

NATIONALITY

EDITED BY ARTHUR GRIFFITH.

Vol. 1. No. 40. (New Series).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1917.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

WEEK BY WEEK.

On Sunday last public meetings in support of the Sinn Féin movement were held in Buninadden and Dromod, Sligo, the speakers from Dublin being Messrs. Sean Milroy, W. J. Cole and Sean Brown; in Goresbridge, Co. Kilkenny, addressed by Messrs. W. Costello, M.P., John O'Mahony and O'Leary-Curtis; in Tochar, Co. Wicklow, addressed by Mr. Darrell Figgis; in Drimoleague, Co. Cork, addressed by Mr. Michael Collins, and in Clara, King's Co., addressed by Mr. E. C. Fleming.

On Sunday Messrs. Eamonn De Valera and Arthur Griffith addressed an enthusiastic meeting outside the City of Waterford. The meeting, which had been originally called for The Mall, was proclaimed by the British Government in the interests of Mr. Redmond, the present Parliamentary representative of Waterford. Sufficient troops and armed Constabularymen to make General Cadorna's mouth water were hurried to the city, and on Sunday morning field artillery were trained upon Waterford, machine-guns were in evidence in the streets, and English troops, fully equipped—even to trench helmets—held the pass for the "Leader of the Constitutional Party." The British Navy came to Mr. Redmond's assistance by prohibiting the sailing of the steamer which was bringing a contingent from Mr. Redmond's native Westford.

On Saturday night when Messrs. De Valera and Griffith arrived they were met by enthusiastic crowds at the railway station, and a procession, headed by the Volunteers, marched through the city to the Metropole Hotel. Sunday was a day of incessant and torrential rain, and it was in face of this that three thousand people walked two miles to attend the meeting, at which Ald. Powar presided, and which, in addition to Messrs. De Valera and Griffith, was addressed by Dr. White, Councillor O'Connor, Mr. William Norris, D.C., and Mr. Dee, Dungarvan. In the evening the visitors were presented with addresses at the Sinn Féin Club, which was thronged to the doors. The evidences of the existence of the Constitutional Party in a woman in the street and the breaking of panes of glass in the houses of two Sinn Féiners, while they were from home.

Alderman Power, who was moved to the chair on the motion of Alderman Quinlan, is 83 years of age, and hale and vigorous. As a young man he hailed O'Connell in Waterford, and was associated with Thomas Francis Meagher. He is the only public man in Ireland to-day who links the Ireland of 1917 with the Ireland of O'Connell. Until Mr. Redmond recanted his Nationalism and became an English Imperialist Alderman Power supported him, as he had supported O'Connell and Parnell. At 83 he came to testify to Sinn Féin as the true gospel of Irish Nationalism.

On Sunday, 10th November, there was a public meeting on the lands of Toorameon, parish of Bohola, Co. Mayo, where Colonel Jordan proposes to evict 26 tenants from holdings reclaimed by them from the wilds of Shave Horn—from the houses built by themselves with stones carried on their backs from the neighbouring land. In spite of incessant rain the previous night and throughout Sunday, the meeting was large. Contingents were present from Kiltimagh and Swinford. Two bands attended. Mr. Ginnell, M.P., addressed the meeting.

Here is how the latest "Daily Mail" explores Ireland proposes to silence the Russians, Swedes and Norwegians when they venture annoy him by asking "What about Ireland?" We quote from the issue of Saturday last:—

When friends in Russia, Sweden and Norway asked me how we proposed at the Peace Conference to differentiate between our treatment of Ireland and Germany's treatment of Poland or Austria's treatment of Bohemia, it was my habit to answer that we had not, like the Central Powers, shot down thousands of men for refusing to fight against their kindred which answer, let me point out to Mr. Arthur Griffith, holds good any way, and that we had given the Irish people absolute freedom to decide for themselves how they should be ruled. One needs to go abroad to realise how important are these questions and their answer to the future settlement of the nations as to the merits and settlement of the present world conflict.

It will be observed that the "Daily Mail" agent abroad admits that the people in Russia, Sweden and Norway take it for granted that Ireland's case will be equally heard with that of Poland at the Peace Conference. As to this ingenious gentleman's "habit" of assuring them that England had not shot down men for refusing to fight against their kindred, and that Germany had, his habit was apparently modelled on that of Ananias. As to the suggestion that the man of a bad habit had seen and spoken with the Editor of this journal, it is untrue. And as to the statement that England had given the Irish people absolute freedom to decide for themselves how they should be ruled, it is a lie, lock, stock and barrel. England refused to permit the Irish people absolute freedom, or any freedom at all, to decide for themselves how they should be ruled. Instead, England nominated, with-

cut reference to the Irish people, a number of men wedded to her interests to devise a scheme by which she could continue to rule this country in defiance of Irish feeling. How the international situation is hitting her is shown by the fact that her agents have now to absolutely lie for her. Note the admission that the question of Ireland must be discussed in connection with the general European settlement unless England can make it appear that her "Convention" speaks for Ireland.

Speaking at the London Lord Mayor's Banquet last week, Mr. Bonar Law, English Cabinet Minister, said:—

We know that no nation has won, or has preserved, freedom which was not prepared to fight for it—which was not prepared to strain every nerve to drive the invader from their soil.

Speaking in the English House of Commons, Mr. Arthur Balfour, English Cabinet Minister, said:—

We desire to see the map of Europe so re-arranged that the various peoples shall live under the form of government which they desire, and which they think suits their historic development, and their culture, views and necessities.

How the brutal German Government, which oppresses Ireland and shoots and imprisons Irishmen for maintaining the doctrines preached by these liberty-loving English Cabinet Ministers, must wince when they read the candid expressions of noble souls! Herr von Law and Herr von Balfour, who were members of the Government which executed sixteen Irishmen for upholding the ideals now preached by Mr. Law and Mr. Balfour, must realise the immeasurable moral inferiority of the Huns to the hypocritically-hating Briton.

The cables are being heavily over-doped of late with Irish "revolutions" fathered on "Mr. Flynn," chief of the New York detectives—who, like "Mr. Lansing," Secretary of State, is being avoided to float off the product of English Secret Service activities. "Mr. Flynn," like "Mr. Lansing" in Count Luxemburg's case, was only a "piece" for British agents in America, who supply canned goods, long mouldering in stock, to Republican officials. These "Mr. Flynn's" have brought about the arrest in the U.S.A. of Michael O'Callaghan, late of Tipperary, on a charge of killing two policemen who tried to disarm him in Easter Week, 1916; and, if extradition be granted, a trial will take place in Ireland, which must again rivet the attention of the world on our affairs. The British however, did not succeed years ago even in extraditing Lynchman, the escaped convict from Achill Island, who tried to kill his landlady; and the political changes wrought by war may not be enough to persuade Americans that one of our Volunteers, for resisting disarmament in the course of a rising, should be forbidden asylum.

The English Courts in the Ticeino murder case refused to allow the surrender of the Swiss who had killed his Prime Minister twenty years ago in a political scuffle. Yet the English Government do not scruple to embarrass President Wilson by demanding the surrender of a fugitive from Tipperary engaged in a conflict in which all the other living participants have been released from penal servitude. It is like the release of Thomas Ashe and then allowing the police to procure his re-arrest on a flimsy charge, and his jailers to torture him to death.

If Mr. O'Callaghan is extradited complications will arise of great interest for Messrs. Dillon and Redmond and Sir Mylthrew Nathan. They are essential witnesses for his defence. Extradition, we are told, is demanded on the plea that the prisoner was guilty of "the cold-blooded murder of two policemen"; but Messrs. Dillon and Redmond, according to the Hardinge Commission, can enlighten the Court to the contrary. They said Nathan knew that the Volunteers had received orders to resist to the death every attempt to deprive them of weapons. The raid on the Kents of Co. Cork will assist their memories. We may, therefore, soon learn what advice as to disarming the Volunteers Mr. Dillon and Mr. Redmond gave Nathan, and what Nathan told the R.I.C. on the instruction of our "great leaders."

Some months ago, during the warm weather, the English military authorities stored a large quantity of purchased hay at a guarded part of the North Wall in Dublin, inaccessible to the general public. The stored hay went on fire, as stored hay often does. The English military authorities later on claimed compensation from the ratepayers of Dublin, alleging that the firing of the hay was malicious. They brought no evidence whatever to sustain their allegation; but the Recorder of Dublin admitted the claim, and added £11,000 to the burden the people of Dublin have to bear next year.

Store hay, unless carefully looked after, is liable in certain conditions to spontaneous combustion. The Recorder of Dublin did not put one single question to the English military claimants for £11,000 from the people of Dublin to ascertain whether ordinary care was exercised to prevent the hay from overheating. He had before him the fact that the hay was stored and guarded in a place which was not accessible to the public. He had before him the other fact that the English military had not a shred of evidence that

the firing was malicious, rather than the outcome of their own carelessness; and in his servility to English militarism he charged his fellow-citizens £11,000.

In Huntingdonshire, in England, the other day 300 tons of Government hay went on fire through overheating, and was destroyed. The guards on this hay, not being members of the British Regular Army, reported three times to an officer of that body that the hay, unless it was properly attended to, would go afire. The guards were dismissed for their pains, the hay left as it was, and, of course, it went afire. But, after the Dublin precedent, the incompetent military officers of St. Ives should apply for compensation on the ground that the hay was maliciously fired. If St. Ives possessed a parallel to the Recorder of Dublin, they would probably get it.

Some years ago there was a dispute in Thurles over some bankruptcy proceedings and transfer of a house. It was at a dull time, and there were no wars, rumours of wars, sensational murder or divorce cases to spread over the Press. The Press made the most of the Thurles row, lurid adjectives abounded and exaggerated statements were made giving an extraordinary picture of turbulent scenes. The official war news of today, the "Daily Mail" special correspondents at the different fronts, at Cork and Clare could scarcely improve on the fantastic Press columns written over the little squabble, which was simply a stone-throwing at a vacant house and another. Thurles, however, got a name for excitability and turbulence. It is an ordinary town, the people are ordinary and very well behaved. Several large Sinn Féin processions have been held there, and no one of the opposite way of thinking suffered the least injury or annoyance. Not only is that so, but a few poor women who tried to create trouble in the interests of Redmond were ignored. At one such parade these women tried to provoke trouble. There was no need to protect them, as no one dreamed of molesting the poor, ignorant dupes. After some scenes of revelry with the police, to the sound of a melodeon, in which the ladies and peepers footed it merrily all the night in dance, the police had to be withdrawn. There was no baten charge, no Petty Sessions case, and there was peace. It was a disappointment. The local D.I. is a peculiar person. He is aggressive, and is always in the midst of a crowd, seemingly inviting a crack, as, for instance, when, a Catholic, he kept his bowler hat on when public prayers were offered for the repose of Tom Ashe's soul.

On Sunday week the uniformed D. I., with the County Inspector, were early active. Over three hundred military arrived from Templemore. They entered the town, as per instructions in military manuals for direction to operate against towns. The woods and surrounding country were searched and pickets stationed at cross-roads and bridges. The military were equipped, ammunition each man, an ambulance provided, and a civilian doctor commandeered. There was a plentiful supply of shovels for trench-making. The officers, with the police officers, very ostentatiously sketched the town, and there was much study of maps, conducted in such a manner and in such a conspicuous place as to leave one lamenting that the official photographer or "Daily Sketch" man was not around.

The people of Thurles are still wondering what it all means. Was it that the local D.I. was merely hysterical or too imaginative, or that the Secret Service was endeavouring to justify itself by providing fiction owing to inability or unwillingness to furnish hum-drum peaceful facts? On the other hand, it is possible that some practical joker, in the interests of Germany, wishes to keep the troops from France. There are others who hold that there is a desire to begin business, that Thurles was selected for the scene, and that lying officialdom, in excuse, could later plead the lawlessness and well-known turbulent character of the natives. Is Hunt to be a Major, like Price, and is there to be a "war" distinction for Sunday's disappointed warriors?

We have received a number of letters about certain enquiries that are being sent out demanding a statement of potato stocks. Our answer to them all is that no information should be given to any body or person other than the Sinn Féin Food Committee.

We received too late for insertion last week the following letter from Sir John Harney Scott, of Cork. The subject raised is one of the most important questions affecting the future of our country, and merits much more attention than it appears to have yet received.

"Sir,—When you treat an important commercial matter from a political point of view I do not think you should forget the economical and industrial side. Referring to your article in last week's 'Nationality' on the subject of Irish Banking, and the coming of two English banks to Ireland, some correspondence has appeared in the newspapers on this subject. Will you permit me to say that my only object in advocating a welcome for these two wealthy English banks is in order that additional capital may be made available for the development of trade and industries. When I say that the amount on deposits and to credit of current accounts in these two

English banks at present, according to the last published statement, is three hundred and fourteen millions of money, any man of business experience will come to the conclusion that it might be better to pause before saying or doing anything to thwart their advent. English banks allow 4 per cent. on deposits, and the Irish banks only 2½ per cent. English banks make advance at a lower rate of interest than is charged by Irish banks. Surely it is no harm to advocate that Irishmen in Ireland should have as good terms as Englishmen and Irishmen can get in England? This would be a way to keep the money in the country. We all know that the want of capital has been one of the primary causes of the trade and commerce of Ireland falling away, and not being extended. A local newspaper on this subject recently said that perhaps the competition might help to 'ginger up' our Irish banks, and the 'Statist,' the great financial newspaper, an authority on banking, says this week that Irish banks have been lagging behind the times. More than once at bank meetings I suggested that more could be done to accommodate and encourage Irish trade and commerce in a liberal way.

"I have read more than one article which you, Sir, have written in your paper on the subject of our trade and commerce and shipping, which, if you will permit me to say, apart from politics, were exceedingly interesting reading to any Irishman having the good of the future of his country at heart. Your reference to the decadence of shipping was particularly accurate. Within my recollection ships belonging to our own firm and other Cork merchants traded regularly with foreign ports—North and South America, the West Indies, Spain, Portugal, and France—taking Cork manufactures and other Irish products to these places, and bringing back cargoes to Cork and elsewhere. This trade has for years disappeared, and anything in that line, I may say, except the corn trade, is now done by transshipment at English ports. I recently came across an account in an Australian paper of the death of an old Cork citizen; in the history of his life he mentioned that his father was in Cork in the year 1847, was then part-owner of 42 ships and steamers sailing out of this port of Cork! English banks are accustomed to provide capital for the development of the shipping trade. Such ports as Belfast, Glasgow, and Liverpool have been actually made and raised to their present important positions by liberal banking facilities, especially in regard to shipping. If the coming of these English banks, with an immense amount of money at their disposal, would only revive the shipping interest and industries connected therewith it would be indeed a forward step towards accomplishing an important development in the trade and commerce of Ireland, to which she is justly entitled, and which the magnificent natural facilities of her ports and harbours have rendered her specially suited for.—Yours, etc.,

"JOHN HARLEY SCOTT, Knt."

"Cork, 5th Nov., 1917."
P.S.—I am not a director of the M. and L. Bank, but I am an original shareholder, and, like all other good Irishmen, I rejoice at the success of our Irish banks; but if competition comes there is only one way for them to meet it from a business point of view.—J.H.S."

We accept the assurance that Sir John Scott is not boasting up the arrival of another financial annexation, and we are sure that it is his desire to restore the shipping trade and the industries which once made Cork merchants so well known abroad. But we join issue with him as to the methods by which our maritime position may be retrieved. His main contention is that want of capital has been one of the primary causes of the trade and commerce of Ireland falling away and not being extended. He also holds that English bankers are accustomed to provide capital for the development of the shipping trade, and that such ports as Belfast, Glasgow, and Liverpool have been actually made and raised to their present important positions by liberal banking facilities, especially in regard to shipping. If this view is correct it raises the most vital economic issue. It is worthy of the most detailed examination, and in joining issue upon it we do so in a friendly manner. Far be it from us to discourage the facilities for expanding our neglected and vanishing merchant marine, but we require to investigate whether it is a fact that lack of Irish banking facilities is the real cause of the decay of our shipping.

We must first point out that our correspondent has not dealt with the argument we raised in "Nationality" of Nov. 3rd, that the English banks were not opening branches themselves, and consequently that there was no evidence that they were extending any fresh facilities or lending new money. Nor has our correspondent shown us that these English banks are not going to draw our money from Ireland to use in financing English transactions. Is it not at least as probable that they will use the deposits in the Belfast banks to provide capital for the development of the English shipping trade?

There is one point in Sir John Scott's letter which appears to us not to support his views. He instances the case of Belfast as a port raised to its present important position by liberal banking facilities. Supposing this to be true, it does not appear to us to supply

any argument why the Belfast banks should be absorbed by English ones. On the contrary, it supplies a very good reason why the men of Belfast should hold on to the banks which served their shipping so well, and which could be relied on to do greater service than English banks, dominated by English shipping interests. But what are the facts as regards the Port of Belfast? The tonnage of shipping from foreign ports entering Belfast is only one-sixth of the foreign tonnage entering the Port of Cork. There can be no just comparison between Channel ports and a great maritime centre like Cork, which lies on the highway of the ocean and the main route of the world's trade. It may, however, be true that the Irish banks do not realise the great importance of extending facilities for developing the foreign trade of Cork. We are ready to believe that Sir John Scott has good reasons to 'ginger' them up, but we cannot believe that English banks, with directors appointed to represent the Unraid and other companies, are going to develop Cork. There are no interests so hostile to Ireland, and to Cork in particular, as the English shipping interests. This is notorious and we have a considerable volume of evidence to sustain it. The introduction of English banking facilities into Cork is so improbable that it may be dismissed. What, however, an English bank may do, if it gets the chance, is to absorb the Munster and Leinster Bank. This would be disastrous for a certainty. There is even grave danger in it, as is well understood by the Cork Chamber of Commerce. An English bank is the last thing which should be let into Cork.

Cork is by far the most important port in Ireland, with its large foreign trade—many times greater than that of Belfast or Dublin. Its magnificent position and unique harbour confer upon it advantages of which it can never be wholly deprived, though English intrigue, jealousy, greed, diplomacy, and strategy have been employed to neutralise them. It should be one of the world's greatest ports, if it had the flag of the right colours floating over Camden or Carlisle. Time was when the name of "Harley" was well known in the world's ports, and it is a pity that the former glory of a time when Irish shipping frequented the ports of the Atlantic. But we shall deal at length with the shipping question in a subsequent occasion.

To return to the banks, we ask is it a fact that there is a lack of capital in Ireland? The resources of Irish banks, and of the Irish people generally, are not incalculable. The following are the latest available figures of the principal sums of surplus money in a liquid state in Ireland. We take the deposits and cash balances in the nine banks carrying on business in Ireland, excluding Government and other Public Accounts. In the returns made by the Statistical Branch these are excluded, and though we do not see why this should be so we give them as tabulated. Apparently Public Money in Ireland is not considered as capital saved. The official view is significant. To these deposits we have to add the moneys in the Savings Banks. We have also to add the amounts invested in British Government securities, because the Bank deposits are reduced by the amounts so invested. The accounts show that large sums have been transferred directly from deposits and invested in War Loans, and it is necessary to take this into consideration in estimating the capital resources of our country. This return is from the "Banking, Railway, and Shipping Statistics," Ireland, 1915, Cd. 8390 of 1916.—

Deposits in Banks,	£66,803,000
Lost Office,	£11,791,000
Trustee Savings Banks,	£2,490,000
Government Stocks,	£48,938,000
Total,	£128,022,000

There appears to be no lack of capital here. Moreover, the amount in the previous year of these items is £123,517,000. This gives an increase of 4½ millions in one year. If Irish wealth continues to increase at this rate there ought to be no difficulty in finding money to finance shipping enterprises in Ireland. We have further to consider how this wealth is applied, and this leads us to investigate in detail the accounts of the banks. We have not space here to deal with the results of our investigations, but we promise our readers some fruitful information as to how the banks stand, and what they do with the money.

On Nov. 7th it was announced that four national dockyards, the property of the State, are to be constructed at the public expense. The sites chosen are all in Great Britain. This is a heavy blow to those who believe that Ireland lies inside the bounds of what is geographically described as the "Empire." There is no sign of a dockyard coming to Cork. Unless merchants give up the impractical and visionary idea that England is going to promote their welfare, and cease to entertain the idea that the British banks will aid in establishing shipping or dockyards, or anything else, in Ireland, the sooner can the Irish banks be compelled to face the issue and provide the capital needed.

A special meeting of the Rotunda Ward Sinn Féin Club will take place on next Monday night, 19th Nov., at 8 p.m., at 44 Parwell Sq. Every member specially requested to attend, as the permanent officers and Committee will then be elected, and the programme for the winter session be submitted to the meeting.

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NATIONALITY. SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1917.

CONSTITUTIONALISM.

Some time ago Mr. John Redmond announced himself under a new title—the Leader of the Constitutional Movement. On Sunday last the Constitutional Movement was represented in the City of Waterford by field artillery, machine-guns, rifles and bayonets supplied by the British Government in an attempt to suppress a public meeting of Mr. Redmond's political opponents.

The Irish people can now define Mr. Redmond's Constitutionalism as the employment of British armed force to suppress the voice of the Irish Nation.

Among the masked words that mislead men this word "Constitutionalism" is prominent in Ireland. There has been no Irish or quasi-Irish Constitution in existence for 20 years. In Ireland the Government, maintained from abroad and controlled by foreigners, is, in opposition to all Constitutional government, above the law.

conspires to make the deed appear laudable. In Ireland no felon may be punished if his felony benefits the Government. In Ireland there exists no power by which the Government may be punished for theft of private property. This fact was stated 17 years ago by one whose authority to speak on the matter will not now be contested—the present Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

In a Constitutionally-governed country the Government and the armed forces are the servants of the nation. In such countries the loyal citizen upholds the Constitution with his strength, and if needs be with his life. In a Constitutionally-governed country, Government is a trust derived from the Nation, which the Nation may, and does, withdraw at its discretion.

That is the Government of Ireland to-day—it has been the Government of Ireland for the past 120 years. Service to that Government has implied enmity to the Nation, and from the Judge on the Bench to the newest R.I.C. recruit this implication has been understood, acknowledged, and acted upon.

Let us, then, not be deceived by this masked word "Constitutionalism." No Constitutional Movement can be conducted where there is no Constitution. Government in Ireland is a despotism which for six-score years succeeded in masking itself to the world, but to-day we have the mask off.

Thirty-six years ago, when Gladstone was steering Ireland, and found himself opposed by a man whom he could neither humbug nor intimidate, he appealed to the masked word "Constitutionalism." The man Parnell, he said, was not conducting his movement on Constitutional lines.

Mr. Gladstone used the resources of civilisation immediately after he made this speech. His police and soldiery barred Ireland, and the jails were filled to the brim. Ireland was not deluded into believing that all this was Constitutional.

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And so Parnell led Ireland, for a space, to victory along the path of "Unconstitutionalism." When the giant died the giants who affected to carry on his policy, and who possessed neither the heart nor the head for the task, revived old catch-cries that he had bequeathed from Ireland, and once again mystified and befogged the Irish mind.

The most complete military victory to be obtained in North Italy is by driving the defeated army back against the Alps—such was Napoleon's second best is to drive the defeated army over the Po and into the Apennines.

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armies, as the combat moves Westward, will receive accretions of strength as each pass is crossed as it is opened up in the mountains; at the same time the extent of battle-front will grow shorter. Where the Italians will definitely stand is hard to say.

Italy means abandoning Venice, to say nothing of many large towns like Treviso, etc. This would be a blow to Entente prestige that would need a lot of explaining away—and it would permit the Austro-Germans to occupy the line of the Brenta, which is ever so much shorter than the long mountain frontier.

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The corrupt Party, which openly betrayed Ireland in 1914, having secretly betrayed it for years, is now asserting that it was it procured everything tangible Ireland possesses at the present day.

When Greeks and Romans still wore tails, and lived in robes and dined on snails, Who lived like kings in golden vales? The Party!

When Hebrews lived on lizard pies, And fed their children worms and flies, Who were God-fearing, kindly, wise? The Party!

When Adam ate the apple and From Paradise was promptly banned, Who were the first to grasp his hand? The Party!

Who cheered up Eve when all looked dark? Drew up the plans for Eden Park, Helped Noah navigate the ark? The Party!

Who was it sent the lowest bids To build the ancient pyramids? Who put those bustling, husky kids, The Party!

Who was it that invented war, Whose praise is sung in every lore, Who was this 1st created for? The Party!

And when on Judgment Day the Lord Will call His chosen to reward, Who'll claim the best the heavens afford? The Party!

Mr. George A. Lyons, of the Sinn Fein Xmas Card Co., writes: "A Charm.—We desire to warn shopkeepers against giving cash to any persons not known to them who represent themselves as travelling for Xmas cards and soliciting cash with orders. Cash should only be sent direct to the firm."

Irish National Aid and Volunteer Dependents' Fund Collection from the Cloughan (Limerick) Irish Volunteers—£70 (per Madge Daly).

THE GAELIC LEAGUE. On Sunday evening in the Technical School, Bolton Street, the President of the Royal Hibernian Academy, Dermot O'Brien, delivered a remarkable lecture on the relation of Art to Life to a Gaelic League audience.

Next Sunday Professor Clergy, of University College, will lecture on a "Gaelic University." Few projects have crossed the minds of Gaelic Leaguers in a manner equal to the University question.

The Children's Class directed by Cora Mac Fionnlaigh in Craobh na gCuirg gCuirg will shortly give an entertainment in the Irish Theatre, Hardwicke Street. It will consist of a dramatic sketch by Cu Uladh, "Dochtúireacht Nuadh," and songs and dancing—all performed by the children.

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ANNUAL CONSUMPTION OF FOOD IN IRELAND
(Three Years' Average—1913-14-15)

	A		B		Differences A - B
	Average Annual Production	Average Annual Importation	Average Annual Exportation	Average Annual Home Consumption	
Animals —	Stock Census —				
Cattle and Calves	4,942,688	441	965,539		
Sheep and Lambs	3,607,124	16,879	567,099		
Pigs	1,190,415	29	175,759		
Goats	243,720	12	767		
Biscuits	cwts. ?	?	327,043	?	
Butter	" ?	?	806,355	?	
Margarine	" ?	?	68,037	?	
Cheese	" ?	?	10,558	?	
Chocolate	lbs. Nil	780,838	13,776	767,162	
Cocoa	" Nil	7,042,298	95,984	6,946,314	
Cocoa shell	" Nil	542,677	13,178	529,499	
Coffee	" Nil	1,588,906	16,688	1,572,218	
Chicory	" Nil	58,202	?	58,202	
Eggs great hundreds	" ?	76,759	6,933,536	?	
Egg-yolks	cwts. Nil	208	Nil	208	
Fats —					
Lard	" ?	47,630	86,714	?	
Fish (shell, river, and salmon excluded)	*520,095	289,105	492,811	316,389	
Fruit and Vegetable —					
Fruit	" ?	965,038	146,072	965,038(+?)	
Onions	" ?	245,018	1,366	245,018(+?)	
Potatoes	tons 3,631,726	7,368	168,399	3,470,695	
Turnips	" 4,904,605	Nil	421	4,904,184	
Other Vegetables	" 1,601,691	623	2,547	1,499,677	
Cereals —					
Maize	cwts. Nil	13,909,148	743,933	13,165,215	
Wheat	" 1,062,149	7,181,612	122,233	8,121,528	
Wheat Flour	" 8,121,528	4,942,738	196,282	12,867,984	
Oats	" 18,856,576	350,453	1,628,337	17,578,692	
Barley	" 3,137,488	1,110,737	100,492	4,147,733	
Malt	" ?	865,063	69,312	(?) 795,751	
Rye	" 106,921	344,337	262	450,996	
Other grain and flour	" ?	545,662	98,939	(?) 446,723	
Feedstuffs	" ?	1,459,796	654,733	(?) 2,255,633	
"	" ?	72,885	1,631	(?) 71,254	
Hay and Straw	Hay, 4,920,369	H. & S., 4,707	H. & S., 12,620	4,912,456	
Honey	cwts. ?	256	1,970	(?) 1,714	
Meat —					
Beef	" ?	83,379	61,277	?	
Mutton	" ?	34,461	2,485	?	
Pork	" ?	3,620	80,407	?	
Bacon	" ?	629,820	996,587	?	
Hams	" ?	29,341	120,549	?	
Other	" ?	180,409	181,669	?	
Ovens of stock —					
Poultry	" 26,236,299	Nil	295,602	?	
Rabbits	" ?	Nil	34,075	?	
Game	" ?	Nil	1,535	?	
Milks and Creams	cwts. ?	Nil	315,178	?	
Moss, carriageon	" ?	Nil	5,945	?	
Provisions & Groceries	" ?	103,412	35,601	(?) 68,811	
Pickles, Sauces etc.	" Nil	23,595	134	23,461	
Salt	tons ?	Nil	23,099	?	
Spices —					
Ginger	" Nil	1,283	Nil	1,283	
Other	lbs. Nil	1,146,245	17,994	1,128,251	
Starch	cwts. ?	56,002	3,260	(?) 52,742	
Sugar —					
Refined	" Nil	2,732,979	3,136	2,732,843	
Confectionery	" ?	209,440	38,383	?	
Glucose	" Nil	64,822	6	64,816	
Syrups	" Nil	85,873	1,955	83,918	
Tea	lbs. Nil	36,936,741	383,674	36,553,067	
Tobacco	" ?	18,678,116	10,618,300	(?) 8,059,816	
Vinegar	gals. ?	96,350	38,753	(?) 57,597	
Yeast	cwts. ?	?	142,544	?	

* 1914-15 only. † Chiefly pigs heads. T. P. BATHURST-RUSSELL.

The statistics of home consumption of all commodities, whether for food or general use, form the basis of all efficient economic administration. Unless our home consumption and home production is ascertained with fair exactness, all legislation as to the control of imports and exports, by taxation or otherwise, must consist of a series of random shots. The only means we have at present in Ireland for even estimating our home consumption is that to hand in the belated annual reports of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction on the import and export trade at Irish ports, and in the annual reports by the Constabulary to the Department on the number of acres under cultivation for the chief heavy crops, the weights of the latter being calculated on the arbitrary basis—presumably fixed on the advice of farming experts as to weather conditions and appearance of crops, etc.—of so much per acre. Our production of manufactured goods has been ascertained by no reliable census. In the Census of Production for the United Kingdom initiated a few years ago, Ireland was passed over most perfunctorily in this respect, largely, it was stated in the body of the Census Report, owing to the objection lodged by certain large manufacturers in Ireland to declaring their output as apart from the output of England, Scotland and Wales. Every year the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland calls attention in the body of its Report to the latter's necessarily defective condition, owing to its non-possession of powers from Parliament to compel declarations as to quantities, values and ultimate destination and origin of goods from the very secretive combination of Irish Harbour Authorities and British Railway Companies. These annual protests and self-accusations of inefficiency on the part of the Department date from the year 1904; but the Irish Parliamentary Party has done nothing—so far as I have been able to ascertain, at least, and, if they had made an effort, the Department would surely have adverted to it in its annual protest—to remedy this state of affairs during this long lapse of thirteen years. Nothing would be easier than to confer the Parliamentary powers possessed by the British Board of Trade, which enables the latter to publish most exact estimates of imports and exports of the British trade—an enormously larger and more complicated trade than the Irish—with unflinching regularity, on the 7th day of each month, at either 6th or 8th when

the 7th happens to fall on a Sunday. As it is, we only get an annual, instead of a monthly, return of our Irish trade movements, and this annual return is published about a year later, or on occasion very much more than a year later, than the last day of the year covered by the report. Had we our monthly reports, which our Parliamentary representatives should have secured for us many years ago, we should not now be so insufficiently informed as to our exact position in the present food crisis as we now unfortunately are. The above table gives us the best available knowledge to date, of a conjunctural nature in many respects, as to our normal annual food requirements. It is based on the obvious fact that, if we know what food we produce in the country each year and add to that what we import, and then from that sum deduct what we export, the difference left will represent what we consume at home. The item "Animals" is included in an endeavour to throw light on our consumption of meat, or rather to indicate the direction in which light might be obtained, if we had a slaughter record of all animals butchered in Ireland, a return very easily obtainable from our prosperous butchers and farmers, preferably with weights, even live weights, attached, we could then, by adding our meat imports and deducting our meat exports, ascertain very exactly the amount of our meat consumption. The item "Tobacco" is added as tobacco has played such an important part as a revenue assessor in modern Irish history; it marks, in fact, the spot where the last pinch of taxation is drolly introduced into the Irish shoe. As the results of a single year may be exceptional, I have worked out the averages of the figures given by the Department for the three years, 1913, 1914 and 1915—the last available—and should add that on the whole, the average result is shown very evenly by each one of the three years taken. B.R.

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THE CROWN OF A NATION.
BY
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A great deal has been spoken and written about the Gaelic State and its revival for the future State of Ireland; but as yet nothing has been written on the subject to show exactly what that State was, how it worked, and in what way it could be adapted for the modern requirements of a Nation. This book sets out to supply the deficiency. It relies on a careful historical analysis in clear and simple terms for the man in the street, and on the basis of that analysis it outlines a State for the future that claims to be a continuity of Ireland a historic past. Coming at a time when the minds of Irishmen are full of the thought of State-building this book will receive wide attention. Mr. Darrell Figgis writes as a Sinn Feiner, but what he says will appeal to any Irish man or woman. The Gaelic State is a noteworthy book, and it may very well happen to prove a historic book.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS.
na Fianna Éireann.
Manchester Martyrs' Anniversary
COMMEMORATION CONCERT
ROUND ROOM, MANSION HOUSE.
FRIDAY, 23rd NOVEMBER, 1917.
Eamonn De Vatera will deliver the Oration. Chair will be taken by Countess Markievicz.
"The Boys of the Fianna will keep green the memories of the old Fianna."—P. H. Pearse.
TICKETS: 6d., 1/-, 2/-, and 3/-.
Commencing at 8 O'Clock.

MANCHESTER MARTYRS' ANNIVERSARY.
BELFAST COMMEMORATION.
The Oration will be delivered by Countess De Markievicz, in St. Mary's Hall, Bank Street, on **THURSDAY, 22nd NOVEMBER, At 8 p.m.**
Sean McEntee will preside.
A SHORT MUSICAL PROGRAMME will be presented.
Reserved, 2/6 (Booking at 25 Mill Street).
Falcony, 1/-; Area, 6d. (Payable at Door).

Flag Day in Cork
SATURDAY, 17th NOVEMBER.
Díre agus Láim 5.00 agus ceannas brac beag na Saeithe.

THOMAS ALLEN SINN FEIN CLUB MULLINCAR.
The RAFFLE in connection with above Club will take place on **Thursday, 22nd November.** All blocks to be returned on or before 21st. Winning numbers will be published in the current issues of the "Westmeath Nationalist" and "Nationality."

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Foreign. Motherwell (Alba), Clydebank (Alba), Chester (Saxana), Manchester (Saxana), Pres. Ryan, Treas. Newman, Sec. T. MacCormick. Knockende (Kildare) Branch should be Encklaide, Timahoe (Leix). J. Rice, not Price, is President of Cluainnangall Club. Ballynagore Club was incorrectly described recently as Bawnmore Club. Killinkera Lower Club was incorrectly described as hailing from Dolphin's Barn. We have found it impossible to print all resolutions dealing with the death of Tomas Ashe.

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