

"EUCHAN" AND IRELAND.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE IRISH WORKER.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,
I would like to know what Euchan means when he writes that "Ireland's sub-conscious mind is away in the glories of the past." "The past, however, is past, Ireland can never be again the glorious nation she was." What does the writer mean by Ireland's sub-conscious mind, and what does he know about Ireland's past? Can he see farther than the soldiers, the saints and the sages of Eirinn? Has he received this message from Balor of the Evil Eye, or does he write the words whispered in his ear by Manconan Mac Lir? Does Euchan think Labour will lay a detaining hand on Ireland's shoulder? Is the hand of Euchan about to write, ne plus ultra on Ireland's soul? "I will want to be steady and true, and very, very strong." How like is Euchan's words to those written long ago which the Gael has not forgotten: "The Gael is gone with a vengeance, Laus Deo!" The Gael is here still, Euchan, stronger to suffer than Hell can harm, and it is, highly improbable that our hearts shall shake before the words of Euchan. So the Labour Party are "not making pikes," but are "making intelligent voters." So, Euchan, you sneer at the pike. It's not the first sneer that winked at the Gael from the face of "The Worker." This weapon only bruises the hand that flings it. And we learn that new gods have come to Eirinn with gifts of intelligence in their hands, and Euchan is one of them. Ah! I fear we Irish will prove unpleasantly unresponsive. Attacks, ignorant and presumptive, upon our cherished ideals will do no good to the Labour movement. The Labour movement can afford to lose some of its friends; 'tis wise to convert an enemy to friendship, who will dare to say that it is wise to ignorantly offend a friend. But we laugh at Euchan; "Ireland will never again be the glorious nation she was," is comically equal to the statement by the same writer, "that Bobbie Burns was, perhaps, the greatest of all Scots."—Perhaps he was, Euchan!
S. O. CATHASIGH.

EUCHAN'S REPLY.

Through the courtesy of the Editor of the WORKER I have been handed the foregoing letter, so that I may make any reply I may deem fitting.

Though I have read the letter with the gravest and greatest attention I can find nothing in it that is worth replying to. If my good critic would try to write less prettily and more logically I might endeavour to make something of his charges. As it is, I must say a suitable reply seems hopeless. If I say that Ireland's "past is past," I can't for the life of me see how I can be said to be laying a "detaining hand on Ireland's shoulder." Will my critic read the article again, without prejudice, in full and not in part, and then he may realise that I was discussing the commercial present and not the romantic past. If he reads the article as I suggest, he may also see that when I talk about "pikes" I am not sneering at them. Pikes have served their day, but their day is past, that's all. When it comes to be a case of removing corrupt politicians from a nation's progress, I submit once more that intelligent voters are of more use than pikes. What does my critic think?

As to his closing remarks about Robert Burns, I am afraid I'm once more at a loss regarding my critic's meaning. It may be my density, or, again, it may be that the writer's logic has been lost amidst his flowery rhetoric.

Briefly re-stated, the arguments of the article were:—

- (a) That the present is purely a commercial age.
- (b) That the coming of Home Rule will bring Ireland into commercial line with its neighbours.
- (c) That the battle of the future in Ireland will be between Capital and Labour.
- (d) That the workers of Ireland must prepare now for that battle.

An intelligent critic will either attempt to refute or to further these arguments in whole or in part. Would he mind writing again after he has read the article.

"EUCHAN."

Independent Labour Party of Ireland.

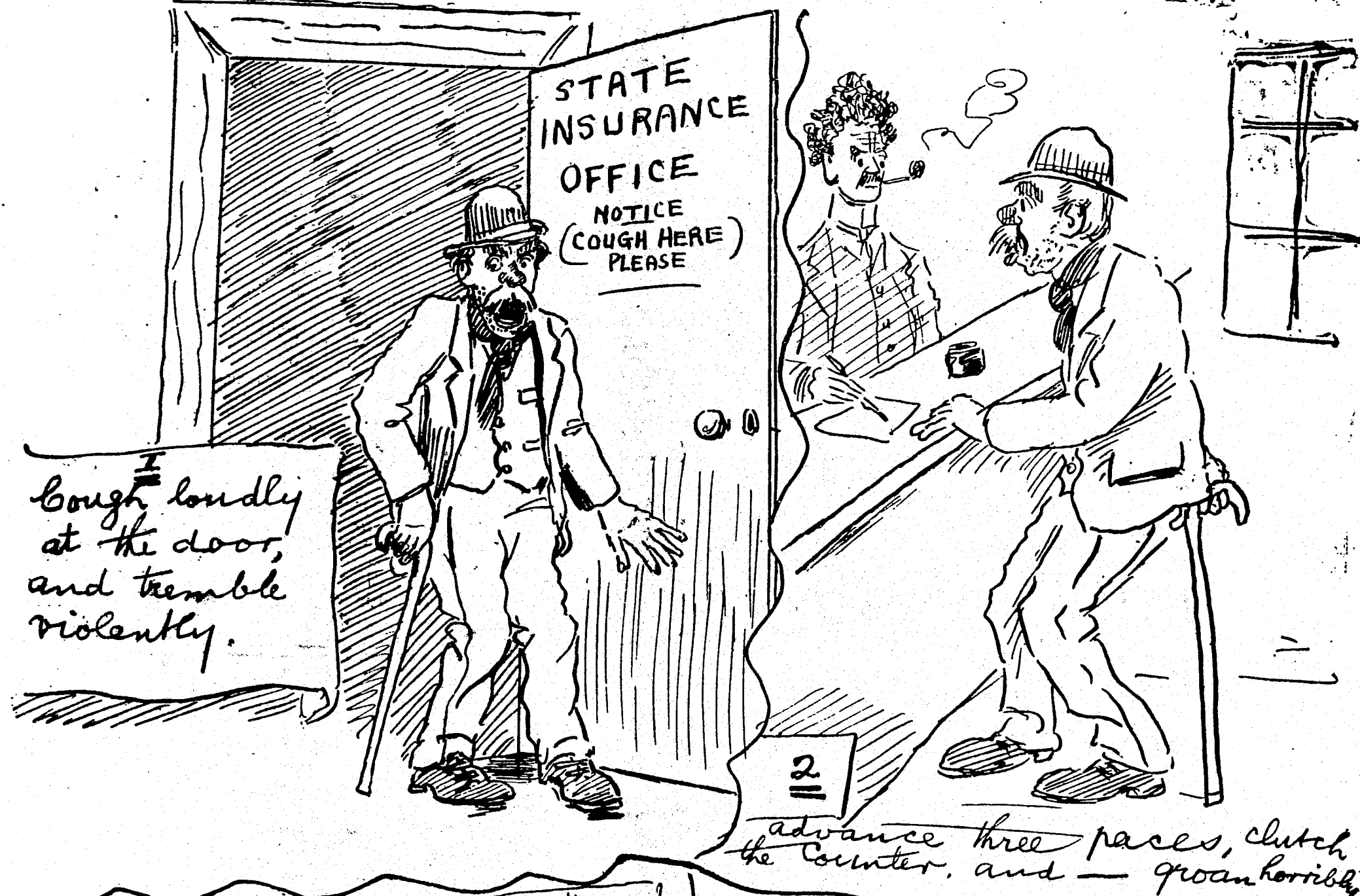
"Reform or Revolution" is the title of a Lecture to be delivered at the Antient Concert Buildings, Great Brunswick Street, on to-morrow (Sunday), at 8 p.m. Admission free. Questions and discussion invited.

WANTED a Bandmaster for the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. Applications to be sent in writing, giving qualifications and remuneration required; trade unionists. No blacklegs or non-unionists need apply.

James Larkin,
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ASK FOR LARKIN'S LOAF.

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Michael's 3/8 Hats
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Overcoats, 21/-, worth 27/6
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Union Made

ADVICE TO INTENDING APPLICANTS FOR THE SICK BENEFIT



advance three paces, clutch the counter, and — groan horribly



explain (in a hollow voice) that you have a wife, and nine children, (all the latter under six years of age) also tell any other plausible lies that may occur to you



when paid, throw away your stick — turn off the "cough & groan" business — and — Run for it !!!

REMEMBER—THE IRISH TRANSPORT & GENERAL WORKERS' UNION, APPROVED SOCIETY under National Insurance Rules, requires no Medical Certificates, except in cases of malingering. All genuine cases accepted on the merits; no delay in settling claims. Maternity claims settled in 12 hours after application. Transfer now—no applications to go across to London; no waiting for a fortnight. We pay sick claims from first day of illness, and full thirty shillings maternity claims. Transfer now to the Workers' Insurance Society; branches throughout the country. We paid the first maternity claim in Ireland; no deductions, no delay; not a profit-making society, but a genuine Insurance Society. No highly-paid officials; no titled ladies and gentlemen managing this society; working women and workingmen control and manage this society in the interest and for the benefit of the working class.

WEXFORD NOTES.

Still the Czar of Wexford's Siberia (Pierce's) is showing his fangs. On Saturday last three more respectable men were thrown out of their employment to make room, we presume, for more of Miley Devereux's gang.

Carr, the man who says he has an exemplary character (for what?) has been brought up from Stafford's and shoved into the paint shop, along with a few of the countrymen, while Bob Banvill and Jem Larkin, two respectable tradesmen, are thrown out.

When Mansfield was thrown out of his job by the Education Board the whole country—North, South, East and West—were up in arms against it (which they had every right to do), but why in the name of all that's wonderful doesn't the same agitation be brought into motion when a poor unfortunate workman is discharged under the most extraordinary circumstances as is being done in Wexford at present by one of the most incompetent men ever elected to such a position. He seems to mind nothing from Monday morning till Saturday but pimpling after workmen who were implicated in the lock-out to try and find some excuse to throw them out on the roadside.

By the way things are going on in Wexford at present Pierce's firm won't last another two years, but the people responsible for this will have made their little pile, and of course it won't matter much to them. They can blame Larkin and Daly for it.

It's a terrible pity Larkin and Daly had nothing to do with the dockyard or hat factory, so that Stafford, Hanton and Barry could blame them for having shut them up.

An Arklow company applied for the dockyard and were refused it. If they had got it there would have been plenty of work in Wexford.

Patrons of the fistic art in Wexford will have an opportunity on St. Patrick's Day of witnessing some very fine encounters to be run by Jem Roche. Jem himself will don the "mits" against a well-known Corkman.

- WE HEAR
- That Wickam's lecture on the advantages of Crosstown sand has been unavoidably postponed.
- That the "Tyghe man" has been requested to give a lecture entitled, "How to Corn Dead Meat."
- That the lantern will be manipulated by Spite Richards.
- That Denny McGhee has been told off to look after the slide.
- That Mike Sheridan has been hired to wheel up the lecturer.
- That the famous Tom Busher is still able to supply beer to Billy Byrne and Co. on Sundays.
- That Spite Richards is up in arms against the Insurance Act.

The Lurgan Cambrie Weaver's Strike.

There is only one industry in Lurgan, viz., the weaving of cambries, and men employed in this occupation earn only from 10s. to 12s. a week of 55 1/2 hours. Women have to toil hard to help to keep the home.

There has been no increase in the wages for years. The last change in the scales, about thirty years ago, was a substantial reduction. A little over five years ago the Ulster Weavers' and Winders' Trade Union was established in Lurgan for the purpose of making an attempt to fight for a living wage. The fight is now on, and 1,700 workers are on strike since 13th January last. Local funds are exhausted. The people are suffering great distress, and must surrender soon if aid is not forthcoming. There is no nobler action than to assist the sweated worker to a living wage for his toil. The cost of living has considerably increased, but Lurgan workers' wages have fallen so that it is now impossible to earn a living, and a great deal of suffering is the result.

The General Federation of Trade Unions has gallantly come forward to our aid, but it is impossible for it to bear the whole burden. We have the sympathy of the public with us; but yet the pinch of poverty is felt, as we have hitherto been only able to pay an average of 5s. per week to each striker.

We urge the speedy assistance of your Union to help us to win our fight, otherwise we must surrender, and our case will then be worse than ever.

A Wages Board for the linen industry in Ireland is urgently needed. Help us to fight for better wages and a Wages Board; help us to fight for a living wage.

We refer you to the General Federation of Trade Unions and to the Belfast Trades Council.
Your obedient Servants,
H. CUMMINS, Chairman.
H. MAXWELL, Treasurer.
17 Hamilton street, Lurgan, Ireland.
WILLIAM O'NEILL, Secretary,
123 Victoria street, Lurgan.

Tram Fatality at Nelson's Pillar. Great Clear-Out of all Winter Drapery Goods

Any person who witnessed accident at Nelson's Pillar (O'Connell Street), on Friday, January 31st, 1913, when young man was killed by tram car whilst working parcel traffic, kindly communicate at once with Messrs. Smyth & Sons, solicitors, 29 Lower Gardiner St., or Irish Transport and General Workers' Union. URGENT.

BELTON & CO. have decided that all remaining winter stock must go before stocktaking, and the reductions made will guarantee a very speedy clearance. We bid a hearty invitation to all our friends to come early and see the many bargains offered. All winter goods must go at any price. We are the cheapest people in the trade.

BELTON & Co., Drapers, THOMAS STREET and GREAT BRUNSWICK STREET,

We close on Wednesdays at 1 o'clock.

Established 1861.
For Reliable Provisions!
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