

THE WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT

Socialism, Internationalism, Votes for All.

Vol. IV.—No. 19

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1917

Price One Penny

THE CENTRE OF IRELAND: By May O'Callaghan.

"What brought you to Dublin? Sure there's no one here now!" a member of the Convention asked me waggishly. "It's in Kilkenny you ought to be, where the Sinn Fein election campaign is in progress. That's the centre of Ireland now; before that it was Clare. Where the next election will be I can't say; but there you will find the chief interest of the country for the time being."

I had broken my journey in Dublin to be there when the great Convention, to be held in Trinity College, would sit, and in this tone one of the delegates talked of it. He was only bantering, it was true, and underestimating in a typical Irish way what might chance to be in progress at the time. His sympathies were largely with the Sinn Feiners, who had refused to be officially represented; possibly that angered him. Yet, another delegate assured me that if the Sinn Fein policy required any explanation at the Convention he was prepared to take up the cudgels for them, and put their position.

Still traversing non-political Dublin, I looked up a lady very closely in touch with all progressive men and women. I wanted to know her feelings about the Convention. She was optimistic. "Everybody says no good can come of it," she exclaimed; "but I have great hopes of it. Protestant and Catholic, Unionist and non-Unionist, party and non-party men will have an opportunity for the first time to meet in a common room and discuss Ireland. You know there are Orangemen who may still imagine that Catholics are people with horns. People who live in some purely Protestant districts have never even met a Catholic. You remember the story of the woman who wanted to keep her children away from a filthy pool in the yard, and told them: 'Come away, children, shure the pond is full of wee Papes!' If only that atmosphere of misunderstanding can be done away with once and for all the Convention will have done some good."

On Wednesday, 25th July, at eleven o'clock, the first sitting took place at Trinity College. Mr. Duke, the Chief Secretary, acted as chairman. Outside the gates, on College Green, that place of historic memories, a few score people stood or loitered about to see the delegates pass in. The Press, being compelled to sit on the doorstep and gather what information possible, lined up inside the entrance gates of Trinity, together with the photographers. Numerous big, burly Dublin policemen were posted at various corners, fearing, I suppose, some show of hostility from the Sinn Feiners, whose most hostile action was totally to ignore the event. Some sandwich-board men paraded up and down in view of the College, their placards bearing the inscription:—

"Members of the Convention,
We hope the Government will keep faith
with you better than it did with Irish
Manufacturers over the Receiving
Depôt."

A body called the Industrial Development Society was responsible for this parade.

One violently anti-British woman commented on the formation of the Convention and its purposes thus: "It is a body of the best and most honestly intentioned men every brought together under one roof; but it has been appointed and sanctioned by the most corrupt Government ever known in these islands." This seems strong condemnation certainly when one remembers the various British Governments and their representatives in Ireland!

The appointment of Sir Horace Plunkett as chairman has been welcomed by all fair-minded people. The curse of Ireland has been party politics. The shibboleths of one side have been used to worry an already distracted and down-trodden people, all united on one point only: That England can bring no good to Ireland. This fact has been shamelessly ill-used by Irish capitalists, who would cover their own shortcomings under the ruinous rule of Great Britain. Now that danger would seem to be removed as far as the present Convention is concerned. Sir Horace Plunkett is a non-party man; but has the confidence of his early Unionist associates. He is the leading figure in the Irish co-operative movement, which has its seat at Plunkett House,

Merrion Square, where Mr. George Russell (A.E.) edits his unique "Homestead." When, about twenty years ago, Sir Horace Plunkett first laid the foundations of the co-operative movement in Ireland, he was not welcomed as he ought to have been. Later, when the Department of Irish Agriculture was started under British control, with Sir Horace as president, the Nationalist party opposed him, and finally succeeded in ousting him from office, ostensibly because he was not a member of the House of Commons. All that may be forgotten now let us hope. The future of the country lies in co-operation, and there are other co-operators as delegates to the Convention. They are in a minority, of course; but they may prove a powerful factor.

What the future holds in store for Ireland or any other country is increasingly difficult to judge. The conversation of some soldiers in the train the other day threw an interesting light on the situation. One of them had been through the terrible campaign in Gallipoli. He was condemning the Government in a loud voice, when a young recruit tried to calm him and begged of him to be careful.

"Be careful," the Gallipoli man exclaimed. "My God! to think I, an Irishman, have faced death in that hell out there for months, whilst Englishmen refuse to fight for their country! To think of all I've been through, and then to be told to be careful. Careful! Why, I shall call out at the top of my voice everywhere what I know and think! When I think of what I have suffered for England I could blow my brains out!"

The Convention will meet again on August 8th, when I understand the serious discussions will begin. I wonder will Dublin be the centre then!

Of Special Interest This Week!

THE "DREADNOUGHT"
RAIDED!

RIOT AT
BROTHERHOOD CHURCH



WHIP BEHIND!

WOMEN BOYCOTT BUTCHERS

The Jewish Women's Economic Society in various districts is organising a boycott of the butchers in order to bring down the price of meat. When they have successfully dealt with the meat prices they will turn to other commodities. In the Marylebone district the method of working was as follows:—

As Jewish women, their problem lies with the Jewish butchers. Firstly a meeting of women was called to formulate demands and a plan of action. This meeting elected a committee of 20. It was decided to demand that the soup meat should be sold at 1s. 7d. per lb. and steak and chops at 1s. 8d. The butchers were then selling at 1s. 10d. and 2s. These demands were sent to the Jewish butchers with an announcement that if the demands were not conceded they would be boycotted, the women informing the butchers that they must settle their difficulties with their wholesalers, if need be by adopting a similar boycott.

On the butchers refusing to lower their prices, the boycott began. Some of the women taking up their stand as pickets outside the Jewish butchers' shops.

Other women arranged for the convenient supply of chickens to housewives desiring to substitute them for butcher's meat. In one district on the first day of the boycott they bought from a poultryer 28 chickens at 4s. 6d., 28 at 4s. 4d., and 28 at 4s. They arranged to pay for them next

day. They sold these chickens at cost price by the pound, cutting them up at 1s. 3d. per lb. and 10d. for the giblets. A member of the Committee kept a greengrocer's shop, and some of the fowls were sold from it; another member of the Committee lent a room in her house. A few days later the women's Committee bought £10 worth of fowls in the same district.

By this time the butchers came to the committee offering to reduce their meat by a penny, but the Committee was not satisfied, and the boycott continues, though several of the women have been fined. British women may usefully follow the plucky example set by the Jewish women.

THE FOOD DEMONSTRATION.

The Hyde Park Food Demonstration organised by the London Food Vigilance Committee on Sunday last was the largest seen in London since the outbreak of War. The processions were large and gay with many banners, and great crowds assembled around the eight platforms. The most popular feature of the demonstration was the cart filled with little children carrying bannerettes inscribed: "We want our daddies," which formed part of the Workers' Suffrage Federation contingent from East London.

A mother whose only son is in the Army writes: "The Jingo will soon be adding to the Church Litany: 'Please God bless the Kaiser for helping the slow phlegmatic English to discover the women and the children of the land and to inaugurate National Baby Week.'"

THE WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION

To secure a Vote for every Woman and Man of full age, and to win Social and Economic Freedom for the People on the basis of a Socialist Commonwealth.

Entrance Fee—1d. Minimum Subscription—1d. a month. Central Office: 400 Old Ford Road, London, E.3 Hon Secretary: Miss Sylvia Pankhurst. Hon Assistant Secretary: Mrs. Minnie Lansbury. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Edgar Lansbury. Hon. Financial Secretary: Miss Norah Smyth.

The W.S.F. appeals for members and workers and invites friends to visit its offices and social institutions.

CENTRAL OFFICE: 400 Old Ford Road, London, E.3 THE MOTHERS' ARMS: 438 Old Ford Road, E.3 Mother and Doctor's Consultations and Baby Weighing, Mondays 2.30 p.m. Infant Clinic and Day Nursery, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

MONTESSORI SCHOOL: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (by appointment with Miss Muriel Matters) at the Mothers' Arms.

THE WOMEN'S HALL: 20 Railway Street (opposite South Bromley Station on the North London Railway) Mother and Infant Clinic, Doctor's Consultations and Baby Weighing, Mondays and Thursdays at 2.30 p.m. Cost Price Restaurant, &c.

53 ST. LEONARDS STREET, BROMLEY: Mother and Infant Clinic, Literture depot, &c. Doctors' Consultations and Baby Weighing, Friday 10.30 a.m.

COST PRICE RESTAURANT: 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.3, and 20 Railway Street, Poplar.

ST. STEPHEN'S SHOP: 85 Hoxton Street, off Old Street, off Shoreditch. Literature on Communism, Feminism, Internationalism, Socialism.

CO-OPERATIVE TOY INDUSTRY: By appointment with Miss Norah Smyth.

THE WORKERS' CHOIR: Applications for Membership to Mrs. Herebergova, 45 Norman Road, E.

SOCIALIST SUNDAY SCHOOL: 20 Railway Street, Poplar. Sunday Afternoons, 3 p.m.

OUR FUNDS

Donations to be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Edgar Lansbury, or to the Hon. Financial Secretary, Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.3 All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.3

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

GENERAL FUND.—W. J. Woods, Esq., £2; Misses Rickards, £1 2s. 6d.; Irene, per Mrs. Drake (weekly), £1; A Friend, 10s. COLLECTIONS: Erith I.L.P., per Miss Pankhurst, 17s. 6d.; Bow "At Home," 3s. 7½d.; Mrs. Cressall, 2s. "DREADNOUGHT" FUND.—A. Gliksten, Esq., £6 6s.; Mrs. Sanger, £3; Miss L. Bent, 2s.; Mrs. Payne, 1s.; Mrs. Brimley, 1s.; F. Thomas, 1s.; Miss Ethel M. Davis, 6d.

MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS.—C. A. Pease, Esq., £5; Nurse Hebber (weekly), 12s.; Miss Fairholme, 10s.; Mrs. Hyde, 10s.; Anon., 5s.; Mr. and Mrs. Parker, 3s. 6d.; Miss Crabb (monthly), 3s. 6d.; F. Thomas, 1s. COLLECTIONS: L.S.A. Toolroom, £1 6s. 0½d.; Miss O'Brien, 10s. 5½d.; Misses E. Lagsding and L. Barker (Green's Yard), 12s. 0½d.; Miss Greenfield, 7s. 6d.; Misses K. Lagsding and T. Barker (Cubitt Town), 5s. 7½d.

CLOTHES, ETC.—Girls from the County Secondary School, Lower Clapton, per Miss Baudulska; Mrs. Gibson; Anon; Mrs. J. K. Watt.

HOXTON SOCIAL.

A successful Social was held on July 26th. The excellent programme arranged by Miss Perry, Miss Sims and friends was much enjoyed. It comprised songs by Misses F. Sims, W. Gollop, W. Nicholls and M. Perry. Mrs. Drake made a speech on various questions of the day which was received with enthusiasm. Our hearty thanks are due to all who helped, especially to Miss W. Perry for playing all the dance music and the accompaniments, and also to Mrs. Sims, Miss Raymond and Mrs. Blake for presiding over the refreshments, and Miss Sims for typing the programmes.

Contributions are still urgently needed for our Jumble Sale on August 13th. We are greatly in need of funds, and we are anxious to make this Jumble Sale a big success. Gifts of left-off clothing or lumber will be gratefully received by Hon. Sec., 85 Hoxton Street, N.1. Parcels already gratefully acknowledge from Miss Smyth and Miss Setchfield.

CANNING TOWN.

Copies of the WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT may be obtained from Mrs. Millo, 1 Ravenscroft Road.

WHAT'S ON? W.S.F. FIXTURES OUTDOOR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3rd. "Salmon and Ball," 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Mrs. Drake SATURDAY, AUGUST 4th. Hoxton, meetings 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. (see "Great Push"). SUNDAY, AUGUST 5th. Osborn Street, 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

Victoria Park, 4 p.m., Mrs. Cressall, Mrs. Drake. WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8th. "Salmon and Ball," 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Cressall, Ex-Inspector Syme.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10th. Highbury Corner, 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11th. St. Pancras meetings 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. (see "Great Push").

INDOOR

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7th. Gravel Pit Hall, Valette Street, Mare Street, 7.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Lynch.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 9th. 85 Hoxton Street, 3.15 p.m., Rev. Cheatham, Miss Beamish.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13th. 53 St. Leonard's Street, Bromley, 2.30 p.m., Rev. H. Cheatham.

SPECIAL NOTICES

MONDAY, AUGUST 13th. Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., General Meeting (London District). BUSINESS: Trafalgar Square Demonstration.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14th. Trafalgar Square, Demonstration to demand Adult Suffrage and the Abolition of the House of Lords.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

WALTHAMSTOW LEAGUE OF RIGHTS. Tuesday, August 7th, 2.30 p.m., William Morris Hall, Somers Road, Rev. Cheatham. HOLLOWAY.

It is hoped to start a Branch of the W.S.F. shortly in the Holloway district. Will all those who wish to join please write to Mrs. A. Cave, 31 Blackstock Road, Finsbury Park, N., from whom copies of the WORKERS' DREADNOUGHT may be obtained.

WOMEN'S PEACE CRUSADE. In the advertising columns of this issue particulars of the first week's meetings are given. Help of all kinds is urgently required—speakers, leaflet distributors, literature sellers. Offers of assistance of any kind to be sent to Margt. T. McCoubrey, 37 Candahar Street, Belfast.

JOIN OUR GREAT PUSH FOR THE PEOPLE'S CHARTER!

ORGANISED BY THE WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION, 400 OLD FORD ROAD, E.3

PEACE! SOCIALISM! VOTES FOR ALL!

Stop the hideous slaughter by ending the War! Down with Profiteering! Secure Food and Necessaries for all! Not Votes for some but Adult Suffrage! Down with the House of Lords!

Summer Campaign for Education!

Meetings! Literature Distribution! Individual Talks with Everyone!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4th, HOXTON & SHOREDITCH DISTRICT—(Joint with the Women's Peace Crusaders)—

Meet: 85 HOXTON STREET, N., 2.45 p.m.; Meetings: HOXTON STREET, 3 p.m.; WHITMORE HEAD, 7 p.m.

Secretary for the day: Miss BEAMISH, 85 Hoxton Street.

Speakers: 1st Meeting—Mrs. NELLIE BEST, Mrs. BOUVIER, MISS LYNCH and Mrs. BESSIE WARD; 2nd Meeting—Mrs. NELLIE BEST, Mrs. BOUVIER, Mrs. BUTLER, Miss LYNCH and Ex-Inspector SYME.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11th, ST. PANCRAS DISTRICT—Meet: B.S.P. HALL, 44 MALDON ROAD, Kentish Town, 2.45 p.m.;

Meetings at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Secretary for the day: Rev. C. A. WILLS, St Thomas Vicarage, Camden Town, N.W.1

Speakers: Mrs. CRESSALL, Miss LYNCH, Ex-Inspector SYME, Rev. C. A. WILLS, and others.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18th, WEST CENTRAL AND HYDE PARK DISTRICT—Meet: 29B LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS, W.C., 2.45 p.m.;

Meetings: 3 p.m.; HYDE PARK (Marble Arch), 6 p.m. Secretary for the day: Miss CASEY, 29B Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Speakers: Miss LYNCH, Mrs. BESSIE WARD, Ex-Inspector SYME, and others.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25th, KENSAL RISE DISTRICT—Meet: 2.45 p.m.; Meetings at 3

p.m. and 7 p.m. Secretary for the day: Mrs. EDWARDS, 30 Clifford Gardens, Kensal Rise, N.W.

PEACE DEMONSTRATION

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th.

Secretary: Mrs. FINEBERG

WORKERS WANTED!

NATIONAL LEAGUE OF RIGHTS

Help to secure better treatment for the victims of International folly.

MORE WORKERS WANTED in writing & organising.

Help by Your Work! Give What You Can!

ADULT SUFFRAGE AND DOWN WITH THE HOUSE OF LORDS GREAT TRAFALGAR SQUARE DEMONSTRATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 19th, 4 p.m.

Organised by W.S.F. and Workers National Adult Suffrage Movement.

Speakers: Mr. C. G. AMMON (L.L.P.), Mr. G. BELT ("Herald"), Mrs. BOUVIER (W.S.F.), Mr. BOYCE (W.S.F.), Mrs. BUTLER, Mr. E. W. CANT (B.S.P.), Coun. W. CARTER, Mr. W. CARTER (N.U.R.), Ald. D. J. DAVIS, J.P., (West Ham Trades Council), Mrs. DRAKE (W.S.F.), Mr. J. FINEBERG (B.S.P.), Coun. BEN GARDNER, Mrs. GATTY, Mr. R. M. GENTRY (Co-operative Bakers' Union), Mr. C. W. GIBSON (Workers' Union), Mr. W. HOLMES (Labour Party), Miss MANICOM (Workers' Union), Mr. V. L. McENTIE (B.S.P.), Mrs. MONTEFIORE, Miss E. SYLVIA PANKHURST, Rev. W. PIGGOTT (U.D.C.), Rev. C. A. WILLS, and others.

PROCESSIONS FROM NORTH, SOUTH, EAST AND WEST LONDON NORTH LONDON: St. Pancras Archels, 2.30 p.m. Organiser: Mr. W. CHILTON, 14 Archam Street, Kentish Town. EAST LONDON: Beckton Road, Canning Town, 1.15 p.m.; Dock Gates, Poplar, 2 p.m.; Gardner's Corner, 3 p.m. Organiser: Miss NORAH SMYTH, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E. SOUTH LONDON: The Dun Cow, Old Kent Road, 2.30 p.m. Organiser: Mr. ROWLING, 182 Rolls Road, Bermondsey. WEST LONDON: Prince of Wales, Harrow Road, 2 p.m.; Paddington Green, 2.50 p.m.; Tottenham Court Road and Euston Road, 3.30 p.m. Organiser: Mr. E. J. HOLDES, 104 Bathurst Gardens, Willesden.

Chairman: Mr. W. CARTER, 38 Leverton Street, Kentish Town.

Hon. Secretary: Miss E. SYLVIA PANKHURST, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

Hon. Treasurer: Dr. A. SALTER, J.P., 5 Storks Road, Bermondsey, S.E.

Hon. Financial Secretary: Mr. G. H. PRATT, 1 Meryyn Road, W. Ealing.

REFERENDUM IN BOW

Adult Suffrage!

Proportional Representation!

The Referendum!

Secretary: Miss LYNCH, 400 Old Ford Road.

MORE CANVASSERS WANTED!

Help this important Educational Effort.

USEFUL AND INTERESTING WORK FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Join the Workers' Suffrage Federation!

Printed by the Blackfriars Press Ltd., 8 & 9 Johnson's Court, Fleet St. E.C4 and Published by the Workers' Suffrage Federation, at their Offices 400 Old Ford Rd. Bow, E. Printed by T.U. labour in all departments (48 hour week), on Trade Union Maked Paper.