



Irish Labour Party
& Trade Union Congress

"LABOR OMNI VINCIT," 8 DEC. 1926

REPORT

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH

Irish Trades Union Congress,

HELD IN THE

TOWN HALL, DUNDALK,

On 16th, 17th & 18th MAY, 1910.

*Published by authority of the Congress and the
Parliamentary Committee.*

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Edited by P. T. DALY.



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Parliamentary Committee, 1910-11.

—:O:—

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(To whom all Communications should be addressed).

REPORT

OF THE

17th Annual Irish Trades Union Congress, DUNDALK, 1910.

The following is the Report of the Parliamentary Committee presented to the Congress, the discussion upon which will be found in the second day's proceedings, *infra*, pp. 34-36.

FELLOW-DELEGATES.—Your Committee beg to present their report for the past twelve months. They have to regret that owing to the state of public business in Parliament, the prolonged and abortive discussions on the Budget, and the subsequent dislocation of legislative activity by the General Election, very little practical progress has been possible in furthering the demands of the Congress. As is customary, copies of all the resolutions passed last year at Limerick have been forwarded under covering letters to the Ministers, chiefs of Government Departments, and other public bodies and officials concerned, but beyond formal acknowledgments, your Committee have nothing to report under this head.

Public Bodies in Ireland and the Congress.—In this connection, your Committee especially emphasise the studied indifference displayed by the County Councils of Ireland to the workers' desires. The resolutions bearing upon matters within the jurisdiction of Irish local governing bodies, on being forwarded to their respective secretaries, received scant courtesy; and two applications became necessary to discover what, if any, action was taken, the results being, with painful reiteration—"marked read," "no action taken," &c. Your Committee are convinced that unless the workers in the various districts throughout the country make some organised effort to impress their local bodies with the importance and necessity of action on the several matters referred to, it will be absolutely useless for the Congress to continue registering their demands merely to have them consigned to the waste paper basket.

Public Contracts and the Fair Wages Resolution in Ireland.—Your Committee have pleasure in directing the attention of Congress to the following important matter in the hope that it may better enable affiliated societies to take concerted action locally in the direction indicated above:—The Joint Committee of the Richmond District Asylum, Dublin, by their rules, provide that their

contractors shall be bound by the terms of the Fair Wages Resolution of the House of Commons, with a preference for Irish-manufactured materials. These conditions are conspicuously inserted in their advertisements, tender forms, and contract bonds. In pursuance thereof their Supplies Committee rejected lower-priced tenders where the performance of these conditions was not satisfactorily guaranteed, and accepted the higher-priced tenders of conforming contractors; whereupon the Local Government Board Auditor surcharged the members the difference between the prices of the accepted contracts and the lowest tenders. The Joint Committee, in defence of the rights of Public Bodies in these matters, appealed to the Court of King's Bench, whose judgment, delivered on the 16th June, 1909, endorsed the Committee's action, and set aside the Auditor's surcharges. The following are the material portions of the Lord Chief Baron's judgment :—

The first matter we have to decide is whether the surcharge in respect of the boots should be allowed. It appears to me, and, looking at the whole case (although I do not think that it is accurately stated in the minute prepared at the time), I hold, that the true reason of the action of the prosecutors was that contained in the statement of Mr. Jones, of which a precis was taken down by the auditor. It is this :—"We are bound under the rules by the fair rate of wages resolution, and we know, as a matter of fact"—and I may say for myself that the correspondence shows that that was the truth—"that this tender that was not accepted was a tender by a house that did not accept that fair trade resolution, and whose general business was not conducted according to that resolution." Now, the fact of their general business not being governed by the resolution did not render them incompetent to tender, but I think it was a matter that these gentlemen were entitled to take into consideration, when they were considering whether or not they would accept the tender. PUBLIC BODIES IN THEIR EFFORTS TO CARRY OUT, AS BEST THEY CAN, THE RESOLUTIONS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, OUGHT NOT ONLY TO PUT THIS CLAUSE INTO THEIR CONTRACTS, BUT ALSO SHOULD GUARD TO THE BEST OF THEIR ABILITY AGAINST THAT CLAUSE BEING RENDERED A DEAD LETTER BY THEIR ACTION, GIVING RISE TO DIFFICULTIES IN THEIR ASCERTAINING WHETHER IT HAD BEEN COMPLIED WITH OR NOT. I was very much struck from the commencement of Mr. Matheson's argument with this: How could it be ascertained, by what kind of supervision could it be ascertained, that this fair wages resolution was applied to this particular work in an establishment which was generally worked upon different principles. It is stated in the affidavit of the manager of the establishment that he divides his business into different departments—I suppose one department in reference to the soles of boots, and another in reference to the preparation of uppers, and a third in relation to sewing on the uppers to the soles—but if, in each of these departments, the same one man was, during a certain number of hours in the day, to work at one rate of wages, that is, at the lower rate, and during another part of the day, that is, when he was working for the asylum, at a higher rate of wages, how would it be possible for the Committee to check and see that this resolution had been fairly and honourably carried out. I think that was the substance of what actuated these gentlemen, although the words of this minute are not very accurate, and I think THEY WERE ENTITLED TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE FACT THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT DID NOT ADOPT THAT RESOLUTION GENERALLY, and give weight to it in determining which of the particular tenders in question they would accept.

The second matter was with reference to the cloaks. As to that I should like to make an observation that also applies to the first item. It is that, *in the carrying out of all this enormous business that is committed to the care of public bodies,*

such as this Richmond Lunatic Asylum Joint Committee, a great deal depends upon discretion, and that where so much discretion is allowed, if we come to the conclusion that that discretion has been fairly exercised by persons of high business capacity, who pledged their oaths to us that they acted in the same way as they would have acted in reference to their own individual business, we ought to be careful not to hold them within too restricted limits. These gentlemen are not appointed to their positions to be mere clerks. The rules say that the lowest tender is not necessarily to be accepted. Therefore, for a small difference in price, I should hesitate for a long time before I would hold them guilty of negligence or misconduct in a matter in which I believe, as I do in this instance, that the exercise of their discretion was an honest one. . . . From their whole conduct in the case, it seems to me to be clear that they had no ulterior motive. There was no particular firm that they wished to benefit. There was no policy that they wished to adopt. They had—if I may use the expression—no axe of their own to grind. They may have arrived at the conclusion that a tender should be accepted, which was higher than the articles might have been procured for; but, if so, they arrived at it honestly in the exercise of their discretion, and, in determining the question of negligence, I have to bear in mind that they have acted honestly in that manner. I HAVE NO HESITATION IN SAYING THAT I THINK IT WAS EMINENTLY BUSINESSLIKE IN THEM TO ACCEPT THE TENDER, EVEN AT A SLIGHTLY HIGHER RATE, FOR THESE NURSES' CLOAKS, of a firm in Dublin that would have an opportunity of fitting them on, not once, but five or six times if necessary. I think, as business men, they should insist that this uniform should be reasonably neat, that the same course should be adopted as is usual with reference to the uniforms of soldiers in the army. The clothes of a private soldier are fitted on from time to time until the sergeant is satisfied and the colonel is satisfied. When, then, it became a matter of a shilling or a couple of shillings per uniform (for the uniforms of a number of nurses, easily dissatisfied) as between a manufacturer on the spot in Dublin and a manufacturer in Derry, who would be obliged to send a man to Dublin to fit on the uniforms, I think the Committee was entitled to take into consideration the existence of that element, and I cannot say that, taking that element into consideration, they were either negligent or guilty of misconduct in accepting that tender. Now, I come to the question of the oils. There is one matter that I think everyone who is acquainted with the ordinary affairs of life admits, and that is, that, if you require an article of a particularly good description (as undoubtedly must be the oil to drive machines going at the rate of 600 revolutions a minute), and if you are able to get the exact thing you want from a man with whom you have dealt satisfactorily for it for a number of years, your knowledge of the satisfactory character of the former dealings with that man is an element that can be taken into consideration, and taking that element into consideration, I am not prepared to sustain the surcharge in respect of this item of the oils.

Now, I come to the smallest matter, and that smallest matter is one as to which I have had more difficulty than I have had about the others. It consists of a great number of items—I think it was said that the number of items was upwards of 100 or 113—but of these, 44 only were in relation to the brass fittings. Of these 44, 14 is the number of items as to which it was said that there was another tender lower than that accepted. It is to be observed in relation to the tender that was accepted that, although in respect of these 14 items, it was higher than the other tenders, in one very important item, the item for services, it was less than any of the other tenders to which we were referred. The figures for services were:—Dockrell, 9s. 9d. per day; Brooks, Thomas, 9s. 6d. per day, and Gallacher, the accepted tender, 8s. 3d. per day. I was anxious to have a statement of the actual amount that the entire work to be done under each of these three tenders would come to. No doubt, that would have involved an investigation of 113 cases instead of an investigation of 14; but, at the same time, the surcharge in respect of these items would not have been fair without such an investigation, if there had not been a clause in the contract that the Committee were at liberty to accept the tender of the tenderer for one item and reject his tender for other items. Supposing that clause were not in the contract, I have calculated on the basis of the figures given

by counsel, viz., that there were 150 days of service under the contract, and I find that the loss would have been greater had any of the other tenders been accepted than it is under the tender which was accepted. The loss under the latter is given as £6 17s. 9d., and, taking Brooks, Thomas' tender at 1s. 3d. more per day for services than the accepted tender, the loss upon Brooks, Thomas' tender would have been £9 7s. It would have been more had Dockrell's tender been accepted. I think that is a fair element to take into consideration if we find that there is a small excess in other items under the same head. When I personally am dealing with matters of this kind, I do not look so much at the probable amount of each item as to the probable total amount which would be payable under the entire contract. How are we to deal with this class of tender? We are to deal with it as business men, and my experience has been that, in a matter of this description, accepting the tender of A.B. for some items, the tender of C.D. for other items, and the tender of E.F. for further items, never works satisfactorily. Each of the three contractors will be slack. They will not work together. The most satisfactory man to select to supply the materials in a work of this sort is usually the man who is to do the work. I think that these gentlemen well thought, as business men, that the only practical way of working under this contract was by taking it as a whole, and, taking the contract as a whole, there has not been a farthing of loss.

We must bring up these surcharges, and direct that as soon as they are brought up they shall be quashed, and any money paid under them must be refunded.

With reference to the costs, the applicants have succeeded, and, of course, must be paid their costs out of the rates. The auditor exercised his discretion to the best of his ability, and he also must have his costs out of the rates.

Mr. Justice Johnson concurred.

Labour Exchanges.—Since your Committee last reported, the Labour Exchanges Bill has been placed upon the Statute Book. This measure had the cordial support of the Labour and Irish Parties, not as a remedy for unemployment, but on the ground that it would supply the necessary machinery for collecting reliable data by which the needs of the problem could be urged upon the country with greater effect. While the Bill was in Committee your Committee had its clauses under consideration, and in order to provide against the Exchanges being used against the workers in times of dispute they drafted two amendments to the first clause, which they entrusted to the member for College Green Division of Dublin (Mr. Nannetti), who in due course moved, but withdrew, them, on receiving satisfactory guarantees that safeguards would be provided in the regulations issued under the Act. On considering the measure after it had received the Royal Assent, your Committee adopted and forwarded to the Government the following resolution:—

"That while tentatively accepting the Labour Exchanges Act, with the Regulations made thereunder, as an effort towards reducing the acuteness of the Unemployed Problem, this Committee, on behalf of the Trade and Labour Unions of Ireland, cannot commit themselves to approval of the measure pending opportunities of observing its practical operation; and this Committee is strongly of opinion that if the scheme is to secure the confidence of the organised workers in Ireland, it is essential that their local official representatives should have an equitable part in its administration."

Your Committee regret that but a small proportion of the officials appointed to administer the Act in Ireland have been identified with trade questions, but venture to hope that as the Government

schemes develop, more regard will be had to the workers' predilections in this direction. Your Committee assume that the Act is now sufficiently well known to render reference to its provisions unnecessary. They, for the present, content themselves with drawing attention to a statement made by Mr. Churchill on the 11th April last, "that though the machinery of the Act had only been partly erected, the Exchanges were finding situations for unemployed persons at the rate of 5,000 per week." There are now over 100 Exchanges in full operation in Great Britain and Ireland, whose work will be carefully if not sympathetically watched by all classes. The Regulations under which the Exchanges operate have been framed with the advice and assistance of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Congress and the Labour Party, Clause III of which defines the attitude of the Exchanges in strikes and lock-outs.

Government Insurance Scheme.—The second step in the Liberal scheme for dealing with unemployment is compulsory insurance. This is an important feature in the Ministerial unemployment policy, and will be worked in connection with the Labour Exchanges established last year. The measure is in charge of Mr. Sydney Buxton, President of the Board of Trade, and its chief points are as follow:—(1) Both workpeople and employers will contribute; (2) the contributions will be supplemented by a substantial subvention from the State; (3) the system will be one of insurance by trades; (4) within the specified trades the system will be compulsory upon all unionists and non-unionists, skilled and unskilled workmen, and employers alike. The benefits will be somewhat lower than those which the trade unions pay. There will be a weekly payment over a period of unemployment, and the benefits will require between 5d. and 6d. per man to be raised weekly. The scheme will apply to the following trades:—House-building and works of construction, engineering, machine and tool making, ship and boat building, vehicles, sawyers. General labourers working at these trades will be included. The trades chosen for the first application of insurance form a group in which unemployment is regular and persistent, and they are supposed to cover one-half the field of unemployment. When the worker loses his employment he must take his card to the nearest labour exchange, which, in conjunction with the insurance office, will be responsible for finding him a job, or paying him the benefit.

Trades Boards.—The Trades Boards Bill also became law during the past session, and came into operation on the 1st January last. This Act requires the establishment of Trade Boards for fixing minimum rates of pay in certain trades in which sweating exists. It includes four scheduled trades:—(1) Readymade and wholesale bespoke tailoring; (2) cardboard boxmaking; (3) machine-made lace and net finishing and curtain finishing; and (4) chain-

making. The Act can be extended to other trades by provisional orders made by the Board of Trade, and confirmed by Parliament. So far as Ireland is concerned the two first-mentioned scheduled trades only are affected, and the Board of Trade have issued circulars to the operatives of those trades in which they say:—"It is in your interest that the best representatives of the workers should be chosen to sit on the Trade Board, and it is hoped that you will set to work to find out the sort of person that you would like to represent you and your fellow-workers." Your Committee venture to hope that this advice will be fully acted upon. Every Trade Board will consist of three classes of persons—(a) "Appointed persons," that is to say, persons appointed by the Board of Trade; (b) members representing employers; and (c) members representing workers.

The Shops Bill.—Late last Session the then Home Secretary (Mr. H. Gladstone) introduced his promised Shops Bill, dealing with the hours of Shop Assistants. Time not permitting of its being proceeded with, a promise was given that it would be re-introduced during the present Session—a promise your Committee regretfully report as yet unfulfilled. The Bill provided for a 60-hours week exclusive of meal-times, and, as it stood, would not operate, so far as the limitations of hours is concerned, in rural districts where the population does not exceed 1,000, except in special cases. Your Committee communicated the resolutions of Congress on this question to the Home Office; but as yet no satisfactory response has been forthcoming, nor do we think there is much prospect of the Bill reaching the Statute Book in any form this Session.

Labour Representation and Trade Union Funds.—The Joint Board representing the Trade Union Congress, the General Federation of Trade Unions, and the Labour Party, having determined to introduce a Bill to amend the Trade Union Acts, 1871-1876, enabling Trade Unions to continue the political activities in which they have been engaged since 1868, and which have been hampered by the decision in the Osborne case, your Committee addressed the following letter to Mr. John Redmond, M.P., on the 6th of January last:—

"By the recent decision of the House of Lords in *Osborne v. A.S.R.S.*, Trade Unions are prohibited from levying their members or subscribing funds for the promotion and maintenance of Labour representation in Parliament or on Public Boards, notwithstanding that such levies and subscriptions are sanctioned by a legal vote of the members, and that the right of so doing has been exercised unchallenged since the election of Mr. Thomas Burt to Parliament in 1874, until now. It is even held that this decision also prohibits the continued financial support, in like manner, of trades councils, congresses, deputations, &c. In these circumstances, it is proposed to seek in the next Parliament an amendment of the Trade Union Acts, '71-'76, to enable the unions to promote and support their own representatives in Parliament and in local bodies, in the manner obtainable from 1874 to the recent judgment, and I am requested by my Committee to ask if the Irish Parliamentary Party will support

such amendment. As time and circumstances are unfavourable to communicating with each of your present and prospective colleagues, my committee are prepared to accept your assurance, or otherwise, for the Party as a whole."

No reply has been received to this letter, and your Committee can only assume that it miscarried or was mislaid during the turmoil of the General Election. It is, however, right to say that when the question came on by way of resolution in the House, moved on behalf of the Labour Party by Mr. J. W. Taylor, M.P., on Wednesday evening, the 14th April, Alderman Boyle, M.P., on behalf of the Irish Party (65 members of the Party being present), supported the resolution, which was "talked out" by the Opposition. The proposal declared :—

"That, in the opinion of this House, the right to send representatives to Parliament and to municipal and administrative bodies, and to make financial provision for their election and maintenance, enjoyed by trade unions for over 40 years, and taken from them by the decision in the case of *Osborne v. Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants* should be restored."

Subsequently a Bill was prepared and introduced on behalf of the Labour Party by Mr. Johnson, M.P., on the 18th April, but there is no hope of making progress with it in the present Session. The operative clause of the Bill is as follows :—

"A Trade Union as defined by Section 16 of the Trade Union Amendment Act, 1876, may, notwithstanding any of the provisions of the Trade Union Acts, 1871 and 1876, either acting by itself or in conjunction with any other Trade Union, association, or body, apply its funds for or towards the purpose of procuring the return and providing for the maintenance of members of Parliament or of a public or local authority or of any other public body, and may do such other acts as may be necessary to forward the interests of workmen by political action or otherwise."

Truck Committee's Reports.—The report has been issued by the Departmental Committee which was appointed in 1906 to inquire into the operation of the Truck Acts, with particular reference as to whether fines and deductions from wages should be prohibited; and, further, to consider and report whether the practice of shop assistants and certain classes of workpeople being lodged and boarded by their employers gives rise to abuses needing remedy by an extension of the Truck Acts. The committee make a number of recommendations, of which the following are the most important :—The whole law on the subject of truck, and fines and deductions from wages, should be consolidated and amended (as stated), and extended to outworkers. The powers of the Factory Inspectors with regard to the enforcement of the Truck Acts should be extended to docks and warehouses. Fines should be totally abolished in the case of young persons of 16 and under, in all employments. The maximum fine, or accumulation of fines, in any one week, permissible by law should not exceed five per cent. of the wages of the workman for the week. The provisions of the Act of 1896 should be amended so that the prosecution should have the option of proceeding against employers for imposing an unfair or unreasonable fine where such fine is imposed without agreement. The inspectors of local authorities who already enforce the provisions of the Shop

Hours Act shall be empowered to enforce the provisions of the Truck Act in regard to fines in shops. The existing provisions of the law in respect of deductions for bad or negligent work, or injury to materials or other property of the employer, should be repealed, and the matter left to be regulated as the committee suggest, and according to the ordinary common law rights of the parties. No deductions should be allowed in respect of materials such as glue, paste, thread, &c., which go into the substance of the product, nor for tools, machinery, standing-room, light, heat, &c. These are the main recommendations in regard to fines and deductions.

"Living-in."—In dealing with the second part of their inquiry, committee recommend:—That power should be given to a central authority (e.g., the L.G.B) to make regulations as to the accommodation—sanitation, lavatory, bath, ventilation, and cubic space of bedrooms, single beds, &c.—provided in living-in establishments. That the law as to the sale of food unfit for human consumption should be extended so as to apply to the case of an employer supplying to his workers food unfit for human consumption. That the law should provide for inspection of living-in establishments by inspectors to the local authority, who already inspect under the Shop Hours Act, and that it should be made their duty to enforce the regulations of the central authority. On the main features of the report, especially upon living-in, the Committee are not in full agreement, a minority reporting that fines and deductions for spoiled work, and "the system known as living-in" should be prohibited by law. They say that "on the moral side the living-in system has not only no advantage, but is actually harmful." It was contended that the system affords no safeguards against moral dangers. There is no real supervision over the individual, and the supervision in bulk, so to speak, is confined to requiring assistants to be in by a certain time at night. The serious allegation was made (says the report) that in some cases assistants not returning before the hour of locking-up are shut out for the night, and that girls so excluded have been known to spend the whole night wandering about the streets. Stress was particularly laid upon the danger resulting from boys and men, or young girls and women, occupying the same bedroom. It was alleged that the assistant has no choice of his or her companions, and that often evil moral effects of a serious nature result from undesirable companionship. In these circumstances the Committee's report has caused widespread dissatisfaction amongst the general body of shop assistants, and a determined effort will be made, when the Government's promised Bill is introduced, to secure the adoption of the recommendations contained in the minority report—to withhold the sanction of the law from (1) the system of fines; (2) the system (under the title of fines) of deductions for bad work and injury to materials; and (3) the system known as living-in.

Engines and Boilers (Persons in Charge).—This Bill has again been introduced by Mr. James Haslam, Labour M.P. for Chesterfield; but no hope is entertained of getting it through this Session. Amongst the provisions of the Bill are that all persons having charge of steam engines and boilers shall pass a practical examination as to their fitness for such duties, and, on passing such examination, shall be granted certificates of competency, and that no person shall be allowed to take charge of any steam engine or boiler who does not hold such certificate; also providing that in any factory in which machinery is used, and where steam or electricity is generated for the motive power thereof, a practical male person of not less than 21 years of age shall be appointed for the purposes of working the machinery. As applied to locomotive engines, it is required that no engineer be allowed to have charge of or drive a locomotive engine without being in possession of a certificate of competency from the Board of Trade, five years' experience as fireman and engineman prior to the passing of the Bill to be the qualification for a certificate. The desire of the promoters of the Bill is to make it a criminal offence for any locomotive engineman, fireman, or cleaner to drive a locomotive over any road he is not conversant with.

Other Bills.—Bills dealing with the following Labour questions have also been presented to the present Parliament—Character Note (Mr. Seddon); Factory and Workshop Act Amendment (Mr. Jowett); Jurors' Payment (Ireland) (Mr. Hugh Barrie); Railways Eight Hours (Mr. Hudson); Restraint of Trade, Shops (Mr. Seddon). Besides Labour Exchanges and Trades Boards, the following Acts passed last Session—Workmen's Compensation (Anglo French Convention), which extends the provisions of the original Act to British subjects in the employment of British employers in French territory; Irish Handloom Weavers, which protects the products of Irish handloom workers; and Merchandise Marks (Ireland), which is, however, confined to certain agricultural and dairy produce, and is mainly administered by the Agricultural Department.

Dock Labourers' Union and Transport Workers' Union.—The Limerick Congress by resolution directed that a special committee, consisting of four members of Congress (Messrs. Mitchell, Belfast; P. T. Daly, Dublin; P. Murphy, P.L.G., Cork, and H. M'Callion, Londonderry), with three members of the Parliamentary Committee (Messrs. E. W. Stewart, M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G., and E. L. Richardson, J.P.), should investigate the cause of the secession from the National Union of Dock Labourers and the formation of the Transport Workers' Union. Congress having made no provision for the expenses of the inquiry, your Committee, before calling the Special Committee together, decided that a deposit of £11 should be lodged by each side, and guarantees given that the body found in

default should bear the cost. The unanimous finding of the Special Committee was reported to your Committee, as follows:—

"The Committee of Investigation, having inquired into the cause 'and development of the dispute in the National Union of Dock Labourers, the subsequent secession of a large number of members, and the formation of the Irish Transport Workers' Union,' and having examined books, documents, and witnesses, are of opinion that no real justification existed for the secession of members from the National Union, if such secession is based upon complaints as to illegal action or improper treatment on the part of the National Union ;

And that, as it is accepted on all sides that there is no objection to the formation and existence of an Irish Union, we are of opinion that the Irish Transport Workers' Union is a *bona fide* labour union, and entitled to recognition in the Trade Union Movement."

On the first portion of this report your Committee decided, on a division, that, as the Investigation Committee found there was no justification for the secession, the Transport Workers' Union be condemned in expenses. On the second part, your Committee were divided in opinion that the Investigation Committee "exceeded their terms of reference in making a recommendation not authorised by the resolution of the Limerick Congress." They now submit the matter to the judgment of the delegates.

Visit of Mr. Samuel Gompers to Ireland.—At their meeting in June last your Committee received official intimation that the President of the American Federation of Labour, Mr. Samuel Gompers, purposed visiting Dublin during that month. A deputation from the Dublin Trades Council attended to seek the co-operation of your Committee in according Mr. Gompers a fitting reception. It was thereupon decided that Miss Galway, and Messrs. M'Carron and Harvey, with Messrs. Stewart, Rochford, O'Lehane, and Richardson should co-operate with the E.C. of the Dublin Trades Council in making arrangements to welcome Mr. Gompers, the cost to be shared equally by the Dublin Council and your Committee. The reception took place on the 28th June, in the Library of the Trades Hall, and proved one of the most pleasing and enjoyable functions ever associated with the trade union movement in Ireland. Mr. Gompers, in the course of an able speech in response to the toast of his health, proposed by the then president of the Dublin Trades Council (Mr. M. J. O'Lehane), referred in feeling terms to the heartiness of his reception, and recalled his previous welcome in the same room fourteen years ago, and to the fact that but two of the company then present to meet him were also present in 1895. Mr. Gompers on returning to America published an account of his visit to Europe in the official journal of the American Federation of Labour, in which he gave full expression to all he heard and saw about the labour movement in Ireland, not the least being his appreciation of Irish hospitality.

Organising Meetings in Dundalk.—At the request of the local Trades Council two meetings for propaganda and organising purposes were held in Dundalk. The first took place in August last

year when Messrs. Stewart and Richardson representing your Committee, ably assisted by Mr. Hugh M'Manus, Belfast, spoke to a good audience in the Town Hall, presided over by the chairman of the Urban Council. The second meeting, which was more largely attended, was held in March last, in the same place, with the same chairman, at which Messrs. Campbell, Rochford, O'Lehane, and Stewart spoke, again assisted by Mr. M'Manus, to whom your Committee tender their hearty thanks. The results accruing from these meetings, your Committee are informed, have been eminently satisfactory; and encourage them to give similar help in other districts where circumstances are favourable and local desires expressed. Your Secretary (Mr. Stewart), with Mr. Rochford, had a subsequent conference (by request) with the Committee of the Dundalk Council on the 24th ulto., at which the details for the Congress were finally arranged.

Resignation of Mr. E. L. Richardson from the Secretaryship — On the 5th March a special meeting of your Committee was held when Mr. E. L. Richardson tendered his resignation as secretary, on appointment as manager of the Board of Trade Labour Exchange at Dublin. Your Committee, while regretfully obliged to accept the resignation, feel sure the Congress will express in a fitting manner their sense of Mr. Richardson's services, not only during his ten years' tenure of the responsible office of secretary, but as one of the founders and for sixteen years an enthusiastic and hard worker for the Congress and the Parliamentary Committee. At the same meeting the resignation of Mr. Matthew Harvey, a member of the Committee, on his appointment to the Limerick Labour Exchange, was also regretfully accepted. By general agreement Mr. E. W. Stewart was appointed secretary, thereupon vacating the chair, to which Councillor M'Carron was unanimously elected, the vacancies on the Committee being filled by the co-option of Mr. John Farren, Dublin, and Mr. T. M'Connell, Belfast.

All of which your Committee present as their Report.

Signed,

JAMES M'CARRON, T.C., *Chairman.*

MARY GALWAY, *Vice-Chairman.*

M. EGAN, J.P., T.C.

D. R. CAMPBELL.

H. ROCHFORD.

M. J. O'LEHANE, P.L.G., *Hon. Treas.*

E. W. STEWART, *Hon. Sec.*

Dundalk, 14th May, 1910.

FIRST DAY.—Monday, 16th May, 1910.

The Seventeenth Annual Irish Trades Union Congress was opened in the Town Hall, Dundalk, on Monday, May 16th, 1910. Mr. Stewart, Dublin, called the delegates to order, and announced that Miss Mary Galway, Vice-Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee, would open the Congress.

Miss Galway said that as a woman she thought they should first extend their sincere sympathy on behalf of the Irish workers to Queen Alexandra in her bereavement (interruption).

Mr. O'Brien (Dublin)—Humbug! Our sympathy had much better be extended to the victims of the colliery disaster at Whitehaven (applause).

Mr. Stewart (Dublin)—Conduct yourself. Respect a lady if you don't respect yourself (applause).

Mr. Dawson Gordon (Belfast)—What about Whitehaven? (applause).

Miss Galway proceeded to speak in favour of her motion, and said the late king did his best to give justice to every class in the United Kingdom.

Mr. M'Gibbon (Belfast) seconded Miss Galway's motion.

Mr. Gordon—Couple the sufferers from the Whitehaven disaster.

Mr. M'Carron, T.C. (Derry)—That is coming on later.

Mr. O'Brien—Oh, evidently any time will do for them!

Mr. Nolan (Dublin) said that personally King Edward VII. deserved respect, and he was a man who in every possible way showed sympathy for the people over whom he ruled. He (Mr. Nolan) therefore supported the motion, although he did not recognise the English King so long as Ireland was denied constitutional rights.

Mr. P. T. Daly (Dublin), also rose to speak, but

Miss Galway asked all in favour of the motion to stand up, and she declared the motion carried.

WELCOME TO DUNDALK.

Mr. James M'Court, J.P., Chairman Urban Council, and Mr. Bernard Hamill, J.P., Chairman Harbour Board, Dundalk, were then introduced, and they extended a hearty welcome to the Congress.

Mr. M'Court, in the course of his remarks, said that during his early days there was very little unity in trade or labour organisations, and the tradesmen and labourers suffered accordingly. The capitalists had combined in their own interests for the last 20 years, and the workers had the same right to do so.

Mr. Hamill congratulated the Dundalk workers on the success that had attended their efforts to organise, because they had to work against considerable odds.

On the motion of Mr. Rochford, President Dublin Trades Council, seconded by Mr. Lynch, Secretary Cork Trades Council, supported by Mr. Farren (Dublin), a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. M'Court and Mr. Hamill.

Mr. M'Court, in acknowledging the compliment, said he had been a worker and a trades unionist all his life.

THE WHITEHAVEN DISASTER.

Mr. J. M'Carron, T.C. (Derry), moved :—

"That the Congress hereby expresses profound sorrow at the terrible colliery disaster at Whitehaven, especially as so many of the victims are of our own kith and kin."

He regretted very much that the occasion should have occurred and that so many lives should have been sacrificed—a large percentage of whom were their fellow-countrymen (hear, hear).

Mr. O'Lehane, P.L.G. (Dublin), seconded the motion.

Mr. W. O'Brien (Amalgamated Society of Tailors, Dublin) supported the motion, and said the Congress should mark its sympathy in a practical manner by raising a subscription in aid of the families of the victims.

The motion was passed in silence, all the members standing, and subsequently it was announced that the collection amounted to £4 1s. 3d.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR CONGRESS.

Mr. Moneypenny was unanimously elected Assistant Secretary to Congress.

Messrs. D. O'Donovan (Limerick), Whitley (Belfast), and Murray (Dublin) were appointed tellers.

Messrs. P. Lynch, T.C., P.L.G. (Cork); C. Darcus, D. Gordon, J. Harris, J. Malcolm (Belfast); R. O'Keeffe, J. Nolan, J. O'Hanlon, W. Murphy, and P. T. Daly (Dublin) were nominated for Standing Orders Committee, with the following result :—Messrs. W. Murphy, 42 votes; C. Darcus, 40; P. T. Daly, 36; P. Lynch, T.C., P.L.G., 32; R. O'Keeffe, 30; D. Gordon, 30; J. O'Hanlon, 18; J. Malcolm, 18; J. Nolan, 17, and J. Harris, 5. A second vote between Messrs. O'Keeffe and Gordon resulted in a second tie, each candidate receiving 33 votes, and the chairman (Miss Galway) gave her casting vote in favour of Mr. O'Keeffe, who was declared elected.

Messrs. E. H. Hayes (Dublin), O'Donovan (Limerick), J. Clarke (Belfast), and P. J. Lea (Dublin) were nominated as auditors, with the result that Messrs. P. J. Lea and J. Clarke were elected.

On the motion of Mr. Eaton, President Dundalk Trades Council,

seconded by Mr. Money Penny, Secretary Dundalk Trades Council, Councillor M'Carron (Amalgamated Society of Tailors, Derry) was unanimously elected President of the Congress.

Upon rising to deliver his inaugural address, the President was received with loud applause. He said :—

FELLOW-DELEGATES,—My first duty is to return my sincere thanks for having selected me for the third time to preside over your deliberations, although I know the repetition has been due more to accident of intervening circumstances than to any personal merit I can lay claim to.

But I am afraid the fact of my having occupied this position on two previous occasions will make it rather difficult for me to introduce any new matter in the speech which I am about to deliver. With my limited vocabulary I cannot find new language with which to clothe old ideas. Therefore, you will, I trust, bear with me if my present effort has not that freshness about it which one new to the position would impart.

There are many subjects which I would like to dwell upon, but I will content myself with referring to a few of the wider problems which still confront us, and of these, I should say, the most immediate and pressing is the awful and widespread evil of unemployment. We who are in the ranks of organised workers do our utmost to minimise its effect, and the strain on our resources is tremendous. What then must be the condition of those of the unorganised who have no such resources to fall back upon? Their position must be terrible; it makes one sad to think of it. (Hear, hear). From every labour platform, not only in this country but throughout the civilised world, the cry is going up for a more serious grappling of the subject, and it would be well for the powers that be to recognise what their duties are towards the workers who, through no fault of their own, find themselves in the ranks of the unemployed.

I am extremely sorry that in the strain of the political conflict the "Right to Work" Bill did not come into the light for widespread discussion (applause).

The title of the Bill may tickle the fancy of the humorous, just as twenty years ago the suggestion of an old age pension would have been ridiculed even by those who are now in receipt of it. But I should like it to be remembered that the right to work is the right to live, and we should hardly find anybody to-day prepared to dispute the latter proposition. But don't forget that a right ceases to be a right if you are denied the opportunity of fully exercising that right, and yet I shudder to think of how many find themselves in that miserable category through the reason, I make bold to say, of some defect in our present social system. May I point out before leaving the subject that the motto of the Trades Union movement has always been "self-reliance, self-help,"—not charity (loud applause).

The establishment of the Labour Exchanges has been of such recent date that I hesitate to express my opinion of them, but let us hope that they will be worked in harmony with the various Trades Unions and not against them; and at the same time let us not forget that the system under which they are conducted tends to individual bargaining which may result in the reduction of wages if we are not, by thorough combination, in a position to protect our interests in that direction. Hence the necessity for a more perfect organisation now than before the Act became law. (hear, hear).

We have now over a year's working of the "Old Age Pensions Act," and we must admit that, though meagre, the pittance has brought a ray of hope to many aged poor; but much more remains to be done, particularly the immediate removal of the pauper disqualification which is most absurd, inasmuch as there is no better proof (all other sections of the Act being complied with) that those so circumstanced who apply for the Old Age Pension are entitled to get it than the fact that they have been compelled to accept Poor Law relief. Then, again, the age limit must be reduced and the amount per week increased. Surely, Society, for whom the aged workers created the wealth—yes, twenty times more than ever they consumed—shall not allow them to end their days in want and misery. No! on the contrary, shall not a grateful country enable those disabled soldiers of industry to live the few years that remain to them after their days of toil are past in comparative peace and comfort? (applause).

Speaking of Old Age Pensions has suggested to me a few thoughts regarding the workhouse system which still remains unchanged. All finer human feelings revolt at it. By general consent it stands condemned. Then why should it remain? We should make it clearly understood that so far as the power and influence of the organised workers are concerned, the system must be abolished, and the sooner the better, both in the interests of the ratepayer and the deserving poor. And while discussing the workhouses, I think I may venture to introduce the sweating evil; for are not the two institutions closely connected?—the sweater usually ending his days in the union (hear, hear).

Of all the evils with which the workers are cursed, I am convinced that sweating is the worst. I will not insult your intelligence by referring to it in detail, as I believe everyone of you are sufficiently acquainted with the system to thoroughly realise the terrible suffering it inflicts on the victim, and the great danger to health it is, through the spread of disease amongst the public who patronise the firms that employ the sweater. Now and again a great outcry arises about the sweating system when the pious and philanthropic in public and the diplomatic in Government feel called upon to bestir themselves for awhile, and then the public conscience rests satisfied with something attempted but very little done. Some may ask what about the Trades Board Bill? Will it

not mitigate the evil referred to to some extent? Yes, in so far as its limited operations extend, it may do some good; but as there are many sweated industries to which it does not apply, particularly made-to-order tailoring, I am afraid the authors of the Act cannot lay claim to having touched more than the fringe of the sweating question.

The Act includes wholesale bespoke tailoring or any other tailoring done under same conditions—that is to say, manufactured on the “division of labour” system. You can therefore see that the Act does not apply to the poor victims who carry the work to their homes, which in many instances is bedroom, sittingroom, kitchen and workshop combined, where he sweats at it all day and at night makes it serve the purpose of a blanket. This makes me again repeat something attempted but very little done, and still these poor wretches and their families are enduring a living death in their effort to keep body and soul together. The hypocrite may assert that the workers are free agents and are consequently not compelled to work under these conditions; but in answering may I ask, Where is the freedom when the wife and children are crying for bread and no hope of assuaging their hunger other than accepting the terms offered by the master sweater? Just the same freedom the highwayman extends to the wayfarer when he demands either his life or his money (loud applause).

In passing, you will excuse my reference to the housing accommodation afforded the workers in the cities and towns of this country, which is at present, and will be for many years to come, a question of great urgency provided the workers do not bestir themselves and see that those members who are returned to the various local boards take advantage of the Housing of the Working Classes Act and of the Irish Housing Act. This Act is of a very far-reaching character as far as the borrowing powers it confers on all local authorities are concerned, which I hope will be an incentive to a very thorough and wide-spread use of the Act by the various public bodies in this country, as no country in my opinion requires it more than ours (hear, hear).

What purpose can be served or what remedies adopted to stamp out the White Plague? Where is the use of lecturing on hygiene to a people living in slums? What service can be effected by those who teach the laws of health and suggest isolation and sanitation in order to prevent the spread of consumption while the house still remains (hear, hear).

Fellow-Delegates, I feel I am not capable of dealing with the Education Question with either credit to myself or satisfaction to the public. I will therefore content myself with again expressing my conviction, which I have expressed from the Presidential chair on a previous occasion—viz., that it is our duty to demand that the Government should make adequate provision for the secular education of the children of the working classes, not alone in the

elementary stages but in the higher branches also, as I am convinced it is the duty of the nation to give her children an equal opportunity to prepare themselves for the battle of life. Before leaving the subject of education I am compelled to refer to the great dearth of satisfactory school-house accommodation, especially in the poorer districts, where the children who attend the schools are insufficiently fed and insufficiently clad and consequently unable to resist the disease germs which must abound in these ill-ventilated and insanitary schools. Let the sceptical individuals who doubt my statement regarding the children of the poorer classes being ill-fed and poorly clad stand at the street corners of any of our large towns or cities and observe the poor children (boys and girls) pass to and from school, barefooted, with scarcely enough clothing to cover their nakedness, their faces pinched with cold and hunger, and his scepticism will soon disappear—not only that, but he will agree with us that there is something wrong with our social system which enables the few to live in luxury while the many can hardly get the bare necessities of life (applause). But, after all, who is responsible for this state of affairs?

Burke has written of it as follows:—"Indeed (he says) the blindness of one part of mankind, co-operating with the frenzy and villainy of the other, has been the real builder of this respectable fabric of political society, and as the blindness of mankind has caused their slavery in return their state of slavery is made a pretence for continuing them in a state of blindness, for the politician will tell you gravely that their life of servitude disqualifies the greater part of the race of man for a search of truth and supplies them with no other than mean and insufficient ideas." This is as true to-day in every respect as when Burke wrote it (applause). Yet when the more advanced spirits amongst us suggest remedies whereby this state of affairs might be altered, when they try to remove the scales from our eyes and make us think thoughts we never thought before, they are pointed to by the good, pious, and God-fearing citizens as dangerous characters—a menace to society, who should be avoided by all self-respecting subjects of the king. Yet those protectors of society make no effort themselves to assist at the removal of the injustices which they admit exist. Some people may ease their conscience in so far as the children are concerned by saying it is, or should be, the look-out of the parents to remedy this evil; but I contend it is the duty of the State, whether the parents are unable to provide, or, if able, neglect to provide, I say again in either case it is the duty of the State to protect the child (applause).

Another clause of this question is the position of the teacher. They appear to labour under a great many difficulties. They are, in fact, a branch of the Civil Service. But in protection they have neither security of tenure, income, or general status of Civil servants; discontent appears to be rife amongst them, and not, you

will I am sure, agree with me, without some reason; therefore, I feel certain I am voicing the opinion of this Congress when I say they have our heartiest approval in their demands, because it requires a thoroughly contented teaching staff, free from financial and arbitrary dismissal worries, to give their whole-hearted energy to the teaching of the children (loud applause).

I have alluded to many questions of social reform, all of which, in the interest of the community, should be attended to and which can only be done through the medium of the State, there being no local resources to deal with questions of this magnitude. A very large capital sum would, no doubt, be required to meet the demands for social reform which are considered so essential and vital to the needs and progress of a healthy and enlightened democracy. But we, workers, are only too well aware of the financial difficulties which loom large in the eyes of statesmen when finance is required for reform, such as I have indicated; but there is no trouble in raising money to construct machines for the destruction of human life. Millions can be found for the building of Dreadnoughts, and hundreds of millions for the prosecution of an unnecessary war, which has crippled the commercial resources of the United Kingdom, and will continue to do so, I am afraid, for years to come. But as all shades of politics, I am pleased to know, are represented at this Congress I will say nothing more on this subject lest I should be charged with touching on the fringe of party politics. However, I am constrained to say that the happiness and prosperity of the people are at least as necessary as huge battleships or hundred-ton guns, and recognising this fact why do we, the wealth producers of the world, not use our political power to compel a radical alteration of the present state of society? (hear, hear).

Some one has said that all lawful authority, legislative and executive, originated from the people. Power in the people is like the light in the sun—natural, original, inherent and unlimited by anything human. In Governments it may be compared to the reflected light of the moon, for it is only borrowed, delegated and limited by the intention of the people whose it is, and to whom Governments are to consider themselves responsible; while the people are answerable only to God, themselves being the losers if they pursue a false scheme of politics. Have we in the past pursued the right scheme? Have we not rather allowed others to pursue a scheme for us detrimental to our best interests? But it is never too late to mend. Therefore, let us in the future think of ourselves and not be the pliable tools of others, and by so doing (in the words of a great labour leader) render our lives while working as safe and healthful as modern science demonstrates it is possible. "Give us better homes" is just as potent a cry to-day as when Dickens voiced the yearnings of the people a generation ago (loud applause).

Save our children in their infancy from being forced into the maelstrom of wage slavery. See to it that they are not dwarfed in body or mind or brought to a premature death by early drudgery. Give them the sunshine of the school and playground instead of the factory, the mine and the workshop (cheers).

We want more schools and less jails; more books and less arsenals; more learning and less vice; more constant work and less crime; more leisure and less greed; more justice and less revenge; in fact, more of the opportunities to cultivate our better natures—to make manhood more noble, womanhood more beautiful, and childhood more happy and bright (applause). These in brief are the primary demands made by the Trades Unions in the name of Labour. These are the demands made by labour upon modern society, and in their consideration is involved the fate of civilisation. For:

There is a moving of men like the sea in its might;
The grand and resistless uprising of labour;
The banner it carries is justice and right,
It aims not the musket, it draws not the sabre.
But the sound of its tread over the graves of the dead
Shall startle the world and fill despots with dread,
For 'tis sworn that the land of the Fathers shall be
The home of the brave and the land of the free.

(Loud cheering).

Mr. Whitley (Belfast) proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his address, and Mr. O'Hanlon (Dublin) seconded.

The motion was carried with acclamation.

The Chairman suitably replied.

POLITICAL DISABILITIES OF TRADES UNIONS.

Standing Orders were suspended, on the recommendation of the Standing Orders Committee, and

Mr. Hugh M'Manus (Typographical Association, Belfast), moved:—

“That, in the opinion of this Trades Congress, the right to send representatives to Parliament and to municipal and administrative bodies, and to make financial provision for their election and maintenance enjoyed by trade unions for over 40 years, and taken from them by the decision in the case of *Osborne v. Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants*, should be restored.”

Mr. J. Malcolm (Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, Belfast), seconded, and said they had to meet an attack on labour representation under the guise of asserting the rights of individual trades unionists.

Passed unanimously.

THE LORDS' VETO.

Mr. Joseph Clarke (Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Dublin), moved:—

"That this Congress appreciates the action of the Irish Party, led by Mr. John Redmond, in having the 'Veto of the House of Lords' made the principal issue in the present Parliament, and desires to take this opportunity of thanking the Irish Party for the support always given by them to any measure for the advancement of labour interests, and calls on all trade unionists to give their support to the Party in the event of another General Election."

He said he was glad to see the resolution had got so prominent a place —

The Chairman—I am compelled to rule this motion out of order. As I said in my address, I do not think we can touch party politics.

Mr. Clarke—I hold that the Veto of the House of Lords is not party politics.

The Chairman—I am very sorry to have to interrupt you.

The following motion in the name of the Limerick Trades Council was withdrawn :—

TRADES BOARD FOR IRELAND.

"That this Congress instructs the Parliamentary Committee to at once impress upon the Government the urgent necessity of establishing a separate Trades Board in Ireland, as we are convinced that it is most essential to the proper working of the new Act in this country."

THE TRUCK ACTS.

Miss Galway moved :—

"That we urge upon the Government the necessity of adopting the recommendation of the Minority Report of the Truck Committee—namely, the abolition of all fines, deduction for bad work or damaged material, and bonuses."

She said she gave evidence before the Truck Committee, and had then handed in a list of 67 fines, varying from 6d. to 30s., which had been taken from members of her own society during the last few years ("Shame"). The Truck Acts were intended by the Legislature to be a protection to the workers, but where the workers were unorganised the employers imposed contracts under which they were fined anything and everything. In the case of women workers these contracts were especially unfair (hear, hear). The Irish women workers were unorganised, and they suffered under contracts that the organised Lancashire women workers would not submit to. They were fined for late attendance, inferior work, soiled work, and so on. Sometimes they were fined to the full extent of their wages ("Shame"). There was no remedy under the present Truck Acts, and both the Majority and the Minority of the Committee had issued reports. She knew of one case in which a boy weaver having earned 3s. 8d. for a week was fined 1s.

4d. ("Shame"). The wages of women were paid in the form of bonuses and prizes, and if they happened to be late on one morning they would lose 2s. 6d. in addition to the loss of wages ("Shame").

Mrs. M'Caughey seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

THE "LIVING-IN" SYSTEM.

Mr. Turpin (Cork) moved:—

"That this Congress, having carefully considered the majority and minority reports in respect of the "living-in" system, hereby declares emphatically that no legislation will be satisfactory to shop workers that does not propose the abolition of a demoralising system, which deprives adults of the right of home, manhood, womanhood, and citizenship; and further calls upon the Government to introduce at the earliest moment legislation based upon the proposal made in the Minority Report; and further directs public attention to the danger to life from fire as an additional reason for the abolition of this system."

He said that in some of the great drapery establishments in London the "living-in" department was the paying department in the house. He referred to cases in Clapham (London) and in Ireland, where assistants had been burned to death.

Mr. Feenan (Belfast) seconded, and said that in several large establishments in Belfast the "living-in" system had been abolished.

Mr. Nolan (Dublin) supported the resolution, which was adopted.

STANDING ORDERS REPORT—(1).

Mr. W. Murphy (Dublin) Chairman Standing Orders Committee, reported that Mr. M'Manus had appeared before them and preferred a request to have Standing Orders suspended in order that he might move a resolution on the political disabilities of trades unions, and as they had already reported, Congress was recommended to give the necessary permission.

It was further recommended that the reports of the Parliamentary Committee *in re* Special Committee appointed by Congress at Limerick on the questions in dispute *re* the Dock Labourers (pp. 11 and 12 Parliamentary Committee's Report), be taken as first business.

On the motion of Mr. J. O'Hanlon (Dublin), seconded by Mr. M. Cauty (Dublin), the report was adopted.

The following is the report referred to:—

"*Dock Labourers' Union and Transport Workers' Union.*—The Limerick Congress by resolution directed that a special committee, consisting of four members of Congress (Messrs. Mitchell, Belfast; P. T. Daly, Dublin; P. Murphy, P.L.G., Cork, and H. M'Callion,

Londonderry), with three members of the Parliamentary Committee (Messrs. E. W. Stewart, M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G., and E. L. Richardson, J.P.), should investigate the cause of the secession from the National Union of Dock Labourers and the formation of the Transport Workers' Union. Congress having made no provision for the expenses of the inquiry, your Committee before calling the Special Committee together, decided that a deposit of £11 should be lodged by each side, and guarantees given that the body found in default should bear the cost. The unanimous finding of the Special Committee was reported to your Committee, as follows:—

'The Committee of Investigation, having inquired into the cause "and development of the dispute in the National Union of Dock Labourers, the subsequent secession of a large number of members, and the formation of the Irish Transport Workers' Union," and having examined books, documents, and witnesses, are of opinion that no real justification existed for the secession of members from the National Union, if such secession is based upon complaints as to illegal action or improper treatment on the part of the National Union;

'And that, as it is accepted on all sides that there is no objection to the formation and existence of an Irish Union, we are of opinion that the Irish Transport Workers' Union is a *bona fide* labour union, and entitled to recognition in the Trade Union Movement.'

"On the first portion of this report your Committee decided, on a division, that, as the Investigation Committee found there was no justification for the secession, the Transport Workers' Union be condemned in expenses. On the second part, your Committee were divided in opinion that the Investigation Committee 'exceeded their terms of reference in making a recommendation not authorised by the resolution of the Limerick Congress.' They now submit the matter to the judgment of the delegates."

Mr. Campbell (Belfast Trades Council) moved that the contents of the report of the Special Committee be accepted and adopted. He said the report recognised that the new union was properly and constitutionally formed and that recognition would carry with it the affiliation of the delegates of the union (hear, hear).

Mr. Malcolm (Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants) seconded the motion.

Mr. Stewart said he was Chairman of the Committee, and the history of the matter was that there were differences between branches of the Dock Labourers' Union, and out of these differences the formation of the Transport Workers' Union took place. The Parliamentary Committee did not understand the cause of the secession, and at the Limerick Congress last year said they would not recognise the new union until they knew more about how it came into existence. The Limerick Congress upheld the decision of the Parliamentary Committee and excluded the new union until inquiry had been made. The Committee of Inquiry sat two days and took evidence, verbal and documentary, from both sides. That Committee found that the allegations made against the parent body did not justify the secession. The Dock Labourers' Union had no

objection to the new body, but there was a dispute between the two bodies as to the ownership of a large sum of money. Since that time a development had taken place, and some of those concerned were awaiting trial in respect to the claims made to these funds. Personally, he suggested that the consideration of the matter should be postponed until the ownership of the money should be decided by the criminal proceedings which were pending.

Mr. Canty (Dublin) supported the Transport Workers. His experience of English organisations was that they would take all, and when Irish branches were "in a hole" would leave them there (applause).

Mr. O'Lehane said they must presume the innocence of fellow trade unionists until they were found guilty. There were close upon 3,000 workers in the new union. Were they to be excluded because one individual was connected with them? That man was assailed by capitalists, and were they as trades unionists to join in a vendetta against him? (hear, hear). The real question was whether or not Mr. Larkin was to be admitted to the Congress, and he held that the action of those responsible for his exclusion was reprehensible in the extreme (applause).

Mr. Joseph Clarke (Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Dublin) supported the motion. He held that the Parliamentary Committee had no right to exclude the delegate from the Dublin Trades Council from that assembly (hear, hear). Principles were more than personalities, and if they elected a Committee last year to go into this question, they must have had confidence in them, and surely they ought to accept their report (hear, hear). He did not think it was right that they should adopt the suggestion which had been thrown out, and prejudice what the English law courts would do so far as an Irish trades union was concerned (applause).

In answer to Mr. M'Nulty (Derry), the Chairman said he felt that the Committee had exceeded their duty as laid down in the terms of reference. They were not asked whether it was a bona-fide society or not; they were to inquire into the cause or causes leading up to their secession.

Mr. P. T. Daly (Dublin) also supported the motion.

Mr. W. J. M'Nulty (Dockers' Union, Derry) proposed as an amendment the deletion of the last paragraph of the Special Committee's Report from the word "And" to the word "movement." He was firmly convinced that if the motion was carried it would be a serious blow to trade unionism (hear, hear).

Mr. Nugent (Dockers' Union, Drogheda) seconded the amendment.

At this point the Congress adjourned until 9.30 on Tuesday morning.

The Chairman announced that Messrs. Macardle, Moore & Co., brewers, Dundalk, had invited the members of the Congress to inspect their establishment.

SECOND DAY.—Tuesday, 17th May, 1910.

The business of the Congress was resumed on Tuesday morning, Councillor M'Carron presiding.

Minutes of preceding day's proceedings having been read and confirmed.

STANDING ORDERS REPORT NO. 2.

Mr. W. Murphy presented Report of Standing Orders Committee as follows:—

Mr. Murphy asked permission to refer to the dispute in the Brushmaking Trade, and we recommend that permission be granted at the close of the discussion now before the chair.

The Committee desire to draw the attention of the Congress to the necessity for expediting the business, more especially as the members adjourned yesterday at an early hour and without consultation with this Committee, while we were considering the best means of economising the time at the disposal of Congress.

We recommend that non-contentious resolutions shall be proposed and seconded and put to Congress without further discussion.

The Report of the Parliamentary Party be taken as first business on resumption after lunch to-day.

Nominations for Parliamentary Committee and Secretary to the Parliamentary Committee to close at noon.

We recommend that a representative of the Irish Committee for the Breaking-up of the Poor Law be given permission to address the Congress at 3 p.m. for a period of ten minutes.

Mr. W. J. Leahy requested leave, and we recommend permission be granted, to move supplementary resolutions after Resolution 64.

On the motion of Mr. J. Feenan (Belfast), seconded by Mr. C. Turpin (Cork) the report was adopted.

The discussion as to the status of the Transport Workers' Union, which remained unfinished the previous evening, was again taken up.

Mr. Nolan (Dublin) said he was under the impression that when the Committee of Inquiry was appointed they got plenary powers to deal with the whole question and to decide thereon. He thought that the Transport Workers' Union should be admitted to the Congress. But apart from that, Mr. Larkin had been sent to the Congress, not as a representative of the Transport Workers' Union, but of the Dublin Trades Council, and as a member of that body he protested against the exclusion of their delegate (applause). He differed with Mr. Larkin, but he was going to see that he got fair play (hear, hear).

Mr. O'Neill (Amalgamated Carpenters, Dublin)—Has the Parliamentary Committee power to over-ride the decisions of the Congress?

The Chairman—No.

Mr. O'Neill—Then why not admit the men, and let us go on with the business? It is a shameless waste of time, and he protested against it (hear, hear).

Mr. Hayes (Belfast) said the Dublin Trades Council had recognised Mr. Larkin, and they should allow him to take his place in the Congress.

Mr. Harris (Belfast) asked on what grounds the Dublin Trades Council refused affiliation to members of other bodies while they admitted to membership other men who seceded from their organisations? How was that Congress to be asked to admit the members of a union who seceded from the parent organisation, as their Committee found, without cause? This was only the thin end of the wedge, because the aspirations of the men supporting it were to oppose all amalgamation (hear, hear). He would be the last man to hound a man down, but they had a duty to perform. They had a right to say whether the present attitude would conduce to the further organisation of the men of this country. He was closely connected with the man at the head of affairs at this union once, and he believed the trades union spirit wasn't there ("Shame")

Mr. Canty protested against attacks being made on a man who had not the right of reply.

Mr. P. T. Daly rose to a point of order. Following the precedent ruled by the Chairman, he asked was the speaker in order in traversing ground outside the amendment.

The Chairman ruled that Mr. Harris was in order, and

Mr. Harris, continuing, asked was it right that they should support a man who started a Dockers' Union there, and who afterwards held out a threat to break up the union of the labourers of that town (Dundalk)?

Mr. William Murphy (Dublin) supported the resolution. He had listened with amazement to the speech of the previous speaker. He had spoken of people who were opposed to amalgamation being behind the demand to affiliate the Transport Workers' Union. He (Mr. Murphy) was a member, and he thought a loyal member, of an amalgamated union, and a couple of years ago he knew that the previous speaker was engaged in an effort to establish an Irish union, the scheme for which had been drafted by Mr. Harris and was published over Mr. Daly's name in some of the Dublin papers.

A Delegate—*Sinn Fein*.

Mr. Murphy—Yes, in *Sinn Fein*, as well as others (laughter). What had changed his views? He (Mr. Murphy) knew and was present at the interview when Harris offered his services to Larkin to complete the very union which he now so bitterly complained of

as an enemy to trades unionism. And Larkin's reply to Harris was that he would not take a man out of a job. He would not refer to the Cork business ("Order, order"), but he sincerely hoped the good sense of the Congress would prevail, and that they would stamp out once and for all this contemptible vendetta against one man (applause), and allow their comrades in the Transport Workers' Union to take their rightful place in the labour movement instead of wasting their energies fighting their friends and comrades (applause).

Mr. Egan, J.P., T.C. (Cork) said the new King was being proclaimed at that moment in the Market Square, and he thought they would be better employed listening to the proclamation than listening to the sort of thing they had been listening to.

Mr. J. O'Hanlon (Dublin) agreed with his worship from Cork——

Mr. Egan—I am a delegate to this Congress, and I will not be referred to in that way (loud laughter).

Mr. O'Hanlon apologised if the remark hurt Mr. Egan's feelings (laughter).

The Chairman said it was not in order to refer to a delegate as a magistrate, or in any other way but as a delegate.

Mr. O'Hanlon said he only used the phrase in a jocular way, and he did not think Mr. Egan would be offended by any reference to what he considered an honour. Seriously, he thought they would be better in the open air, and he moved that the question be now put.

Mr. Murray (Electrical Trades Union, Dublin) opposed the amendment. He thought they were wasting time, and the sooner a decision was arrived at the better (hear, hear).

Mr. P. Lynch, T.C., P.L.G. (Cork), supported the amendment. He thought it was grossly inconsistent to say that the seceders were not justified in their action, and then to say that they should be recognised as a bona-fide trades union (hear, hear). Some of the delegates seemed to think that they were justified in taking moneys from the amalgamated unions—as much as they could get—and then doing all they could against them (hear, hear—"no, no"). But this was a case where a man in the service of an amalgamated union refused to obey the orders of his executive and then sets up a rival organisation (hear, hear). He did not think that the Irish Transport Association should be admitted to the Congress (hear, hear).

The Chairman said that Mr. Campbell admitted that the Parliamentary Committee had nothing whatever to do with the investigation undertaken by this Committee. The Parliamentary Committee in this matter had endeavoured to adhere strictly to the decision of the Congress. He (Chairman) was always opposed to the breaking away of unions. If these secessions were encouraged, then good-bye to any government. It had been said that they were

opposed to Mr. Larkin, and that the capitalists were opposed to him. There was no man in Ireland had done such service to the employers as Mr. Larkin had done. He would never support a man who went round creating strikes, taking out men without any support, and leaving the poor people wandering about.

Mr. Campbell (Belfast) could see no reason why they should not affiliate this trades union (hear, hear). He had moved the resolution at previous Congress appointing the Special Committee, and the points of reference were not confined, as the Chairman had stated, to the cause or causes, but to the result and development of the dispute (hear, hear). The Committee might be perfectly satisfied with the first part of their finding, and still, in order to make allowance for men who were disposed to form an Irish union, decide to give the newly-formed body recognition in the labour movement (applause). The decision, according to the report, was unanimous, the Parliamentary Committee refused to alter it, and he thought the wisest thing they could do was to adopt it in its entirety (applause).

A vote was taken, when the amendment that the latter portion of the report of the Committee, suggesting that the Irish Transport Workers' Union was a bona-fide trades union, should be deleted, was defeated by 38 votes to 22. The result was received with loud cheers.

Mr. M'Manus (Belfast) moved a further amendment that the admission of the Irish Transport Workers' Union to the Congress should be deferred for at least two years.

The Chairman refused to accept this.

Mr. Walker, J.P., asked that the delegates of the union should now be admitted to Congress.

The Chairman ruled that he could not permit that as there was no decision to that effect.

Mr. Walker said that the Chairman was really doing what he had no intention, he was sure, of doing. He (the Chairman) and his friends were making a martyr of Larkin. They were making him loom big because of their action, and if they only let him alone Larkin would soon find his level (hear, hear). He moved as a further amendment—

“That the words ‘entitled to recognition in the trades union movement’ be deleted, and the words ‘and they be, and they are hereby affiliated to the Irish Trades Union Congress’ be substituted therefor.”

Mr. Thomas M'Connell (Belfast) seconded the amendment, which was carried by 42 votes to 10.

The resolution, as amended, was then put, 39 members voting in favour of it, but, on the suggestion of Mr. M'Manus those opposed to it did not vote, and the Chairman declared the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. O' Lehane moved that the representatives of the Transport Workers' Association be now admitted to Congress.

The Chairman said the matter would have to come before the Parliamentary Committee before resuming after lunch.

At this point Mr. Larkin, who had been in the gallery, came into the body of the hall where the delegates were sitting. Speaking in a very excited manner he said he came upon the floor as a delegate. The Congress decided by a large majority that he was a delegate, and he asked why should he be debarred. There were sitting in the Congress "notorious blacklegs" and enemies of trades unionism ("Order," "order").

Mr. Egan (Cork) rose to a point of order. What was the matter before the Congress?

The Chairman ordered Mr. Larkin to take a seat. It was not long till dinner time, and the Parliamentary Committee would report after dinner.

Mr. Walker said the Parliamentary Committee had no existence, and the resolution of the Congress ought to admit the delegates automatically.

The Chairman said the Parliamentary Committee existed until their report was adopted. The report only justified those who were members of the union, not those who seceded (laughter).

Mr. M'Manus said they did not know the names of the delegates, and had not their credentials.

Mr. Daly said that applied to every delegate at Congress.

Eventually the Chairman said the delegates could be admitted, and his decision was received with applause.

Mr. Larkin was then admitted as representing the Dublin Trades Council, as were the delegates of the Transport Workers' Union, amidst the applause of the Congress.

Mr. Larkin said he had to apologise for his hasty action a few moments previously. Now that they had been admitted he did not think that his action or the action of his colleagues would bring any discredit on the trades union movement. The remarks made by individuals he would pass over now, but he would deal with them at another time. He did not belong to any party—Sinn Féin, Unionist, or United Irish League. In no county could a person point a finger of scorn at Jim Larkin (applause).

The Chairman said he never alleged anything against Mr. Larkin but indiscretion. The matter was now over (loud applause).

Mr. Larkin said he proposed to sit as a delegate of the Transport Workers and not of the Dublin Trades Council.

DUBLIN BRUSHMAKERS' DISPUTE.

Mr. William Murphy (United Brushmakers, Dublin), said he wished to call their attention to the lamentable state of affairs at present prevailing in the brushmaking industry in Dublin (hear, hear). A dispute had occurred with one of the Dublin employers—the Messrs. Varian & Co., of Talbot Street—which had now

reached nine months' duration. He regretted very much that the time of the Congress should be occupied with matters of the kind, and he hoped that time would evolve some method which would preclude the occurrence of these disputes. (cheers). It was all the more regrettable as the firm in question had benefited considerably by the results of their deliberations in former years (hear, hear). The history of the dispute laid bare the contemptible devices to which some firms pretending to be interested in the development of Irish industries were prepared to stoop in order to undermine and destroy trades unionism and combination amongst the workers (hear, hear). The firm in question had for several years been nagging at their workers for reductions in wages and other concessions, and whilst it was fashionable amongst certain employers to sneer at the workers for joining what they were pleased to call British trades unions, he always noted that they were never averse to joining British associations of employers themselves when they thought it would better enable them to still further grind their employes into subserviency (hear, hear). The first device of Messrs. Varian was to join the British Masters' Association, and then to negotiate with another society in England in order that they might have ready a staff to take the places of their own if the brush-makers of Dublin refused to concede to their unreasonable demands for reductions in the piecework scale of prices, and when everything was in trim these demands were submitted to the workers. He had said that the demands were unreasonable, and he would prove to them that they were unreasonable, unjust, and unfair (cheers). The firm contended that they were entitled to have their work produced on such terms as would enable them to compete on equal terms with firms in Bristol, Glasgow, Belfast, and other places, and he conceded that the interests of the brushmakers of Dublin, under the present competitive system, demanded that this should be so (hear, hear). But how do the Messrs. Varian & Co. proceed to work out their "equality basis"? Out of 400 items in the Glasgow price list they picked out 28 which were lower priced than in Dublin, and which meant a reduction of 30 per cent. to the producer. They then proceeded to cull from the price lists in Bristol and Belfast the items that were the lowest paid in each district, and, having got them all together, they submitted them as the new price list for Dublin (shame). But the strange thing in the ethical balance of the mouth-piece of the firm was that the items that were lowest priced in Dublin out of the four districts were to stand as they were before this cutting down of wages, which Mr. Varian humorously calls "a revision of the price list" (laughter and applause). If the men had agreed it would have given this firm an enormous advantage over the employers in the other districts he had mentioned, would have meant a considerable reduction in the wages of the workers, and would, of course, enable the other members of the British Masters' Association, in the interests of

"fair" competition, to follow the lead of their brother in Dublin (hear, hear). Needless to say, the brushmakers refused to accept the new price list, and on the 16th October, 1909, 70 men and 9 apprentices were forced to leave this firm of philanthropists and are still walking the streets of Dublin unemployed in the interests of their class and of trades unionism generally (hear, hear). It is a pleasant thing to be able to record the utmost loyalty amongst the men, but he (Mr. Murphy) regretted that he had to refer to a very unpleasant incident in connection with an official of a society affiliated to that Congress who is blacklegging on the Brushmakers' Society in Dublin (shame). He might say that he had been a member of that particular society, and the person he referred to was his successor in the office he (the speaker) had held in that society. This was a sad state of affairs. But he was sorry to say that that was not all; as, added to that, was the fact that trades unionists were permitting their sons to do the same thing in the same shop. He (Mr. Murphy) had been, and was, an ardent advocate of Irish industries (hear, hear), but when he advocated the support of Irish industries he meant the support of the people in comfort and self-respect, and, above all, the maintenance of a decent wage amongst the workers (cheers); and at any rate he did not believe it was ever intended as a movement to make rich the few on the labours of the many (hear, hear). He asked the delegates when they went home to remember the history of this dispute, and to do all they could to prevent their public boards from procuring or using brushes produced under such sweated conditions, and by doing so they would assist the Dublin Brushmakers in bringing to terms a firm of manufacturers who, whilst posing as Irish Industrial Revivalists, are the biggest importers of foreign brushes in Ireland, and who have now shown themselves amongst the most unscrupulous and tyrannical oppressors of trades unionism (loud applause). He moved:—

"That owing to the firm of Messrs. I. S. Varian & Co., Talbot Street, Dublin, refusing to arbitrate their grievances with their employes after a protracted struggle of eight months—it being the employers intention to break the workers organisation and so establish free and boy labour—we call upon the organised workers of Ireland to use all the influence in their power to aid the United Society of Brushmakers, by refusing to use all brushes made by Messrs. Varian, and call upon their public representatives on the different boards and councils throughout Ireland to get all tenders for brushes, or contractors supplying brushes made under unfair conditions by Messrs. Varian, rejected; and further promises the workers their financial support while the struggle continues."

Mr. O'Brien (Dublin) seconded the motion, and suggested that an appeal should be issued by the Parliamentary Committee in support of the men who had gone on strike against a reduction of wages.

The Congress agreed to support the claims of the men, and adopted the suggestion advocated by Mr. Murphy and Mr. O'Brien.

NOMINATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Campbell, David R., Insurance Agent (Belfast); Clarke, Joseph, Carpenter (Dublin); Egan, Michael, J.P., T.C., Coachmaker (Cork); Galway, Mary, Textile Worker (Belfast); Gordon, Dawson, Flax Rougher (Belfast); Larkin, James, Transport Worker (Dublin); M'Carron, James, Tailor (Derry); M'Carthy, Alderman John, Baker (Kilkenny); M'Connell, Thomas, Baker (Belfast); M'Manus, Hugh, Printer (Belfast); Murphy, William, Brushmaker (Dublin); O'Brien, William, Tailor (Dublin); O'Lehane, Michael J., P.L.G., Drapers' Assistants (Dublin); Rochford, Henry, Hairdresser (Dublin), and Walsh, P., T.C., Plumber (Limerick). Messrs. E. W. Stewart (Dublin), and P. T. Daly were nominated for secretaryship.

FACTORY ACT AMENDMENT.

Moved by Miss M. Galway (Textile Operatives), seconded by Mrs. M'Caughey, and carried unanimously:—

"That owing to the number of accidents of a serious character occurring in linen weaving factories through the escape of shuttles from looms inefficiently fenced, and the unwillingness of many employers to adopt the latest improvements in shuttle guards, this Congress is of opinion that the Factory Act should be amended so as to empower the Factory Inspectors to compel the adoption of any improvements in fencing approved of by the Board of Trade."

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT.

Mr. Dawson Gordon (Flax Roughers) moved, and Mr. John M'Alcece seconded:—

"That this Congress instructs the Parliamentary Committee to take immediate steps to have the Workmen's Compensation, 1906, Act amended so that Phthisis shall be one of the diseases scheduled under the Act."

To which the following amendment was moved by Mr. J. Graydon (National Amalgamated Union of Labour), seconded by Mr. J. Flanagan:—

To add at end—

"Also that the Act be amended so as to provide that the Medical Referees appointed under the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, shall be in the position of Civil Servants, devote their whole time to the public service, and be debarred from engaging in private practice. At present the great majority of doctors who hold the position of medical referees are retained by, and act for, the employers and insurance companies, which is a grave injustice to the workmen, seeing that the decision of the medical referee as to a

workman's fitness or otherwise for employment is conclusive; also for the fixing of a minimum weekly payment of 12s. during the total incapacity of persons over 21 years of age, whose average weekly earnings were less than 24s. during the twelve months preceding the accident; and for State compulsory insurance by employers against accidents to workmen."

Mr. W. Walker, J.P., opposed the amendment, which was defeated by 24 votes to 2, and the original motion carried.

REPORT OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

DISCUSSION ON PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

On the consideration of paragraph referring to "Public Contracts and the Fair Wages Resolution in Ireland,"

Mr. D. Denehy (Typographical Association, Cork) raised a question on the action of Councillor M. Egan, J.P., in the Cork Corporation, with regard to printing contracts, but the chairman ruled him out of order.

Mr. M'Manus also spoke.

On the consideration of paragraph *re* "Labour Exchanges,"

Mr. W. Walker, J.P., moved the deletion of the words, "That though the machinery of the Act had only been partly erected, the Exchanges were finding situations for unemployed at the rate of 5,000 per week," from the report.

Mr. James Larkin seconded the motion, which was carried.

On the consideration of the paragraph referring to the resignation of Mr. E. L. Richardson, J.P., from the secretaryship,

Mr. W. Walker, J.P. (Belfast), contended that Mr. Stewart was not qualified as a candidate for the secretaryship, as he had not the ordinary qualification of a delegate. He asked the chairman to rule that Mr. Stewart was not secretary to the Congress, and that he was ineligible to become secretary.

The Chairman ruled that Mr. Stewart occupied the same position as a co-opted member of a corporation.

Mr. Walker challenged the ruling of the chairman, and the ruling was set aside by 32 votes to 20.

The Chairman said as a result of that Mr. Stewart ceased to be secretary.

Mr. Stewart said that even before it had been decided by the Congress that he was not constitutionally eligible for the position of secretary he had struck his name out of the nominations as the result of the vote of that morning, so that Mr. P. T. Daly was elected unopposed.

Mr. W. J. Leahy (Operative Coopers, Dublin), proposed:—"That the best thanks of the Congress are due, and are hereby tendered, to Mr. E. L. Richardson, J.P., for his inestimable services as secretary to the Parliamentary Committee for so many years, and his great and various services to the labour movement for the past

quarter-of-a-century; and that whilst this Congress is sincerely sorry to lose his services we wish him a long and prosperous career in his new sphere of duties."

Mr. J. M'Namara (Tinsmiths, Dublin), seconded the motion. The motion was also supported by Messrs. O'Hanlon (Dublin), Hayes (Belfast), M'Manus (Belfast), Egan, J.P. T.C. (Cork); Nolan (Dublin), E. H. Hayes (Dublin), O'Donovan (Limerick), and the Chairman, and carried by acclamation.

Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G. (Dublin) supported the motion. He had never met any man with whom it was a greater pleasure to work than the gentleman who had been their secretary, Mr. E. L. Richardson (hear, hear). As treasurer of the Parliamentary Committee he had been brought into close touch with him, and the accuracy with which he kept his records, minutes and other matters was truly marvellous (applause), whilst the manner in which he dealt with the vast correspondence of his office was such that the Committee never had the slightest trouble. He heartily supported the motion, and wished Mr. Richardson many happy and prosperous years in his new office, which he hoped would be the forerunner of a more responsible office (loud applause).

After which, as amended, the report of the Parliamentary Committee was adopted.

THE POOR LAWS.

Standing Orders having been suspended,

Mr. Mortished addressed the Congress on behalf of the Irish Committee to Promote the Break-up of the Poor Laws. He said the Minority Report of the Poor Law Commission was in favour of the prevention of destitution, and would give the Irish people control of the settlement of the question in Ireland. Their secretary, Mr. J. B. Hughes, 183 Clonliffe Road, Dublin, would be glad to provide lecturers and literature on the subject.

The thanks of the Congress was, by acclamation, accorded Mr. Mortished for his address on the motion of Mr. John Murray (Electrical Trades Union), seconded by Mr. J. O'Hanlon (Royal Liver Agents).

STANDING ORDERS REPORT—3.

Mr. W. Murphy, Chairman Standing Orders Committee, presented the following report:—

The attention of the Committee having been directed to actions of the Workers' Union which, in our opinion, are detrimental to the interests of trades unionism, and having found the credential of the Dublin delegate from the union has been signed by a man at present, and for some months past, working in a "closed" shop as a blackleg, we recommend that their affiliation be refused.

We report that we have examined the credentials of delegates and, with the exceptions noted above, found them all right. There are 85 delegates duly accredited in attendance at Congress, representing 59 trade and labour bodies, with an aggregate membership of 75,000.

We recommend that Mr. Larkin's credential on behalf of the Dublin Trades Council be the one accepted.

We recommend that nominations for Secretary be re-opened and close at 4 p.m.

We recommend the grouping of resolutions 38, 39, and 40, and that they be taken out of their place and discussed immediately, as the delegate in charge of them is summoned away on urgent business.

We recommend the grouping of resolutions 31, 32, and 33, and the drafting of an omnibus resolution, to be arranged between the delegates having charge of them.

Mr. Canty proposed and Mr. Murray seconded the adoption of the report.

Mr. W. Hayes proposed and Mr. Feenan seconded:—"That the report be adopted, and that the paragraph referring to the Workers' Union be referred back to the Committee, and that Messrs. Harris and M'Intyre be summoned before them immediately."

The amendment having been carried,

Mr. D. R. Campbell proposed and Mr. J. Malcolm seconded a further amendment:—"That the paragraph dealing with the nomination of secretary be deleted."

Mr. Lynch, T.C., P.L.G., as a member of the Standing Orders, said that Mr. Daly was a member of the Committee, and, whilst refusing to take part in the discussion, had expressed himself in favour of giving the Congress the right of selection (hear, hear).

The amendment was put and carried, 38 voting for and 20 against.

Moved by Mr. P. F. Morris (Railway Clerks Association), seconded by Mr. J. Malcolm, and supported by Alderman John M'Carthy (Kilkenny Trades Council), and resolved:—

SANITATION, &C., RAILWAY OFFICES.

"That this Congress is of opinion that railway offices should be subject to provisions as to sanitation, inspection, &c., similar to those embodied in the Factory Acts, and hereby instructs the Parliamentary Committee to take steps to secure the passing of a Bill promoted by the Railway Clerks Association with that object.

NON-PAYMENT FOR SUNDAY DUTY ON RAILWAYS.

"That this Congress expresses its condemnation of the practice in vogue on many railways of compelling station-masters, clerks and others to work on Sundays without compensation or time off in lieu thereof, and hereby requests the Parliamentary Committee to appeal

to the House of Commons to regard no Bill as satisfactory which seeks to confer increased power upon a railway company that does not pay extra to those of its servants who are required to work on Sundays.

"This Congress further expresses regret that several railway companies have, up to the present, shown no desire to meet the representatives of the men for the purpose of settling questions affecting the working staffs through the medium of Conciliation Boards, as provided by the Board of Trade settlement in 1907, and requests the Parliamentary Committee to assist in bringing matters to an issue.

SAFEGUARD FOR STAFF IN THE EVENT OF RAILWAY AMALGAMATION OR NATIONALISATION.

"That this Congress is of opinion that in the event of Irish railways being either amalgamated by the existing companies or nationalised by the State, the recommendations for safeguarding the interests of employes submitted by the Railway Clerks Association to the Board of Trade Committee on Railway Amalgamations and Working Agreements should be applicable to all Irish railway workers; and the Parliamentary Committee is hereby instructed to take what action may be necessary to secure the adoption of those safeguards."

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT.

Moved by Mr. Dawson Gordon (Flax Roughers):—

"That the Parliamentary Committee be instructed to take such steps as may be necessary to secure the Amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1906, by adding—'That the liability incurred and payable under the Act shall be a charge upon and payable from the Imperial Exchequer.'"

Seconded by Mr. David Campbell, and passed unanimously.

OLD AGE PENSIONS ACT AMENDMENT.

Mr. Joseph Clarke (Carpenters, Dublin) moved:—

"That this Congress strongly urges on the Government the necessity of an amendment to the Old Age Pensions Act, whereby the age limit shall be reduced to 60 years, and the present Poor Law disqualification removed, and instructs the Parliamentary Committee to take such action as will secure these amendments."

The motion was seconded by Mr. E. J. O'Neill, and passed unanimously.

OLD AGE PENSIONS ACT AMENDMENT.

Moved by R. O'Keeffe (Amalgamated Carpenters):—

"That this Congress desires to point out the necessity of amending the Old Age Pensions Act by removing the Poor Law

disqualification and reducing the age limit to 60 years; that the Parliamentary Committee be instructed to take immediate steps to have the Act so amended."

Seconded by Mr. E. J. O'Neill, and carried unanimously.

BREAK-UP OF THE POOR LAWS.

Moved by Mr. J. Clarke (Amalgamated Carpenters), seconded by Mr. R. O'Keeffe:—

"That this Congress approves of the Minority Report for the break-up of the present Poor Law system, as it goes a long way in the solution of dealing with the unemployed question, and the separate maintenance of the sick poor, the orphans, and the chronic cases of tramps, &c., who are the heaviest charge on the rates."

Mr. John O'Hanlon (Prudential Assurance Agents) moved, and Mr. P. J. Lea seconded, the following amendment:—

Delete all after "Congress" on first line, and insert:—

"While approving of the Minority Report of the Royal Commission of 1905 on the Poor Laws, and likewise that of the Vice-regal Irish Poor Law Reform Commission, which reports in favour of the Break-up of the General Mixed Workhouse, &c., and having regard to the fact that immediate legislation embodying these reports is impossible owing to the congested state of public business in the House of Commons, calls upon the Irish Poor Law Authorities to carry out, as far as they can, consistent with their powers, the very urgent reforms necessary as a preliminary. We also direct the attention of the Dublin Poor Law Guardians to the danger to the public health by the indiscriminate crowding in the city dispensaries of the people attending for the registration of births and deaths, and with babies for vaccination, also patients seeking medical aid for all kinds of disease. We are also of the opinion that as the Government pay half the medical officer's salary, that a suitable salary be paid in future, so that dispensary doctors may devote all their time to the care of the sick, and that they be relieved from all registration duties, the dues from which form part of their salaries. It is likewise the opinion of this Congress that all registration be divorced from the atmosphere of the dispensary, and that the register of deaths be compiled, so that Dublin shall be fairly treated as regards the publication of the vital statistics by the Registrar-General from time to time."

The amendment was defeated, and the original motion carried by an overwhelming majority.

OUTWORKING IN THE TAILORING TRADE.

The following motion was down in the name of Councillor M'Carron, who refused to move, and it was accordingly withdrawn:—

"That this Congress urges upon the Parliamentary Committee

the necessity of having the Factory and Workshops Act so amended as to make it imperative on all employers in the tailoring trade to provide sufficient and suitable workshops for all those in their employment, as, in our opinion, home working is the chief cause of the sweating system. Further, so long as employers are allowed to send their work to people's homes, complete and efficient workshop inspection is impossible without an enormous and absurd increase in the number of inspectors. It is also our opinion that where bedrooms or living rooms are used as workshops they become a danger to the public health, and tend to demoralise those engaged therein."

AMENDMENT OF MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

Moved by Mr. A. Duncan (Irish Glass Bottlemakers), seconded by Mr. P. Healy, and carried unanimously :—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the mark of origin should be impressed on glass bottles imported into this country, as on other manufactured goods, and we call on the Government to amend the Merchandise Marks Act so as to have the place of origin stamped on all bottles imported from the Continent."

FACTORY INSPECTORS.

Moved by Councillor P. Walsh (Limerick Trades Council), seconded by Mr. D. O'Donovan, and passed unanimously :—

"That this Congress is of opinion that the present staff of Factory Inspectors in Ireland is totally inadequate for the proper carrying out of the duties of the position and impartially enforcing the provisions of the Factories and Workshops Act, and we believe that it is absolutely necessary that his Majesty's Government should take such steps forthwith as will tend to remedy the matter by the appointment of additional inspectors and sub-inspectors, such appointments to be made from the ranks of duly qualified men and women who have practical knowledge of the duties gained in the factory and workshop."

IRISH PRIMARY EDUCATION.

Moved by Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G. (Dublin Trades Council), seconded by J. Nolan, and unanimously resolved :—

"That in accordance with the necessities and general tendencies of the present age, we consider that Primary Education in our country should be under the control of a democratically elected Board ; and, as the representatives of those immediately concerned, we demand that a popularly elected body be substituted for the present inefficient and reactionary body having control of Primary Education in this country. That the Act for the Feeding of Neccessitous School Children be carried out, and that copies of this resolution be sent to the various Public Boards and the General Council of County Councils."

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

Moved by Mr. R. O'Keeffe (Amalgamated Carpenters), seconded by Mr. E. J. O'Neill :—

"This Congress is of opinion that the present system of Irish National Education requires improvement—the majority of the schoolrooms being badly constructed and ventilated; that provision should be made by the State for cleaning and heating those schools; the salaries and pensions of the teachers are inadequate in proportion to other Civil Servants. That the so-called National University has proved a great disappointment to the worker, as under the present regulations the National teachers and their pupils are debarred from participating in its advantages."

Mr. G. Keogh (Operative Plumbers) proposed, and Mr. P. Walsh, T.C., seconded the following amendment :—

"After the word 'Schools' on fourth line insert—'By qualified plumbers.'"

Mr. Clarke said it would be very injudicious to pass the amendment, as there was a question involved which at that moment was the cause of trouble in Dublin, involving a very vexed question of demarcation of trades (hear, hear).

Mr. O'Neill strongly opposed the amendment. He said the men who were raising this question were themselves the principal offenders on this question of demarcation (hear, hear).

Councillor Walsh said his experience was totally different, and in some places he had found "handy" men employed in place of skilled tradesmen (hear, hear).

The amendment was defeated, and the original motion carried with two dissentients.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Mr. James Larkin (Dublin Trades Council) moved, and Mr. M. J. O'Lehane seconded :—

"That this Congress of Irish workers declares that the time at the disposal of apprentices for acquiring a thorough technical knowledge of their respective trades is at present entirely inadequate, and urges upon employers the desirability of granting further opportunities, by allowing their apprentices a few hours' leave upon such days as they undertake to attend the technical schools, so as to enable them to become more proficient workmen; that the Department of Technical Instruction for Ireland be again requested to press this matter upon local technical committees and employers' associations throughout the country."

Mr. G. Keogh (Operative Plumbers) moved as an amendment to—

Strike out the word "again" on the eighth line, and *add* after "country," last line :—

"The word 'apprentice' to mean boys serving their apprentice-

ship under an indenture in accordance with the limit of years specified by their particular trades."

He thought that if the classes were thrown open to students other than those referred to, technical education would be a danger to the trades (hear, hear).

Councillor Walsh seconded the amendment.

Mr. Larkin refused to accept the amendment which, he said, was a retrograde movement. He was opposed to the indenture system, and he hoped the day was coming when the son of every man would be entitled to all the benefits of education (hear, hear).

Mr. H. T. Whitley (Typographical Association) did not see why they should not do everything they could to safeguard the interests of the trades and not mind such clap-trap (hear, hear). Was he to be told that it was not his business to keep men from getting technically taught with whom it was only a fad, to the detriment of the men whom he represented there, simply because Mr. Larkin thought otherwise? (hear, hear).

The amendment was defeated.

Mr. W. Walker, J.P. (Belfast Trades Council) opposed the motion. Technical education, in his opinion, was only fitting out men for the benefit of the employers and without corresponding advantages to the workers.

Mr. Denis Mulcahy (Furnishing Trades) supported the motion. It was necessary to have the young people educated technologically so that they should be able to win in the race of life (hear, hear).

Mr. James Nolan (Bookbinders) could not see any reason for opposing the motion. With the introduction of machinery the facilities for boys exercising the higher branches of their craft was getting more limited, and they should provide some means of enabling them to get the knowledge (hear, hear).

Mr. T. Farren (Stonecutters) said he could not see why there should be any opposition to the resolution (hear, hear). Germany and other nations had given their children all the advantages of technical instruction, and were they who had to compete against the imports of these countries to remain in ignorance whilst the foreigner was capturing their markets? (applause).

Mr. D. R. Campbell objected to the resolution as against the interests of the worker. The results of the schemes in the past had been to cull from the workers the highly-trained and to increase the workers' disadvantages under the present competitive system (hear, hear).

Messrs. Murray (Electrical Trades) and Bloomer (Irish Linen Lappers) also supported the motion, which was carried by 42 votes to 8.

STANDING ORDERS REPORT.—4.

The Standing Orders Committee having heard the statements of Mr. M'Intyre and Mr. Harris, of the Workers' Union, are of

opinion that the statements on both sides, as between the Brush-makers and the Workers' Union, should be inquired into by the Parliamentary Committee, this being agreed to by Mr. Harris, Mr. M'Intyre, and Mr. Murphy. In consequence of this agreement Mr. M'Intyre voluntarily agreed to withdraw his credential to the present Congress. The charges preferred against the Workers' Union by Mr. Canty and the members of the Transport Union ought also, in the opinion of the Standing Orders, be investigated by the Parliamentary Committee.

Congress recommended to sit till 6 o'clock this evening, and resume business at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

They also recommend that speeches be limited to two minutes.

Balance sheet to be discussed at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The report of the Standing Orders Committee was adopted on the motion of Mr. R. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G. (Brick and Stonelayers, Dublin), seconded by Mr. J. Nolan (Bookbinders).

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.

Moved by Mr. P. Walsh, T.C. (Limerick Trades and Labour Council), seconded by Mr. O'Donovan :—

"That it be an instruction from this Congress to the Parliamentary Committee to take the first opportunity to bring before the Treasury the urgent necessity that exists for proper accommodation in small centres for the purpose of technical education, which is of such vital importance to the country at the present time, and they be asked to grant every facility to technical committees, borough councils, &c., as may be required, for the proper carrying out of technical instruction in Ireland."

The amendment in the name of the Operative Plumbers was withdrawn by Mr. G. Keogh, and the motion was carried.

APPRENTICES AND TECHNICAL TRAINING.

Moved by Mr. J. Clarke (Amalgamated Carpenters), seconded by Mr. R. O'Keeffe :—

"That this Congress, recognising the desirability of lads receiving a thorough training in their respective trades, as also the impossibility of securing same now as formerly in most crafts owing to sub-division in labour and specialising, &c., is of opinion that the matter can only be properly dealt with by the State compelling employers to send their apprentices for a certain number of hours during the working week to technical schools, so that such apprentices may get a general all-round knowledge of the craft to which they may be indentured."

Mr. W. Walker, J.P. (Belfast Trades Council), opposed the motion, and said that the employers got all the benefits of technical education, and the workers had to pay for them (hear, hear).

Mr. Cook (Belfast) said he was a past student of the Belfast

Technical Institute who had gained successes at the examinations. He agreed with Mr. Walker, for whilst he had to pay for his instruction the employers got the benefits (hear, hear).

The motion was carried by 43 votes to 5.

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY.

Moved by Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G. (Dublin Trades Council):—

"That we call on the County Councils of Ireland to refuse to levy any University rate unless the pupils of ability and industry attending the primary schools—that is to say, the children of the masses—be given, as in other lands, by a liberal system of scholarships, financial help to go forward from the primary school to the University, and thus place the best trained talent at the disposal of the nation; that apart from patriotism and sentiment, we hold that, if the masses are to be given equality of opportunity, the second language compulsory for matriculation should be that which the pupils of primary schools have now in most places facilities for acquiring, viz.—the Irish language; that we take this opportunity of reiterating our strongest protest against the narrow class-spirit which excludes extern students from the advantages of the new university, and which compels them to seek at foreign universities degrees which Irish universities, professing to be National and democratic, propose to deny them."

Mr. O'Lehane dealt in his speech with the necessity of giving facilities to the children of the workers, through scholarships, to acquire a University education. The exclusion of extern students, he said, was a serious disability, and efforts should be made to have it removed (hear, hear). With regard to the Irish language, apart altogether from sentiment and patriotism, if certain subjects are to be made essential, the one which was most natural and the most easily acquired should be given a foremost place on the programme. The sons of the workers had many opportunities of learning the Irish language, but very few opportunities of acquiring a knowledge of Latin, Greek, French, or German (applause).

Mr. Larkin seconded the motion. He claimed the same advantages for the children of the workers in the matter of university education as they enjoyed in other countries (hear, hear).

The motion was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Proposed by Mr. P. T. Daly (Dublin), seconded by Mr. C. Darcus:—

"That this Congress is of opinion that the public libraries movement is entitled to the support of trade unionists, and instructs the Parliamentary Committee to use their best endeavours to ensure the extension of public libraries to the various urban and rural districts which at present are not so provided."

Mr. W. Walker said he would oppose the motion if it meant that there were to be more schemes for advertising Carnegie promoted in the country (hear, hear). He had opposed, and would continue to oppose, the money of that man being used in Ireland—it was stained with the blood of his fellow-workers—for the education of the Irish worker or his children (applause).

Mr. Hugh M'Manus (Belfast) said it would be futile to pass such a resolution unless some money other than the penny rate were available (hear, hear).

Mr. Daly said what he wanted was to get the libraries movement extended to places in Ireland which had not exercised their powers up to the present. He held that until books were brought into the reach of the worker it was nonsense to expect organisation or progress (hear, hear).

The motion was carried.

ELECTORAL REFORM.

Councillor M'Carron (Tailors), in whose name the following motion was on the agenda, refused to move, and the matter dropped :—

"That this Congress calls upon the Government to introduce at the earliest opportunity a measure of Electoral Reform which shall provide—(a) a reduction of the qualifying period by which electors may be placed on the register to at least three months; (b) the appointment of a Registrar whose duty shall be to see that all duly qualified voters are placed upon the register; (c) the payment of returning officers' expenses by the State; (d) the holding of all elections to a new Parliament on the same day; (e) the abolition of plural and university representations.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS.

"That we call upon the Government to amend the Local Government Act in so far as it relates to County Borough and Urban Council Elections in Ireland, by altering the dates of nominations and polling from January to August, and thereby prevent in future the inconvenience which the weather inflicts on those compelled to engage in contested elections in the month of January."

PAYMENT OF RETURNING OFFICERS' FEES IN PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

Mr. P. Lynch, T.C., P.L.G. (Amalgamated Tailors, Cork), in whose name the following motion stood, refused to move, and the matter dropped :—

"That the incoming Parliamentary Committee be instructed to use every legitimate means in their power to invoke the services of the Labour Party and the Irish Parliamentary Party in the House of Commons to have framed and introduced a Bill empowering the Treasury to pay all fees due to Returning Officers at Parliamentary

elections, as only by such means can Labour representation in Parliament be adequately secured."

ROYAL COMMISSION ON LIFE ASSURANCE.

Mr. John Ferguson (Prudential Assurance Agents) moved :—

"That this Irish Trades Union Congress instructs the Parliamentary Committee to take steps forthwith through the Parliamentary representatives of Ireland in the House of Commons to interview the President of the Board of Trade, as well as the Treasury, with the object of securing the appointment of a Royal Commission, or of a Parliamentary Committee, to inquire into the whole field of industrial life assurance, including the methods and practices of industrial life assurance companies and friendly collecting societies to obtain new business, the employment of irresponsible special canvassers, the question of insurable interest, as well as the terms and conditions imposed upon the 45,600 industrial life assurance agents and collectors, with a view to securing legislative reform in the matter of insurable interest, the abolition of the irresponsible special canvasser, for rendering all debit systems illegal, as well as for rendering all time clauses in agents' agreements illegal; and in order to protect the interests of the policy-holders to make it compulsory for all insurance companies and friendly collecting societies to make annual returns showing the number of policies lapsed during the preceding twelve months, the amount of assurance covered by the lapsed policies, the amount of premiums received in respect of the same, and the free policy or cash surrender value of the policies so lapsed."

Mr. David R. Campbell (Belfast Trades Council) seconded the motion. The following amendment was proposed by Mr. John O'Hanlon (Royal Liver Agents) :—

Delete all after "That" on line 1, and *insert*—

"As the Assurance Companies Bill of 1910 has put an end to all malpractices and irregularities as regards Industrial Assurance business, as far as the working of Friendly Societies are concerned, this Congress is of the opinion that no benefit can possibly be gained from the institution of a Royal Commission or a special Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry into the working of these societies on behalf of either the members or the employees."

Mr. Ferguson said he could not see the wisdom of the amendment. The mover had not told them that it was only when policies were in force about twenty years that the cash bonus was received (hear, hear). They were told that the Act of that year had put a stop to all irregularities. That may be so (laughter). But if there were nothing wrong why would they fear investigation? (hear, hear). Why close the door and keep out the light? (Applause.) In the opinions of some people there was something—just a little something (laughter)—wrong, and that Congress was asked to give the

people who said that everything was right an opportunity of proving that the other people were wrong, and he regretted that by the proposing of that amendment to the resolution the altruistics were giving just a little colour to the suspicions of the persons he had referred to (laughter and applause).

The amendment, which was seconded by Mr. Joseph Clarke, was defeated, and the original motion passed by 27 votes to 6.

REFERENCES AND RADIUS AGREEMENTS.

Moved by Mr. J. Feenan (Shop Assistants National Amalgamated Union):—

"That this Congress emphatically condemns the system of secret references and the iniquitous 'Radius' agreement, by which the difficulties of obtaining employment are accentuated, and calls upon the Labour Party in Parliament to press forward the Character Note Bill and the Restraint of Trades (Shops) Bill."

He said that of the many grievances under which the men in the distributive trades were labouring this was one of the most pressing. Unless this system was abolished trades unionists would be severely handicapped, and he hoped the subject would engage the special and immediate attention of the incoming Parliamentary Committee (hear, hear).

Mr. W. Adair (Irish Drapers' Assistants) seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Congress adjourned to 9.30 Wednesday morning.

—:O:—

THIRD DAY.—Wednesday, 18th May, 1910.

Congress met at 9.30 a.m., the President (Councillor James M'Carron) in the chair.

Minutes of previous day's proceeding were read and signed.

AMALGAMATION OF CONGRESS.

Moved by Mr. T. Donovan (Postmen's Federation):—

"That it be an instruction to the Parliamentary Committee of the Irish Trades Congress to confer with the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress with a view towards amalgamation of the aforesaid Trades Congress under the title of Trades Union Congress of Great Britain and Ireland."

Seconded by Mr. W. Clubb.

Mr. James Larkin (Dublin Trades Council) moved, and Mr. P. Healy (Irish Glass Bottlemakers) seconded "the previous question."

"The previous question" was carried by 23 votes to 15.

IRISH FEDERATION OF LABOUR.

Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G. (Dublin Trades Council) moved :—

"That in the opinion of this Congress it is essential that a closer union should exist between the various trade and labour bodies in Ireland, and for this purpose the Parliamentary Committee be instructed to draw up a constitution upon which an Irish Federation of Trades should be based, such constitution to be submitted to the trades unions of the country without delay."

The motion having been seconded by Mr. James Larkin,

Mr. W. Hayes (Belfast Bakers) moved, and Mr. John Clarke seconded, the previous question, the voting on which resulted in a tie, and the Chairman ruled the motion was before the house.

IRISH FEDERATION OF LABOUR.

Mr. Joseph Clarke (Amalgamated Carpenters) moved :—

To *delete* all after the word "Congress" on first line, and *insert* :—

"The experience taught to Trades Unionists in recent disputes points to the necessity of enlarging the basis of Federation with other trade and labour bodies, and considers the time has arrived when all workers in Ireland, England and Scotland should be in one trades federation, in order to better regulate the wages and conditions of employment; and this Congress considers any proposal to confine such federation to Ireland unworkable."

He questioned the wisdom of creating a new Federation when there was one already in existence, of which all the amalgamated societies were members (hear, hear).

Mr. E. J. O'Neill (Amalgamated Carpenters) seconded. He was strongly opposed to anything which would create divisions in the labour ranks (hear, hear).

Mr. J. Nolan (Bookbinders) supported the motion. He thought it would strengthen, instead of weaken, their position (hear, hear, and dissent).

Mr. M'Manus, said he had been trying to federate the workers in his own craft before some of them were born (laughter). It could not be done in Ireland then, and would not be done now. They were only "gasing" (laughter). Were they going to start a small weak body in Ireland when they could be members of a strong body that was already in existence (applause).

Mr. E. H. Hayes (Dublin Typographical Society) supported the motion. They could, in his judgment, do very well with an Irish Trades Federation (hear, hear). If there was a strong federation—which he denied—at the other side, they should remember they had large liabilities, more so than comparatively they would have in Ireland (hear, hear).

Messrs. Malcolm (A.S.R.S.), D. Mulcahy, P. Lynch, T.C., spoke in favour of the amendment.

Messrs. Canty and Daly spoke in favour of the motion.

Mr. W. Walker said they had a trial of a separate labour party in Scotland, and financially it had failed ("No, no"). They knew it had, and were they going to duplicate the error (hear, hear).

Mr. O'Brien (Amalgamated Tailors) supported the motion. He was a member of an amalgamated society, but there was no provision for some of the societies in Ireland, and he wanted something done to federate them (applause).

Mr. Larkin said it was nonsense to talk of internationalism in Ireland until they had made them first realise their responsibilities to their own nation (hear, hear). The experiment in Scotland had not failed and they would not fail (hear, hear).

Mr. O'Lehane could not see anything in the motion that every delegate there could not agree to (hear, hear). They wanted to deal with the Irish worker who was not federated, in order that he might federate (applause).

The amendment was carried by 29 votes to 26.

INDEPENDENT LABOUR PARTY.

Moved by Mr. J. Larkin (Dublin Trades Council):—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the time has arrived for the formation of an Independent Labour Party in Ireland, and that the Parliamentary Committee be hereby instructed to convene a conference in Dublin on or before 15th August, 1910, comprising representatives of all trades councils, trades unions, labour associations, and other bodies interested, for the purpose of drafting a constitution, and to take such action as will ensure the starting of such Labour Party."

Seconded by Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G.

Mr. D. R. Campbell (Belfast Trades Council) proposed as an amendment to *delete* all after the word "That" on first line, and *insert* :—

"Unless the delegates present be specially instructed they cannot pledge or in any way commit themselves or their respective societies to any financial responsibility such as the motion suggests in the convening of the proposed meeting, and no funds are at the disposal of the Congress or Parliamentary Committee to finance the suggested meeting in Dublin."

Mr. W. Walker, J.P., seconded the amendment, which was supported by Mr. J. Malcolm (A.S.R.S.).

Mr. Nolan was opposed to both the amendment and the resolution. They could not have a direct Labour Party in Ireland until they had National Independence. The Irish Party might not be an ideal Party, but at any rate they represented the Irish people. It had done all that men could do in support of the cause of labour (hear, hear).

Mr. Larkin did not consider the so-called Nationalist Party in any way National. The Nationalist Party did not invite Trades Union representatives to their Convention in Dublin.

"Most decidedly they did," said Mr. Nolan.

Mr. Larkin said he never remembered them having done so.

The amendment was carried by 39 votes to 18.

STANDING ORDERS REPORT NO. 5.

Standing Orders Committee recommend that the doors be closed at 11.45 and kept closed till 12.15 for election of Parliamentary Committee.

Resolutions 35 and 36 to be taken together.

Resolutions 42, 43, and 44 to be grouped.

Resolutions 46, 47, 48, and 50 to be grouped.

Resolutions 45, 54, and 55 to be grouped.

Members interested in the resolutions grouped to arrange among themselves as to moving and seconding same.

Mr. J. Clarke and Mr. E. J. O'Neill seconded the adoption of Standing Orders Committee's Report, to which

Mr. W. Walker, J.P., moved as an amendment that the hours fixed for election of Parliamentary Committee be altered to 10.45, and the doors be closed from that time till 11.15. Carried.

The Balance Sheet having been circulated, was taken as read, and its adoption moved by Mr. W. J. Leahy (Coopers) and seconded by Mr. J. Feenan (Shop Assistants).

After some discussion by Messrs. Cánty, Campbell and Larkin, the motion was carried unanimously.

THE HOUSING QUESTION.

Moved by Mr. James Larkin (Dublin Trades Council), and seconded by Mr. James Nolan (Bookbinders):—

"That we reiterate our claims for a more earnest solution of the Housing Question in Ireland, and we furthermore call upon all local authorities to exercise to the full the powers they already possess to mitigate the existing evils.

"That this Congress, recognising the many good points contained in the Irish Housing Act, 1908, is of opinion that, by availing as far as possible of its provisions, local authorities can do much towards the solving of this difficult problem, thereby improving the social condition of our people."

Passed unanimously.

EIGHT HOURS DAY.

Mr. M. Cánty (Dublin Corporation Labourers) moved:—

"That as the introduction of labour and wage-saving machinery is rapidly increasing, thereby displacing a large amount of manual labour in many industries, this Congress declares in favour of re-

ducing the hours of labour to not more than eight hours per day, or 48 hours per week, and the legal prohibition of systematic overtime, as we believe this course would tend to minimise unemployment. We urge the workers of the United Kingdom to ventilate the excellent principles of such legislation, and hereby instruct our Parliamentary Committee to take concerted action with the other representative bodies to give effect to this resolution, and to take steps to bring at once before Parliament the enforcement of an Eight Hours Day by legal enactment. Copies of this resolution to be sent to the Prime Minister, President of the Board of Trade, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and the Labour Party."

Seconded by Mr. H. T. Whitley (Belfast Typographical Society).
Passed unanimously.

THE "LIVING-IN" SYSTEM.

Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G., proposed.—

"That whilst viewing with satisfaction the partial disappearance of the 'living-in' system in Ireland, this Congress is of opinion that no further delay should occur in granting to shop assistants full citizenship rights, and in order to achieve this, as well as to do away with the many evils connected with the 'living-in' system, we request that the Truck Act should be so amended as to declare a continuance of the system illegal."

Mr. W. Adair seconded.

Passed unanimously.

The ballot for the Parliamentary Committee having been completed, Messrs. Duffy, Dundalk; W. Hayes, Belfast; R. P. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G., Dublin, and J. O'Hanlon, Dublin, were appointed as scrutineers.

SHOP HOURS.

Proposed by Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G. (Irish Drapers' Assistants):—

"That, as voluntary effort in connection with early closing has practically failed, we are of opinion that a vigorous movement should be instituted at once so as to bring about a compulsory closing order, and that the Irish and Labour Members of Parliament be asked to support any measure of legislation which may lead to the shortening of the present hours, and that, pending such legislation, we call upon all workers to support only those firms which close at reasonable hours.

"That this Congress calls upon the Labour Party to press the Government to re-introduce at the earliest possible moment their Shops Bill, which shall provide for a 60 hours week, inclusive of meal times, a weekly half-holiday at 1 o'clock, one hour for dinner, and half-an-hour for tea. Further, seeing that several Government Blue Books exist, teeming with damning evidence of the injurious

effects of the long hours worked in shops, and that Bills have been introduced for the last 25 years, emphasises that no industrial question demands more urgent attention."

Mr. Turpin (Shop Assistants' National Amalgamated Union) seconded, and the resolutions were passed unanimously.

SUNDAY LABOUR.

Mr. H. Rochford (Hairdressers' Assistants) proposed :—

"That this Congress instructs the Parliamentary Committee to take such steps as may be necessary to secure the insertion of a clause in the Government's promised Shops Bill prohibiting the opening of hairdressers' shops on Sundays."

Seconded by Mr. W. Adair, and passed unanimously.

INSPECTION OF LOCOMOTIVE BOILERS, CERTIFICATES, &C.

Moved by Mr. D. Boyd (Locomotive Engine Drivers, Belfast), seconded by Mr. H. M'Clure :—

"That this Congress again calls upon the Government to prepare a Bill for the greater safeguarding of human life and property from accidents caused by explosions of locomotive boilers or fire-boxes—1st, by providing for the proper inspection of locomotive boilers by the Board of Trade ; 2nd, by providing for certificates of competency by the Board of Trade for drivers in charge of boilers and engines, and insisting that all such shall be in possession of such certificates, and that where attendants (firemen) are left solely in charge of steam, rail, or motor carriages, that such men be in possession of a certificate of competency, and be senior attendants ; 3rd, that it be embodied in this Bill that no man receive a certificate who has not served five years on the footplate as fireman, and that applicants must pass through the various stages of locomotive work as at present—cleaner, fireman, then driver."

Mr. John M'Knight (Irish Stationary Engine Drivers) proposed as an amendment to add at end :—

"That inasmuch as the Steam-engines (Persons in Charge) Bill passed the ordeal of a Select Committee inquiry in 1901 without amendment, this Congress instructs its Parliamentary Committee to urge upon the Government and the Irish Party the necessity of having the measure placed upon the Statute Book at the earliest possible opportunity."

Mr. Boyd having, with the leave of Congress, accepted the amendment, the resolution, with the addendum proposed by Mr. M'Knight, was passed unanimously.

HOME MANUFACTURE.

Mr. L. O'Brien (Brassfounders) moved and Mr. P. Healy (Irish Glass Bottlemakers) seconded :—

"That in order to encourage Irish manufacture, and in view of

the increasing installations of electric lighting, this Congress would earnestly request all public boards, architects and heads of establishments to give an opportunity to Irish houses to compete for the making of electroliers and other brass work before placing their orders outside this country, and that the Parliamentary Committee be instructed to send on a copy of this resolution to the above.

"That this Congress calls on all members of Trades Unions and Trades Clubs to insist on having all beverages supplied to them served from home-made bottles which bear the trade-mark of R, K., B, or D.B.C.

"That this Congress condemns the practice of a large number of merchants of Ireland, and especially of Dublin, in giving their orders for shop fronts, window enclosures, and interior shop fittings to cross-Channel firms without giving local firms an opportunity of competing for such orders, as has been the case in a good many instances lately."

Passed unanimously.

FAIR WAGES RESOLUTION.

Moved by Mr. James Nolan (Bookbinders), seconded by Mr. Hugh M'Manus:—

"That this Congress expresses the hope that elected representatives on the various public boards will adopt and enforce the Fair Wages Resolution; and we respectfully suggest that the book-binding portion of each contract be entrusted only to firms recognised by the Bookbinders' Union, and that all work necessary for Irish public administration be manufactured in Ireland. Further, we reiterate our protest against some Irish authors and educationalists who have their work published from London and other English centres, and sincerely hope that those who are especially contributing to the revival of our National literature will consider the claims and competitive efficiency of Irish firms and workmen. We also appeal to those who have charge of schools, when purchasing premiums, to give preference to Irish work.

"That the Irish Trades Congress learns with regret that many County Councils and other public bodies in Ireland elected by popular suffrage still neglect to adopt and enforce the Fair Wages Resolution to prevent sweating and sub-letting in public contracts; and we hereby call upon all public boards to have the Fair Wages Resolution inserted in all tenders for work paid for by the rate-payers, thereby prohibiting unfair contractors imposing upon local rates, preventing scamped work, and dishonest competition. That employers paying less than the minimum rate of wages, or not conforming to the working conditions and hours of labour accepted as 'fair' by the trade union in connection with the class of work contracted for, cannot be recognised as fulfilling the provisions of the Fair Wages Resolution. That, seeing the way the Fair Wages

Resolution of the House of Commons is ignored, so far as printing contracts are concerned, in the Irish districts, particularly in the work connected with Irish Local Government bodies, it is resolved that the Congress use all its endeavours to remedy the non-observance of the Fair Wages Resolution with the assistance of the Irish Members of Parliament and the Labour Party in the House of Commons.

"That the time has arrived when all public bodies in Ireland should have a clause inserted in their tender forms prohibiting contractors employing non-union labour, and that the Parliamentary Committee use all the means in their power to have the Fair Wages Resolution amended so that public bodies can make it compulsory on contractors."

Mr. J. M'Namara supported the motion, which was passed unanimously.

IMPORTATION.

Moved by Mr. W. Murphy (Brushmakers), seconded by Mr. W. J. Leahy (Coopers), and carried unanimously :—

"That this Congress deplores the continual importation of such vehicles as tramcars, railway, and private carriages, floats, vans, waggons, wheels, &c., into this country, and we call on all railway and tram companies, traders and merchants, to encourage home industry by having their vehicles manufactured in Ireland; that the members of the community who foster and encourage such importation are unworthy the support of the public. And this Congress is also of opinion that all motor car agents who have orders entrusted to their care should be appealed to to have bodies made, painted, and trimmed at home, and so develop this important and growing industry in Ireland.

"That this Congress calls on all corporate gas managers, and other public bodies, to have their gas meters, lamps, &c., made in Ireland by trade union labour. That this Congress calls on the farmers of Ireland and cowkeepers' associations to have their dairy utensils made in Ireland by trade union labour instead of having same imported from foreign countries.

"That this Congress condemns the importation of foreign staves and packages into Ireland for the packing of Irish butter, in view of the fact that Irish packages have been proved by practical men to be equal, if not superior, both in quality, price, and workmanship, to any imported, and we request butter merchants, creamery proprietors and managers who have the interest and the welfare of the country at heart, to use their influence to stay the importation so disastrous to the trade of Ireland.

"That this Congress deplores the continued importation of all kinds of brushes into this country, and directs attention to the fact that foreign-made brushes are being sold on a large scale as

Irish manufactured, and for the guidance of purchasers desirous of supporting home industry the Merchandise or Trades Marks Act should be so amended that all imported brushes should be stamped so as to clearly indicate the country in which they are manufactured."

IMPORTATION—JOINERY.

Mr. R. O'Keeffe (Amalgamated Carpenters) proposed :—

"That this Congress deplores the continued importation of foreign joinery that is slowly but surely driving out of the country one of the principal industries in the building trade, and hereby calls on architects, engineers, builders, private employers, and all public boards in Ireland requiring joinery, to have same made at home under fair conditions, and thereby save a languishing industry from extinction."

He said it was shocking to see so-called patriots importing joinery from Sweden and other places whilst his society were paying away £6,000 in idle benefits to some of the best joiners to be found (hear, hear).

Mr. E. J. O'Neill, in seconding, said the resolution was nearly as old as himself (laughter). It was a crying scandal that doors and other commodities could be made in the prisons on the Continent and dumped down here (hear, hear), because the Germans and the other countries would not allow the prison-made article to be sold or put in competition in their own country (applause).

The motion was carried unanimously.

PRISON-MADE BRUSHES.

// Proposed by Mr. W. Murphy, seconded by Mr. James Larkin, and carried unanimously :—

"That this Congress condemns in the strongest manner the action of the Irish Prisons Board in supplying Government offices with convict-made brushes, as admitted by them by letter to the Dublin Trades Council on the 12th November, 1908, thereby interfering with legitimate labour; and, further, we are of opinion that the Act empowering the Board to teach convicts skilled trades should be amended."

PUBLIC CONTRACTS.

Mr. D. Mulcahy (National Furnishing Trades Association) proposed, and Mr. M. Leonard seconded :—

"That this Congress is of opinion that the necessary supervision is not exercised over the execution of contracts issued by the different Public Boards of Ireland, and that it be an instruction to the Parliamentary Committee to communicate with the different Boards with the object of representatives of the trades affected by

such contracts being allowed the privilege of inspecting the work in course of construction, and thus ensuring the carrying out of the House of Commons Fair Wages Resolution."

The following amendment in the name of the Kilkenny Trades Council was not moved:—

"That if the Irish Trade Mark was only to be used by the firms who employ and pay the recognised trade union wages and observe trade union conditions, it would help to do away with the evil influence of the sweating dens, and would help and tend towards the output of a better class of furniture work in the furnishing industry."

Mr. Mulcahy said he had been misled by this amendment, to which he had intended to speak.

The Chairman—The amendment is not before us.

Mr. Mulcahy—The amendment is on the paper, but where is the representative of the Kilkenny Trades Council? (Laughter, and applause). He can attack men when miles are between them. Why does he not face it on the floor of the Congress? (Applause).

The discussion then dropped, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC CONTRACTS.

Moved by Mr. W. Murphy (Brushmakers), seconded by Mr. L. O'Brien (Brassfounders), and carried unanimously:—

"That this Congress desires to direct the attention of public bodies, such as boards of guardians, asylums, and all other boards, that, until municipal workshops are established, in order to give proper effect to the Fair Wages Resolution, it is desirable when giving contracts for supplies that none but manufacturers' tenders be considered, thereby ensuring not only the standard rate of wages being paid and the work being done by qualified tradesmen, but a saving to the ratepayers of middlemen's profits."

LOCAL LABOUR ON PUBLIC CONTRACTS.

Moved by Mr. R. P. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G. (Bricklayers) Dublin:—

"That as the importation of workmen to districts where the supply of labour already exceeds the demand inflicts a hardship on local workers, and is calculated to increase the poor rate in such districts, this Congress requests the War Department in Ireland to make it a condition in the terms of its building contracts that local labour shall be employed as far as possible."

Mr. Thomas Farren (Stonecutters) seconded.

Passed unanimously.

UNSKILLED LABOUR ON TRADESMEN'S WORK.

Moved by Councillor Richard T. O'Carroll, P.L.G. (Bricklayers), and seconded by Mr. William Murphy :—

(a) "That in the opinion of this Congress the custom of the Royal Dublin Society of employing, and permitting its contractors to employ, unskilled labour to perform tradesmen's work tends to lower the standard of efficiency of the skilled artisan, inasmuch as contractors in their endeavour to compete against illegitimate labour compel their tradesmen to perform work in a rapid and slipshod fashion (a system which begets incompetency). And, further, as the example of an important institution, such as the Royal Dublin Society, is likely to be emulated by other important bodies, we regard this system as most unfair and menacing the existence of the competent skilled worker. Copies to be sent to R.D.S. and Lord Iveagh.

(b) "That this Congress strongly condemns the action of certain District Councils through Ireland, in particular the New Ross Rural District Council, the Longford District Council, and the Moate District Council, in employing, and permitting their contractors to employ, spurious labour to perform tradesmen's work in the erection of labourers' cottages. And this Congress desires to remind them that their attitude towards the *bona fide* artisan is helping to drive him to join the huge army of reluctant emigrants which leaves our shores annually. Copies to above-mentioned Councils and the General Council of County Councils."

Mr. G. Keogh (Plumbers' Association) moved the following amendment :—To add at end—

(c) "That this Congress condemns the action of one trade doing the work of another in any particular shop whereby it aids in lowering the standard of the skilled workman whose trade is affected by the attempting or interfering of those professionals who are not entitled to do any of the work outside their own. Copies of this to be sent to all the building trades."

Councillor Walsh (Limerick) seconded, and Mr. J. M'Namara supported the amendment.

Councillor O'Carroll said he had no objection to the amendment. In fact he was glad to accept it, as there were none of the building trades more sinned against in this respect than the trade he represented. But the strangest thing was that those who were shouting the loudest were the biggest sinners (laughter and applause.)

The motion as amended was then put and carried.

DUBLIN CORPORATION AND THE PAVIORS.

Mr. P. T. Daly moved, Mr. James Larkin seconded, and it was resolved :—

"That this Congress instructs the incoming Parliamentary

Committee to use their influence with the Dublin Corporation to ensure that on the works undertaken by them they shall provide employment for a largely increased number of paviers."

THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

Mr. W. Hayes (Belfast), on behalf of the scrutineers, announced the result of the ballot as follows:—

	Votes.
Mr. D. R. Campbell (Belfast Trades Council) ...	42
Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, P.L.G. (Dublin Trades Council)	40
Miss M. Galway (Belfast), Textile Worker ...	38
Mr. T. M'Connell (Belfast), Baker ...	38
Mr. M. Egan, J.P., T.C. (Cork), Coachmaker ...	35
Mr. W. Murphy (Dublin), Brushmaker ...	35
Mr. Dawson Gordon (Belfast), Flax Rougher ...	30
Mr. Joseph Clarke (Dublin), Carpenter ...	30

The above, with the Secretary, form the Committee.

Votes were also recorded as follows:—For Mr. James Larkin, 30; Mr. Hugh M'Manus, 26; Mr. William O'Brien, 24; Alderman John M'Carthy, 21; and Mr. P. Walsh, T.C., 19. Messrs. M'Carron, T.C., and Henry Rochford withdrew.

Mr. Larkin said that as his request to sit as a Transport Worker was ruled out, and as Mr. O'Lehane was representing the Dublin Trades Council with him, the two of them could not sit.

The Chairman said it was very regrettable, but that that was so.

HACKNEY CARRIAGE INSPECTORSHIP.

Mr. M. Egan, J.P., T.C. (Coachmakers), proposed, and Mr. John Burgess seconded the following resolution, which was carried:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress it is of the first importance that practical coachmakers should be appointed to the position of carriage inspectors, as we believe it is against the interests of the public health and the Coachmakers' Society alike that inexperienced individuals should hold the position of inspectors of hackney carriages, irrespective of any knowledge of vehicular traffic, and that the attention of the Parliamentary Committee be called to this important grievance with the view of remedying same."

H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE AND WAR OFFICE CONTRACTS.

Moved by Mr. Hugh M'Manus (Typographical Association):—

"That this Congress draws attention to the statement issued on December 17, 1909, by H.M. Stationery Office respecting printing contracts, and hereby requests the Irish Members of Parliament and the Labour Party to take such action as will secure a change either in the Fair Wages Resolution or in the interpretation

of that Resolution, so that the principle of trade union wages and working conditions shall be construed by the Department as a basis of the contract, and the various officials instructed accordingly.

"That we condemn the present antiquated and inequitable system whereby contractors for Irish Stationery Office contracts are compelled to take all paper and other unworked material from the Department in Custom House, Dublin, &c. (thus penalising and handicapping fair employers in the printing business in Belfast, Cork, and other parts of Ireland by the heavy railway charges for freight and carriage to and from Dublin), and we submit that it would be to the advantage of the public service if such material (to be, where possible, of home manufacture) were directly supplied by the contractor whose tender may be accepted by H.M. Stationery Office. That copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary to the Treasury, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and other Ministers; also sent to the Irish Councils, the Press, and Members of Parliament.

"That this Congress protests against the practice of the War Department inviting and accepting tenders from contractors who are often quite unable to carry out the services undertaken by them, thereby causing large sums of money allocated for local works to be diverted into other channels to the loss of our tradesmen, labourers, &c."

He said it would be only necessary to quote the following extract from conditions of contract to show the necessity in the interests of fair competition for the passage of the resolution:—
"All paper, cards, vellum, parchment, &c., necessary for printing, shall be sent from the Stationery Office free of expense to the office of the contractor, if situated in Dublin. If the contractor's office shall not be situated in Dublin, the cost of carriage from Dublin of paper, cards, vellum, parchment or other material shall be borne by the contractor, who shall, at his own expense, deliver the work when printed, accompanied by the relative work orders, at the Stationery Office, Dublin, or at such other places as may be directed by the Controller of H.M. Stationery Office."

Mr. D. O'Donovan (Limerick Trades Council) seconded.

The motion was carried on a division.

ADD TO STANDING ORDER 10.

"Moved by Mr. H. M'Manus (Typographical Association):—

"That at least two meetings of the Parliamentary Committee (or a sub-committee of Parliamentary Committee) shall be held in the locality selected for the next year's Congress, such meetings to be arranged in conjunction with local Trades Council or organised trade unionists."

Seconded by Mr. James Nolan, and carried.

AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER 11.

Mr. Dawson Gordon (Flax Roughers) moved :—

Delete all after "The" on first line, and insert :—

"Report of the Parliamentary Committee, which shall have been transmitted to the delegates at least three days before the assembly of Congress, shall be the business next following that of the election of Congress officers. And after the disposal of same the tenure of office of the Parliamentary Committee shall cease. A printed balance-sheet duly audited and certified by the auditors to be presented to each delegate on the second day of the meeting."

Seconded by Mr. D. R. Campbell, and carried.

NEW STANDING ORDER.

The following motion, standing in the name of Mr. Hugh M'Manus (Typographical Association), was withdrawn :—

"That all printing in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Irish Trades Union Congress be executed in the district in which Congress meets."

BREWING AND DISTILLING INDUSTRIES.

Mr. W. J. Leahy (Coopers, Dublin), proposed, and Councillor M'Carron seconded :—

"That this Congress of Irish Trades Unionists, whose interests have been, directly and indirectly, injuriously affected by the imposition of increased duties on the distilling and brewing industries of an exceptionally penal character, request Mr. John Redmond, M.P., and his colleagues of the Irish Parliamentary Party, to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent any possibility of their re-imposition in the forthcoming Budget of 1910-11. That, as a boycott of Irish whiskey has been recommended by some of the members of the English Licensed Vintners' Association because of the vote given by the Irish Parliamentary Party in favour of the Budget of 1909-10, which was essentially a Finance Bill, having the support of the democracies of the United Kingdom, we call on the Liberal and Labour members of Parliament to use every effort and take such practical steps as shall prevent any such unjust action on the part of the English licensed trade. That copies of these resolutions be forwarded to Mr. John Redmond, M.P., leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party; to all Labour members of Parliament; to all public bodies in Ireland, and the English Trades Union Congress."

Mr. Egan (Cork) declared that Mr. John Redmond did not represent the whole of Ireland in the Imperial Parliament.

The Chairman called Mr. Egan to order several times, but the latter persisted, and there was considerable noise.

Mr. M'Manus characterised it as a disgraceful exhibition.

Mr. W. J. Leahy said he was amazed at the heat displayed by Mr. Egan, whom he designated as "the Mad Mullah" and "one of O'Brien's J.P.'s" (laughter), more especially as he understood Mr. Egan pretended in other places to feel deeply on this question of the Budget (laughter and applause).

The Chairman said he was no apologist for the publicans. He did not care a farthing about the publicans. He thought it would be better if there were less intemperance in this country. At the same time he would not like to have an injustice done to the country. In Derry at the present time there was a big brewery being closed down, and it would mean the dismissal of at least 400 or 500 workers.

Mr. Whitley moved the previous question, and on a division this was carried by 29 votes to 26.

A discussion took place on the next place of meeting. Clonmel was the place suggested on the agenda in the name of the chairman, who refused to move the resolution, but which was moved by Mr. D. R. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Malcolm.

Mr. P. Healy moved as an amendment, and Mr. James Larkin seconded, that the Congress for 1911 be held in Galway.

On a vote being taken, 38 voted for Galway and 22 for Clonmel.

Galway was then agreed to unanimously.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. Daly proposed a vote of thanks to the local reception committee, which was seconded by Mr. M'Manus (Belfast), and carried with acclamation.

Mr. Money Penny acknowledged the vote on behalf of the reception committee.

Mr. Whitley proposed a vote of thanks to the Press, which was passed, and acknowledged by Mr. Mansfield.

Mr. Campbell proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, which was seconded by Mr. Larkin.

Mr. Walker drew attention to a remark which had been dropped by the Chairman during the Congress that he did not intend to take part in the Congress in future. Mr. M'Carron had been associated with the Congress from its foundation. During that time he had a victory over them, but they came back and tried for another fall. He would suggest that he (the Chairman) take up the gauge of battle in the same spirit, and that at the next Congress they would find the Amalgamated Tailors and the Dockers' Union representatives in their midst (applause).

Mr. Daly associated himself with the vote of thanks, and expressed the hope that they would have their Chairman present at the next Congress as good-tempered as ever (applause).

The Chairman, in reply, said he felt grateful for the appreciation of his services while presiding there during the past few days. As

Mr. Walker had said he (the Chairman) had been associated with the Congress since its inception, and he had every year been elected to the Parliamentary Committee. Although Mr. Larkin and he had crossed swords, he was as friendly towards Mr. Larkin now as the first day he met him. No business fight they would have there would alter his friendship with a man personally. When people who attended bigger Congresses across the water tried to reflect on their small Congress he was always willing and able to defend that little institution which had done a great service to the Irish trades' union movement. He did not feel the admission of the Transport Workers' Union. He did not want to make any personal reference, but the election of his friend Mr. Daly induced him (the Chairman) to take the stand he had taken. Personally, when the business of the Congress was over, and he and Mr. Daly went outside, they would be the best of friends, because a fight there should not interfere with personal friendship. But a man had a right to fight on a business question irrespective of whether he came in contact with his best friends or not. He remembered Mr. Daly being a member of the Parliamentary Committee before. A deputation was going before Mr. Gerald Balfour, then Chief Secretary, and Mr. Daly refused to attend. How could the business of the Congress be conducted when the chief officer—the keystone of the whole situation—refuses to touch a minister of the Crown? He felt that it was only by legislation they could accomplish anything for the workers. The only legislative assembly he knew of at present was the British House of Commons or the House of Commons without the word British. He felt the election of Mr. Daly to that position, because being a consistent man, Mr. Daly would not change his spots or his policy, and therefore would not be prepared to carry out the resolutions of that Congress so far as conveying them to the British House of Commons. Hence his reason for severing his connection with the Trades Congress.

Mr. Daly—If that is the reason you have been misinformed, and you need not sever it.

The Chairman, continuing, said he was no slavish follower of any political party. To-morrow if the Irish Parliamentary Party opposed the labour movement and injured the cause which was more to him (the Chairman) than any political movement, he would be prepared to take the platform and use his influence against them. But he felt at present that considerable service had been done by them. Would they be used in the future? If not, what use was the Congress? He (the Chairman) had no hope that they would be used. He had done his best for the success of the Congress, and his best wishes would go forth for its success in the future (applause).

BALANCE SHEET DUNDALK CONGRESS, MAY, 1910.

INCOME.			£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.			£	s.	d.	
To Balance from last Congress	...	...	151	19	4	By Error in previous Balance Sheet (one Delegate)	...	...	0	15	0
" Irish Transport Workers' Union	...	...	11	0	0	" Standing Orders Committee (Limerick)	...	...	2	10	0
" Amalgamated Union Dockers	...	...	11	0	0	" Tellers	do.	...	0	15	0
" 87 Delegates' Fees	...	...	65	5	0	" Auditors	do.	...	0	10	0
" Affiliation Fees	...	...	86	6	4	" Two Secretaries	do.	...	3	0	0
" Sale of Congress Reports	...	...	6	19	0	" Reporter	do.	...	2	2	0
						" Hire of Hall	do.	...	1	10	0	
						" Guy & Co., Limerick, Printing	...	...	1	6	0
						" B. Doyle, Printing	...	...	44	7	3
						" Cahill & Co., Printing	...	...	1	0	0
						" Car Fares, Dublin and Limerick	...	...	0	5	0
						" Hall Porters, Dublin	...	...	1	0	0
						" Labour Bulletin	...	...	1	1	0
						" Gompers' Reception	...	...	8	0	7
						" P. C. Meetings and Deputations	...	...	85	17	8
						" Special Committee (Dockers' and Transport Workers' Dispute)	...	...	11	6	4
						" Dockers' Union (Refund)	...	...	11	0	0
						" Banking Expenses	...	...	0	5	0
						" Secretaries Honorarium	...	...	22	0	0
						" Cheque Book	...	...	0	4	2
						" Secretaries' Petty Cash, including carriage, papers, stationery, &c.	...	...	10	7	0
						" Treasurer's Honorarium	...	...	5	0	0
						" Treasurer's Petty Cash	0	5	0	
						" Balance in Bank	114	19	2			
						" Balance in Treasurer's Hands	3	3	6	118	2	8
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We have examined the foregoing Statement of Accounts and compared the figures with the Vouchers produced, and found same correct.

PATRICK J. LEA, }
JOHN CLARKE. } *Auditors.*

16th May, 1910.

AFFILIATION FEES.

	£	s.	d.
Typographical Association	2	10	0
Cork Coopers	0	10	0
Amalgamated Carpenters	4	10	0
Amalgamated Tramway Workers	1	8	4
Flaxdressers	1	10	0
Waterford Trades Council	1	0	0
Amalgamated Painters	1	10	0
Dublin Typographical Society	2	10	0
Gas Workers	1	0	10
Dublin Hairdressers	0	6	0
Irish Drapers' Assistants	3	10	0
Dublin Corporation Labourers	1	10	0
Belfast Typographical Society	1	10	0
Belfast Trades Council	3	0	0
Dublin Tinsmiths	0	6	0
Dublin Pavors	0	2	6
Dublin Trades Council	3	0	0
Derry Dock Labourers	1	0	0
Irish Linen Lappers	0	10	0
National Union of Labour	1	10	0
Irish Stationary Engine Drivers	0	12	6
Co-operative Employees	1	8	4
Limerick Trades Council	1	0	0
Railway Clerks	1	8	4
Workers' Union	1	10	0
Irish Operative Bakers	1	10	0
Belfast Operative Bakers	1	10	0
Cork Trades and Labour Council...	1	0	0
Kilkenny Trades Council	1	0	0
Belfast Engine Drivers	1	0	0
Dublin Plumbers	0	15	0
Dublin Bricklayers	1	8	4
Amalgamated Cabinetmakers	0	3	4
Stonecutters	0	10	0
Belfast Butchers	1	10	10
Amalgamated Tailors	3	10	10
Dublin Farriers	0	8	4
Irish Bottlemakers	1	0	0
Furnishing Trades	1	5	0
U.K.S. Coachmakers	1	10	0
Newcastle West Trades Council	1	0	0
Dundalk Trades Council	1	0	0
Dublin Coopers	2	2	0
Postmen's Federation	3	10	0
Dublin Brassfounders	0	10	0
Royal Liver Agents	0	10	10
Dublin Bookbinders	0	16	8
Dublin Electricians	0	5	0
Dublin Bakers	1	10	0
Hackle and Gill Makers	1	0	0
Shop Assistants	0	8	2
Flax Roughers	1	10	0
Textile Operatives	1	10	0
Dublin Brushmakers	0	5	0
Prudential Agents	0	10	0
Amalgamated Railway Servants	10	0	0
Irish Transport Workers' Union	3	0	0
Limerick Gasworkers	0	5	0

List of Delegates.

- Amalgamated Union Cabinetmakers*—M. Leonard, 12 Little Denmark-street, Dublin.
- Amalgamated Carpenters*—Joseph Clarke, 28 Belvidere-road, Dublin.
- Amalgamated Carpenters (Dublin 5th Branch)*—E. J. O'Neill, 35 Lower Gloucester-street.
- Amalgamated Carpenters—(Dublin 6th Branch)*—R. O'Keeffe, Newtown-park, Blackrock.
- Amalgamated Co-operative Employes*—J. Davidson, 147 Rosebery-road, Belfast.
- Amalgamated Tailors*—James McCarron, T.C., 48 Stanley-walk, Londonderry.
- P. Lynch, T.C., 2 Crosses-green, Cork.
- Amalgamated Tailors, Dublin Progressive Branch*—W. O'Brien, 43 Belvidere-place.
- " " *Dundalk Branch*—James Martin, Anne-street, Dundalk.
- Patrick Duffy, Castletown-road, Dundalk.
- Amalgamated Tramway and Vehicle Workers*—R. J. Moore, 194 Upper Meadow-street, Belfast.
- Amalgamated Railway Servants*—J. Malcolm, 1 Electric-street, Belfast.
- T. Dowling, 8 St. Patrick's-road, Dalkey.
- Amalgamated Union of Labour (Belfast)*—J. Graydon, 73 Sandhurst-gardens.
- J. Flanagan, 21 Michael-street.
- Belfast and Dublin Loco. Engine Drivers*—D. Boyd, 38 Beechfield-street, Belfast.
- H. McClure, 98 York-road, Belfast.
- Belfast Trades Council*—D. R. Campbell, 11 Kimberley-street.
- W. Walker, J.P., 41 Marsden-gardens.
- Belfast Bakers*—D. McGibbon, 62 Sandy-row.
- Wm. Hayes, 68 Haypark-avenue.
- Belfast Flax Roughers*—D. Gordon, 23 Columbia-street.
- J. McAleece, 36 Brookfield-street.
- Belfast Typographical Society*—John Clarke, 2 Curzon-street.
- Charles Darcus, 30 Delhi-street.
- Belfast Workers' Union*—J. Harris, 11 Victoria-street.
- Bookbinders (Dublin Branch)*—J. Nolan, 10 North King-street.
- Brassfounders (Dublin Branch)*—L. O'Brien, 23 Bayview-avenue.
- Cork Trades Council*—P. Murphy, P.L.G., Winter's-hill, Sunday's-well.
- Cork Typographical Society*—D. Denehy, 3 Ophelia-place, Lough.
- Cork Workers' Union*—C. Martin, 34 St. Patrick's-quay.
- Cork Gasworkers' Union*—J. O'Leary, 13 Abbey-street.
- Dock Labourers' Union*—M. J. McNulty, 74 Long Tower-street, Londonderry.
- Drogheda Dock Labourers*—R. Nugent, 15 Peter-street.
- Dublin Bricklayers*—R. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G., 49 Cuffe-street.
- Dublin Farriers*—J. Gorman, 58 Bolton-street.
- Dublin Hairdressers' Assistants*—Henry Rochford, 28 Fairview-strand.
- Dublin Paviers*—P. T. Daly, 190 Clonliffe-road.
- Dublin Trades Council*—M. J. O'Lehane, 56 Henry-street.
- James Larkin, 10 Beresford-place.
- Dublin United Corporation Labourers*—Thomas Cobbe, 24 Winetavern-street.
- J. Kirwan.
- M. Canty, 24 Winetavern-street.

Dublin Lodge Plumbers—G. Keogh, 11 St. Bridget's-avenue.

Dublin Operative Bakers—J. Gunn, P.L.G.

P. J. Lea, 8 Upper Bridge-street.

Dublin Operative Coopers—W. J. Leahy, P.C.C.

Hugh Reilly.

W. Tyrrell, 9 Merchant's-quay.

Dublin Tinsmiths—J. M'Namara, 22 Capel-street.

Dublin Typographical Society—Eyton H. Hayes, 35 Lower Gardiner-street.

Dundalk Trades Council—J. Gallagher, 15 Ardee-terrace.

Electrical Trades Union—J. Murray, 40 Lower Mayor-street, Dublin.

Furnishing Trades Association (Dublin Branch)—D. Mulcahy, 44 Whitworth-road.

House and Ship Painters—John Graydon, 13 St. James's-avenue, Clonliffe-road, Dublin.

Irish Drapers' Assistants—W. Adair, 24 William-street, Sth., Belfast.

James Cummins, 56 Henry-street, Dublin.

Irish Glass Bottle Makers—A. Duncan, 43 South Dock-street, Dublin.

P. Healy, 1 Tramway-cottages, Irishtown-road, Dublin.

Irish Linen Lappers' Union—J. Bloomer, 39 Dunvegan-street, Belfast.

Irish Stationary Engine Drivers—J. M'Knight, 9 Emily-place.

Irish Transport Workers' Union—William Hopkins, 10 Beresford-place, Dublin.

John O'Neill, 10 Beresford-place, Dublin.

Thomas Foran, 10 Beresford-place, Dublin.

John Bohen, 10 Beresford-place, Dublin.

James Halligan, 10 Beresford-place, Dublin.

Kilkenny Trades Council—Alderman M'Carthy, P.L.G.

Patrick Nash.

Limerick Trades Council—P. Walsh, T.C.

D. O'Donovan, Mechanics Institute.

Operative Bakers of Ireland National Federal Union—T. M'Connell, 58 Old Park-avenue, Belfast.

Postmen's Federation—T. Donovan, 18 South-view, Cork.

W. Clubb, 13 Belgrave-street, Glasgow.

Prudential Assurance Agents—John Ferguson, 19 Belair-street, Belfast.

Railway Clerks' Association—P. F. Morris, 17 Hawthorne-street, Belfast.

Royal Liver Agents—J. O'Hanlon, 21 St. Ignatius-road, Dublin.

Shop Assistants Union—J. Feenan, 9 North-street, Belfast.

Charles Turpin, 20 Grattan-hill, Cork.

Stonecutters' Union of Ireland—T. Farren, 20 Lower Stephen-street, Dublin.

Textile Operatives' Society—Mary Galway, Avenue Hall, Garfield-street, Belfast.

Elizabeth M'Caughey, 10 Abyssinia-street, Belfast.

Typographical Association—Hugh M'Manus, 14 Ardmoilin-street, Belfast.

H. T. Whitley, 20 College-treet, Belfast.

United Brushmakers' Society—W. Murphy, 38 Primrose-avenue, Dublin.

United Kingdom Society of Coachmakers—John Burgess.

Michael Egan, J.P., T.C., Cork.

E. W. STEWART, Secretary,

179 Clonliffe Road, Dublin.

STANDING ORDERS.

1. Opening Proceedings.—The Congress shall assemble at 9.30 a.m. (except the first day, when the proceedings shall commence at 11 a.m.) prompt, adjourn at 1 p.m., reassemble at 2 p.m., and adjourn at 5 p.m. each day.

2. Delegates' Qualifications.—The Congress shall consist of (1) Delegated members or officials from *bona fide* trade and labour unions who are or have been practical workers at the trade or calling they represent; (2) delegated members or officials from recognised trades councils or similar bodies; and (3) any person qualified to represent a trade or labour union on any Irish trade or labour council duly affiliated to Congress, shall be eligible to represent such trade or labour union at Congress. The Delegates fees (15s. each), affiliation fees (as per Rule 3), and all personal expenses allowed such Delegates must be defrayed by the union or council they represent.

3. Financial Support.—That the minimum Annual Contribution from affiliated societies (assessed on their Irish membership) payable to the Treasurer not later than fourteen days previous to the meeting of Congress, shall be One Penny per member from all Societies of 250 members or under: over 250 and up to 500, £1 8s. 4d.; over 500 and up to 1,000, £1 10s. 0d., and £1 for each 1,000 or fractional part thereof, after the first 1,000 members, assessed on Irish membership. Trades Councils shall pay £1 for each 5,000 members or part thereof represented.

4. Standing Orders Committee.—A Standing Orders Committee of five shall be elected from the Members of Congress, whose duties shall be to verify and report upon the credentials of the Delegates, see to the proper conduct of the business of Congress, and have control of the distribution of all literature, introduction of deputations, and other special business not provided for in these Orders. The Standing Orders Committee shall meet not later than half an hour previous to each sitting of Congress for the purpose of the despatch of business.

5. Mode of Voting.—Tellers.—The Voting upon all matters shall be by show of hands. Tellers shall be appointed at the opening of Congress, whose ruling as to numbers shall be final. In cases where the Tellers disagree, the Chairman shall order a re-count. *Scrutineers* (3) shall be appointed before the distribution of the ballot papers for the election of the Parliamentary Committee, and shall hand in a signed report to the Chairman of Congress as early as possible after vouching for the accuracy of the returns.

6. Resolutions.—RESOLUTIONS intended for the Congress, with the name of the proposer, shall be in the hands of the Secretary of the Parliamentary Committee at least SIX WEEKS before the meeting of Congress in Whit week, and shall be at once printed and sent out by the Secretary of the Parliamentary Committee to the various trades and labour societies and trades councils in Ireland.

7. Amendments to Resolutions.—AMENDMENTS to the propositions on the Agenda, written and signed in the following manner, viz.:—"Amendment to Resolution No. 3, to be proposed by Mr. John Smith, Belfast," must be sent to the Secretary of the Parliamentary Committee at least ONE CLEAR WEEK before the meeting of Congress, and shall be printed and in the hands of the Delegates, along with the Parliamentary Committee's Report, on the assembling of Congress, before the commencement of business.

8. Resolutions and Amendments.—ALL RESOLUTIONS AND AMENDMENTS must be endorsed by and sent through the authorised officials of trade or labour organisations or trades councils sending Delegates to Congress. The names, addresses, and societies represented by the Delegates shall be printed and ready for distribution at the commencement of Congress.

9. Limitation of Speeches.—The mover of a resolution or amendment and each succeeding speaker, shall be allowed five minutes each. No one shall speak more than once upon each resolution or amendment except the mover of the original motion, who shall be given an opportunity to reply. No second amendment or rider to an original proposition shall be put to a vote until the first amendment is disposed of.

10. Parliamentary Committee.—A Parliamentary Committee of nine including Secretary, shall be elected on the last day of the Congress, whose duties shall be—(1) to endeavour to give practical effect to the resolutions of Congress; (2) to watch all legislative measures directly affecting the question of Labour in Ireland; (3) to initiate such legislative and other action as Congress may direct; and (4) generally to support the Parliamentary Committee of the United Trades Congress upon all questions affecting the workers of the United Kingdom. The Committee shall meet quarterly, or at such times as, in the opinion of the Chairman and Secretary, the exigencies of the Labour Movement in Ireland call for immediate action, and shall present a report of their proceedings to the next Congress. No candidate shall be eligible for election on the Parliamentary Committee unless he is a Delegate from his own trade society, labour union, or trades council. In no case shall more than one member of the same trade or occupation, or more than one representative of the same trades council, be allowed to sit, but this condition shall not apply to the election of Secretary. The Secretary shall be elected by Congress, and be *ex-officio* a member of the Congress and the Parliamentary Committee, and shall remain in office so long as his work and conduct give satisfaction to the Parliamentary Committee and the representatives attending the Congress. Should a vacancy occur between the annual meetings of the Congress the Parliamentary Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy.

11. Parliamentary Committee's Report.—The Congress having been duly opened, the Parliamentary Committee shall present their Report for the past year, which shall be laid on the table for discussion, after the disposal of which their tenure of office shall terminate. A printed Balance Sheet, duly certified by the Auditors, to be presented to each delegate on the second day of the meeting.

12. Labour Meeting.—That at least one General Labour Meeting shall be held, under the auspices of the Parliamentary Committee, in each town during the sittings of the Annual Congress—the local trades council to render such assistance in arranging for halls, advertising, &c., as shall be requisite.

13. Suspension of Standing Orders.—Standing Orders shall not be suspended unless previous intimation shall have been given to Standing Orders Committee, and the motion agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the Delegates present.

14. Next Place of Meeting.—Nominations for next place of meeting shall be forwarded to the Secretary for inclusion on the Agenda of Congress, and only places so nominated shall be eligible for consideration



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Daplaí, áine ní fagáin.

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WEDNESDAY, August 3rd, at 8 o'clock, p.m.—PRIZE-WINNERS' CONCERT.

THURSDAY, August 4th, at 8 o'clock, p.m.—One Act Bilingual Play:—

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Four Act Bilingual Play—**"an t-óireas tír na n-ós."** By Liam P. O. Ryan

Produced by Craob mhé éil.

FRIDAY, August 5th, at 8 o'clock, p.m.—One Act Bilingual Competition Play:—

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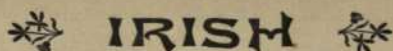
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For further information, apply to—

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July, 1910.

IRISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS, 1894-1910.

Year.	No. of Delegates	Locality.	President.	Secretary.	Treasurer.
1894	119	Dublin	Thomas O'Connell (Carpenter)	John Simmons	Patrick Dowd.
1895	121	Cork	J. H. Jolley (Printer)	"	J. H. Jolley.
1896	93	Limerick	James Dalton (Printer)	"	"
1897	86	Waterford	P. J. Leo (Pork Butcher)	"	"
1898	90	Belfast	Richard Worthly (Tailor)	"	P. J. Tevenan.
1899	62	Londonderry	James M'Carron (Tailor)	"	"
1900	77	Dublin	George Leahy, P.L.G. (Plasterer)	Hugh M'Manus	Alex. Taylor, T.C.
1901	73	Sligo	*Alex. Bowman, T.C. (Flax Dresser)	E. L. Richardson, T.C.	"
1902	98	Cork	Wm. Cave, Alderman (Bootmaker)	"	Geo. Leahy, P.L.G.
1903	86	Newry	Walter Hudson, M.P. (A.S.R.S.)	"	"
1904	74	Kilkenny	Wm. Walker, T.C. (Carpenter)	"	"
1905	72	Wexford	James Chambers, P.L.G. (Saddler)	"	E. W. Stewart.
1906	72	Athlone	Stephen Dineen (Baker)	"	"
1907	87	Dublin	James M'Carron, T.C. (Tailor)	"	"
1908	85	Belfast	John Murphy, P.L.G. (Printer)	E. L. Richardson, J.P.	"
1909	108	Limerick	M. Egan, J.P., T.C. (Coachmaker)	"	"
1910	85	Dundalk	James M'Carron, T.C. Tailor	E. W. Stewart.	M.J. O'Lehane, P.L.G.

* In 1901 and from 1903 the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for the year was also President of the Congress.



THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL
Irish Trades ✱
✱ Union Congress

WILL BE HELD IN

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1911.