the power to ealise the desires of their constituents estely enters into the matter. It is not y its power to realise high ideals a cople will and must be judged, but by he stant and of the ideals themselves A expla with high ideals of collective resunsibility and public virtues it is poliically impotent to realise will necessarily ank higher in the scale of humanity han a people in full possession of political ower, tut destitute of public spirit and

ivic virtue. Up till the passing of the Local Governlent Ireland) Act of 1898 there existed o means by which the democracy of the tish towns could be tested in order to scertain the measure of their civic patiotism. The local government of Ireland

was exclusively in the hands of the properfied municipal councils outside of Belfast were elected on a restricted property qualification, and whatever evils existed in the urban districts were no more under the control of the mass of the people than if they had been resident in Timbuctoo or Terra-del-Fuego. Indeed, by means of the Parl amentary franchise the masses in the Irish cities could conceivably exert a deter-, mining influence on the fate of countries at the extremest limits of the earth while unable to seriously affect the lighting or paving of the strent in which they lived. At such a time the propertied Irish ratriot would occasionally refer to the unhealthy, squalid condi ions of Dublin, for example, as an existence of the evils resulting from British rule; evils which would assuredly disappear before the beneficent hand of a popularly elected Irish administration. Nor can we wonder at such a belief Assuredly it was within the realm of probability that a reople suffering under the smart of intolerable conditions caused by a misuse of political power and social privilege should at the first opportunity set themselves to the task of sweeping away such conditions by a public-spirited use of their newly-acquired control of mun cipal powers. The concept of the Irish nation as an organic whole, each part of which throbs in fullest sympathy with every other, and feels in the movements of its public administrative bodies the pulsations of its own intellectual heart-beats-a concert vaguely out ined in the dreams of patriotic enthusiasts, prets and martyrs of the past-might reasonably have been expected to take form and substance in miniature with the cities in which hundreds of thousands ci Irishmen, women and children passed

If it has not taken form; if to-day the cities and towns of Ireland are a reproach to the land and a glaring evidence of the incapacity of the municipal rulers of the country, the responsibility for the failure lies largely with those who in the past had control of the political education of the Irish masses and failed to prepare them for the intelligen: exercise of those public powers for which they were taught to clamour. That they were not prepared, and that no effort is therefore being made to give form and substance to any conception of civic patriotism is only too evident to those who are even casually acquainted with the majority of Irish cities. A glance at the condition of Dablin, for instance, reveals a state of matters sadly elequent of the useful lack of public spirit in those who are respons ble as municipal rulers, and those who as electors tolerate such rulers. The following comment of the "Medical Press" upon the occasion of the conferring of the Freedom of the City upon Sir Charles Cameron gives in a concise form the facts relative to the health of Dublin in 1911, and is useful also as an illustration of the opinion of enlightened outsiders upon our municipal progress. or lack of progress, and as a comparison with the cities usually reckoned the least progressive in the world :--

"In the resolution conferring the freedom of the city on Sir Charles Cameron," says "The Medical Press," "it is stated that Dublin connew roast of comparative freedom from almost all of the malignant diseases which assail mankind.'

"If such a boast were made it would be a lying one. Again, reference is made to the 'excellent state of public heelth' w'ich 'row obtains in Dublin.' Let us get to facts. According to the latest returns, the death-rate in Dublin was 27 6 per 1,000 This was the highest of any city in Europe, as given in the Registrar-General's list, the next highest being that of Morcow-26 3 per 1 000. In Calcutte, in the pre ence of prague and cholers, the rate was only 27 per 1000. Again, in the first six weeks of the present year, there were 63 deathsten s week-from four ir f-otious diresses-scarlatins, typheid, d phtheris, and whooping cough. Yet this epidem'c is what an Alderman of the citygenerally well informed-airily described at a public dinner the other day as 'trifling.'

The thoughtful reader cannot but be impressed and saddened by the comparisen drawn in the above extract between Dublin and such cities as Moscow and Calcutta. That it should be possible to draw such a comparison, or any comparison but a favourable one, between the capital of Ireland, governed by its own citizens, and a city ruled autocratically by the liberty-hating officials of Russian Czardom is bad enough, but that an even more unfavourable comparison could truthfully be drawn between Dublin and an Asiatic city inhabited by a population destitute of civic power or polical responsibility and unacquainted with the first laws of hygienic teaching is surely so much of a humiliation that it should fire every Irish man and womrn with a fierce eagerness to remove such a stigma.

Last some of our readers might think that the Engish source from which this extract is taken may possibly be unduly influenced by national prejudice in their criticism (a most unfair assumption), we may quote the declaration of the Medical Officer of Health in question in his remarkable "Letter to the Lord Mayor" (of Dublin) in 1909. The comparison he draws is even more useful, as the towns instanced possesses the same municipal powers and are elected upon the same franchise as Dublin. He says:

Edited

"It must be admitted that the general death-rate is far in excess of the mean dea h rate in the English

"In 1908 the mean death-rate in the 76 largest English towns was 158 The death-rate in the Dablin Registration Area was 215, the rate in the city being 23. The rate in the Me ropolitan Area is that which in fairness should be compared with the English rates. The highest urban death-rate in England, 1 amely 19 S, was in Oldbam"

A comparison of these figures of Sir Charles Cameron with those cited in the first quotation would seem to point to an actual increase in the death-rate of 1911 se compared with 1908 Viewed from another standpoint the figures in both quotations prove the continued and needless sacrifice of life in Ireland. Accepting the English figures as the lowest at present attainable in the present state of our knowledge and in the efficiency for social purposes of our political institutions in our present hands, it follows that there is permitted in Ireland a state of matters which involves as its necessary result the ceaseless slaughter of precious human life. Other figures quoted by Sir Charles Cameron seem to show that it is upon the poor that the main burden of such sleughter falls, as the death rate in nie la nie habitants it Dublin—the higher the social status the lower the death-rate, and the lower the social status the higher the death-rate. Taus, in the Annual Report for the year 1903 he gives the death-rate in Dublin are rding to the classes represented in the population as follows:-

Professional and Independent Classes . 26:4 Arriean Class and Petty Stopkespers 187 General Service Class and Inmatos of Workh: uses .

In a still minuter analysis he gives the figures of child mortality amongst different classes of the population as f ll ws:

PROFESSIONAL AND INDEPENDENT CLASSES.

	Population	17,436
	Deaths of children under 5 years .	16
	Despertion of deaths at abilder	. 10
	Proportion of deaths of children per	
	1,000 of the population of the clars	0 9
	MIDDLE CLASS.	
	Population	87,186
	Deaths of children under 5 years .	239
	Proportion of children's dea ha per	
	1 000 of the population of the class	27
	ARTISANS AND PETTY FILEPERS (CLASS.
	Population	110,423
	Deaths of children under 5 years	530
	Desired of Children under 5 years	930
	Ratio of those deaths per 1 000 of the	
	c ¹ 855	48
BAWKERS, PORTERS, LABOTRERS, ETC.		
	Population	89,861
	Dea ha f children under 5 years .	1,145
	Ratio of the deaths of children per	
	1,000 of the population of the	
	01000	12.7

Thus we have a steady increase in the death rate from its lowest point-amongst the professional or independent class to its highest point-amongst the street hawkers and casual labourers. This was for the year 1905.

A table showing the death-rate according to the four quarters of the year shows also that the number of deaths in Dublin is highest in the first three months, January, February and March, the winter months when the severity of the season makes its worst ravages amongst the poor, too enfeebled by hunger and cold to withstand its shocks.

Thus the high death-rate of Dublin is seen to be entirely due to economic causes, to rise and fall with economic classes. The rich of Dublin enjoy as long an immunity from death as do their kind elsewhere; it is the slaughter of Dublin's poor that gives the Irish metropolis its unenviable and hateful notoriety amongst

civilised nations Now, what is the cause of this terrible state of matters—this hideous blot upon the Irish name? The original causes are many, but the one cause of its continuance is the lack of public spirit amongst the municipal rulers, and that again is only possible because of the want of proper training in democratic ideas amongst the mass of the electors. Democracy as a reasoned-out faith has not had in Ireland yet the proper political or social environment in which to grow; whatever democracy there is is instinctive and spontaneous, and is not the result of sound, political teachings or the outcome of deep reflections upon the growth and develop-

ment of social or political institutions. Uttally the democrats of Ireland have bein rebels against political tyranny; the necessity of keeping up the fight for the establishment of the political machinery hrough which Democracy might express itself interfered with, and indeed destrojed, the p ssibility of developing as a theary or philosophical system those democratic principles which inspired the rebels personally. And as the fate of the rebils was gene ally an unhappy one, the masses of the people have had no opportun ty of assimilating democratic thought except in the pityful flashes of political oratory, or the almost as ephemreal pamphileteering of our more brilliant revolutionists. This is indeed the only assignable reason why our working class voters as a rule use so badly these rights for which so many of our bravest and nobles; fought and toiled and agonised during the long dark night of our past

In awakening the working class to a realization of the necessity of using their votes for the purpose of social regeneration, to make the city in which they live be an aid to their individual uplifting and to their physical and moral strength, it should ever be borne in mind that the representative institutions of that city should, as we have already said, be an expression of the soul of the race, and that, as the soul directs the activities of the body in a clean or unclean direction, so shall our representative governing bodi s make for or against clean living in clean habitations in a clean city.

It is well to remember that the Conquest rever interfered with the right or power of the individual in Ireland to tolly in her resignation deriver deriver and these who had dentified themselves with it that that Conquest was directed. Hence the reversal of the Couquest implies the assertion of the rights and powers of the community (city or nation) over against those of the ind vidual. The Conquest was in Irish politics the victory of the capitalist conception of law and the functions of law-the Re-Conquest will be the victory of the working class conception, the reestablishment of the community over the conditions of life that assist or retard the development of the

indi-idus!. On the Statute Book to day there are certain laws giving to the Dublin workers through the Corporation powers over the conditions of life in their city. These powers if properly and relentlessly utilised wou'd go a long way towards remedging that fearful state of affairs already cited, and would also be in direct accord with the general movement to reestablish the true Irish nation The Corporation has the power to close and demolish insanitary houses, unless they are put in a state to satisfy the Board of Trade. It has the power to execute necessary repairs to tenement houses, and compel the owners to pay the expense, if these owners refuse to execute the repairs themselves. It has the power to make bye-laws governing tenement houses and can thus enforce the efficient cleaning, lighting, renovating and building of such houses according to the most modern hygienic ideas. This of itself could be made sufficient to completely revolutionise the fenement house sys em in the city. It has the power to build houses, and any money it borrows for that purpose does not affect its legal credit or borrowing powers as a municipality. It has the power to arquire land for the purpose of creating cometeries, and can thus put an end to the scanda ous robbery of the poor practised by the Catholic Cemeteries'

These powers it already has; but other powers are needed, and must be demanded if the workers of Dublin would make the most of their inheritance. What these powers are we intend to indicate when treating hereafter of the possibility of uniting the Irish democracy upon a political programme of social reform. As the further powers required for Dublin are also required for the rest of the country it would be unwise to develop that portion of our plan now before dealing with the evil state of matters with which we find ourselves confronted all over Ireland as a result of our political subjection and social disorganisation in the

Committee at Glasnevin.

Our readers will help forward the pur-poses of this writing if they will always remember that the objective aimed at is

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to establish in the minds of the men and women of Ireland the necessity of giving effective expression, politically and socially, to the right of the community (all) to control for the good of all the social or industrial activities of each. This, historically speaking, will mean the enthronement of the (Irish) nation as the supreme ruler and owner of itself, and all things necessary to the life of its people -supreme as against the foreigner, and supreme as against the native usurping ownership and the power dangerous to freedom that goes with ownership.

JAMES CONNOLLY (Belfast).

Correspondence.

THE INSURANCE "FAKE" AND THE HUMBUGGED WORKERS.

TO THE EDITOR IE:SE WORKER.

12th May, 1912. In the current issue of THE IRISH Worker 'Fergus," in an article on "The Advisory Committee and other Humbugs," writes :--

The consideration of the manner in which Ireland has been treated under the National Insurance Act is a fair index of what Irish workers can expect until they wake up and show a determination to look after their own interests."

Further on he writes-and, no doubt, considers it the concentrated essence of sarcasm;

Party."

I do not expect "Fergus" to see eye to eye with me, but, to my mind, no stronger argument could be advanced AGAINST the

formation of an Irish Parliamentary Labour

What are the facts? The precious Insurance Act, originally framed to suit British conditions, was extended to Ireland. Why? Not because Mr. J.hn Redmond or the majority of the Irish Parliamentary Party desired it or thought it good, but because some powerful members of that Party, connected and bound up with certain sectarian and other societies in Ireland, saw a chance of increasing their membership, and also securing for themselves lucrative posi-

tions and increased influence. But those people would have been powerless to secure this were they not reinforced by the heaven sent "alleged" leaders of Labour, the men who sent telegrams and organised deputations for the purpose of conveying to Lloyd-George the unalterable and fixed determination of hundreds of thousands of Irish workers to do something desperate if he didn't take immediate steps to COMPEL these same workers' employers to deck 3d. per week from their already over-abundant wages. Of course, the cute little Welshman bowed to the "alleged" demand made by the "alleged" leaders on behalf of the 'rish workers. English statesmen are always willing to listen to the voice of Ireland when that voice asks them to Do FOME THING which they bave ALREADY DECIDED

Now, the men who manipulated the S. ROBINSON & SONS. "voice" cry out because the Secretary of the Joint Committee in London who is, of course, under the thumb of Lloyd-George, refuses to even acknowledge by a halfpenny postcard a complaint which they make as to a distinct breach of the undertaking given by Lloyd-George in the British House of Commons on November 14th, 1911, as to the control of the Irish monics under this Act

The Parliamenary Committee of the Irish Trades Congress are hotly indignant because of this (and also, it may be added because only one of them was provided for on the Advisory Committee). If they are in earnest, why content themselves with windy resolutions, 'full of sound and signifying nothin g'?

Why not Mr O'Lehane resign his position on the Elvisory Committee, and ail the other Labour leaders, focialists, etc., throw up their inspectorships and lectureships as a protest, to be followed up by a general call on the workers of Ireland to refuse to allow this swindl. g Act to be put in force in July next?

You may ask me do I really think such a thing possible. I answer quite frankly I do not. I haven't the slightest expectation that any single individual who secured a good job under this Act is going to kick up a row with his em-/ployers

As for the effect of this Insurance Act on the Labour Party and cause in Ircland, it cannot be anything but disastrons. In a few months time the workers of Ireland will find their already miserable wages docked dir ctly by 3d. per week. They will find the benefits which they have been promised illusory and they will have the satisfaction of knowing that their hard-earned money is going week by week, so that some of their would-be guides and "alleged" leaders might draw fat salaries.

I don't envy the men who will be then attempting to convince the workers of the necessity of forming a Parliamentary Labour Party, to be male up (presumably) of gentlemen like those who sold them under this Insurance A t "Once bitten twice shy, and heaven knows irish workers have been bitten often enough.

Everything under this Act has been a humbug and fraud.

For months back our daily papers have been filled with reports of lectures delivered by various "lecturers' to different

The reports have invariably wound up with elaborate and florid compliments flung in chunks at the lecturer for the "able," "clear," "forcible," "eloquent," etc, manner in which he had handled the As a matter of fact, at some of these

meeting questions were put which, if answered, would have shown up the rettennes of the whole thing, which questions were, needless to say, not answered. Furthermore, one lecturer frankly stated

that he had come there not to deal with defects, but to make the best case in

"Fergus" now seems to have disc vered that Part II. of the Bill is a device for manufacturing or assisting "scabs.' Pity he didn't discover this sooner. He says now

"We are forced to ask ourselves what the Liberal Party were thinking of when they allowed it to pass in its present form?

presume he refers to the English Labour Party.

Will he allow me to offer an explanation? Perhaps they were thinking more of "jobs' han of the interests of the workers. Such things happen - strange though it may appear. Why not amongst our "brothers 'in England as in Ireland? WILLIAM R CHARDSON.

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.. OUR ..

on WHIT SUNDAY.

WOMEN WORKERS' COLUMN.

A STRIKING CONTRAST.

I's at il sating thes solions apeak leaser to an words. The trath of the is eg ing was never proved more true than on Wednerday last, in connection with the strike of the Women Worker's of Koogh's Fastery.

One of the carter's who came out with the girl's is the owner of a small wireharred Kennel Terrier, who has been known for a considerable period as Keegh's But Curcher. The proprietor's of the firm have forked upon the dog as part of the Institution.

As was only to be expected when the men and women struck, the Dog also sinch. So that the Bet Catcher should play his part, the women made a cest for their canine friend, with the words-"Ko gh's Ritter on Strike," on each side. As the Dog gatly arrayed in his coat and ribbons randed the streets, he came in for considerable notice. While doing his share of pirketing outside the fretory, the R ties so far forgot himself as to enter the normises, he was met inside by one of the Ke gh's, Stanley by name, who called to him in a friendly way, the Dog respended to the invitation, to be met with mest hou al trestment. His cost was torn off his back, and then this brute, Sauliy Keogh, kicked the Ratter into the streets. We incy say in passing the women were ready fix emergencies and in less than ten minutes their fear-footed pal was re coated and back as work

Later on in the evening Merers. Keogh made an attempt to send their horses to grass. When Joe of that ilk accompanied by three Male Scabs, proceeded on their way, the women considered an interview necessary, and decided that the horses would be far more comfortable in their stables than en a cold field at grass.

After a very exciting encounter exfanding from Tara street to Abbay street, the women were victorious. The Soubs tried to leat the women off with sticks. hat all to no purpose. The women and girls varying in sges from 14 to 72 years, keek pessession of Kaogh's horses and led them back to their etables—took them in, tied them up, and gave them a feed of

The writer asked one of the heroines why they did not take the winkers off the horses and let them stampede, and we were arswered in such a way that started we thinking, is there not more civilisation in these white slaves who have been ekeing out a miserable existence on the small pittanes doled out to them by the Keogh family than there is in the well-fed K-ogh family, more especially Stapley Keogh. Fiere is the answer (Mr. Printer write it

large) -let it go forth to the world. Sad one of the women strikers-"I COULD NOT LET THE HORSES GO. GOD HELP THEM, THEY MIGHT BE HUET."

- Duningan bethan a team t W. F. C.

Keogh's Sweating Den.

O ncerning the present strike among the women workers in Keogh's Factory. so many untruits have been stated in the Dablin Evening Papers, as they are called, that a true statement of facts will be who esome and good for the public.

On Treasday, May 7 h, the Secretary of the Women Workers' Union, acting under the instructions of the women smployees of Keogh's, wrote to Mesirs. K ogh, claiming an increase of 2. per week all round on the present rate of wages. No answer having been received from Messas. Keoghe by Thursday, May 9 h. another communication was sent to them, stating that unless a reply was recoived that evening we would take further notion No reply was sent to the Secre-tary of the Union, but on Friday morning Mr. J. Kergh called the wemen workers together in one of the lofts, and harangued them from 9.45 until 11 o'clock, and made them an offer-of what-that he would put them on piece work, but anythis a else he could not give.

What a generous offer; had he and his mother not oppressed three poor women enough, that he must offer them worse conditions than they were already labouring under

Well, Mr. Keogh received his answer from the women, promptly and determinedly. Their reply was, that the matter was entirely out of their hands, and that any terms he had to offer, or any comzeun'estions to make, must be made to the officials of their Union. That was their answer on Friday, May 10th, and will still be their answer now and in future. They have taken up a just and determined position, and from that position they will not move an inch. Their demands are most moderate, only a misersole increase of 2s. on their present wages, which vary from 3s 6d. to 6s. per week.

How these women and girls have managed to exist on the totally inadequate wages received for their work is a mystery. Many of them are widows, with children depending on them, and it was on this very fact that the Keoghs traded, knowing how these women were handicapped. Truly an honourable course to adopt.

The Keegh's have tyrannized over thece poor women for years Some of them have spent close upon a quarter of a contury in the empley of this Firm, and their oze regret is that the present strike did not occur years ago. One of the women, a married women with three children, was sitting in the Union Rooms on Tuesday after doing her two hours' picket duty. She had been sitting perfectly still and silent for a long time when I thought it would be as well to question her as to what she had been thinking about. Her 10ply war-" Well, mooner than go back to Keogh's under the eld conditions I w. uld gladly jump into the Lifley there."

From that statement alone our Readers Pasder O'Meisin; indeed in this case we can d'aw their ow conclusions.

Not only were the wages paid to there women miserable and small, but the onditions under which they were compelled to porform their work were horrible. One small girl, 15 years of ege, had to spend her dass sha ing out flour sacks in a s sall loft. The proceeds of shaking was carefully gathered and sold to the billp wing fi ms As many as 20 sacks of firm has been procured from the sacks which are sent into Keogh's to be 10. paired. Each of these macks were sold for 10s. each The same thing happens with the wheat and corn sacks. Therefore, the firm of Keigh's are able to pay their suppleyees out of the preceds of the shakings of the sacks sent to be repaired.

The all-round ill-treatment that there women workers have been subjected to has caused them to revolt, and although in many cases their health has suffered through the nature of their work, their spirit is n tyst broken. Now, we want every woman in Dabl'n, whether she sgrees with us or not, to help us in this great and just fight, and to realise that in helping there poor white slaves to better their conditions that they are also helping

thomselves. On Wednesday as the girls were giving out their handbills announcing a meeting I was pussing by as they handed one each to two well-dressed women whose remarks, after reading the handbill, were—"How quaint, women on strike." Very quaint, truly. Nothing would have pleased me better than to have been able to place those two femeles in Keogh's Factory and compelled them to work there for a month for the same wages-6s per week-and under the same conditions.

Yes, these are the kind of soulless nonentities who go about hugging pug dogs or feeding cats on creams, but who would not lift a finger to help a downtrodden sister waman.

Here we have 39 women, hard-working, brave women, who from childhood have had to fight the battle of life, and who are now fighting to getter, each as determined as the other and they are winning the fight. Such a word as fail is not known to them, and if the firm of Ke gh's fully realised the spirit that dominates there women they would consider their position a little more carefully.

These women are just in their demands. and right will triumph.

Irish Workers' Cho'r.

Choir practice will be as usual on Monday and Wednesday evening at 8 o'cleck.

Irish Larguege Class Treeday evening, 8 o'cleek.

Irish Dancing!Thursday and Friday.

The Cinderella Dance will be held on Tickets, 1/- each.

All communications for this column to

be addressed to—
"D.L," Women Workers' Column, Liberty Hall, 18 Beresford Place.

Irish-Ireland Notes.

By AN SPAILING PARAGE. THE DUBLIN FRIS.

In connection with the public competitions of the Dublin Feis, held in the Thatch Grounds, Drumcendra, on Surday, May 5th, cur contemporary, "The Sword of Light," last week states:-

"The attendance was fairly large, but not a tithe of what it should be if the parents of the school-going children were in carnest regarding the Irishiaing of the schools."

While we believe that the parents of school-going children might interest themselves in the Irish Language a little more than they seem disposed to do at present, we think that several unmarried Irish-Irelanders who were sonspicuous by their absence from the Thatch on the 5th might slee evince a little more lively interest in the work of the Gaelie League in Dublin. 'Tis an old saying that one half the world doesn't know how the other half lives. Were we inclined to bring the saying up to date we should say that three-fourths of the Irish Irelanders do not know how the remaining fourth work for the Languege movement, and, we might add, neither do they care.

In this convection we might remark that the Bulin Cycle Club, whilst arranging one of their runs to be so far afield as the Wexford Feis thought fit last Sunday week to have their rus-away from the Dublin Feis. Cows far away wear long horns. Oh, shades of William Bulfin.

THE IMPARTIALITY OF "AN CLAIDHEANE SOLUIS."

The Sword of Light being supposed to be the official Organ of the Gaelie League one would expect its Editor to not with the swictest impartiality when it comes to a question of important controversy as between the different sections which are supposed to have their being inside the ranks of the Lorgae. Yet, in last week's issue we find a member of the Central Expoutive granted a Column to six alleged grievances against what the writer is pleased to term "The Extrema Left Party," while an article which would cosupy the same space, sent in by way of reply, is muti-lated beyond recognition, and is cut down to 15 lines in this week's issue.

This is what the Editor would call

policy," we suppose. We maintain that the courtesy extended to individuals because they happen to be members of the Coiste Gaothe should be also given to such a wall known Gael go

think there is no comparison between the two individuals as workers. But then we are not high and mighty Editor of the official organ.

NO YANKS WAYTED.

Being informed some time ago that several members of the Ecoutive of the Gaelic Lesgue were making a special study of the Far East, we expressed our doubts as to the reliability of the "information received." It now appears that we were mistaken, for the jeb, an enterprising Yank made of the financis of Paraia has so much impressed the members of the Executive, that on last Tassday night, at their moathly meeting, they decided that the League is! w the excellent example not them by Parsia.

One, James J. Sokes who has never sean Ireland, ex ept (like T. P. O'Conner, on his journey to the "House") on the Map of the World, is to be brought over to Ireland for two or three months to, in the words of the official report of the meeting, write up the Gaelie mission in the States from this side.

Now, in the name of common sense, what peculiar qualities does this genileman possess to fit him for the post assigned him by the fourteen members who elected him. He cannot be convenint with the work of the Gielic League in anyel ils features. Indeed we might venture so say that his knowledge of Irish life is practicelly nil. How could it be etherwise. He may have read of Ireland, of the hopes and ideals of its people, but we submit it is high time that people who have a practical experience of the working of Irish movements should entreated with the directing them. His American bounce is his only recommendation as far as we can judge, but there is something more necessary for Caelio League work. We were always under the impressi n that the Giello Lesque was a self relient movement, but here we have an important pest entrusted to an outsider. In other words we are deemed unable to do ear own business. This is a new way of inculcating self-reliance.

We suppose this will also tend to ours Emigration. Irish I elander's who may be out of employment will no doubt ornsole themselves with the thought that appointments in the power of the Gaelio League are not for them. Amongst the fourteen in favour of this astounding proposal vas The O'Rathghaille, Sinn Feiner. How he can reconcile this with his Sinn Fein or ourselves alone principles is to us a mystery. We learn that there was another men bir who even though he were in favour of the proposal, walked out when it was requested that the names of those voting he taken down. He had to return however to save his party from defeat Verily some men can make great

gation question next week.

Communications for this column to be addressed—An Spailpin Fanach, care of Editor, Inish Worker.

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

Irish Worker, EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.

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

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DUBLIN, SATURDAY May 18, 1912.

As We Go a Maying.

This is the menth of all months in the year when life seems to promise of its best. In all ages this month was dedicated to thanksgiving praise and enjayment In all places the peoples expressed themselves in singing, dancing and merrymaking. Organic and inorganic bodies seemed to take on a new lease of life. seemed to elothe themselves anew. Ak? you will say, this statement seems same What far-fetched, inorganic bodies contain no life. Well, we are sorry to differ with you; if time permitted we would pause to argue with you, but time presser, space is limited and when opportunity offers we will return to this interesting phase of thought.

As Tennysen rang "sermons in stones and books in the running Brooks," We ourselves have drank in inspiration, new energy and hopefulness of the future during the last week. Life again reems to promise of its bist, not that We have been a maying. Agitators (of four own type) get little opportunity of going a maying, though We will admit that walking home the other night from the Kill-of the Grange close on midnight, We enjoyed an experience that few are favoured with. There had been a slight. shower of rain about ten o'clock, and the Lilec and Hawthorn actually sung to us. We must have another midnight ramble before We pess out.

All the foregoing is but an introduction to a few serious thoughts on the present position of thisgs. The Home Rule Bill -or Government of Ireland Bill, to be correct—has passed a second reading by over one hundred of a majority; that locks well. There seems a new spirit sbroad in industrial life; that looks well. Campbell, Carson & Co. have lost their temper; that looks well. The Irish Trades Congress seems to have get rid of that there was an opportunity given to some of the reactionary elements that surred it for many years; that looks well. Locally, Peadar O'Maioin has been chosen as Labour Candidate for the vacant Aldermanship of North Dook Ward; that looks well Bill R'chardson, the critic we are g'ad to hear, has recovered from a reviews illness; that looks well. Keogh's white alayer are on strike and winning; that looks well: Bridge Sireet Bakers are reergenising and reforming, their Society having got rid of some ballast that was retarding the craft's speed; that looks

TRADES DISPUTES. Mr. Ramsay MacDonald saked the Chief Storetary under what clause in the Government of Ireland Bill it would be o'mpetent for the Irish Legislature to remove Disputes and the Workman's Companiation A.t.

Mr. Birrell-Under Clause 2. This looks bad

Brownstein, the sweeter, of Capel street, along with Fisher, the alleged fighting man, has opered a picture house to subsidies the "Shelter of Dam:crasy," Moust jy Ward U.I.L. Far better for Brownstein if he paid his poor sweated Christian wage-slaves what they ears. We must get a picture of them slaving away in the fetid den in Capel street, making obean shoddy elathing. This looks bad. We find that all the Ward-heelers are out filling up requisition forms with dead men's names. That looks bad. We have been enabled to obtain the report of the Sab Committee appointed by the Executive Committee of the Dublin and Counties Liberal Association marked PRIVATE and CONFIDENTIAL, and in connection with same We unders and Mr. T. W. Russell is coming home het foot, the Attornes General and Solicitor General threaten to resign, in fact someone is going to get hurt. We are informed that the Protestant Home Ruler E A. Aston (would-be Statesman) is one of the bad boys who is esusing the trouble. The raport which is signed by W. F. Barrett, W. H Brown, R. H. King and John Mackie makes excellent reading-but this locks bad.

Will all persons getting requisition forms bring them to say office of the Transport Union. We will advise them what to do with same, and any person male or female paying rent who has not already been supplied with said form also

Any person who was debarred from voting last election should see to it nowas the Yankee says, do it now.

May we say that owing to Fergus being away from home the reply to Richardson re Insurance is left ever, and as we den't like to speil another's er joymont, we leave this matter with Fergus.

We would like to know from those We shall return to the American Dele- Hetel re Part II of the Insurance Act, and may we ask how did some of the genvemen who were present get tickets of invitation, and may we suggest that when the Government want their own Bill ex. plained they get some one who can explain it, or why not get an Irish official to

NOTES FROM SLIGO.

We had a couple of very successful meetings during the week-one on Tuesday evening and the other on Wednesday evening Mr. P. T. Day arrived on Tuesday avening, and the band, immediately on the arrival of the train played "The Boys of Wexford," and afterwards accompenied him to the Union Rooms, where Mr. Daly delivered an address.

On Wednesday evening a further meeting was held, at which the Mayor (Alderman D. O'Donnell) presided, and delivered a very fine speech. In the course of his address the Mayor said there was a deliberate attempt being made to break up their combination, and he advised them to "ware deg!" It was not good enough that the whole of the work of the quays should be confined to two gange of men whilst the others were allowed to stand idle. They wanted at least one more stevedore on the quays. He hailed with the greatest satisfaction the announcement of the intention to organise on proper lines the sgricultural labourers of the country, as from his experience they were the worst paid men in the country, and in no place were they as lewly paid as in their own county. The tenant farmers had all their attention in the past, and from his experience of them in connection with another organization with which he had to do with, it was a hard thing to get them to pay 3d. a week towards the funds. He looked with horror on the sweater; and when he was approached to put money in the shirt fectory the first question he asked was-What weges are you going to pry the girls? When he could not get a satisfactory answer to that query he was not have anything to do with it. He did not believe in the system by which men amassed wealth at the expense of the worker. Let them go on and never mind the men who advised them to abandon their organisation. He knew as they knew that they were working under a system that only bred children for the infirmaries and the hospitals. What did these people care that their progray was doomed to an early grave? What did they care so long as they got their work done whether they had a place to lie down in or not? Having dealt with the financial position under the Insurance Act, he covoluded a very forcible and instructive address by advising the men to stick together, nothing can be

done without organisation, and they were

the people to know what kind of organi-sation suited them best. They should see

those who were willing to work to get their share of the work, and rebel agei at the present system by which "many are called, but few are change." He would like to know what would be thought if he charged a man for the ure of a ladder to put hay is his shed. Yot that nort of thing was going on on the quays. A fair day's wages for a day's work was what they wanted, and he hoped they would live to see an eight hours day established by law, with a minimum wage as they had in other countries.

Mesers J. H Bennett, District Secretary of the Sailors' and Firemens' Uni n and P. T Daly, It'sh Transport and General Workers' Union also spoke.

Ireland from the scope of the Trades the Mayor and the visitors, after which the meeting terminaled.

Mayor of Belfast.

Belfast, 16th May, 1912. My Lord,-If I remember atight, it is not so very leng since from your place in the House of Commons, as representative of the electors of East Belfast, you ascerted positively, the non-existence of sweating in any, and particularly the linen industry in Belfast.

It so happened that a few days before you made this assistion there appeared in the wanted columns of one of our evening papers an advertisement for a young lady elerk to address envelopes and do general office work, WAGES 6s. PIR WEEK, and as the advertisement was not repsated, I conclude that necessity compelled some unfortunate female wage slave to apply for the situation Would You CALL THIS SWEATING? Some time later you asserted that Belfast would send 30 000 men to Wales, to take the places of the miners on strike in the principality, and I may add you did not inform us whether these potential blacklegs were unemployed, or were to leave their jobs, homes, &a., for the purpose of assisting the mine ewpers to defeat the men's endeavour to obtain better conditions of labour.

Last week you stated in the House of passing the "Home Rule" Bill.

rews that have been fomented in Belfast it has only been the workers of both parties who have been shot, bludgeoned, er imprisoned, as the result of the secterien bi terness with which their minds have been poisoned by those who are

These Orange and Unionist WORKING PEOPLE are to be retaliated upon by 200 000 or 300,000 Nationalist WORKING PEOPLE armed is a like manner, so accord ing to this, your statement, the Unionist Forors won't have much of a show, as they will be greatly outnumbered by their Nationalist opponents and in addition will be in rebellion against the Government, and as we have good rerson to know, the Lord is generally on the side of the big battalions so they will be severally handicapped in the very beginn-

Agein, I see, in London, where you addressed what I presume was a public meeting, and in your speech asserted a few days age, that the conomic conditions for the warkers in Belfast were better than in any other city in the world. That there was work for all, and, of o'urse, consequently, no competition for jobs, therefore the wages and standard of comfort must be correspondingly high in all

Might I sak you are there conditions prevailing in the Belfast Rope Works. where labouring man are paid as low as 12s per week (56 hours), and where the women workers are sweated in a fashion undreamt of in any other factory in the city. Is it true that you my Lord, are one of the Managing Directors of this concern?

Are there the conditions which you es-

normal City, so far as the conditions of the toiler is concerned. Trusting you will condescend to calighten us on this subject when next you address a Public meeting. or treat the members of the House to one of your eloquent persentiens on the politicel and economic situation prevailing in I am, Sir, yours, etc

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An Open Letter to our Lord

Commons, that there was in Ulster 100,000 Orangemen and members of Unionist Clubs, armed with and prepared to use revolvers against their Nationalist fellow-workers, and the forces of the Crewn, in the event of the Government I say fellow workers, because in all the

interested in keeping them at each others "Divide and Conquer."

ing of the struggle

branches of industry.

sert the Unionists of Ulster are anxious to perpetuate, even at the Revelver's muzzle, and the stedding of the blood of steir fellow wage slaves? Will you kindly inform us when you make assertions of the nature here detailed, where do you obtain your information? who or whit is your authority. The present Prime Minister has stated that it is absolutely essential for the maintenance of our present commercial system, that there should always be a surplus labour army, and this statement has been asquired by Mr. Balfour, i.e, that there must always be a large number of workers unemployed, so that competition for jobs will keep wages at the bare subsistence level, and enable ou: Rent, Interest, and Profit gleaners to accumulate Millions in a few years, so that their descendants may revel in luxury and But perhaps Belfast is not considered a

the City you so ably represent.

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Pe-Organizing Meeting on Sunday.

SFEECHES OF MISSES. JOHN SIM-MONS JOHN FARBEN, JIM LAR-KIN, TOM MOPARTLIN, MICHAEL CANTY, ETO.

A largely attended meeting of the members of the Bridge-street Bakers was held on Sanday last, under the presidency of Mr. Thomas McPartlin, for the purpose of rs organizing the Society. A provisional Committee and Officers of the Union were app is ed, and a number of speeches delivered by prominent men in the Trades' Un or movement in Dablin.

The Chairman in opening the proozediage, said they were met there that day to take counsel together as to the best way in which to place their Society on its feet again. He would suggest that they sa ula elect a provisional Committee, a Chairm in who would also act is Treasurer. a Secretary, and two Trustees. These gentlemen would mest afterwards and decide as to their future course (hear. herr), and what they decided should be not don at once. They should be careful whom they appointed—that they were workers who would be men of sound semmen sense (hear, hear). They should get awas from the feeling whether they had likes and dislikes, and elect the best men repardless of such feelings (applause). There was no use in looking back on what had occurred, unless as a guide for the fairre, to guard against the recurrence of erros ('ear, hear). He asked for nominations after auggestions and he hoped the esult of their meeting there that day woul be the placing of the members of that dd Hall on such a footing as would ensu's the retention of the hest traditions of their Society (applause.)

Mr. W. Mages proposed that a previsional Committee of Six members with a Chairman, Tressurer, Secretary, and two Trustees be appointed to conduct the affairs of the Union.

Mr. W. Graham seconded the motion, which was carried unanimensly.

Mr. James Barry proposed that Mr. James Hughes be elected Chairman and Tressurer. Mr. P. Gaynor seconded the motion. Mes rs. McGee and George Canavan wave also proposed, but withdrew infavour of Mr. Hughes, who was elected by sco's asion.

Mr. J. Barry was unanimously elected Secretary on the motion of Mr. McGoo, seconded by Mr. John Haplon.

Meisis Modes and Richard Keeley were elected Trustees on the metion of Mesers.

Harl n and Gaynor. Mosers. Francis Moran and John Barry were elected Delegates to the Dablin Trades Coproll, on the motion of Mesers. Hughes and Sevin, seconded by Mesars McGee and Kinsella.

Messis George McQuillen, Richard Connell Bichard Madden, John Slevin, deorge Hoger, and James Reshford were

elected as the previsional Committee. Mr. J hn Simmons, secretary of the Trades Council, said he had had a lively recellection of the Baker's S ciety for twenty-five years. They were represented at the initial meeting to establish the Dublin Trades Council, and from that day they had been amongst its most loyal supporters (hear, hear). They had lent willing assistence in the establishing of the Artizans' Exhibition, and in every movement which had for its object the aplifing of the lot of the worker (appleuss) Mistakes had been made undsubtedly, but he was not there to apportion the blame they should do themselves. Disruption, that was said to have set in but he did not believe it was as bad as that. Anyhow, what they wanted now was cobesion amongst themselves (hear, hear.) He felt sare that the Trades Council would never allow any other bidy to affiliate with them so long as the Baidge street men were in exis ence, an the could think it a criminal proceeding if the trades unionists of Dublin did not come to their assistance now, emsidering the fact that there never was a trouble in the labour world of Dublia that the members of that a citty had not done men's parts in assisting their brothers who were fighting for their rights (spplause) He know that a great deal had been said of what had taken place during their recent disputs, and he believed that if the Trades Council had to have been apprached in time the whole dispute would have been settled, and to the satisfaction of the men. He had been saked by some of the employers why the Traces Corneil had not come before they did and he had to a mit that the reason was because they had not been approached in time to do so. He was glad to see the spirit of determination exhibited at that meeting, but he had seen that die away in other cases, and because it had done so the men had suffered; but he heped that that would not apply to them (applause) li they presevered in it he believed their rivals would effervesoe and die away into thin air (applause) Every man must be theyangel at in the cause in which they

were embarking; there must be no bitterness, no recriminations towards men who were not there that day, perhaps because of feelings which they understood as well as he (Mr. Simmens) did (hear, hear,) Their movement must be a success, and a gigantic success. The spirit of cohesion must make that manifest. They must watch their officers and see that they did their duty. Their old traditions must inspire them (applause.) They must live in the present with a vivid recollection of their past, and they must depend upon their action new to remedy the errors of the past. In conclusion; he expressed the fervent hope that their proceedings there that day would make for the principle of tredes unionism—the uplifting of the toiling masses of the nation (loud applause) Mr. Jim Larkin said that he, too, hoped

that if they recognised that mistakes had been made that they would see to it in the future that these mistakes would be guarded against (hear, hear) He did not believe it was a wise thing to confine their energies to Dublin alone, but that there should be an earnest attempt made to organise the whole country, and for that purpose they should call their organi sation the Irish instead of the Dublin Operative Bakers and Confectioners (applace) They should remodel their rules so that the large subscription would be a thing of the past They had to remember that times had changed from the period when it was illegal to have a trader union combination—a feet which seemed to have escaped their memory when they were revising their rules in 1902. It was not right that they should attempt to escape their responsibilities for having such obsolete rules. They were all equally responsible for that. They should rely on their own honcur and pride in their craft and allow no man to lower it (app'ause) If the efficers did not do their duty change them; they had the power to deal with them themselves, and do not allow any shifting of responsibility. It was the duty of every man to see to it that self-respect and self-reliance was the key note of their organisation. He did not want to deliver a temperance lecture to them, but he wanted them to recognize that sobriety was the key noto to self-respect, and the men who came up under the influence of drink should not be tolerated for a moment. It was a question of wages and conditions for them - a question of organization against the lowering of conditions of labour (pplause), and for that object they must sink their prejudices if they had any, and get all the bakers into one organization (applause). As sure as the sun was shining that day so sure would the bakers of Dublin-if they only asted with a preper spirit of cohesion—be again the same driving power in the I ish trades union movement that they were in the past. But if they were to take that position they would have to be wise mea and recognize the spirit of oc-ordination or federation that was playing such a part in the industrial world of to-day (ap-plause). Why should they not have a working a rangement with the breadyan drivers? Why should they not resognize the fact that they were all workers and instruct the class of workers he referred to that their interests run along the same lines, and that when their class was struck they were all hit (applause). He did not care whether the man effected was a carpenter or a tailor, or a plasterer, when they were hit he also felt that so was be (hear, hear). They must be alive to the fact that their opponents were the employing cless, not this man or that of their own class. They had to get down to the position that it was absolutely necessary for the well-being of their craft that instead of a multitude of weak societies they should have one strong organization speaking, not for sections, but for every men in the trade (applance). He felt sure he was safe in saying that every member of the Municipal Labour Party would de what they could to assist them in their difficulty (hear, hear). Of course, when their secretary wanted to go across the town he could not engage a cab (laughter), and he could not see why he should. He felt that the Trades Council should issue a circular to the employers pointing out to them that Bridge Street was the only arcisty they recognized as the society of bakers (hear, hear). He had had promises from certain of the empleyers that they would only employ Bridge Street men, and if it were not for those promises they would not have got a bag of flour (applause). He would have to consider what he would do in regard to that in the future, and after the circular had been issued he might have to leave them without flour in the event of their refusal to abide by its terms (applause). They were got to go on strike at a time

him there, and ha went on and succeeded. So should they (applause). Their society was never dissolved (applauce). Call for their assets. Get every baker into their union, and always bear in mind that they were friends inside, and that outside of their ranks they were enemies (applause). There were different groups against them, but if they were true to themselves these would not count. They were at the period when the bud was aprouting; then came the blossom, and after that the fruit. Let them hope in the present, and the future would be full of promise, and he felt sure that the trades unionists of the country would help them to tide over what was a very trying time in their history (loud ap-

Mr. John Farren, Treasurer of the Dublin Trades Council, said he was very glad to note the spirit of cahesion which they had displayed there that day, and he congratulated them on the work they had done. He had every confidence in the fature of the Bridge Street Society, and he hoped to see it again take its old place in the labour movement in Dublin. He agreed with the advice given by the previous speakers to get all the men into one society, otherwise he feared an attempt would be made to get some of the bakers in the city to work under wages. He felt sure that that would never be done By the Bridge Street men, whoever else might do so. He had had something to de with the negotiations during the recent dispute and he agreed with the Scoretary of the Trades Council when he raid that the position could have been saved if the Trades Council had to have keen approached earlier in the fight. Of course they could all be wise after the event, but he haped it would be a warning to them in future, and not alone to tiem but to every other organization as well (epplace). They could organize a strong society again. As a member of the Richmond Asylum Beard he felt he could promise for the Chairman as well as for himself that when baters were wanted there it would be only members of their organization that would be employed (applause) Let them put their trust in the Trades Council. These are the men who were going to control the public boards in the city; they had siready shown what they could do in that direction and they were only commencing (applause) They had always proved themselves able and willing, and always ready to assist any trade that was in need of sesistance and he felt sure that would be reciprocated now (applause). He had had to do with the moneys in answer to the appeal and he paid over £86 18., for which he held receipts. Other societies, the Cerporation Labourers and the Brick and Stonelayers had paid their moneys direct. They had a right to know what was done with these moneys. To whom were they paid and in what sums? Let them trust one another and if as had been suggested there were some who could not be relied on let them go on out them. Let them stick together and their opponents would scon see the errors of their ways, but do not let there be any spirit of vindictiveness displated for whatever mistakes had taken place, and above all do not let them sink to the level of the men who were said to be responsible for their defeat. Speaking as a member of the Trades Council he felt savered they would extend a helping hand in their troubles (loud applause.)

Mr. Michael Canty said he congratulated the men upon the manner in which they had attended that meeting, and upon the spirit they had displayed. He felt that there was no epposition excepting from a section that it was not judicious to know anything about. It was their bounden duly to re-organize (applaume) They should not run away at that period, and he had authority to state that his men would stand by the men of Brilge street, se they had always done, but more now than ever, because they had been wounded in the fight (loud applause). He knew their difficulties, but he also knew that a Society that was recognized before he (the speaker) was born, would not allo w themselves to go down because of a set back or two (hear, hear) He was speaking to au eld member of theirs that morning-a man with nearly afty years' membership, workisg in Kennedy's, and he told him they would stand by Bridge-street to a man (applause). The Trades would be sure to rally round them, and would not allow that old established Trades Union to go out of existence. His Society he was authorised to say would do their part at

any rate (applause). Mr. P T. Daly also spoke.

The Obsirman said he must congratulate them on the selection they had made of Chairmen. Mr. Hughes was one of the men who need not have attended that meeting, but his attendance showed his heart was in their cause, and he augured from their presedings that a great future was before them. He did not know a sumber of the men whom they had elsete i, but he knew Mr. McGee who had worked unceasingly in trying to bring about that meeting, and he was glad to

see such a man elected as a Trustee (hear,

Mr. James Hughes then took the chair amids: applause and thanked the memhers for the konnur they had conferred upon him He would do his best, but his best would be very little unless he had the whole-hearted support of the members themselves. He tendered their best thanks to the Chairman and the various speakers for their attendance, and hoped the men would take the advice offered by the representatives of the Trades Council (hear, hear)

Mr. McPartlin briefly replied, and the meeting to misated

A meeting of the newly elected Committee was then held, at which important Business was transacted.

Waterford

In my last contribution I promised to give the names of some of the shopkeepers here who trade in the stamp fraud, and so append the following few of the many who have by this time keen tempted to use those stamps in the hope of increasing their trade. But I venture to warn those shopkeepers that by the time their eustomers' books are filled with Mutual Trading Stamps I fear this Company or individual at 14 Bread street shall have decemped :- Fitzpatrick & Co, Drapers, Michael street; Hutchingon, Family Grees, Mergan street (also Landlord and House Jebber); O'Neill Newgate street; Sesnian's Domestic Stores, Michael street; The Dairy, John street; Purcell & Co. Baron S. sand street; R Dse, Grocer, O'Connell strest; The Areade Drapery Horas; Welsh, Family Groser, George street; Central Storer, The Quay; Have, Family Gricer, George street; Cummins, Ballytrickle; The Bakery, John street O'Connor's, Johnstown; Kirwan, Barrack street; Curtis & Co, Druggists, Barrack street; Sheehau. Tho send Bar; Burke's Cycle Depot ; Carran, Bridge street (ex TO). The Glasgow B:ot Warehouse, and several others, who exhibit the red notice in their windows indicating their Mutual

Hand bills, boldly headed "Sometking for You," are being coattered breadcast through the city, drawing attention to this fraudulent trading, inviting housekerpers to call for a collecting book and list of houses supplying their stamps, and winding up, "Leave your Purse at H me," we as I nothing at all. Every thing quite free, in exchange for quarter, half, and whole book collections of Irish Mutual

Trading Stames. I have been informed (and I have no reason to doubt my informant) that one of the shopkeepers shove mentiozed, had been threatened with arrest in connection with those stamps. He had seen the denticle in Tax Worker on the subject and then decided to have nothing further to do with Mutual Trading whereup the least re presentative had called upon him to return his book of stamps or else he should have him taken up, and to carry his threat into execution the Stamp man left the shop, but did not return for a considerable time, and without the necessary limbs of the law to effect his (no doubt desire) threatened arrest, giving as an ex-cuse he could have found only one policeman who had been on duty, and omeequently unable to accompany this gent to the shop in question lest he might have run the risk of the sack. Just fancy Waterford with only one policeman. Will the workers learn from this little episode and quit there shops which offer them stamps on their purchases, because shopkespers cannot afford to less 15/- on every thousand Fraud Stamps they issue if they give proper value in the articles they sell. "Ourse Larkin and his Rag," such was the Samp man's exclamation when shown the article in THE WORKER by this shopkesper, and I do not wonder, because Larkin and his reg were the means of bringing to light the great fraud practised by the Irish Mutual Trading

Bismp Comcany. Tae Se. Latchford, with timber bound for Garaton, made an attempt to leave this port on Saturday evening last shorthanded to the extent of three men, but the Loxel Secretary of the N. S F. U. was en the alert, and, accompanied by the Transport Union Secretary, had an interview with the skipper, who infermed them he intended waiting over Sunday, but his bluff had not been digested by Hayer, who returned later with a number of men from whom the captain might select the required number.

The bluff was carried out by the captain until midnight when he concented to empley men and to pay the port ra'e of wages which, I believe, was a good deal of the cause for prolonged delay. The broker was also on the ground during the a ternoon, and seemed rather anxious over the master, as nebedy could have been found willing to earn eny money by letting go the rores for the se Latchford, whilst her intention was to sail undermanned to such an extent, as was the cree on that cocasion.

if what I hear about certain other quarters be true I think it is high time to take things up somewhat more determinedly than at present immediately the opportunity presents itself, and by such action se played by the men in the case of the Latchford may those who are now trying to defy and terrorise the workers he taught what workers combined can do. There is no doubt whatever but the opportunities required in every case shall present themselves, and if aur men ARR MEE ENOUGH TO PROVE THEMSELVES MEN there shall be no further obstacles thrown in their way towards organisation, combination and progress.

DAWRING DAY.

SIMPSON & WALLACE, The Workingman's

Give the Best Value in Beef, Mutton and Lamb.

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THE ANNUAL TRADES UXION CONGRESS.

The Annual Trades Union Congress

of Irelazd which opens on Monday of next week at Clormel, promises to be a big success. A Reception Committee has been engaged, in conjunction with the local Trades Gouncil, for some time past in ar-ranging for the comfort of the delegates, and, whilst we regret to note that owing, we assume, to a number of causes, some of the old-time unions are not sending on delegates, nevertheless, the number sp. pointed is equal to that of former years. The agenda is a very interesting one, and a large number of resolutions of paramount importance to the labour interest are down for discussion. Amongs: these may be mentioned the question of the formation of an Independent Itisk Labour Party, Franchise Reform, Medical Benefits under the Insurance Act, Medical Referees, the question of Setional Trades Unionism, the Right to Work, Nationalisation of Railways under Heme Rule, Misimum Wage, and Under-manning of Ships and Life-Saving Appliances at Sea, etc. We also note that the Irish Industries Support has a share of the agenda as well, but not as large a share as in former years. The matters to be considered do not, as a rule, appear of the "hardy annual" type, and are of such a character as to ensure a healthy effect on the movement, and are bound to bring forth a very useful interchange of opinions. We are informed that a number of unions are represented this year for the first time, and, need we say, how heartily we welcome them. That the Congress may be a big success is every trades unionists wish, and we join heartily in giving expression to it.

National Health Insurance Joint Committee.

The undermentioned persons have been ppointed from Ireland (under Section 58 the National Incurance Act, 1911) by the Joint Committee of the several bodies of Ocumissioners for the purpose of giving such Joint Committee advice and sesistares in convection with the making and altering of Regulations under Part I of the Act :---

The Right Hon. Lorcen Sherlcek, Lord Mayor of Dablin ; J. D. Nugent, National Storetary, Ancient Order of Hibernians; Jeseph Hutchinsen, Irish Mational Forceters,; John Murchy, Beliast Trades Council; Duness Kirkwood, Independent Order of Rockabites.

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CARROLL V. TIME - - 103rd, LAP!

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Donations-J. Baban, T.O. ... 0 1 0 Sale of Post Cards— Mr. Hughes, Jones's Road, ... 0 1 0 J. Bohen, ...

> Sailors' and Firemens' Union. (DUBLIN BRANCH)

A Committee meeting of the above was held on Thursday evening at Liberty Hall, when matters of importance, including the que tion of the undermanning of ships, life belts, boat drill, &c., was disoursed, and instructions given to men to keep a close watch in all matters in connection with steamers sailing in and out of the port, and report same to the secre-

It is advisable that all sailors and firemen shou'd semmunicate to the Secretary. Liberty Hall, all matters in connection with scoidents before going to the Shippi g Federation.

There will be a Committee meeting next Thursday at 1 e'clock. All Committee men requested to attend.

MOUNTJOY'S NEW PATRON.

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER. Siz-I would kindly ask you to let the working-

men of the city, especially of the Mountjoy Ward, know who the man is that is opening a new Picture House called "The Mountjoy" under the patronage of the Lord Mayer, also giving (or stating he is going to do so) the proceeds of saveral performances to the United Iris's League for charitable a d other purposes -whether under the idea that the Corporation will let him down lightly as regards the conditions for the safety of life and limb that they (the Corporation) are bound to see carried out in all Picture Houses, or to delude the workingmen with the belief that he is both charitable and patrio'ic, I cannot say. But, however, to tell you who he is he is a foreign Jew called Brewnstein, or Brounstein, carrying on a tailor's aweating den at 33 Capel street, where he works his girls en three or four days a week from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., with one hour off for dinner; on those evenings he, out of the goodness of his heart, supplies a cup of something which he calle "tea;" no one else does and only obarges one penny for it. Think of that for generesity. Other days 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., except Monday, a.m. to 4.30. p.m. The wages he pays to his slaves after this week's sweating amounts to 5s or 6s. per week for skilled finishers; a little more for machinists, &c.—Yours truly,

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dressed for the Irish Workers' excursion? if so you will have to come to—

when every man's hand was sgainst them

for deing so, They should not be dis-

heartened even if some of those at that

meeting, unlikely as it might seem,

"raited," and went away. Let them stand

by their gane. When Saint Patrick came

to Ireland he was not well restived in

tome quarters, but he went down to his

part of the country and they locked after

Great Whitsuntide Show and Special Display of New Goods.

alive and full of the very latest and most up-to-date novelties of the season as usual at the right prices.

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TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER.

DEAR KIR,—On the occasion of the first anniversary of your invaluable Labour Journal I desire to state it would be a great day for Dublin and all Ireland if the Irish Press could put the same question to their readers as the heading of your leading article in this week's issue of THE IRISH WORKER, "Have We Just fied Ou selves"? Permit me to state you have, and may you and your staff live long to continue the good work so ably begun and carried on during the first year of circulation. I do not consider it would be rask judgment or false prophery on my part to predict, when the next anni versary of THE IRISH WORKER ATTIVES about Labour Day, that the employers as well as the workers will admit you have been defending principles of a most scored and undying character-vis, the rights and dignities of Labous, which are the baskbone of a nation. If the workers never gained by the upright advocaty of your journal, the employers cannot deny your journal put them in a more tenable position than they held before it came into circulation. By pointing out the error of their ways you have debarred them from raining the Industrial and Commercial Life of Ireland. Some of the employers in this as in other countries were raining their firms on the antiquated and well beaten track of their ancestors and their young dummy shareholders, and never thought on the changes which time brought in the economic conditions of their workmen as regards the ocst of living nation-building, &c, &c. Your journal was the first since the practing of the Local Government Act to awaken the capitalist class to a sense of their duty towards the rights and dignities of Labour. And I now believe most of the employers with whom you were obliged to differ will not deny THE IRISH WORKER hes justified its existence, and under very adverse circumstances. Therefore, I consider your enemies as well as your friends will atmit you have justified yourselver, and you have in a man!y, straightforward manner justified the claims of Labour. and you have crowned your first anniversary by pointing out what the claims of Organised Labour means, and also you have shown how very futile it will be in the near future to combat with the mames of the people. If all your readers would only realize the space of vered by the words erganize! erganize! organize! then, Mr. Editor, you might fairly claim to have fully justified your conduct. In connection with Labour Representation, which is one of your ideals when Labour obtains something like adequate Rapresentation, there will be further justification for the circulation of your journal. It must now be apparent to must of your readers how meeless it would be for the workers of this or any other country to be governed by themselves it come democratic organ such se THE IRISH WORKER did not exist. I may here pay au humble but well-deserved tribute to the Re-Conquest of Ireland, Chapter II, by James Con-

Such is the reading for Irishman and women. I have gone through many pagers and ar-oalled Labour and National i urnals, and I sincerely admit they never yet put a question to their readers which can be to hones'ly answered in the affirmative as the heading of your last leading article, "Have We Just fied Ourselves"? I desire to emphasize the fast-your journal has justified its existence, and by the caly means by which it will soon be possible for any journal to do so, viz : by advancing the just and legitimate claims of Labour. Organize, Organize, Organize, that you may be free. Oh, the magic of these inspiring words. Will your readers contrast the attitude of the so-called Dublin Press with THE IRISH WORKER. Alas for the former they have for many long years closked the dishenesty and injustice of the capitalist class. Your journal has advanced the claims of Labour which are the bedreck of nationality, commerce, &c., &o I think for a juvenile Editor you have put a very erocked question to some of your seniors connected with the Irish Priss. If the Ayer have it that the IRISH Worker has justified itself it will be a logical conclusion the Noes will be for the senior editors. Alas for fallen greatness. Permit me to repeat you have not slove just and yourselves but you have justified your claims on all humanity for the simple reason you have based your prinsiples on a sacred and undying cause, which need fear no foe, but the traitors to whom you have referred in your last leader. I think such fools will not be so easily found in the future. I wonder what will the paymasters and the tools

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Letters to the Editor.

think about the four words at the head of vone leader "Have We Justified Ourselves"? or let we suppore the tool saked the employer or vice versa "Have we justified ourselves "? Have you any idea what the answer would be? I think I will cut the line. I am beginning to make things swkward for myself. At present the only congra ulation I can offer you, Mr. Editor, on the occasion of the first anniversary of THE TRISH WORKER is to direct the attention of your readers to the very admirable mosto which appears weekly over your leading article-An injury to one is the concern of all." When the workers make up their minds to stand by that motto then you can proclaim, through the columns of THE IRISH WORKER, in thunderous sounds, the demande of a United Labour Ireland, "Let Onward be our Watchword, though the winds blow high or low." When the werkers make up their minds as the lark did in the corn field to think and act in their own interest collectively, there our be no delay on the realization of what is most dear to the workers and essential for generations to come-vis, printical and economic freedom. Without there essentials no government can make our Ireland

As you state at the end of your leading article last Saturday it was persons who sold this nation in the past, so also was it persons who sold Labour Representation after the passing of the Local Governmen's Act.

In corc'usion, Mr. Editor, permit me to remind your readers your paper deserves the unstinted support of every mals and female worker in Ireland, because it is only by united and organized effort we can ever hope to create a united. unfettered Labour Ireland, and without such the administration of our own laws would aren become sa odious as the alien laws against which we have been so long rebelling against.

I shall now ask your readers to join in tendering our hearty congratulations to the First Annive asrg of The Insa Wor-KER, and express the hope for a long useful career. I am confident for the succoss of THE WORKER, because I believe its principles are based on one fact at all events—vis, "Nations have fallen, but the cause it advicates is still young, and will never die.

Hoping I have not gone too far on your space, I remain, yours truly, VIGILANT DEMOGRAT.

TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER. Sir,-We read with sad interest the power'ul and sympathetic article in the "IRISH WORKER," on the sad drowning of poor young Joe Harmen at Butt

There has never been a more pathetic case than this sad event, which you have so foreibly brought before the public notice and I hope not in vain.

All the circumstances so grapaleally described in your paper, are calculated to bring tears to the eyes of the most hard

The peor News boy handing his hard sarred pittance of a faw rence to bis mother, to enable her and infant child to get a night's shelter and never thinking of himself-but facing the dangers of a big City and wandering forth, satisfied that his mother and little sister were safe, taking his chance of snatching a rest in some seoluded spot where the p lice would not find him, and bring him before the Magistrate on the awful crime of being poor and homeless.

Everyone who read your article in TRISH WORKER" or hear it read, is full of pity for the mother and father of poor Jee Harman, and I am sure if you will kindly open a Fand towards raising a small sum sufficient to enable the poor sorrow-stricken mother to start some little business, it will be generously subscribed to by the kind hearted people of Dublin.

This kind act would also enable the peor woman to gratify the greatest wish of her heart, vis.:—to take her husband out of the Union, where he would never be, had he not the misfortune of lesing his sight some years ago-a young man then in constant employment.

The father John Hayman is an inmate in the North Dablin Union, a fine streng men, only for the loss of his eight. Hoping you will take up this deserving

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A. J. McDowald. TO THE EDITOR IRISH WORKER. 27 Queen's Terrace, Dublin,

14 h May, 1912, DEAR SIR.—I wish to convey to you my

heartful thanks for the sineere sympathy shown me by your Band, in the loss I have austained in the death of my husband, as such kindness cannot be too highly appreciated.

I remain, yours respectfully, MRS. DOYLE,

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RELIGION AND SOCIALISM.

(Editorial from "Franciscan Tertiary.") "Avezbishop Carr, of Melbourne, Aesotralia, speaking at the opening of St. J.s. ph's College, Warrnambrol, on January 19, said that 1:0king over the face of the world they must come to the conclusion that a great crisis was approaching. Some persons were straid of Socialism, There was a Socialism which tended to the betterment of humanity—a Socialism which tended to the uplifting of the working man, and of that Socialism he was an ardent supporter But there was also an extreme form of Socialism which was identified with anarchy, and to that be was desperately opposed."

These words of the distinguished Churchman, Dr. Carr, adequately aud smoo'notly state the Catholic care in regard 3 Socialism, and supply food for reflection in this period of transition which we are passing through in Ireland at the present time. Democracy and all that is stands for is coming, if not with leaps and bounds. aileast slowly and surely. The power of the people is daily on the increase. . . When it is a question of landlerd and

tonant the issue is plain, but the issues are complicated in commercial life and the contributory causes of want are well-nigh countless. Our isdustries have been exprised and our trade rained. But the remediable abuses in cue midst; help. less girlbo:d is victimised by paltry wages and overwork, and poor men often have not the heart to be diligent on account of the miserable recompense they receive. Some think that wage-carners should regerd it as a privilege to be allowed to subsist, and that it is a sheer audscity for them to talk of rights.

Lit us, ho sever, remember that in the yezy near future the foiling mages will have articulate voice in our own Parliament when the light of day will be let in on isjusie In the meantime workers have a perfect right to organize, and by name and sober counsel, to premote their own welfare and to aid others in the rame cause, according as the limited resources of our country allow it. The Third Order members cannot fail to be a blessing to every town where they are, as their prudent principles and Christian l'ves must re-act for good on these with whom they associate, and their sensible advice must have a restraining effect on the foolish fancies of dresmers who have momentarily come under the spell of so-called Socialistic regeneration. It is not Socialism to try to elevate the atains of our workers; it is Christianity; it is pablotism, for it will keep our people in I eland and multiply happy homes throughout

UNDER SUSPICION.

Trade Unions Attifude towards the Board of Trade.

According to the Labour Press Agency. there is a growing disposition in Trade Union circles to criticies severely the part played by the Bard of Trade with respect to trade disputes now in progress. It is alleged that the Baard stems to be so bidl served by its Intelligence Department that it is not aware of the serious character of many disputes until hostilties have actually broken out. Then many valuable days are lost in inquiring into the causes of the disputes, the task of conciliation being rendered more difficult meanwhile by the growing feeling that arises in the course of an actual strike or

The London tailors' and tugmen's dispules are cited as cases in point. In both instances it was known for moaths past that there disputes were rending; yet in both cases it was only when the strike notices had expired that the Industrial Conciliation Depaytment of the Board of Trade bestirred itself in order to ascertain

the facts in dispute. The matter is likely to be raised in Parliament at an early date, when the President of the Board of Trade will be asked to agree to the provision of a thor ughly efficient Intelligence Department at the Board of Trade which would keep the Department well posted regarding pending disputes, so that in many cases the good offices of the Beard could be exercired before hestilities broke out.

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

Last week Mr. James Larkin, accompanied by Mr. G Burke, held a mee;ing at Kingstown, in the Union Hall, Lower George-street, when the proposed new rules of government of the Union were discussed at great length, and Mr. Larkin explained the causes which necessitated the slierations in rules. A motion approwing of the proposed new rules was then put to the meeting, when the new rules were approved without opposition The meeting then preceded to nominate two men for post of secretary to the branch. The ballot will take place on Friday night, the 17th instant.

We then went on to Desnsgrange, where another specially convered meeting was held, and the proposed new rules were declared as is actory and approved. I learn at Bray that the branch is inoreasing in numbers weakly, and that the members centemplate the opening of a

new ball.

An Irish Portent.

Labour Politics in Dublin.

"Tas Isisu WORKER!" "TER IBISH Worker!" The stranger in Dablis would find nothing strange in the new ory of the newsboys. In a strange place all things are strange. But the frequent visitor is at once struck with the insistent and almost dominant note that parvades the streets on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. At every street junction where business may be done it attaioned a clearvoice i newsboy, and among his wares is seriainly to be found the small, elmost insignificant but ubiquities Isisu Wor-

For a time I ignored the new coke, but the continuous repeition of the phrase generated a surjosity to know what it all meent. A humble copper secured a copy. A very short time was sufficient to peruse the four printed pages given in exchange, but it was enough to convince one that here indeed was a new force to be renkened with in the social, industrial, and political welfare of Ireland. The "IRISH WORKER" is edied and

controlled by M. Jim La kin, and has taken its stand of behalf of the working people of Ire and. It is yet in its first year of existence wand like all pioneer eff ris, is having a stiff struggle. It is advertised as the paper "that tells the truth." To tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, somer or later lands the proprietors and editor of a Jourmal 'up ag inst it," as our American friends say. Knowing this, I was eager to see of what stuff Jim Larkia was made, his present views and future privoy. It was cary to find his whereaboute, as he is as well-known in Dublin as the Lord Mayor. It was, theref rs, to the Headquarters of the Trish Transport and General Workers' Union that I was directed. and there I found the man who has taken up the oxese of the workers. I had gone to Liberty Hell with certain preconceived ideas of Mr. Jim Larkin, and I found him as I imagined him, a worker among the workers. But for the force of personality and power of command there were nothing in appearance to indicate that he was other than one of the workers themselves. Standing slightly over six feet in height, the facial characteristics are essentially Irish. The name of this paper was the stame to his confidences.

Born in the vicinity of Newry, the Irizh workers' leader is proud of his nationality. While very young his parents removed to England, and that may be said to have been the beginning of his wa derings. In asswer to the ques ion, "What gave"

cu the idea of organising the w. rkers of Ireland?" Mr. Larkin replied that he had had the desire a mest since he was a boy and came to know the conditions under which Irish men and women worked. He was also much influsaced by the late Michael Davist, for whose life and work he has a great admiration. "A e you a baliever in Home Rule for

Ireland?" was another question I asked "Yes," he replied, "for until we get Home Rule are can do little to forward the cause of the workers As an Irishman I am a believer in it, and also by conviction and training."

"What is you opinion of the Irish workers generally compared with other nations?

As a body they are the fines; material in the world. I have travel'ed in many lands, and never met their equal. They are quick at sessing a point, and tenancious to hold on to it. They are somewhat impulsive at fi st, but that will moderate as times go on."

"About your paper, THE IRISH WORKER, you have hopes of it?" "Yes. No cause is complete without

its proje" "In what light do you regard the housing of the people in Dublia?"

It is worse than Glasgow. In Glasgow the houses are built as tenements, but in Dublin they were originally intended to house one family." "Have you any hope in the Corporation

doing anything?" "I believe there are men in the Corpo-

ration who are working for their country's good, but we will be batter able to cope with big problems such as this when we have more workers in the Chamber than at present." "What is your great need at the present

time-capital?"

"Not so mach capital as men-men versed in the history and literature of their own land. The Irish people will give us all the capital we want, as was shown in the Wexford strike, which lasted twenty-seven weeks, and ended in a viotory for the workers. We did not ask a panny from any outside source." During his short period as leader of the

Irish Werkers, Mr. Larkia has remedied many grievances, and to-day he has around him a body of men and wemen such as has not been seen in Irish working class circles before. Will the movement last? is the question

often asked: or will it follow in the train of other Irish movements? Time alone will tell, but to day it is full

of vitality, and its methods of work and organization augur well for the future of the Irish workers.

F. J. M'G.

-"The Edinburgh Catholic Herald."

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