

INCORPORATING THE
**WORKER'S
REPUBLIC**
FOUNDED BY
JAMES CONNOLLY
15TH AUGUST, 1898.
SUPPRESSED 1916.

IRISH OPINION.
**The
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CATHAL O'SHANNON

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ONE PENNY.

Dublin Trades Council Votes for Graft.

The Spoils System Approved by 46 to 35 Votes.

QUESTIONS FOR THE RANK AND FILE.

Is Dublin Labour Corrupt?
We answer "NO!"—but the decision of the Trades Council delegates on Monday, 16th inst., gives us the lie.

By a majority of the delegates present and voting, Dublin Trades Council accepted the resignation of their Executive Committee.

Why did the Executive resign? Because the Council at a previous meeting had refused to take the deliberated advice of the Executive on a matter involving the integrity and honesty of Labour as an organised force in municipal life.

The history of Labour Representation everywhere—not more and not less than in Dublin—has its records of defeat following victory and victory involving defeat, on the one issue of the personal integrity of the men chosen as Labour's standard bearers.

We cannot risk compromise on this point.

We have to ask poor men to do our work. We expose them to fierce temptation.

Charity may demand a merciful judgment of their failures—but the honour of the entire working-class and the future of democracy is at stake, when the personal disinterestedness of Labour representatives is called in question.

Let Us Look Back.

In 1898 one-fifth of Dublin Corporation consisted of men pledged to sit, act and vote as an independent Labour Party.

That party was sent to Cork Hill to abolish favouritism and nepotism, to fight for fair conditions for Corporation employees, and to wage an unrelenting struggle with the land-owning, house-owning, commercial and financial interests, which then, as now, were strangling the health and well-being of Dublin.

The Spoils System.

The Labour Party of that day fell a victim to the curse of Irish public life—the spoils system.

Their personal friends outside begged them for Corporation jobs. Their relatives had to be provided for.

A minority in the Council, the Labour Party could only obtain these favours by compromise.

They could not expose the graft and intrigues of their opponents when the latter had it in their power to prove that Labour was up to the neck in every piece of job-hunting and contract graft.

Bribed to Duty.

The saddest feature of it all was that for performing their simple duty these men expected to be paid.

If any section of Corporation employees received an increase in wages by their efforts, a day's pay, or the first week's increase, went into a testimonial to the Labour member concerned.

A Case in Point.

Mr. W. G. Webb, J.P., at Derry Asylum Committee, called attention to a paragraph in the "Derry Journal" alleging that members had received a gratuity from attendants for service to their union. If the statement were true the person concerned should not in future sit at that board. Several members said the name should be given. An order was made that the clerk investigate the charge and report.

From the "Irish Independent," Monday, June 23.

Corporation, and while the Council was debating the subject a scheme was afoot to raise a subscription among the employees of Richmond Lunatic Asylum for the benefit of the Labour members on the governing body of that institution.

The Richmond scheme was dropped, and to avoid censure of past actions, the words "in future" were inserted in the resolution, which, as adopted, read:—

"That, in the opinion of this Council, the acceptance in future by a Labour member of a testimonial from the employees of any public body of which he is a member, is a most undesirable practice, and calculated to bring discredit on the Labour movement."

Be it noted that the resolution was adopted **unanimously.**

It was not only adopted at one meeting of the Trades Council, but it was accepted in the minutes at the next.

It became binding on the soul and conscience of every delegate and every Labour Representative to honour and support the resolution.

The Affairs Lawlor.

Early in the present year the following circular went the rounds:—

(Copy.)
Testimonial to Thomas Lawlor, Esq., P.L.G.

For some years past the numerous friends and admirers of Mr. Thomas Lawlor have been wishful to place on record their high esteem and appreciation of his sterling qualities and kindly acts since he entered public life, and in response to their wishes the following committee has been formed to give them practical effect.

The Committee have no desire to eulogise Mr. Lawlor, as they consider same would be superfluous, his name being a household word amongst the poor and working classes.

All subscriptions to be sent to Hon. Treasurer, which will be duly acknowledged by Hon. Secretary.

Committee:

Thomas Dobson, 20 Capel Street.
Francis Cole, 33 Bride Street.
Thomas Coyne, P.L.G., 34 Wexford St.
Edward Flynn, 174 James's Street.
Dr. Daly, 23 Lower Mount Street.
Michael McCormick, 169 H. Block, Iveagh Buildings.
Michael Ryan, 12 Camden Street.
P. J. Tormey, 23 Parliament Street.
Thomas McKeown, 22 Curzon Street.
DR. O'DONNELL, Castle Street, Chairman.
W. C. CRIMMINS, 27 James's Street, Treasurer.
JAMES MORRISSY, 22 South Circular Rd., Rialto, Sec.
Messrs. Dobson, Cole, Coyne, P.L.G., Ryan, Tormey and Crimmins are publicans. Mr. Flynn manages a public house. Dr. Daly and Dr. O'Donnell are Poor Law officials and Mr. McCormick is also on the Guardians' staff. Mr. Morrissey is a master butcher. Mr. McKeown is another important public official, being keeper-in-ordinary of the Nelson Pillar gate.

Mr. Lawlor disowned the circular, and promised to stop the movement. At the Executive meeting on April 10 it was reported that Mr. Lawlor had received the presentation, but before further considering the matter the Executive invited Mr. Lawlor to attend their meeting on April 24, and explain the circumstances.

At the latter meeting Mr. Lawlor said he had taken steps to have the presentation stopped, and believed he had succeeded.

Some time afterwards, however, he learned that his wife had received a sum of money without his knowledge or consent, which he regretted, but he held that he was in no way responsible, as he had done all he could do to stop it.

The Executive resolved to ask Mr. Lawlor to resign from the Board of Guardians and Richmond Asylum Board, as they considered the resolution of December, 1917, had been infringed and the Labour movement compromised.

By 36 votes to 20 Dublin Trades Council rejected the Executive's recommendation.

An appeal to the affiliated societies followed. The case was fully stated in a circular sent to each union in Dublin, addressed to "the officers and members of all affiliated Unions." (See the "Voice," May 31.)

Here is where the failure of Dublin Labour is exposed.

Very few affiliated Unions took the advice of the Executive and called special meetings of the members to consider this vital issue.

The ultimate decision was therefore not made by the voice of the rank and file.

The officers, not the members, decided to reject the resolution of 1917 and accept the resignations of the Executive.

The Test.

"We ask," said the Executive, "for a clear and unequivocal mandate for or against the resolution of December, 1917, and we desire to make it quite clear that under no circumstances will we undertake any responsibility for the work of the Council unless our recommendation is adopted, and the action of Council on May 19th rescinded."

The "acid test" could not be better expressed. The Executive asked for a clear mandate for or against the resolution to prevent

Blackmail and Corruption.

The mandate, so far as the delegates who compose the Dublin Trades Council are concerned, is "clear and unequivocal."

Forty-six delegates voted for corruption.

Thirty-five delegates voted against corruption.

By a majority of eleven, Dublin Trades Council acclaimed the right of Labour representatives on public bodies to exploit the people's trust to their own advantage.

The matter is ended so far as the Trades Council is concerned. It is now the business of the rank and file in every Union to see that in each this vital issue of principle is faced.

Particularly the duty devolves on the members of those unions whose delegates either voted with the majority or shirked the plain issue by abstaining.

Not a few perhaps were deterred from voting by the mob that howled to the orders of Delia Larkin and M. Mullen. If so they are good for nothing, "neither fish, flesh, nor good red herring."

Is the rank and file of Dublin labour to lie under the disgrace of that rowdy meeting and base vote?

What Does Logue Mean?

Mr. D. Logue has seen fit to become Chairman of a Council which endorses the Testimonial system, and he is accompanied on the new Executive by another member of the Irish Clerical Workers' Union, Mr. Blackburne of the "South Dublin Union" Branch.

Does the I.C.W.U. stand for this new approval of the spoils system?

The Grocers.

Mr. Edward Flynn, President of the Grocers' and Vintners' Assistants' Union was one of the signatories to the Lawlor Testimonial, and Mr. J. Stapleton, Vice-President of the same Union, appears on the list of the new Executive.

Does the National Union of Grocers' and Vintners' Assistants agree?

Anti-Larkin.

It will be seen that the new Executive, besides being handicapped by its adherence to the Testimonial method of paying for the services of the Labour representatives, includes some of Jim Larkin's fiercest opponents, the people who falsely denounced him as an alien importation, an agent of Continental Freemasonry and an atheist.

Transport Union Barred.

Not one representative of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union has a seat on the new Executive. From the Firemen's Union of Thirty-Five members, including the famous Minority and Majority, upward, the new Executive represents only the old narrow craft unions and the still narrower and more completely obsolete local sectional unions.

Such is the new Trades Council. All that Larkin and Connolly fought for in their cleansing work in the old house in Capel Street is surrendered.

Dublin Trades Council stands now for the pre-Larkin corruption, for sectionalism against unity, for craft against the Industrial Union.

Trades Councils Obsolete.

This is a serious blow to the progress of Labour, industrially and politically. Formerly the Trades Council spoke for a clean, self-respecting, and uncompromisingly independent movement. It had behind it the force of the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, the largest unit in its ranks.

An Independent View.

Under the heading, "Trades Council Split," the "Dublin Saturday Post" comments editorially upon the unfortunate vote of the Dublin Trades Council on the Testimonial question.

As the "Post" has always displayed a friendly interest in the work of the Trades Council, its considered opinion is of more than a little value. If the friends of Labour find it necessary to be so outspoken, we can imagine to what uses the decision of the delegates will lend itself in the hands of Labour's ever-vigilant foes.

The "Post" says:—

"It is to be greatly regretted that at a time when unity in the Labour Party is a matter of essentially national importance, the Dublin Trades Council have indulged themselves in the luxury of a split. We do not know enough about the facts of the matter which have given rise to the dispute to give any opinion on it. We are not at all sure that the matter was as tactfully handled in the beginning as it might have been.

"We can very well believe that Mr. Lawlor, as has been stated, was the innocent victim of the kindness of over-zealous friends, and that something much less drastic than a decree of expulsion from public life would have met the case.

"But at the same time on the matter of principle we are bound to say that we think the officials were absolutely right. If there is one plank in the policy of the Labour Party which they have emphasised again and again, it is the necessity of raising the standard of honesty in public life.

"It is not enough for a representative of Labour to conform to the old loose standards. He must be not only incorruptible, but, like Caesar's wife, he must be above suspicion.

"Moreover, the whole business of giving testimonials is a rotten thing. They may be justifiable on very rare and special occasions, but even on those occasions they place a man in a position in which both his dignity and his self-respect are bound to suffer; but to give or to offer a reward by the employees of a public Board to any man for doing his duty on that Board, obviously opens the way to the gravest abuses, and should not be tolerated in any party, much less in a party who are avowedly out to end corruption."

DUBLIN TRADES COUNCIL EXECUTIVE.

The following members of the new Executive of the Dublin Trades Council voted in favour of the acceptance of testimonials before their election to their present positions:—Miss Kelly (Women Workers'), John Walsh (Brass-founders), John Bowes (Corporation Workers), John Stapleton (Grocers' Assistants), W. Blackburne (Irish Clerical Workers'), T. Nolan (Bookbinders), Miss Orme (Amalgamated Tailors), W. J. Muldowney (Stationary Engine Drivers), M. McCloskey (Butchers), H. Dale (Boot and Shoe Operatives).

Messrs. H. McDermott (Engineers) and H. Slevin (N.U.R.) were elected on the Executive, but voted against the acceptance of testimonials. What are they doing amongst the pro-testimonialists now?

What have the rank and file of their Unions to say to those members of the new Executive who voted in favour of testimonials, and then voted themselves into office?

CUMANNACHT NA HEIREANN.

The half-yearly meeting of the S.P.T. will be held at 42 Nth. St. George's St. on Friday, July 4th, at 8 p.m. The usual monthly meeting will not take place Friday, June 27th, but members are invited to attend the rooms on Thursday, June 26th, at 8.30 p.m. to take literature for sale at the Hotel Workers' Concert in the Mansion House on Friday night.

If it was not loved by the master-class, it was at least respected and feared.

Since 1913 it had enjoyed the unquestioned prestige of leadership in Irish Labour.

Broken down now on a moral issue, speaking only for fragmentary organisations, its position is parlous.

The question arises whether such a form of organisation has not outlived its day. Effective local action by the labour forces is no longer possible through a federation of trade union branches. Direct workshop representation on workers' committees for each industry is what the present circumstances call for, and a reactionary Trades Council is but an obstacle to their formation.

And our opponents in the Press and on the platform were not slow to say that these representatives of Labour were living on blackmail.

Where is the Dublin Municipal Labour Party to-day? Without them the Corporation is no cleaner, no less corrupt.

Big business dominates at Cork Hill unchecked, because at every election the spokesman of Labour, however well esteemed personally, is still handicapped by the unsavoury record of his predecessors.

To End This Evil

the then Executive of Dublin Trades Council brought forward, in December, 1917, a resolution condemning the practice of Labour members receiving testimonials from the employees of the Boards on which they served.

A short time before, Mr. P. T. Daly had been the recipient of a testimonial subscribed largely by employees of the

IRISH OPINION.

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:: ALL-IRELAND LABOUR WEEKLY. ::

THE DISHONOUR OF DUBLIN TRADES COUNCIL.

At no time in the recent history of Labour in Ireland has Labour in Dublin dishonoured itself as the majority vote at the Dublin Trades Council did on Monday night week. When Labour in other parts of Ireland was weak and wobbling, Dublin was strong and firm. When the workers in other cities went wrong, Dublin went straight. When those who were the chosen leaders of Labour in other places betrayed the trust of the working class, the leaders in Dublin stood loyally together and fought bravely and cleanly for the men and women who choose them as guides.

Dublin was always straight. Dublin was always loyal. Dublin was always glorious. Through weal and through woe Dublin was all these things. Here and there indeed there were men who stained the record, but they were few, and in the end they were powerless for evil.

That was true of the great fight of 1913-14. It was true of the great trial of the war from 1914 till 1918. It was true of the great test of Easter, 1916. And it was true both of the early and the late months of 1918, when Dublin led all Ireland to victory against Conscription and against Imperialism. Well might Connolly call Dublin magnificent, for the workers of Dublin were always to the fore for the noble deed and the noble sacrifice.

But on Monday week forty-six delegates broke with the whole history, traditions, and principles of Labour when they voted acceptance of the resignation of the Executive of the Dublin Trades Council.

Let us recall the circumstances and the facts.

In December, 1917, the Dublin Trades Council, the delegates of the various Unions in Dublin, came to a unanimous decision on the question of the receipt of testimonials by Labour members of public boards. This unanimous decision was in these terms:

"That, in the opinion of this Council, the acceptance in future by a Labour member of a testimonial from the employees of any public body of which he is a member, is a most undesirable practice, and calculated to bring discredit on the Labour movement."

That decision was not carried out. In the opinion of the dismissed Executive, it was broken by Mr. Thomas Lawlor. Mr. Lawlor denied that he had any knowledge that a committee of Poor Law Guardians, Poor Law Officials, and publicans was collecting subscriptions for a testimonial to him. It was a fact all the same, and we published the testimonial circular on May 31. The collection was made, and on April 24 Mr. Lawlor told the Executive of the Trades Council that his wife had received the money, but without his consent. At that meeting the Executive decided that they had no option but to ask for Mr. Lawlor's resignation, and the Vice-President was asked to convey their view on the matter to Mr. Lawlor.

On May 19 the Executive reported on the matter to the Trades Council, and the report was rejected by the Council. By that vote the Council scrapped its own anti-testimonial decision of December, 1917. It vomited its honour and flung it in the gutters.

As a consequence, the Executive at its meeting on May 22, two members being absent, decided to resign in a body. They did the honourable thing, the decent thing, the clean thing. They stuck by the anti-testimonial principle. They refused to drag Labour back into the dirt from which the honesty of Jim Larkin and the incorruptibility of James Connolly had rescued it. And why?

Because in the old days of fifteen and twenty years ago the name of Labour members on the public boards was a reproach and a bye-word through their rottenness, their corruption, their cadging for jobs and testimonials, and the bribes

and smiles of contractors and politicians and the blackmailing of unfortunate devils of employees.

Because under the gang that has held sway on the public boards in Ireland for twenty years jobbery and corruption are rampant. Because the next elections will be the real test whether Irishmen and women are capable of administering their own affairs, and if they fail, it must not be through their corruption and rottenness.

Because if there are to be Labour representatives on the public boards they must not sully or soil the record of these later years, and they must be straight and clean and incorrupt if they are to serve the people.

On Monday week, June 16, by a majority of 46 against 35, the Dublin Trades Council accepted the resignation of the Executive, refused to rescind its vote of May 19th, declared in favour of testimonials to Labour members of public bodies, and elected a new Executive.

That vote is a stain on the honour of the workers of Dublin, and a stain on the not dishonourable record of Labour in Ireland to-day. It is a vote inviting Labour members, many of whom are officials in receipt of wages from the workers, to accept, ay and to initiate testimonials to themselves. It is a vote calling for a cash consideration to whet the interest of elected representatives of the people in public duties for which they have no need of salaries. In short, it is a vote for corruption in public life.

Some of the men and women who voted against the old Executive may not understand the vote in that sense. We shall give them the opportunity of explaining themselves, and we shall be glad if they will come forward and disavow their vote.

In the meanwhile, we declare that until they have proven that a vote in favour of money gifts from officials and employees of public boards to Labour members of those boards is not corruption, the following have voted for corruption: the shape of financial testimonials:—

H. Dale (Boat and Shoe Operatives); R. Meates, J. Nolan (Bookbinders); C. Noonan (Bakers); J. Walsh (Brass-founders); J. M'Cann, — M'Gloskey (Butchers); P. Rafferty, N. Tyrrell (Builders' Labourers); J. Farrelly (Amal, Carpenters); R. Tynan, D. Magee, P. Johnson, P. Bowes, R. Farrell, J. Cassidy (Corporation Workmen); D. Logue, J. M'Donnell, R. Blackburn, M. J. Garnett, W. F. Mulligan, T.C. (Clerical Workers); J. J. Collins, Sean Duffy (Electricians); P. T. Daly (Fire Brigadesmen); J. Stapleton, Jas. Gill, P. M'Gormick (Greens' Assistants); J. Brock (Gold and Silver Workers); T. Fitzgerald (Litho Printers); E. Ryder (Loco Engine Drivers); E. Hart (Paviors); P. Birmingham (Plumbers); P. W. Nally, J. J. Hogan (Post Office Clerks); W. J. Muldowney, J. Perle (Stationery Engine Drivers); Miss Orme, Miss Flynn (Amal, Tailors); T. Masterson (Toolmakers); W. J. Murphy (Whitesmiths); Miss B. Kelly, Miss R. Barrington, Miss M. Cullen (Irish Women Workers); M. J. Greenwood, F. Murray (Wood-cutting Machinists); P. Gosgrove (?) (Shop Assistants).

We invite any of these to explain in our columns why he or she voted in favour of testimonials, and we hope the workers in their Unions will give them the same invitation. Some of them we are sorry to see in that gallery.

At the same time, we invite the following to explain in our columns why they did not vote, although they were present when the vote was taken:—John Lawlor (Asylum Workers); J. Brennan, Liam Slattery (Automobile Drivers); M. Gulliton (General Carpenters); H. Rochford (Hairdressers).

We hope all these delegates are proud of themselves, and that their Unions are as proud of them as they are themselves. But it's not the kind of pride the workers of Dublin have been able to boast of these last ten years.

IRISHMEN IN BARROW.

In the Labour Party Rooms, Barrow-in-Furness, on June 15 a big meeting of Irishmen and women residents formed a branch of the Irish Self-Determination League of Great Britain. The meeting was convened by Sean D. Kearns, Constructional Operatives' organiser, and addressed by him, Messrs. R. Bettinson, Arthur Burden, J. W. Meagher (Boiler-makers), and others. "The Voice of Labour" was sold out.

SPRINGBURN SPRINGS AHEAD.

The Irish Labour Party in the locomotive suburb of Glasgow has been doing useful work since it began its open-air campaign. (There are no proclamations in Scotland).

Paisley, Duntocher, Winshaw, Craig-

neuk, Blantyre, and Jellyhill have been visited, and it is expected that branches will be formed in each district before summer ends.

Up to date literature sales total £6 8s. 4d., and collections £4 17s. 2d. About seven dozen copies of the "Voice" are sold each week.

The speakers' corps includes Comrades Corr, Walker, MacDermott, and Carlin. There's a lesson here for Irish Labour at home and elsewhere in Great Britain.

INVOLUNTARY OMISSIONS.

Dr. Patrick M'Cartan and the "New York Call" will observe that some short passages were omitted from the letter by the doctor which we printed last week.

We are not permitted to tell the people of Ireland that M'Cartan is doing the work they sent him to do. After all, it's hardly necessary.

The Workers' Republic.

The great only appear great because we are on our knees
LET US RISE.

The American Report.

The censorship prevented us from commenting on the report of the American Commission when it was issued a few weeks ago. Last week, however, the Censor withdrew the prohibition, and at the same time Mr. Macpherson's attempted reply was published in the daily Press. That reply has been analysed in the daily Press, and scores of witnesses have come forward to prove the Americans right and expose the tissue of falsehoods for which the Chief Secretary has been responsible. Macpherson's reply itself admits the greater number of the charges made against his Government in Ireland, and is a most valuable argument against the rule of that Government in this country.

Attacks on Trade Unionism.

Mr. Macpherson lies brazenly when he says that the Labour movement in Ireland is not "being thwarted or suppressed or at all interfered with by the Army and Constabulary." In proof of that we need only mention a few concrete instances of interference and suppression of quite recent date. The week before last the regular weekly meeting of the committee of the Irish Transport and General Workers' in Golden, Tipperary, was broke up by a sergeant of the R.I.C. and a large body of military. The same week the Dublin Metropolitan Police forcibly suppressed a Labour concert in the Mansion House, Dublin. Last week a Transport Union concert in Waterford was proclaimed by a Brigadier-General, and a Transport Union meeting at Thurles was dispersed by police flourishing revolvers and threatening to shoot up the whole town. On May 14 at Rhode, King's Co., Transport Union strike pickets were taken out of their beds by military and sentenced for "illegal assembly" under the special Crimes Act by a court from which the public were excluded.

May Day Meetings.

At the time "The Voice" was prevented by the censorship from announcing that the police all over Ireland had ordered that red flags were not to be carried or displayed on Labour Day. All speeches were prohibited at the Dublin gathering on May Day. At Castlelea the printer of the Labour Day posters was prosecuted. At Killarney a number of girls were arrested for selling Labour flags on May 1st. They were discharged on May 20, and then re-arrested and finally sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment in Cork Jail. On Tuesday of last week at Mallow, Co. Cork, two members of the Transport Union were charged with unlawful assembly, and the illegal act of carrying a Red Flag, and found guilty by a special court sitting under the Crimes Act. Their "offence" had been committed at a Transport Union gathering on May Day. In Dublin a boy named Michael Douglas and Tom Farren, Vice-Chairman of the Irish Labour Party, were fined for the sale of Labour flags on Labour Day. A meeting called for the Mansion House to protest against the continued imprisonment of Pete Larkin and other industrial workers in Australia was proclaimed on May 3; two speakers from the Socialist Party of Ireland were arrested and fined £5 each for taking part in a Socialist meeting.

Trade Union Officials.

Mr. Macpherson says trade union officials in Ireland have not been victims of military or police atrocities in Ireland. He lies. Every second official of a trade union in the greater part of Ireland has been a victim of militarism in one shape or another. James Connolly, a wounded prisoner, was executed by a British firing party. Councillor W. P. Partridge was sent home from jail to die of ill-treatment during his imprisonment. Thomas Foran, William O'Brien, Jack Dowling and scores of others have been interned, and all these are trade union officials. J. J. Hughes was sent to penal servitude, and others less prominent have been sent to prison again and again. Organisers and secretaries of trades union branches are still in prison. On Monday of this week the house of Ernest Noonan, a clerk in the head office of the Transport Union, was raided by the D.M.P. and a Scotland Yard man. And these instances could be multiplied ad infinitum.

The Kindly Peelers.

Perhaps Mr. Macpherson will explain away the raid on the house of Mr. Seumas O'Doherty last week. We give the facts as they appeared in "The Freeman's Journal":

Mr. Seumas O'Doherty was arrested at his residence in Phibsborough on Saturday under painful circumstances.

Mr. O'Doherty is a commercial traveller, and resided with his wife and young family at 32 Connaught street. While he was absent on business and while Mrs. O'Doherty was a patient in a

private nursing home in the city, a number of policemen in plain clothes raided the house on Friday evening. At the time there were in the house only four small children, the eldest of whom is not quite seven years of age, and the maid in charge of them, a young girl aged about seventeen. The police visitors searched every room in the house, turning everything "upside down"; they dug in the garden.

Mrs. O'Doherty, having heard of the raid on her house, insisted, though she was still confined to bed, on going home; and she was driven to her residence in a taxi, accompanied by a nurse. Arrived home, she went to bed.

On Saturday morning another raid was made by five policemen in plain clothes. One of them forced an entrance through a window, and then admitted the other four by the front door. Mr. O'Doherty, who in the interval that had elapsed since the raid the previous evening had returned home, came downstairs partially dressed and was immediately arrested.

The A.F. of Hell.

The old and "respectable"—we use the quotes advisedly—American Federation of Labour sitting in Congress at Atlantic City has declared in favour of the recognition of the Irish Republic. Let there should be any misapprehension as to the worth of that declaration, let it be said that the American Federation of Labour is the most conservative organisation of any kind in the United States. Its leader, who swings its votes from the Republican to the Democratic parties at will, and who is resolutely opposed to the political independence of Labour, is an Englishman, Samuel Gompers. Industrially, the A.F. of L. (of Hell, say the Radicals) stands for the narrow sectional grouping of the workers according to craft. The assembly at Atlantic City has not only repudiated the Soviet, but has also voted down the One Big Union. The proposal to take part in the July 4th General Strike for the release of Tom Mooney was also turned down, although nine hundred and sixty unions have already voted in favour of down tools on July Fourth.

We can thank the A.F. of L. for its vote in favour of independence, but it is to the I.W.W. and the revolutionary Socialists we must look for action. Like the Republican and Democratic Friends of Irish Freedom the American Federation is great on words.

One for the Lamp-Post.

Lord Powerscourt, who has victimised several of his employees and evicted them from his houses, had the insolence to preside at the annual meeting of the National Children's Hospital. He said: "The war now mercifully drawing to a close was very crushing for those who sought to set their heel on the freedom of the universe. The horizon, however, was not clearing, and it might be many months before there was peace at home."

There can be no peace, my Lord, until your heel is removed from the freedom of Enniskerry.

THE BISHOPSCOURT STRIKE.

A campaign of innuendo against the Transport Union in connection with the strikes in this place has been carried on in the pages of a Glasgow paper. As the dispute has now been settled, a few facts will put the case in its true light.

Without disparagement of any other branch or section, the Kill men are the best spirited group in the county, as they are also, despite the insidious propaganda of Lord Cloucurry's protegee, the most solid in their support of the Union.

It might have been inferred from the "Socialist" that no support had been forthcoming for the strikers. The strike cost the central funds of the Union £230, and Naas branch, of which Kill is a section, struck a 2d. levy. The strike pay was 15s. per man from head office, 5s. for married men and 3s. for single men from local funds (i.e., 20s. and 18s. a week respectively.)

In addition, several men awaiting trial for alleged offences have been defended at the expense of the Union. Their cases are still subjudice, and comment is not possible.

All the men have obtained work elsewhere, and declare they will not return to Kennedy's employment. Mr. Kennedy has lost about £7,000, and is not likely to repeat the trouble.

MAN VERSUS THE BULL.

A bull recently exhibited in Dublin was valued at £10,100.

Under the Workmen's Compensation Act a man is only worth £300. Therefore under Capitalism, one bull equals thirty-three and two-thirds men.

