## THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL

## Irish Trades

**Union Congress** 

WILL BE HELD IN

CORK,

ON

Whit-Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 1913.



"LABOR OMNIA VINCITA

# REPORT

OF THE

TWENTIETH

Irish Trades Union Congress,

HEED IN THE

CITY HALL, CORK.

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MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY, May 12th, 13th and 14th, 1913.

Published by authority of the Congress and the Parliamentary Committee.

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#### DUBLIN:

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Irish Paper.]

Trades Union Labour.

## Parliamentary Committee, 1913-14.

CHAIRMAN:

JAMES LARKIN, DUBLIN.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

THOMAS R. JOHNSTON, BELFAST.

#### TREASURER:

D. R. CAMPBELL, II KIMBERLEY STREET, BELFAST.

JOHN O'SULLIVAN, Cork. M. J. O'LEHANE, Dublin. WILLIAM O'BRIEN, Dublin. M. J. EGAN, T.C., J.P., Cork. W. E. HILL, Dublin.
THOS. McConnell, Belfast.
THOS. McPartlin, Dublin.
R. P. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G.,
Dublin.

#### SECRETARY:

P. T. DALY, LIBERTY HALL, BERESFORD PLACE, DUBLIN.

# Irish Trades Union Congress, 1913.

# Report of Parliamentary Committee.

Fellow-Delegates,—In presenting their report for the past twelve months, your Committee regret they cannot record any great advance in Labour Legislation; and to say that the year has brought many and serious disappointments to our hopes is but to record the bare truth. An attempt has been made to deal with the Osborne Judgment, but it falls far short of our demands. We have failed in our efforts to secure the extension of the Medical Benefits under the National Insurance Act to Ireland, and no attempt has been made to meet our demands in other respects. Following the course adopted in previous years, copies of the resolutions adopted at Clonmel were forwarded to the various Parties, Ministers, Government Departments and Local Bodies, but we have little to record beyond formal acknowledgments to our communications.

Government of Ireland Bill.—Immediately after close of Congress your Committee opened up communications with the Irish Party in reference to the amendments decided on at our deliberations in Clonmel. However, it was not until July following that we succeeded in securing an interview with the leader of that Party, Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P. The interview took place in the Gresham Hotel and at Mr. Redmond's request was conducted in the absence of the Press. Mr. Redmond was accompanied by Mr. John Dillon, M.P., and Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P.

The members of the Committee present were Miss Mary Galway, Messrs. Jas. Larkin, Chairman; Wm O'Brien, V.C.; Thomas McConnell, M. J. O'Lehane, R. P. O'Carroll, T.C.; and P. T. Daly.

#### DEPUTATION TO MR. J. E. REDMOND, M.P.

THE CHAIRMAN (MR. LARKIN) dealt with the general demand of the Trade Union Movement in Ireland that Medical Benefits under the National Health Insurance Act should be extended to Ireland. He instanced the anomalous position in which members of approved societies whose headquarters were in Great Britain were placed as compared with their comrades across the Channel. He said that the Insurance Act without Medical Benefits was practically of no use to them in Ireland. Organised labour had demanded the measure year after year, and now it would seem as if the Trade Unions were to be pushed to the wall by other organisations that had done nothing to secure the bringing of State Insurance into the realms of practical politics. He dwelt on the urgent necessity for amending the Schedules of the Government of Ireland Bill, pointing out the manner in which the constituencies were jerrymandered. Newry, for instance, was split in two, one portion being relegated to a rural constituency in one county and the other to a rural constituency in another county. And in other constituencies electing two members; by a process of grouping of votes, the farming class would dominate any Parliament that would be called into existence. The Irish Trades Congress had passed a resolution, copy of which had been forwarded, demanding a reversion to the principle in existence prior to the re-distribution of seats whereby Borough representation was secured. Mr. Larkin also impressed upon Mr. Redmond the claim of the Trade Unionists of Ireland to secure adult suffrage, the payment of members in the native Parliament, and that in all elections the Returning Officers' fees should be paid by the State. In reference to the position in Belfast, where men and women were, through political and sectarian activities, prevented from following their employment, it was useless to attempt to minimise the gravity of the situation. During the times of strike or lock-out the Government held it was their duty to provide protection for the scab or blackleg who was utilised by the employer to break down the Trade Union Combinations on the grounds that they were legally liable to provide protection for men and women to do that which it was alleged they had a legal right to do. In other words, to protect men at their work. If that were so, surely the same legal necessity presented itself to stop men and women being prevented from following their usual avocations because they refused to think on political or economic questions as they were directed by the employers or others. It was scandalous that the Government refused to protect men who were not blacklegs when they were ruthlessly beaten and driven from their work as the result of incitement by men who had been directly and indirectly in the Government in the past. He also referred to the question of manning of ships and the necessity for providing life-saving apparatus in ships to protect life at sea, and instanced what had occurred in connection with the "Titanic" disaster.

Miss Mary Galway dealt with the question of the Minority Report of the Truck Committee. She said that the question of the abolition of fines was of paramount importance for the women workers of this country as well as to shop workers generally. She quoted several instances of cases that had come to her knowledge where workers had been compelled to pay for the material alleged to have been injured, and the goods were sold at high prices although the worker was fined and not paid for their production. She also impressed upon Mr. Redmond the necessity for further amendments of the Factory Acts, particularly to give Factory Inspectors the power to compel employers to provide fencing and other protective measures of the latest and most improved character in their factories. She was further of the opinion that more female Factory Inspectors should be appointed; there were many reasons which would suggest themselves to the Hon. Gentleman. She also dealt with the necessity for amending the Truck Acts, and pointed out the hardship under which young girls working in Belfast laboured under the National Health Insurance Act. In connection with the question of Medical Referees, the Trades Congress had registered their objection to the system of medical men employed in public institutions giving reports without the knowledge or consent of the injured party-a system which was very prejudicial to the interests of the injured worker and was certainly in opposition to the spirit if not to the letter of the Act.

MR. WILLIAM O'BRIEN dealt with the question of Contracts in the Tailoring Trade. He said they were of opinion that all clothing required for Government Departments, and the Public Service generally, should be made in Ireland by Trade Union Labour. He said that several attempts, which in some instances he regretted to say were successful, had been made to secure that this work should be executed in England, and instanced the action of the Treasury in connection with the uniforms of the porters and messengers in the Land Commission, as well as of the War Office some years ago in reference to military outfits. He also dealt with the question of the Feeding of Necessitious School Children, and said it was a crying shame that the Act did not apply to Ireland. Every man in the Labour Movement was in favour of progression in education; they felt that every child should be compelled to attend school, but how could they agree to the compulsory attendance of a child who was hungry, whose parents were unable to provide it with food, and whom the State by its action debarred from getting food, whilst according the privilege they denied to the Irish child to the children of Great Britain? He pressed upon Mr. Redmond the urgency of this question, and hoped that steps would be taken to have this grave injustice remedied and the Act extended to Ireland. Mr. O'Brien also referred to the question of adult suffrage and the payment by the State of Returning Officers' fees, and of members of the Legis, lature in any Irish Assembly which might be set up. He also referred to the question of Compulsory Vaccination in Ireland and demanded that the Conscience Clause in operation in Great Britain should be extended to Ireland.

Mr. M. J. O'Lehane dealt with the question of the Shops Act. He said the Act was not satisfactory. And whilst expressing

satisfaction at the establishment by legal enactment of a weekly half-holiday, he felt, nevertheless, grave dissatisfaction that no provision had been made for the prohibition of Sunday Trading or even a limitation of hours during which trading could be carried on on Sunday. Several of the trades felt the limitation of powers under the Act very much, notably, the hairdressers, whose representatives had raised this question time and again with the Chief Secretary of Ireland and with the Hon. Gentleman the Chairman of the Irish Party. There were some ludicrous anomalies under the Act, several districts and towns outside the scheduled Urban and Borough areas being excluded. Accordingly the Act is made applicable to towns with a population considerably under 2,000 and is not applicable to places with a population over 4,000. He also had to complain of the great difficulty, and in some instances, expense, they had to undergo in order to get the Act put into operation at all, and that was a difficulty which he felt the Hon. Gentleman could give them very considerable help in overcoming. In reference to the Minority Report referred to by Miss Galway, he thought that effect should be given to it at once, more especially as in the distributive trades in which the "Living-in-System" was in operation, many things are carried on which are opposed to the spirit, and he might say to the letter, of the Truck Acts. With reference to the National Health Insurance Act he would impress the great necessity there undoubtedly was for amendment in regard to the matters referred to by the previous speakers. But as well as these they had been promised autonomy for Ireland, and that promise was not carried out although the promise was made by the Right Hon. The Chancellor of the Exchequer. He pointed out that numerous complaints had been received in reference to violations of the Fair Wage Conditions in the carrying out of Public Contracts in Ireland, and particularly did this refer to Government Departments such as the War Office and to contracts for coach building and carting. He impressed upon Mr. Redmond the urgent necessity of remedying these grievances.

Councillor R. P. O'Carroll desired to emphasise the remarks made by Mr. Larkin in reference to the disturbances in Belfast. Some of these outrages were committed on the grounds of the Harbour Commissioners. The authorities alleged that the Harbour Commissioners' ground was private property upon which the police could not enter. But this was contradicted by the fact that Mr. Larkin himself was arrested there by the K.I.C. in 1907. And surely what could be done with the leader of a big strike could be done with the men who were persecuting a number of respectable, hard-working Belfast workmen? In reference to the question of Contracts raised by previous speakers, he thought there was no trades more sinned against than the building trades. In the War Office they were continually complaining about the employment of handymen to do building work and painting work, whilst they had

very grave doubts as to whether the Fair Wages Resolution was observed in any contract where Trade Union labour was not employed. The only way that this could be met was by confining all such contracts to Trade Unionists. His experience in connection with County Councils and such like bodies was that nearly all their work in the building trades was done by non-unionists, and in several instances District Councils and Poor Law Guardians had given the erection of houses by contract to men who were not builders, who did not employ tradesmen, and who did not pay the standard wage for the execution of the work. He trusted Mr. Redmond and the members of his Party would do their utmost to remedy this state of affairs and to secure that tradesmen's work would be confined to tradesmen each in his own grade. He hoped the Party would give their support to the Right-to-Work Bill, the Minimum Wage Bill, and the other measures to alleviate the conditions of the workers which were to be introduced by the Labour Party in the House of Commons. He hoped they would also secure the re-introduction and passing into law of the Steam Engines (Persons in Charge) Bill, and that they would also support the various measures outlined by the previous speakers. He wished to join in the protest which had been made in reference to the exclusion of the workers in the towns which would undoubtedly ensue if the Government of Ireland Bill were allowed to pass in its present form.

Mr. P. T. Daly said he had to refer to the Railway Bill, the necessary amendments to which were outlined in the resolutions of Trades Congress forwarded to the Hon. Gentleman in June. He hoped due attention will be given to the demands of the Railway Staffs, both manual and clerical. The Railway Servants' work was of an arduous character, and he hoped the Party would support any motion that would be made to fix a living wage as a minimum for this class of work. The Report of the Viceregal Commission was well worthy of their attention and of their support. Whilst they objected to the passing of the Railway Bill in its present form, he hoped that the Party would not forget the action of the Irish Railway Companies in regard to the Conciliation Scheme of 1907 and the House of Commons Resolution of 1911. The Trade Unionists of Ireland were opposed to the measure, it was retrogressive and was opposed to the recommendations of the Commission of 1907. He was directed to point out the absence of any protective clauses for the rights of the grades of Railwaymen, the proposed removing of the direct sanction of Parliament in matters affecting acquisition of land, working agreements, alleged improvements, and the transferring of the onus of proof from the Railway Companies to the traders. In fact, it was a Bill to give further powers to the Railway Companies, which in Ireland at any rate were amongst the greatest, if not the greatest, enemies to the progress of the country. He hoped that the Party when supporting the Nationalisation of Railways

would remember to safeguard the interests of the clerical and operative staffs. He contended that they would be useful members of any Irish Railway Authority that might be set up, and he hoped that they would take steps to protect the interests of the workers, conserve those they had and gain for them the rights and privileges with accompanying emoluments which the importance of their positions undoubtedly entitled them to. He hoped the Party would support Mr. Wardle's Railway Offices. Bill and so secure to the Railway clerks a greater modicum of comfort at their work and a better means of preventing disease than they at present enjoyed. He was further instructed to refer to the introduction into Trades Disputes of the Military, and intanced cases where the law was strained in order to punish workers who were either locked-out or on strike. He was also instructed to protest against the fixing of so low a minimum as sixpence per hour for adult males and threepence-farthing for fully-qualified female operatives by the Board of Trade. In connection with Government work at Haulbowline, he regretted the local workers engaged in the Dockyard are not paid the standard rate. At any rate the men were not satisfied. In other Naval yards, he was informed, the wage fixed was a 22/- minimum, 28/- maximum for skilled, and 21/- for unskilled. This was not paid at Haulbowline.

Mr. Joseph Devlin said it was fashionable when anything went wrong to blame the Irish Party. The Party had done their best. He was as much in favour of the extension of Medical Benefits to the workers in towns as any of the deputation, but there was no demand from the country for Medical Benefits, and if there was they would have got them. In reference to the disturbances in Belfast, they were doing their very utmost.

Mr. J. E. Rednord, M.P., said he had listened to the various demands put forward by the deputation. He expressed sympathy with their claim in reference to the amendment of the Schedules of the Home Rule Bill and promised that the matter would engage the attention of the Party. With regard to the Medical Benefits under the Insurance Act, he did not think that there was a very general demand for them. If such a demand was made evident to him he would see that an Amending Bill was introduced in the next Session. With reference to the other matters he could assure the deputation of their sympathetic consideration by the Irish Party. He might assure them that any measure introduced by the Labour Party had almost invariably received their support.

The deputation having briefly thanked Mr. Redmond for his courteous hearing and promises of support then withdrew.

Since the above interview was accorded your Committee and the statement forwarded to Mr. Redmond, the question of the Schedules to the Government of Ireland Bill was raised by Mr. Newman, M.P., no a question to the Chief Secretary for Ireland. Mr. Birrell

replied that he had received the resolutions of the Irish Trades-Union Congress upon the subject, that he could not agree to any alteration in the Schedule.

In accordance with the directions of your Committee the follow-

ing letter was forwarded to Mr. Redmond :-

"Irish Trades Union Congress,
"Parliamentary Committee,
"August 7th, 1912.

"Dear Mr. Redmond—In accordance with the procedure arranged at our recent interview in the Gresham Hotel, I have pleasure in forwarding you the following memoranda on the points submitted to you:—

"Insurance Act.-As we have repeatedly informed you, the Trades Unionists of Ireland demand the extension to Ireland of the medical benefits under the Insurance Act. We also desire you to give effect to the resolutions forwarded to you in reference to further suggested amendments. The several points brought before you in reference to the administration of the Act do not need recapitulation, but I am directed by my Committee to draw your attention to their objection to the approval of societies started by interested persons to cripple the efforts of the Trades Unions and on a basis which, in their judgment, was never contemplated by the framers of the Act. My Committee have already called your attention to the fact that although the Trades Unions are amongst the bodies most interested by the operations of the Act, they have no representation on the Commission, and they hope you will doyour utmost to have this grievance remedied so as to secure for them a larger representation on the various advisory boards and committees working under the Act.

"Government of Ireland Bill .- We desire to draw your immediate attention to the inadequacy of representation of the workers in the towns, and would impress upon you the necessity of amending the schedules of the Bill so that the workers in towns would secure at least as adequate representation as before the redistribution of seats in Ireland. Failing that, we would favour the grouping of the Boroughs. But we consider that a town of 8,000 inhabitants. should in the present circumstances of Ireland be entitled torepresentation. We are further of opinion that the towns should be made the centre or pivot of all constituencies; and not as in the Bill mere appanages of the rural and agricultural areas. also opposed to the second chamber, but that if there is to be onewe favour an elected body as the lesser of two evils. We would further impress upon you that in the opinion of the Irish Trades Union Congress moneys should be allocated for the payment of election expenses and returning officers' fees for the first and subsequent elections to the Home Parliament. As you are aware we

favour the principle of Nationalising the Railways, but we hope that under such a scheme the interests of the workers, manual and clerical, will be properly safeguarded. We further hope that provision will be made for the payment of members of any legislative assembly that may be established in Ireland.

"Railway Bill—I have already forwarded you the resolution adopted by Congress on this measure, and wish to reiterate the opinions expressed therein. The Bill in its present form is inimical to the interests of railway workers and the general public as well.

"Factory Acts and the Minimum Wage.—We desire to draw your attention to the urgent necessity for more general inspection of factories and more stringent supervision of the places where and the machines at which workers are employed. We are of opinion that additions to the staff of inspectors are urgently required, and more particularly where females are employed; and, in this connection and for obvious reasons, we are convinced that lady inspectors should be employed. We sincerely hope that any attempt at legislation to secure a minimum wage will secure your earnest co-operation. And the same applies to the movement for an Eight-Hours Day.

"The Truck Acts.—My Committee hope to secure your support in carrying out the recommendations of the Minority Report of the Truck Committee, which recommends the abolition of all fines and deductions for alleged bad work, or damaged material, and bonuses. As we told you at our interview on the 18th ultimo, many cases of grave injustice have been investigated by us; and in many cases we have discovered that workers have been 'fined' nearly all their wages for a trivial damage which has not materially damaged the fabric, and which in some cases was not the fault of the worker, whilst the bonus system leaves the worker open to 'sweating' of the worst description.

"The Shops Act.—We wish to direct your attention to the present laxity in the administration of this Act in Ireland. But we desire to further point out that the Act is unsatisfactory inasmuch as it does not abolish Sunday trading and falls far short of our demands for the establishment of a minimum wage and a reduction in the hours of work. Mr. O'Lehane has already sent you on a number of resolutions, which together with the resolutions already forwarded by myself, represent the demand of Irish Trades Unionists on the subject.

"Government Work in Ireland — As we informed you the manner in which Government work is carried out in Ireland leaves much to be desired. This applies particularly to the making of waggons for the Army and to the coachmaking work generally, as well as to the painting trade and building trades generally. In some cases military men are engaged to do work which should be done by

local workers. In Haulbowline Dockyard where local men are employed, the wages paid is considerably below the standard.

"Belfast Disturbances .- We have already dealt with this matter at our recent interview, and we feel that no good purpose can be served by minimising the position in Belfast; many of our fellowworkers have been refused the right to work in Belfast in the absence of protection by the authorities, whilst the Government always claim that they have to give protection to men engaged as 'blacklegs' during a labour dispute. We would also impress upon you the necessity of abolishing the present system of medical referees under the Workmen's Compensation Act. In our opinion referees should be appointed by the State, and should be engaged exclusively at such work. We would also impress upon you the necessity for the appointment of a Departmental Committee to inquire into the working of the Compensation Act of 1906. We would further draw your attention to the system of doctors attached to institutions giving reports without the consent of the patient to such patient's employer. We demand that all reports given to the employer should be given in duplicate to the worker free of charge.

"We would further request you to secure the extension to Ireland of the benefits secured to the workers of Great Britain under the Act for the feeding of necessitious school children, as well as the Conscience Clause under the Vaccination Acts, and hope that you will give your support to the Right-to-Work Bill introduced by

the Labour Party.

"We would further direct your attention to the immediate necessity of securing the proper manning of ships and of proper life-saving appliances—the necessity for which has been so regretfully proven in the recent disastrous catastrophe of the 'Titanic.'

"Hoping that the points referred to will secure attention at your earliest convenience, and thanking you for your courtesy at our

interview.

"Yours sincerely,

"P. T. DALY, Secretary.

"J. E. Redmond, Esq., M.P.,
"House of Commons"

Your Committee were favoured with a formal acknowledgment to above by Mr. Redmond's Private Secretary.

#### DEPUTATION TO LONDON.

A deputation from your Committee, consisting of the Chairman, Mr. Larkin, and Secretary, Mr. Daly, whilst in London endeavoured to secure an interview with the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, Prime Minister; they regret they did not succeed in interviewing the Premier, but they succeeded in interviewing the

Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Mr. C. F. G. Masterman, M.P., who kindly saw them in his own room. They pointed out to him the many grievances under which the workers laboured in connection with the administration of the Insurance Act in Ireland. They pointed out that although the Trade Union was the biggest interest they were absolutely ignored in the appointment of the Commissioners, and they were very nearly ignored in the appointment of the other Bodies under the Act. They reiterated the demand of the Trade Unionists for the extension to Ireland of the Medical Benefits under the Act, and cited several cases in connection with the administration prejudicial to the Trades Union position in Ireland.

Mr. Masterman assured the deputation that the matters brought under his notice would have attention.

Having thanked Mr. Masterman, the deputation withdrew.

#### DEPUTATION TO THE LABOUR PARTY.

Our deputation reported as follows:-

"We secured an interview with the Committee of the Labour Party in their Committee Room in the House of Commons, there being present—Messrs. G. H. Roberts, M.P.; G. N. Barnes, M.P.; J. Parker, M.P., and C. Duncan, M.P. The deputation discussed the various aspects of the movement in Ireland, and pointed out the special grievances under which the workers in Ireland laboured, particularly in regard to the Medical Benefits under the Insurance Act and the provisions of the Feeding of Necessitious School Children Act not being extended to Ireland. We dealt generally with the questions as submitted to Mr. Redmond at our recent interview. One of the hon, members pointed out that in connection with Haulbowline Dockyard the Labour Party had already raised the question in re the Standard Wage, but he regretted they had received no assistance from the representative in Parliament for the Division, and of course that made their position rather a difficult one, but without his co-operation they would press on the matter. In reference to the Insurance Act, they were glad to get concrete facts and they would do all they could to remedy the They discussed at some length with the deputation the provisions of the Government of Ireland Bill, and said the representations made by them would receive the hearty support of the Party. They regretted, however, that they were not in a position to know local areas in Ireland, but if the P.C. would send them amendments to the Schedules they would give their representations every consideration and support.

"In reference to the Shops Act, they were as anxious as was the deputation to abolish Sunday trading and they would try and give effect to it at the earliest possible moment. They were amazed to hear of the anomalies prevailing in Ireland in reference to the various areas, but of course they relied upon the men with local knowledge seeing after these matters. In reference to the Truck

Acts and the other matters brought under their notice, they were glad to say that these had been engaging their attention all along. The Belfast disturbances would be referred to in the House, and they were glad to get so much information on the points at first hand and the deputation could rely on their support in trying to remedy the position of affairs in Belfast."

Following the publication of above report, a letter was published in the "Freeman's Journal," from Mr. J. Muldoon, M.P., in which the hon. gentleman stated that he was authorised by Mr. G. N. Barnes, M.P., to say that the report of the deputation to London was untrue in regard to the reference to the complaint of the lack of support by the member for the Division to the action of the Labour Party in regard to the wages in Haulbowline. The Secretary was instructed to communicate with Mr. Barnes the member of the Party who made the complaint—in reference to Mr. Muldoon's letter. Mr. Daly wrote as follows:—

"IRISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS,
"PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE,
"DUBLIN, August 8th, 1913.

"Dear Mr. Barnes,—I enclose copy of letter published in this day's "Freeman's Journal" from Mr. J. Muldoon, M.P., in which he states that he has your authority for stating that no complaint was made of want of assistance from the member of the Division on the question of the wages at Haulbowline at our recent interview with the Labour Party. I would be glad to know if Mr. Muldoon's statement is true, more especially as he has selected you to refute a statement written by me bona-fide on a complaint made by your Party at our interview, and which is known to you better than any other member of the Party.

"Hoping to be favoured with a reply at your earliest convenience.

"Yours sincerely,
"P. T. Daly, Secretary.

"G. N. Barnes, Esq., M.P."

Mr. Barnes did not reply to your Committee's communication, and they instructed the Secretary to forward the following letter:—

"IRISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS,
"PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE,
"DUBLIN, February 11th, 1913.

"Sir—I am instructed by my Committee to write you again in re Mr. Muldoon, M.P.'s letter to the "Freeman's Journal" of August 5th last, copy of which I enclosed in my letter to you on that date. I reported the circumstances to my Committee at their meeting, and they have directed me to write you and to request that you will be good enough to contradict his statement. They feel that you owe them that in justification, as the statement which

Mr. Muldoon alleges he repudiated with your authority was, as you know, made by yourself at our interview. The statement was that the Party got no assistance from the member of the Division when you raised the question of the wages paid the workers at Haulbow-line. I may add that I am further instructed to publish the correspondence My Committee are surprised that you did not think it worth your while to answer my letter of August 8th, 1912.

"Yours, &c.,

"P. T. DALY, Secretary.

"G. N. Barnes, Esq., M.P.,
"House of Commons."

Mr. Barnes replied as follows on the 14th :-

"House of Commons Library, "14/2/1913.

"Dear Sir—I have but a hazy recollection of the correspondence to which you refer, but, such as it is, prompts me now to say in reply to yours just to hand that, on the whole, your statement was not quite accurate, and that I had decided, after consultation with my colleagues, to have nothing to do with any further correspondence about it. One thing I am perfectly clear about is that I had no personal knowledge of the gentleman to whom you refer when you were here, and therefore could not have anything to say of him good, bad or indifferent.

"Yours truly,

"GEO. N. BARNES.

"Mr. P. T. Daly,
"Secretary Irish Trades Congress
"Parliamentary Committee."

The following letter was forwarded in reply, but no further answer has reached your Committee up to date:—

"IRISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS,
"PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE,
"DUBLIN, February 15th, 1913.

"Dear Sir—I am in receipt of your favour under date 14th inst., re my letters to you on the question of the contradiction of the report of my Committee's deputation to your Party last August. I note your statement that 'on the whole my statement was not quite accurate' in regard to the matter, although your 'recollection of the correspondence' is but 'hazy.' My recollection which is not 'hazy' is that when my deputation, carrying out their instructions from the Irish Trades Union Congress, brought before your Party the fact that the workers in Haulbowline were not receiving the standard rate of wage paid in Governmental Dockyards, you advanced, as an excuse, possibly.

the statement referred to in my Committee's deputation's report : that you had already raised the question of the rates paid, but that you had received no assistance from the representative in Parliament of the Division, that that made your position rather a difficult one, but that with or without his co-operation your Party would press on the matter. I note further that 'after consultation with your colleagues,' you have decided to have 'nothing to do with any further correspondence about it.' Might I ask what has this to do with my query to you in reference to Mr. Muldoon's statement that you had authorised him to contradict the report quoted above? And what has it to dowith whether you knew him personally or not? You are the man who made the statement referred to and about which you plead to be 'hazy.' Will you kindly say in what particular it is, as you allege, 'not quite accurate'? I do not know the gentleman to whom you refer personally either. But I object to be put in the position of misrepresenting any person holding a public position, even though in the meantime you may have acquired a 'personal' knowledge of the person claiming to have been misrepresented. And I cannot believe that your colleagues would, as you say, prevent you from replying to a straight question. Surely their recollection is not 'hazy,' too? My letter to you was written shortly after the interview, and I did not see any reason why you should wait for six months to reply unless that you might have thought that time would have made us all 'hazy' on the matter. Perhaps you would favour us now with the answer sought, and oblige,

"Yours truly,

"P. T. DALY, Secretary.

"G. N. Barnes, Esq., M.P.,
"House of Commons."

National Insurance Act.—Your Committee were engaged in considering the many aspects of this question during the year. The promise made to the deputation of Irish Trade Unionists by the Right Hon. The Chancellor of the Exchequer on July 17th, 1911, in his own room in the House of Commons that Ireland was to have autonomy under the Act was one of these aspects. It was pointed out that members of Approved Societies with their headquarters in Great Britain were compelled to submit to conditions which could only be logically enforced if the Medical Benefits had to been extended to Ireland, and the following letter to which the accompanying reply was received was directed to be forwarded to the Insurance Commissioners for Ireland.

"IRISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS,
"PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE,
"DUBLIN, September 16th, 1912.

"Dear Sir,—A number of queries have reached me in relation to the position, in regard to administration of branches of

amalgamated societies in Ireland, the executive offices of which are in Great Britain. In our interview with the Right Hon. D. Lloyd George, and in answer to our request, he said Ireland was

to be autonomous for the purpose of the Act.

"Will you please say if in the case of insured persons belonging to amalgamated societies, the practice is to be that the administration is to be conducted from the branch office in Ireland; or if such members are to send their insurance cards to the Executive in Great Britain ?

"Yours truly, "P. T. Daly, Secretary.

"John Houlihan Esq.,

10681/12.

"Secretary, N. H. Insurance Commissioners."

"NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSION, "Dublin, 25th September, 1912.

"SIR-The National Health Insurance Commission (Ireland) have had before them your enquiry as to the administration under the National Insurance Act of business relating to insured members of Irish branches of International Societies, the head offices of which are situated in Great Britain, and I am to inform you that the Commission have no power to insist that such Societies should grant autonomy to their Irish branches which must conform to the rules of their respective Societies relating to government, &c.

"I am also to state that unless an International Society has made arrangements for the contribution cards of its members in Ireland being sent to one of the Irish branch offices the cards should be forwarded to the central office of the Society from which, after

treatment, they will be transmitted to the Commission.

"I am to add that financial transactions between the Commission and an International Society will be carried on with the central office of the Society, which will deal directly with its branches.

"I am, Sir,

"Your obedient Servant, "JOHN HOULIHAN, Secretary.

" P. T. Daly,

"Secretary Irish Trades Union Congress."

The Treasury have made a grant of £50,000 for Medical Certificates alleged to be based upon the grant made in Great Britain. This grant, in the opinion of your Committee, falls far short of the amount which Ireland is entitled to. A Departmental Inquiry having been appointed to take evidence on the question of the application of Medical Benefits, your Committee passed the following resolution, copies of which were forwarded to the various persons and parties mentioned in the resolution :-

"That this Parliamentary Committee voicing the opinions of the organised workers of Ireland, and acting on instructions of the recent Trades Union Congress, again strongly protests against the violation of the promise that Ireland was to be given complete autonomy in the administration of the Act, as it was upon these conditions that the measure was accepted, not only by organised workers, but by the Irish people as a whole, and we demand a reversal of the Regulations issued by the Joint Committee of Commissioners so as to secure complete autonomy in Ireland in the administration of the Act.

"That we reiteriate the unanimous demand of the Irish workers for the extension to Ireland of Medical Benefits under the Act, and from our experience in dealing with claims, although the period has been extremely short, we are now more than ever convinced of the fact that the Act cannot be satisfactorily worked unless these benefits become part and parcel of the scheme; that in regard to the proposed Commission of Inquiry, this Committee demands representation on that body, and, further, that the Committee instructs its officers to prepare and to give evidence before such Commission as to the necessity for the extension of such medical benefits to Ireland, Copies of this resolution to be forwarded to the Chancellor of the Exchequer; Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P.; Mr. Wm. O'Brien, M.P.; Right Hon. Sir E. Carson, M.P.; and Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., Secretary of the Labour Party."

Formal acknowledgments were received from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Prime Minister and Mr. J. E. Redmond, M.P.,; responses were also received from Mr. Wm. O'Brien, M.P., regretting that the matter did not reach him in time to have the question raised on the Irish Estimates; from Mr. Charles Duncan, M.P., stating that the Labour Party would approach the Government and press our resolution and claim for representation on the Committee. This was done, and at a later stage the following letter was forwarded under a covering letter expressing the regret of the Party that they had not succeeded in securing our object.

" LABOUR PARTY,

"House of Commons,

" 18th February, 1913.

"Dear Sir—I have to send you herewith letter that has been received from the Prime Minister in reply to the Party's request that you should be represented on the Committee Unfortunately, the reply is in the negative, but perhaps your Committee will avail itself of the opportunity to give evidence before the Committee.

"Yours truly,

"H. S. LINDSAY,

" Parliamentary Assistant.

"Mr. P. T. Daly."

"" 10 Downing Street,
"" WHITEHALL, S.W.,
"" 13th February, 1913.

"'DEAR SIB—The Prime Minister desires me to thank you for the letter which you sent him a few days ago with regard to the

question of medical benefits for Ireland.

"'The Committee which has been constituted to consider this question consists only of officials and Members of Parliament, and does not contain representatives of the interests concerned. It does not, therefore, seem advisable to add a representative of the Irish Trade Unions, who will, however, of course have an opportunity of putting their case before the Committee.

"'Yours faithfully,

"'M. BONHAM CARTER.

" 'Charles Duncan, Esq., M.P."

The following letter was received later from the Chancellor of the Exchequer:—

"Treasury Chambers,
"Whitehall, S.W.,
"14th February, 1913.

"Dear Sir—In reply to your letter of the 5th instant, I am desired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to say that a reference to the membership of the Committee appointed to consider the advisability of extending to Ireland the provisions of the National Insurance Act relating to Medical benefit will show that it is purely Parliamentary and departmental in character and that no approved society or groups of approved societies have direct representation.

"In these circumstances, it is not proposed to increase the number of its members, but I am to point out that all interests affected will have full opportunity to make any representations they may care

to submit when giving evidence before the Committee.

"Yours faithfully,

" H. P. HAMILTON.

"P. T. Daly, Esq., "Secretary Parliamentary Committe

"Irish Trades Union Congress."

Your Committee appointed Messrs. M. J. O'Lehane and P. T. Daly to give evidence on their behalf, but no acknowledgment of their letter was received, and they therefore were precluded from giving evidence at the Inquiry.

Independent Labour Representation in Ireland.—Following the resolution adopted last year, meetings were held in Dublin, Waterford, Sligo and Wexford during the year, at all of which resolutions endorsing the decision of last year's Congress were adopted.

Public Bodies and Fair Wages .- Your Committee have again to call the attention of the workers of Ireland to the lethargy exhibited by the various public boards in the country on this question. Notwithstanding the circular issued by the Local Government Board the greatest hostility is shown to putting the Fair Wages Clause in operation by Urban, Rural District and County Councils. Whilst in some of the Boroughs hostility is also exhibited, and in others through the influence of interested parties and perhaps selfinterest the bogey of "surcharge" is utilised to prevent the worker engaged on public contracts getting fair play notwithstanding the learned and exhaustive judgment given by the Lord Chief Baron Palles in the case of the Richmond Asylum and the Local Government Board in 1908. Your Committee desire to impress upon the workers of Ireland the only feasible solution of this problem is independent Labour Representation, and they hope in the coming year to put in operation a scheme with that object in view. Meantime your Committee hope that by activity in the country the workers will be able to influence the Administrative Boards who are popularly elected to do their duty in this regard.

The Manning of Ships and Life-Saving at Sea.—Your Committee forwarded the resolutions adopted at last Congress to the responsible Ministers of the Crown and to the Board of Trade, as well as to the Labour Party and the leaders of the different Irish Parties in the House of Commons. They also raised the question with Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., at their interview with him in Dublin, and with the Labour Party at their interview in the House of Commons. At both interviews promise of support were accorded us. Mr. Redmond assured your Committee of the support of the Irish Party for any well-considered scheme that would tend to alleviate the disastrous loss of life and privations to mariners and others so frequently occurring. The Labour Party assured our deputation of their earnest desire that this question should be grappled with at once. We understand it is the intention of the Board of Trade to deal with this question in the near future.

Shops Act.—The resolutions adopted in reference to this measure have been forwarded in due course, whilst your Committee have given the matter considerable attention during the year. The Act has now been in operation sufficiently long to prove the accuracy of our contention that legislation of this kind must always fail in attaining the object desired by the promoters if the Act is to depend in any way upon a plebiscite of the employing class. As already reported, we brought this under the notice of the Irish Party and the Labour Party, at our interviews, but further than promises of sympathy on the one hand, and of support on the other, no further steps have been taken to give effect to our demands, which included the maximum of a sixty-hour week, compulsory closing of shops on Sunday and compulsory half-day closing, as well as the other questions raised at Congress.

Inter-Trades Union Dispute in Waterford.—Complaints were received by your Committee in reference to allegations of blacklegging in a dispute with an employer in the Bakery Trade named O'Brien, of Waterford. The complaint was first received from Mr. Thos. Dunne, Secretary of the Waterford United Trades and Labour Council, that Mr. McConnell, the Secretary of the Belfast Bakers, had supplied blacklegs to Messrs. O'Brien's Bakery while his own workers were locked-out. Mr. J. Buckner, Secretary of the Limerick Trades Council wrote making further allegations in regard to Derry and endorsing those with regard to Waterford. McConnell, who is a member of your Committee, denied that there was any strike or lock-out at the time he first sent the men to Waterford. He said that he supplied the men on the application of Mr. Robert Gageby, manager of the Belfast Labour Exchange—a former and much-respected member of the P.C. He stated that Gageby informed him there was no dispute in Waterford, and he sent on the men. When the men arrived the Waterford men refused to work with them, and he alleged the reason was because they were not members of the Irish Amalgamated Union of Bakers. He further alleged that during the Bakers' Strike in Belfast and Dublin the Amalgamated Union had supplied men to take the place of the men on strike, and that as a matter of fact some of these men were still working in Belfast and were still members of the Amalgamated Union of Bakers. He further alleged that the then Sec. of the Coleraine Branch had gone round in a motor car to get men, and did get men, to take the places of the members of his union who were on strike. He said that he had offered the branch secretary in Waterford, who is a member of the Executive of the Irish Amalgamated Union, to take the men from Waterford if his union would consent to take their men, man for man, from Your Committee having considered the position as it then presented itself, felt that it required investigation, but at the same time they considered that Mr. McConnell's action was not justified even though his allegations were correct, and they appointed the Vice-Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary to visit Waterford and make inquiries on the spot Mr. O'Brien was unable to make the journey, but Messrs. Campbell and Daly proceeded to Waterford en route for Cork and saw Mr. Cullen, the branch secretary, and some of the members of his committee. Mr. Cullen informed our deputation that the Branch of the Amalgamated Union in Waterford was not established until November, 1911; that the dispute in question occurred through Mr. O'Brien locking out his men on August 14th, 1912. He said that when the first of the men arrived on August 10th, there was no dispute; that they did not see him prior to starting work; that Mr. O'Brien called in Mr. Marsh, his foreman, and told him that two strangers from Belfast was starting work. At that time they had bakers idle in Waterford, and they objected to men being imported whilst their men were idle. O'Brien's staff objected, and the Belfast men went

away, but when the men presented themselves for work on August 14th they were told their jobs were all filled, and the members of the Branch then found that there was a full staff of bakers imported from Belfast. From that on they had picketed the premises. They had got some of the men away, but as vacancies occurred, he alleged, their places were filled by men who said they were sent by Mr. McConnell. Mr. Cullen stated to our deputation that he was a member of the Union since 1899, and that he had no knowledge of any men being supplied to blackleg in either Dublin or Belfast. He said that if men went from Waterford to either places they were not members of their branch as was evidenced from the date of its inception. Since the deputation visited Waterford, the secretary has received a letter from Mr. Henry Evans, Taylor's Row, Coleraine, in which he states that at the time he endeavoured to get the men in Derry he was not secretary, and he further states that Mr. Robt. Wilson, the secretary of the Irish Amalgamation, done picket duty in Derry and prevented such men as were secured from going to Belfast. Your Committee have not met since and have had no opportunity of considering the report of their deputation.

Railway Bill.—Immediately after the close of the Congress in Clonmel the resolutions adopted in reference to this Bill were sent out and a special letter was written to the Chairman of the Irish Party embodying the principles enunciated in the resolutions to which your Committee received formal acknowledgments from Messrs. Redmond and O'Brien. The question was again raised with Mr. Redmond, as well as the action of the Irish Railway Companies in reference to the Railway Conciliation Scheme of 1907, the House of Commons Resolution of 1911, and the question of the Minimum Wage and the Majority Report of the Viceregal Commission on Irish Railways published in 1910.

Mr. Redmond gave your Committee a sympathetic audience, and promised the support of the Party to any Bill having these objects in view. We regret, however, that in the Division which occurred on the Minimum Wage Clause that the Irish Party did not accord their support, but we are glad to record that on the motion of a former Chairman of Congress, Mr. Walter Hudson, M.P., Ireland has been excluded from the Bill. The following is the voting of Irish members in the Division on the Minimum Wage Clause:—

For—1; against 56. There voted for, Mr. T. M. Healy; there voted against—Messrs. W. Abraham, John P. Boland, P. J. Brady, J. J. Clancy, P. Crumley, Captain Craig, J. Cullinan, Captain A. Donelan, W. Doris, W. J. Duffy, Dr. J. Esmonde, Sir T. Grattan Esmonde, J. P. Farrell, Peter Ffrench, M. J. Flavin, L. Ginnell, S. L. Gwynn, J. P. Hayden, Michael Joyce, Matthew Keating, V. P. Kennedy, D. Kilbride, J. C. R. Lardner, Hugh Law, T. Lundon, A. Lynch, Richard McGhee, J. G. S. MacNeill, Jeremiah MacVeagh, Michael Meagher, Michael Molloy, John J. Mooney

John Muldoon, Joseph Nolan, Patrick O'Brien, John O'Connor, T. P. O'Connor, Philip O'Doherty, John O'Dowd, Edward P. O'Kelly, William O'Malley, Dr Charles O'Neill, Hon. A. E. B. O'Neill, P. J. O'Shaughnessy, James John O'Shee, Timothy O'Sullivan, Michael Reddy, John E. Redmond, William Redmond, William Archer Redmond, Alderman W. F. Cotton, Augustine Roche, Thomas Scanlan, David Sheehy, Patrick White, Robert Thompson.

The Labour Party Conference—The Chairman, Mr. Larkin, and the Secretary, Mr. Daly, attended the 13th Annual Conference of the Labour Party, held in London on January 29th, 30th and 31st, to put before the assembled delegates the position of Irish workers in regard to the several Acts of Parliament of a remedial character from which they have been excluded by decisions of the House of Commons, but more especially to place the anomalous position in which the Irish worker was placed in being deprived of the medical benefits of the National Health Insurance Act as well as the benefits accruing from the Feeding of the Necessitious School Children Act, and to raise the question of having the Schedules to the Government of Ireland Bill so amended as to make proper provision in any Parliament that may be established for proper representation of the workers in the Urban Districts of Ireland.

Before leaving Dublin the Chairman received a communication from the office of the Labour Party informing him that the Executive had no power to deal with the matter, and that application should be made to the Standing Orders Committee appointed by the Conference. After our deputation had arrived in London a letter reached them which had been re-directed from Dublin informing them that it was feared there would not be time to hear the deputation at the Conference. As Messrs, Larkin and Daly were then in London they proceeded to carry out their first intention, sought an interview with the Standing Orders Committee, and were informed that the matter would receive due consideration. On Thursday, however, the Standing Orders Committee reported as follows:—

"There had also been an application from the Irish Trades Union Congress asking that their representatives should be allowed to place certain matters before the Conference—matters relating to the extension of certain legislative enactments to Ireland such as the feeding of school children, medical benefits under the Insurance Act, and certain amendments to the Home Rule Bill. The Committee recommended that the matters should be referred to the new Executive and that the Conference should request the new Executive to meet the representatives of the Irish Labour Movement and do all they possibly could to assist them."

After the discussion of an amendment by Mr. Jas. Sexton, of Liverpool, referring back that portion of the report giving permission to display the posters of the "Daily Herald.".

Mr. D. R. Campbell (Belfast Trades Council) moved a further amendment:—

"That the portion of the report relating to Irish business be referred back."

He thought the representatives from Ireland should be heard by the Conference, his reason being that their experience when applying to previous Executives had been anything but favourable. He hoped the delegates would see their way to allow fifteen or twenty minutes to hear the disabilities laboured under in Ireland and not to leave the Irish Movement to the tender mercies of the Executive.

Mr. A. Henderson, M.P., said he must protest against the statement made that when the Executive had been appealed to fair treatment had not been meted out. It would be very much better if when delegates made such statements they would bring some evidence. He would venture to ask Mr. Campbell whether he had sent any communication to the Executive that had not received attention; whether he had not been brought into touch with the Parliamentary Party whose business it was to care for such things; and whether the Parliamentary Party had not received an Irish deputation and given most careful attention to the case presented. He hoped the Conference would accept the recommendation of the Standing Orders Committee.

Mr. Campbell said that Mr. Henderson had asked him a definite question. He had nothing to say about Mr Henderson, but he could produce letters from Mr. Parker acknowledging receipt of resolutions and stating that after seeing the Irish Parliamentary

Party he would see what could be done.

The amendment was put and declared lost; and the report as

amended was then adopted.

The deputation, however, had still hopes of securing an opportunity of placing their views before some of the delegates at least—hopes which we regret did not bear fruit owing to circumstances over which they had no control. The Conference was engaged in discussing subjects of great importance to the Labour Movement, including the feeding of necessitious school children claiming that the necessitious school children of the United Kingdom should be fed every day.

Your Committee feel that it would have been a great assistance to their efforts if their deputation had secured an audience, and they did not feel justified in sending a deputation to interview the Executive until they had reported the matter to Congress.

Dispute in Lurgan.—The attention of your Committee having been drawn to the magnificent fight which the Winders and Weavers of Lurgan were making for better conditions, they voted the sum of £3 3s. 0d. towards the fund inaugurated for their support. Your Committee are glad to say that the workers won their magnificent fight upon which they forwarded their congratulations,

Other Bills. - Official Party Bills : - Education (Administrative Provisions) (Mr. Wardle); Education (Provision of Meals) Act Amendment (Mr. Jowett); Industrial Agreements (J. Ramsay MacDonald); Representation of the People (Mr. Henderson); Right-to-Work (Mr. Enoch Edwards); Trade Union Law Amendment (Mr. W. Johnson). Bills unofficially introduced by Members :- Abolition of Vivisection (Mr. Lansbury) ; Aliens (Mr. J. O'Grady); Amalgamation of Trade Unions (Mr. O'Grady); Character Note (Mr. Wardle); Cheap Trains (Mr. Bowerman); Check-weighing in Various Industries (Mr. Hodge); Civil Service (Women), (Mr. Snowden); Coroners' Inquests (Railway Fatalities), (Mr. Hudson); Cotton Factories (Fines), (Abolition), (Mr. Albert Smith); Education (Girls), (Mr. Snowden); Education of the Blind (Mr. Bowerman); Eight Hours' Working Day (Mr. W. Thorne); Factories (Mr. W. Crooks); Factory and Workshop (Mr. A. H Gill); Factory and Workshop Act Amendment, (Mr. Bowerman); Highway Act (1835) Amendment, (Mr. Tyson Wilson); Hire Purchase Contracts, (Mr. J. O'Grady); Hours of Labour (Bakehouses), (Mr. A. Wilkie); Licences to Drive Vechicles, (Mr. Bowerman); Luggage (Bicycles), (Mr. Bowerman); Midwives (Scotland), (Mr. G. N. Barnes); Motor Car Act (1903) Amendment, (Mr. Bowerman); Municipal Corporations (Qualifi-Amendment, (Mr. Bowerman); Municipal Corporations (Qualification of Clergymen), (G. Lansbury); National Insurance Act 1911
Amendment, (Mr. A. Wilkie); Nationalisation of Railways and Canals, (Mr. W. Thorne); Office Regulation, (Mr. Bowerman);
Pawning Industrial Tools, (Mr. Tyson Wilson); Poor Law Officers (Superannuation) Amendment, (Mr. J. Parker); Prison (Political Offences), (Mr. Keir Hardie); Railway Offices, (Mr. Wardle);
Railways (Eight Hours), (Mr. Hudson); Summary Jurisdiction (Married Women), (Mr. Snowden); Weekly Rest Day (Mr. Lans (Married Women), (Mr. Snowden); Weekly Rest-Day, (Mr. Lansbury); Workmen's Compensation Act (1906) Amendment, (Mr. J. Hodge).

. The only Bill that made any progress Mr. Lansbury's Municipal Corporations (Qualification of Clergy) Bill, which passed Second

Reading and through Committee Stage.

## (Signed),

WM. O'BRIEN, Vice-Chairman.
D. R. CAMPBELL, Treasurer.
MARY GALWAY.
R. P. O'CARROLL, T.C., P.L.G.
THOS. MACPARTLIN.
THOS. MCCONNELL.
M. J. O'LEHANE.
P. T. DALY, Secretary.

## REPORT

OF THE

# 20th Annual Irish Trades Union Congress, cork, 1913.

## FIRST DAY.-MONDAY, 12th MAY, 1913.

The Twentieth Annual Trades Congress was held in the City Hall, Cork, on Monday, May 12th, 1913.

The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor (Alderman O'Shea) attended in State to open the Congress. He was accompanied by the Municipal Officers, the High Sheriff (Councillor Tilson), Mr. Healy, M.P., Alderman P. H. Meade, ex-Lord Mayor, and other members of the Corporation.

The Right. Hon. the Lord Mayor, in opening the proceedings, said—I, on behalf of the citizens of Cork, welcome you to our City. I can assure you, gentlemen, I look upon you as about the most important body in our country. There are a few classes of men in this country that the country cannot go on without, and first and foremost in this class is the workingman. Next after them comes the class that furnishes the capital. Without these two bodies, gentlemen, our country can't exist, and I am sure, you will all admit, it can't be prosperous. As compared with fifty years ago we all know that times have changed. Continuing, the Lord Mayor pointed out how when a man was certain of four or five per cent. on his capital, without any risks, it behoved labour to take that into account. The workingman should co-operate with capital, and capital should meet labour. He again joined in welcoming them to Cork and he hoped they would all enjoy themselves. He had arranged a little excursion down the river for the afternoon, in which he hoped they would all participate (applause).

The City High Sheriff (Mr. Tilson, T.C.) said it afforded him very great pleasure to accept the invitation of the Cork Trades and Labour Council to attend that Congress, and he joined with the Lord Mayor and other prominent citizens in extending to the delegates a very hearty welcome to the Southern capital. He hoped their deliberations would be conducted with dignity and intelligence, tending towards moderation and progress for the

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improvement of the community at large. The Labour movement claimed no infallibility, no perfections, even among their leaders, nor could they be free from disagreements and even blunders.

Mr. Maurice Healy said :- I sincerely thank the Reception Committee of the Irish Trades Union Congress for the invitation which they have given me to be here to-day at the opening of these proceedings, and I cordially join with the expressions of welcome to our city which have fallen from our Lord Mayor and from the High Sheriff. The Lord Mayor, in his opening observation, referred to the fact that the interest which is represented here to-day was no mean or no small or petty or no insignificant interest. He said that the combined trades of the United Kingdom had now become a great political force (cheers). I think, ladies and gentlemen, that the Lord Mayor might have gone somewhat further and he might have said that the combined trades of the United Kingdom are now the greatest political force in the land (cheers). I remember the time when it was very different. I remember the time when our politics were dominated by forces of a very different character. I remember when both in Ireland and in England the landed aristocracy of these countries commanded the Parliament and commanded the Government, and had the country at their feet. I remember the time when other interests exercised great influence on legislation. There was a time when the licensing trade was an enormous power in the land. We sometimes hear of the influence of what is called the railway interest exercised in the Parliament of the United Kingdom. Well, ladies and gentlemen, I tell you here to-day that the days of these things are passed, and that the dominating factor and the interests not merely of the greatest, but of overpowering strength in the Councils of the Empire to-day, is the combined trades of the United Kingdom (cheers). The Lord Mayor also in his opening address contrasted the condition of this country in its physical aspects, comparing it to-day with the state of things that existed fifty years ago. Well, my recollection does not go so far back as fifty years, but that observation of the Lord Mayor suggested to me to contrast in my own mind the condition of things, not physical but legislative, which existed when I went into Parliament now many years ago, in the year 1885; It was, gentlemen, in those days, I don't say that trades unionists had no influence, I don't say that combinations of workmen had no power in the country; but, gentlemen, the politicians of those days paid to trades union principles what was little better than lip service, mouth honour-breath. And if you turn from the speeches in which they paid that external honour to the combined workers of the country, and if you contrast it with the legislative effects which followed, you will find that while there was much talk of sympathy with the workingmen, that the sympathy had very little practical effect. Well, gentlemen, all that, I am happy to say, has changed. Why, cast your eyes back not twenty but for the short space of seven years since the present Government came into power,

and I don't say discuss, I don't say go through, but merely mention the great measures closely affecting the workers and Trades Unionism which have been passed in those days, and the change is little more than a revolution (cheers). You have the Trades Union Act, the Old Age Pensions Act, the Insurance Act, the Shop Hours Act, and the Board of Trade Bureau for trade and labour. Why, gentlemen, there is no year in the seven years which has passed which has not witnessed, not small empty declarations of sympathy with the aims and wishes of the workers of this country, but solid legislative achievements accomplished in their favour. And it is not only that the workers of this country exercised that influence on our popular representative body, the House of Commons, but, gentlemen, the House of Lords itself stands in awe of Why, you remember with what contempt the House of Lords treated the measures of the greatest Liberal administration that ever came into power. It rejected their Licensing Bill. It rejected their Education Bill, it laid hands on the Ark of the Covenant itself, the finances of the country-it rejected the Budget; but when it came to the Trades Disputes Bill, though I am quite sure that to the noble Lords the provisions of that Bill were not one whit more acceptable than the others, yet they accepted that tamely and passed it into law, knowing well that there was one line beyond which they could not go, and which said: "Thus far shalt thou go and no further." Accordingly, gentlemen, in all the affairs of the government and administration of the country the dominating power and factor to-day is the combined trade and labour interests of the United Kingdom. And how has that been brought about? Not as other great revolutions have been accomplished—not by crime, not by outrage, not by breaches of the law; no, but by combination, by public discussion, by meeting together in bodies like this, and discussing in the face of the public the interests of the workers and the working classes. These are the means which have brought about the great revolution which I have referred to, and these are the means which, please God, will also accomplish great results in the future (cheers). Because, gentlemen, though great things have been accomplished, anyone who looks at the notice paper of the House of Commons or who takes our daily newspapers knows that if much has been done, much remains to do. Gentlemen, I trust that your deliberations in our city will have the effect of still further advancing the cause of the worker and the labourer, and the poor wherever they are. With these few observations I again, gentlemen, most heartily give you a welcome to our city by the Lee (prolonged cheers).

Ald. Meade said it was a pleasure to him to again welcome the Congress to Cork, as it was his privilege when Mayor of the City, to do eighteen years ago. No matter what differences might exist there was one thing any stranger visiting Cork would always find at the hands of the civic authorities—the welcome he was entitled to. He considered he would be wanting in his duty, no matter

what differences existed, if he did not show by his presence there his sympathy with the legitimate claims of the workingmen

(applause).

Mr. M. Egan, J.P., T.C., said, that as chairman of the Reception Committee it was his pleasing duty to also extend a hearty welcome to the delegates from the different parts of Ireland. He was glad to say they had as occupant of the Lord Mayoral chair a gentleman well able to uphold the dignity and hospitality which that old city was renowned for (hear, hear). On behalf of the working classes of the city he extended to the delegates a hearty cead mile failte, and hoped they would take away happy recollections of their visit to the city by the Lee (applause).

Mr. Campbell, in proposing a cordial vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor for his kind reception of them, said he did not wish it to be understood that he in any way agreed with the system of economics proposed by some of the previous speakers, whose speeches were on a graduated scale. The High Sheriff was willing to concede a little more than the Lord Mayor; and Mr. Healy was willing to concede that the Trade Union Movement was one of the greatest movements in the country to-day. Perhaps he (the speaker) would go further and say that the working-class movement was the very one in the country to-day that mattered. It was the characteristic, the dominant trait in the Irishman that when the stranger was within his gates, he was accorded the warmest hospitality. Since they came to Cork one matter had come under the notice of the Parliamentary Committee which he would have to refer to, as it was due to the dignity of their officers and their organisation that he should do so. Certain individuals who at one time might have been identified with the trades union movement in that country had been engaged during the past few days in trying to cast odium on the Congress, and to prevent it getting the reception which it was entitled There was no kind of individual more deserving of loathing than he who belonged to an organisation and then deserted it owing to some petty difference or other, and went over to the enemy, who never lost an opportunity of casting obloquy on the movement. It was to be regretted that a section never lost an opportunity or pretext of blackening the labour cause (cries of "And Crosbie"). A certain newspaper based its attacks on the fulminations of a certain individual. Last year an attempt was made in Clonmel to throw obloquy and disapproval on the Congress, but he was glad to say it was as unsuccessful and as contemptible as the present effort (hear, hear). He would not go further into this question, but would leave it in the hands of the local men to deal with it, but he thought it was due to the officers of the Congress to say something on their behalf, and to rebut the allegations that had been levelled at the Congress by certain individuals (a voice-"They are beneath contempt").

Mr. Partridge, in seconding, said that in the labour movement they were fighting for their lives, just as the tenant farmers had to do in years gone by. When the agrarian movement and the national battle of Ireland was being fought there were no men did better work than the working classes of the towns and cities—(applause)—and the services they rendered should never be forgotten by those who benefited by them (hear, hear). The trades unionists were fighting for justice and humane treatment of their class and for Christianity. In their battle they were opposed and misrepresented by traitors in their own ranks—(groans)—and he was sorry to see that the Press had lent itself to the effort to discredit the labour movement and to disgrace the national reputation of the country.

Mr. Patrick Lynch (Cork) in supporting the vote of thanks said it afforded him the greatest possible pleasure to add his appreciation to that of the other delegates, of the Lord Mayor and the other gentlemen who came there that morning to welcome their fellowdelegates to the city of City. Though he did not wish to detain the Lord Mayor and the other gentlemen who had come there at some inconvenience, he wished to refer to one matter-that was the efforts that were made to prevent the Lord Mayor and the citizens generally to give a proper civic welcome to that Congress. They all knew the man to whom he referred, but the ethics of respectable journalism prevented him from giving the name of the individual. They were especially thankful to the Lord Mayor for coming there that morning to welcome their friends on behalf of the citizens of Cork because some of them knew that the wires were pulled to keep him away, but they were all pleased to see by his presence that those efforts were unsuccessful (applause). The Cork delegates knew that Alderman O'Shea was always a friend of the Trades Unionist. As for Mr. Healy, they all kney that he was always ready to assist the worker; and they who represented the workers in Cork, never asked him to take his stand on their behalf but he was always ready to do so (applause). Some of them would remember when Alderman Meade, an occupant of the civic chair, welcomed them to the city on a previous occasion. He had great pleasure in supporting the vote of thanks.

The Chairman having put the vote of thanks it was carried with acclamation.

The Lord Mayor suitably returned thanks and

The regular business of the Congress was then proceeded with.

On the motion of Mr. Campbell, Mr. Timothy Hegarty (Cork) was unanimously appointed Assistant Secretary of the Congress.

The next business was the election of three tellers. Four names were proposed, and the voting was as follows.—Lawlor, T.C. (Dublin), 64; Grogan (do.), 45; Corish, T.C. (Wexford), 56; Whitley (Belfast), 32. The first three were declared elected.

For the appointment of a Standing Orders Committee of five members, the voting was: -O'Sullivan (Cork), 62; Breslan (Dublin),

51; Lynch (Cork), 41; Whitley (Belfast), 42; Partridge (Dublin), 41; Johnson (Belfast), 39; Cassidy (Derry), 30; McMahon (Dublin), 30; Nolan (do), 3. The first five were declared elected.

There were six nominations for the offices of two auditors. The result was as follows:—Johnson (Belfast); Stewart (do), 35; Cassidy (Derry), 25; Brophy (Dublin), 32; Clarke (Belfast), 17; Dolan (Cork), 19.

On the motion of Mr. Egan, J.P., T.C., seconded by Mr. Thos Johnson (Belfast), Mr. Wm: O'Brien (Dublin) was unanimously appointed Chairman.

#### PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. O'Brien, who took the chair amidst loud applause, said :-

Fellow-Delegates—I have great pleasure in presiding at this, the Twentieth Annual Congress of the Irish Trade Unions, and I must express also, the great gratification of the delegates at the fact that this Congress has as its meeting place the historic old Southern Capital. Cork, as anyone versed in the history of the working class of Ireland should know, has been famous for its fights for industrial and agrarian freedom, long before its activities in the fight for National Liberty earned for it the name of Rebel Cork. In the eighteenth century the streets of Cork were often stained with blood and the jails of Cork were often packed with the persons of humble fighters for social freedom. Those unknown, and almost forgotten,

#### MARTYRS OF THE POOR,

who, under the name of Whiteboys, Shanavests, and Caravats' fought and struggled against their local tyrants all during the dark days of the eighteenth century, fought against brutal and relentless greed and in spite of laws, merciless in their savagery and devilish in their conception (applause). Those men were, in a very real sense, our forerunners in the field of working-class endeavour. Under the sanction of law as we are to-day, with our unions legalised, and in possession of certain well-defined rights, we have still to complain of class bias in the administration of those laws by the partisans of the master class upon the Bench (hear, hear). How much more dreadful, then, must have been the position of those workers in town and country, who, in Cork and district, in the eighteenth century, dared to move for more humane conditions? (hear, hear). With every law upon the Statute Book frankly

#### DENYING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE LABOURER,

and with every bench of magistrates occupied by the very men against whom they were conspiring; without a Press; without a vote; without the right to combine; outlawed and trampled upon as dirt, the lot of these forerunners of ours must have been a lot of black and utter misery. If we to-day are somewhat improved; have won for our class some rights; and secured in the civic and political world some foothold, which we can use as leverage to win still greater rights in the future, we owe much of our betterment to the fact that the long-continued battle of our class here in Cork, as elsewhere, has proven to the master class that no amount of persecution, and no laws however cleverly framed, can daunt the spirit, nor stem the advance of Labour (loud applause). The delegates here to-day will be called upon to discuss many subjects bearing upon

#### THE PRESENT POSITION OF LABOUR IN IRELAND,

and I cannot but draw their attention to the fact that most of these resolutions call for action, which can only be accurately defined as political. This fact in itself is evidence of the wisdom of the delegates at our last Congress in resolving to take steps to give proper effect to these resolutions by striving to form an organisation, as part of this Congress, whose duty it should be to secure that

#### INDEPENDENT WORKING CLASS REPRESENTATION

on all public bodies, without which such resolutions as have appeared on our agenda in the past, and as are on our agenda to-day, are likely to remain mere pious opinions—

#### HARDY ANNUALS HELPING AND HURTING NOBODY

(hear, hear). This Congress is a focus of working-class opinion in Ireland; but unless that opinion is given practical expression on the field of political endeavour, the opinion will count for little in the arena of practical politics. More and more we are compelled to realise that here in Ireland as elsewhere

#### LEGISLATION CAN ONLY BE BORN OF INTELLIGENTLY APPLIED FORCE

(applause). The force at our disposal is our Votes, and the intelligent way to use that force is by organising our votes, as our brothers have done elsewhere. The working-class vote can only function properly through working-class channels, and we, as organised Trades Unionists, know no better channel than that of our Trades Congress, Trades Councils, and Trade Unions. Already, as a result of our vote of last year, although no more per capita tax was paid upon the basis required, I am glad to say that in many of the larger towns and cities action on the lines indicated has already been taken. In Dublin, Belfast, Sligo, Waterford, and Wexford, the Trades Councils and Trade Unions have placed candidates in the field in municipal elections with most gratifying results. The sums expended upon these municipal elections—the only form of political action immediately available—

vastly exceeded what the bodies concerned would have been called upon to pay as per capita tax according to our resolution of last year; and we may, therefore, congratulate ourselves upon such a practical response to that call to arms. We may also congratulate ourselves upon the generous and loyal response given by the working class to our electoral appeals. More and more is it becoming recognised that the future of the working class lies in a wise application of its strength upon the political and industrial fields: that

THE SAME IMPERATIVE NECESSITY WHICH EXISTS FOR THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATION OF OUR CLASS, ALSO CALLS FOR ITS POLITICAL ORGANISATION

(applause). More and more do we see legislation invading the social and industrial domain, ordering, controlling, and regulating our lives; and it would, indeed, be a foolish course to advise the workers to organise upon the plane of industrial action and to leave the field of legislation exclusively in the hands of our capitalist masters. Such advice, if it were given, would be not only foolish, but would be sure to be disregarded. The working class, through their trade unions, are incessantly calling for political interference with the powers of the capitalist, and if they cannot get it done effectively through their own organisations, they will try and get it done, however ineffectually, through the orthodox parties controlled by the elements in Society not of the working class (hear, hear). Hence our duty is clear. Upon the industrial field, we, as Irish workers, must steadily press forward to the greater unification and solidifying of our forces; linking up trade with trade, and industry with industry, and, avoiding the pitfalls of rashness or overhaste, consistently push forward to

THE LINKING OF THE WHOLE WORKING CLASS OF THIS COUNTRY
INTO ONE GREAT UNION-

one bond of brotherhood based upon the realisation of the vital truth that

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

(hear, hear). This may seem to some a dream; but it is a dream that the industrial tendencies of the time is fast weaving into the fabric of our social life. The great Railway Union, now an accomplished fact; the virile aggressive Transport Federation; the oncoming Building Trades Union, are all

STONES OF THE EDIFICE OF INDUSTRIAL UNITY.

Upon the political field the exclusion of Ireland from the Feeding of Necessitious School Children Act, and the Medical Benefits of

the Insurance Act, as well as the generally absurd and ineffective attempts since made to palliate and gloze over the evil effects of the latter injustice, combined with the class hatred shown against us by the magistracy in every recent strike or lock-out, all drive home to the worker the same lesson of the need for an effective linking up of all the powers, rights and energies of his class (applause). In conclusion, let me say that I trust that the deliberations of this Congress will serve to still further elevate the status of the bodies taking part in it, by continuing to set a high standard of debate and conduct (hear, hear). We should never forget that we are here, not to air and exploit our petty aims or ambitions, but to serve as the spokesmen and women of our class. Unworthy. indeed, would be the man or woman who would forget that; or who would make of a great movement a stepping-stone to his or her personal ends (hear, hear). We, Irish workers, now at this crisis in our country's history, are facing the future with hearts filled with hope and steeled with determination. We see approaching the day of the emancipation of our class, when

THE TOILERS, SO LONG GROUND DOWN AND EXPLOITED, WILL AT LAST ARISE AND POSSESS THE EARTH;

and when we read of the workers elsewhere, and what they have done and attempted, surely we have a right to resolve that Ireland, and the toilers of Ireland, will not lag behind in the forward march of Labour. If Ireland has been a veritable Isle of Sorrows, surely the sorrows of the toilers of Ireland must have been agonising indeed. But at last we see the end of our tribulations; and setting before ourselves no smaller task than

THE OWNERSHIP OF IRELAND BY THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND,

as we set our face forward to the battle can we not say, as was said of Erin in the days of yore—

BROTHERS, SURELY THIS IS A LAND WORTH FIGHTING FOR (loud and prolonged applause).

Mr. James Larkin (Dublin) proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman for his able speech. He was heart and soul with the labour movement, and he was proud of the fact that Mr. O'Brien was a native of County Cork, and that no one could excel him for fitness for the position he now occupied. Mr. O'Brien was as thorough an Irishman as could be found the world over, and for courage, honour and honesty he was well worthy of the great name he bore (loud applause).

Mr. O'Carroll, T.C. (Dublin) seconded the vote, which was passed

with acclamation.

The Chairman, in reply, said he appreciated very highly the honour that had been paid him and also the kind words of Mr. Larkin. Mr. H. T. Whitley (Chairman) presented

REPORT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

"Standing Orders Committee recommend that Congress adjourn at 1.15 p.m. in order to avail of the hospitality of the Lord Mayor in a trip on the river Lee."

Mr. J. Larkin (Dublin) proposed and Mr. B. Conway (Dublin)

seconded the adoption of the Report.

Mr. George Greig (Belfast) proposed and Mr. James Nolan (Dublin) seconded "That the Report be amended by substituting one o'clock for 1.15."

The amendment was put and carried.

#### PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Part 1 of Report, comprising pp. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 down to "Deputation to London," was adopted on the motion of Mr. Jas. Connolly (Belfast), seconded by Mr. Geo. Burke (Dublin).

Mr. Thos. Johnson (Belfast) proposed and Mr. Drummond

seconded the adoption of Part II, pp. 11-15.

On the motion of Mr. Connolly, seconded by Mr. Burke, the portion of the report of the Parliamentary Committee dealing with the Government of Ireland Bill was adopted.

The report gave the result of the interview of the deputation that

waited on Mr. Redmond in Dublin.

Mr. Johnson, in proposing, drew attention to the disrespect with which the Irish Deputation was treated by Mr. Barnes who should look at everything coming from Ireland from the same point of view as that affecting English and Scotch constitutencies. An important request made to Mr. Barnes was treated with contempt and as a mere Irish affair that did not matter. He wished it to be distinctly understood that the Irish Trades Unionists resented Mr. Barnes' attitude.

Mr. Turner, Glasgow, said as one of Mr. Barnes' constituents he would raise that question, and he would see that their labour members, as far as Glasgow was concerned, would do their duty.

Councillor McCarron, of Derry, asked why was this new inno-

vation introduced of sending this deputation to London?

Mr. Connolly said everything they did was an innovation—the Labour Party itself was an innovation. He was amused at hearing Mr. McCarron deploring the supercilious attitude of the English Labour Party, considering that Mr. McCarron last year was opposed to the formation of an Irish Labour Party. They would appeal in vain to all parties until they had a party of their own capable of fighting their own battles. The English Labour Party was their natural ally, and appealing to men of their own class across the water was more natural than appealing to their enemies of the master class in their own country.

This second section of the report was then adopted, and it being now one o'clock, the further consideration of the report was

adjourned to next morning at 9.30.

# SECOND DAY-TUESDAY, MAY 13th, 1913.

The business of the Congress was resumed on Tuesday morning, Mr. Wm. O'Brien presiding.

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

A letter of apology for absence through illness was read from Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, and an invitation to inspect the University College, Cork, from the Secretary of the College.

Mr. James Larkin (Dublin) resumed the discussion on Parliamentary Committee's Report. He said he wanted to make a personal explanation in connection with the first paragraph of the report. Mr. McCarron had conveyed the suggestion that he (Mr. Larkin) went whining to the Committee of the English Labour Party, but that was not his custom, nor did he dine or wine with any party. A deputation waited on the Irish Party in connection with the Government of Ireland Bill, one of the points which they put forward being that more representation be given to the urban areas. They also dealt with the Insurance Act. Their object in attending the English Labour Party meeting was to place before them the position of the workers of Ireland, but they found that according to the Standing Orders Committee of the Congress the delegates of Ireland could not get fifteen minutes each and they immediately got handbills printed and as many as possible distributed, calling a public meeting for the purpose of placing before the English workers the position of the Irish workers. He maintained that the Irish workers would have to fight their own cause, and to do so they should use the best means they possessed. He said he would dare any man to say that the National Party, William O'Brien and his Party, or the Unionist Party represented the opinions of the delegates at the conference. Anything ever accomplished for the working classes has been accomplished by themselves (hear, hear).

Mr. Campbell (Belfast), as one who had gone with the deputation, said they had the authority of last year's Congress to go and place their position before the English Labour Party.

Mr. McCarron said Mr. Larkin took all criticism in a personal way. He asked that all matters should be discussed in a business manner. He never intended to accuse Mr. Larkin of whining or dining with anybody. Mr. Larkin was not built on those lines. But he could not understand the consistency of Mr. Larkin in trying to establish an Independent Labour Party in this country in opposition to the Party across the water and then going across and asking the assistance of those they were opposing. He did not suggest that Mr. Larkin was in the habit of supplicating for the sympathy of any party, but he held

that Mr. Larkin, who wanted to build a wall round Ireland, was very inconsistent in going over to England to solicit the aid of the English Labour Congress, and he (Mr. McCarron) held that he had no authority from last year's Irish Congress to do so He (Mr. McCarron) held that they should put their case before the Irish Party, who represented all sections in Ireland, and should not go behind their backs to any English Party. The time was inopportune for the formation of an Independent Labour Party in Ireland, but that was what Mr. Larkin apparently wanted. His own ideal was a cosmopolitan labour movement, but for the present he placed the Home Rule question first as regards Ireland, and he did not see why the deputation who went across to England should go to the English Labour Party in connection with that question while they had the Irish Party.

Mr. Drummond (Glasgow) said he hoped to see a strong Labour Party established in Ireland. He never could see any difference between trades union questions and political questions—both were questions of the conditions of living. He was of opinion that the safest way to secure satisfactory conditions was by political action. There was no difficulty about getting £400 a year for Parliamentary representatives and neither should there be any difficulty about getting a living wage in these countries.

Mr. M. Egan (Cork) considered that the deputation that attended the English Congress had no authority to call a public meeting of the delegates attending that body. He thought they had altogether exceeded their authority and instructions, and he characterised their action as disgraceful and degrading.

Mr. Rimmer moved and Mr. Bodie seconded that the question be now put.

This motion was defeated by 43 to 26, and the discussion was continued.

Mr. P. T. Daly said he had been accused by Mr. M'Carron of whining. Well, he was not given to whining, even though he had the example of Mr. McCarron for a long time. Their object in going before the Labour Party Conference was for the purpose of putting before them the circumstances of Irish workers: the manner in which they had been handicapped and the conditions under which they worked. If Councillor McCarron had taken the precaution of reading the Parliamentary Report he would see that it was only after they found that the promises made by Mr. Redmond had not been carried out and no attempt made to carry them out that it was then they went to interview the English Labour Party. In going to London they were only carrying out the resolution passed at the last Trades Union Congress.

Mr. James Connolly (Belfast) referred to the brotherhood that seemed to exist amongst the delegates in supporting the various political parties as against the young and growing Labour Party. He challenged any man to produce a statement from any responsible Labour man across the water that such a man was in opposition to a labour Party in Ireland. It was said the deputation spoke about Home Rule, but 'they' were entitled to do so on the question of the distribution of seats, for the last Congress passed a resolution to the effect that in Parliamentary representation the working classes in the towns would be overwhelmed by the farming class of the country.

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE REPORT.

The Chairman of the Standing Orders Committee reported :-

"That we condemn the action of the Secretary of the Belfast Bakers in sending to Waterford members of his Union to replace members of the local Union of Bakers dismissed at a

bakery firm in Waterford.

"We recommend that, having regard to the unfortunate methods of organisation adopted by the operative bakers in the various towns and districts in Ireland, methods which have borne evil fruits to the workers generally, this Committee does not feel inclined to make any special pronouncement in the present instance, but takes this opportunity of expressing once again its disapproval of the present methods and recommends to the officials and members of the various societies concerned the absolute necessity of more unified action in the organisation of this particular industry; and that the Congress should appoint a special committee to further this object.

"That Congress adjourns as per Standing Orders and reassemble in Council Chamber upstairs for the afternoon sitting.

"That Resolution 94 (re amendment of Standing Orders) be taken out of its place and be brought on immediately that nominations for Parliamentary Committee close at 12 o'clock.

"That the Fraternal Delegates of Scotch Trades Congress be

invited to address the Congress at 4 p.m."

Mr. Larkin moved the adoption of the Report, and Mr. Egan seconded.

Mr. Campbell said that the first paragraph of the Report was contradicted by the second.

Mr. Whitley denied that that was so.

Mr. McConnell (Belfast) rose to continue the discussion, but several of the delegates expressed the opinion that these were matters that should not be discussed in public.

The Chairman (Mr. Wm. O'Brien) moved, "That the Report of Standing Orders Committee be amended by deleting the first paragraph." It was in the best interests of the Congress and the bakers generally that it should be struck out. They felt that that incident, however regrettable, was only one incident in a long scene of bitterness and disagreement that had gone on amongst the bakers, and they had now reached the time when they hoped a better feeling would exist amongst them.

Mr. Hughes (Amalgamated Bakers of Ireland) seconded.

Mr. P. Lynch said Mr. McConnell was a member of the Parliamentary Committee that wanted to cut down discussion in this matter. They all knew perfectly well that on many occasions he had shirked it. Why should they shirk discussion when they had there in their midst a man who had gone out of his way to send blacklegs into Waterford? Such action was denounced by the Waterford Trade and Labour Council, and was resented by every honest trades unionist in the country.

Mr. McConnell denied that he burked discussion. He claimed discussion; but he had been asked privately by a great many members of the Congress not to discuss the matter in the interests of the bakers of Ireland.

The Chairman agreed that it ought not be discussed.

Mr. Greig moved and Mr. Drummond seconded, "That the question be now put."

Mr. Greig's motion was put and carried. There voted 44 for and 30 against.

Chairman then put the amendment which was carried by 49 votes to 29.

Mr. Drummond referred to the recommendation referring to the Scottish delegates, and said he objected to money being wasted in sending fraternal delegates.

Mr. P. T. Daly said he sent the usual fraternal greetings to the Scottish Trades Congress, and that had usually been done.

Moved by Mr. Greig (Belfast), seconded by Mr. Hanlon (Dublin), "That the fraternal delegates be limited to twenty minutes."

Mr. Larkin said the men who were coming there that evening were worthy of their respect. These delegates would fill some of the empty heads in that room (laughter).

After some further discussion a poll was taken, when Mr Greig's amendment was negatived by 59 to 11. The report of the Committee as amended was then adopted, on the motion of Mr. M. J. O'Lehane (Dublin) seconded by Mr. Thomas Johnson (Belfast).

The Chairman (Mr. O'Brien) moved the following amendment of the Standing Orders:—

"That in view of the widening of the scope of the Congress, consequent on the adoption of the resolution at last Congress, including amongst its objects the independent representation of labour upon all public boards, the incoming Parliamentary Committee is hereby instructed to draft a constitution and such alterations in the Standing Orders as this change renders necessary; and in the meantime, in view of the additional duties imposed upon the Parliamentary Committee, that Standing Order 10 be deleted, and the following substituted therefor, and take effect immediately on being adopted:—

A Parliamentary Committee, consisting of a secretary, a treasurer, and twelve members (six of whom shall be resident in Dublin). 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; (4) to secure the independent representation of labour upon all public boards; and (5) generally to support the Parliamentary Committee of the United Trades Congress upon all questions affecting the workers of the United Kingdom. The members resident in Dublin shall meet monthly, and shall transact all routine and urgent business, matters of importance to be submitted to all the members of the Committee. The full 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. Delegates to Congress only shall be eligible for election to the Parliamentary Committee, and more than one member of the same trade or occupation shall not be entitled to sit; but this condition shall not apply to the election of secretary. The secretary and the treasurer shall be elected by Congress, shall attend the meetings of the Parliamentary Committee and Congress by virtue of his office, and be eligible for re-election. Should a vacancy occur between the annual meetings of the Congress, the Parliamentary Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy. At least two meetings of the Parliamentary Committee (or a sub-committee) shall be held in the locality selected for the next year's Congress, such meetings to be arranged in conjunction with the local Trades Council or organised Trades Unionists."

Mr. Drummond (Glasgow) seconded.

The Chairman said the amendment on the paper in the name of Mr. George Greig was, in his opinion, out of order; but inasmuch as it was an amendment to his own motion he would leave it to Congress to decide whether it should be discussed.

Mr. Larkin (Dublin) moved, and Mr. Johnson (Belfast) seconded, "That the amendment be ruled in order for discussion."

This was agreed to, and

Mr. Greig (Belfast District N.A.U.L.) moved the following amendment:—

"Strike out all words in resolution after 'that' in line 1 and insert :-

'In view of the financial and other responsibilities and the impracticable nature of the resolution passed last year, which this resolution 9A deals with, this Congress is now of opinion that the objects aimed at in such resolution can best be attained by local action with, if necessary, a central executive, and that the incoming

Parliamentary Committee be instructed to circularise the different Trades Unions throughout Ireland, inviting them to a conference to be held next year on the Thursday after the meeting of Congress for the purpose of drafting a constitution and electing an Executive Committee separate and apart from the Congress Parliamentary Committee."

Mr. P. Lynch (Cork) seconded the amendment.

Mr. James Larkin spoke in support of the resolution, and exhorted them to come together and work together. The amendment was intended to leave them where they were after the Congress in Dundalk (hear, hear). It was not a question of "All for Ireland" or "Up de Mollies," or "Down with the Orange Lodge"; those were the things which divided the workers in Ireland. There should be only one "up" for them, and that was "Up with the working classes" (applause).

Mr. McCarron said that instead of the cry of "Ireland for the Irish," Mr. Larkin was now raising the cry of "Ireland for Dublin." He didn't want a few men to control the whole show. He had pleasure in supporting Mr. Greig's amendment.

Mr. Hill (Dublin) said their policy should be a forward one, and they should not have anything to do with an amendment the object of which was to bring back the Congress to the position it occupied years ago. The amendment sought to take from the Congress the power to control those whom they elected to represent them (hear, hear).

Mr. Connolly (Belfast) supported the resolution and strongly attacked Mr. Greig's amendment.

Mr. Nolan (Dublin) thought the resolution impracticable. It would be objectionable that any one place should be the seat of the government of Irish trades unionism. To allocate the entire possession to Dublin would be unfair.

Mr. Campbell said Mr. Greig's amendment would not deceive a single delegate who was present at the two former Congresses. Two years ago Mr. Greig was in opposition to the very attitude he was now taking up. The only thing Mr. Greig favoured at the present moment was an ill-conceived endeavour to set at nought the decision of the last Congress. He (Mr. Campbell) was of epinion that there was no room except for one Labour Party, and in that they were following the experience of labour in England. While being against the amendment, he was not quite in favour of the resolution as he objected to the reservation of the work to members resident in any one town. He suggested the formation of a small committee to deal with the matter.

Councillor Lawlor (Dublin) said the amendment in effect said to them that they were not to have a Labour Party in Ireland. As a representative of Dublin, he should say that nobody in Dublin wanted to fix a specific number for Dublin. A small committee consisting of Messrs. Jas. Connolly (Belfast), R. P. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G. (Dublin), and P. Lynch (Cork) was then suggested.

Mr. Greig pressed for a vote on the amendment.

The Chairman said he would take a vote first as to whether it would be submitted to a small Committee.

The voting was—For 63, against 4, and the matter was accordingly referred to the Committee to report.

Mr. John Hanlon (Dublin) proposed, Mr. John MacMahon (Dublin) seconded, and it was agreed, "That the Report of the Standing Orders Committee which recommended the extension of time for nomination of Parliamentary Committee to 2.30 p.m., be and it is hereby adopted."

#### PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Congress then resumed the discussion on the Report of the Parliamentary Committee.

Mr. Nolan (Dublin) said it was stated there was no desire for a direct labour representation, but he did not agree with that, and was entirely in favour of the principle. He went on to say that political differences existed in the country, and some argued that it was not necessary to have labour representation until they had Home Rule. He repudiated such an argument. There were so many divisions amongst the workers that political organisations were allowed to sap their energies, and made their efforts largely futile (applause).

Mr. Campbell (Belfast) said the deputation was authorised to put certain matters before the Labour Party Executive in England, and had done so.

Mr. Johnson (Belfast) said if it were a German or a Chinese Labour Party, and if the deputation thought either such party could do any good, they should approach them in the interests of the Irish workers.

The Chairman then put the motion for the adoption of the two paragraphs under discussion and it was passed unanimously.

Mr. J. Hanlon (Dublin) proposed and Mr. Henry Bodie (Dublin) seconded the adoption of Parliamentary Committee's Report on National Insurance Act pp. 15-18.

Mr. M J. O'Lehane said that portion of the Report which said that the Committee was precluded from giving evidence before the Committee appointed to enquire into the question of medical benefits was not quite accurate. He had been appointed, together with Mr. Daly, to give evidence on behalf of the Parliamentary Committee, and he had given his evidence.

Mr. P. T. Daly said the report in regard to the matter was quite correct. He had written to the Secretary of the Commission

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(Mr. J. Houlihan) immediately after the Parliamentary Committee's meeting in February. He did not even get a formal acknowledgment of his letter. He wrote again after the sittings for an explanation. The reply he received was a copy of a letter to Mr. M. J. O'Lehane in which it was stated that they had learned he was to give evidence on behalf of his society, and had been notified he was to give evidence on behalf of the Parliamentary Committee. He (Mr. Daly) replied that that was not the way he believed correspondence should be deal with by a public department. He protested against replies being sent through a third party. He had placed the whole of the circumstances before the Parliamentary Committee, including Mr. O'Lehane's objection, and they had unanimously approved of his action. He objected to Mr. Houlihan selecting the persons who should speak on behalf of the Parliamentary Committee of that Congress.

Mr. D. R. Campbell said that what Mr. Daly had stated was correct. They had the same experience in Belfast. He took up the same position as Mr. Daly and so did the Parliamentary Committee at their meeting and in connection with the Report.

Mr. Larkin said this Treasury Committee had become a public scandal. Everybody knew that it was a bogus commission. He could have told them nine months ago what the report would be and he could tell them that day, even before it was issued. It was the greatest piece of codology ever perpetrated. In the present case Mr. O'Lehane was chosen by that commission to give evidence. Who chose him? Why, Mr. Houlihan had no power to do it. Did anyone mean to tell him that the Government of England would deny the right of any English Trades Union Movement to have a man upon that commission. But what was freely conceded to trades unionism in England was denied to the Irish worker. He characterised as disgraceful and disgusting the manner in which the commission treated them. He thought they should pass a resolution condemning the commissioners for the way in which they had carried out the whole Insurance Act, both Part I and Part II.

Mr. Greig agreed to what had been said with regard to the action of the Commissioners. Now they were told by the Irish Party that there was no expression of opinion in favour of medical benefits for Ireland. Any expression of opinion there was had been in favour of its extension to Ireland.

The Chairman said the Parliamentary Committee passed a resolution condemning the action of the Insurance Commissioners and their secretary.

It was unanimously agreed to endorse the resolution of the Parliamentary Committee, and to adopt that part of the Parliamentary Committee dealing with the National Health Insurance Act. Mr. H. T. Whitley (Chairman) presented Report of Standing Orders Committee as follows:—

#### STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE RECOMMEND

"That Resolutions 4 and 5 be grouped. Also that 5A and two Supplementary Resolutions by Mr. Greig and T.A. be grouped; that 8, 14 and 22 be taken as one; also 16, 17, 17A, 17B be taken as one, and Mr. Nolan propose and Councillor Lawlor second, supported by Queenstown Labour Council and Painters' Society. That Resolutions 19A and 23 be taken as one; that time be limited to three minutes each for mover and seconder, other speakers one minute; non-contentious resolutions moved and seconded only. That Mr. M'Partlin (President Dublin Trades Council) be allowed five minutes to make an appeal on behalf of the Silk Weavers of the City of Dublin."

Mr. D. R. Campbell (Belfast) moved, and Mr. J. Hanlon (Dublin) seconded, "That Standing Orders Committee's Report be amended by substituting five minutes for movers and three minutes for other speakers."

The amendment was put and declared carried.

Standing Orders Committee's Report, as amended, was then passed on the motion of Mr. Geo. Burke (Dublin) seconded by Mr. R. Corish, T.C. (Wexford).

Congress resumed discussion of Parliamentary Committee's Report, and on the motion of Mr. Hanbich (Passage', seconded by Mr. E. McCabe (Dublin), that part of the Report covering Independent Labour Representation in Ireland to Railway Bill, pp. 18-21, was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Hill proposed and Mr. Rimmer seconded adoption of balance of Report.

Mr. Bennett (Belfast) said that in his opinion the Irish Party were deserving of their condemnation in reference to their inactivity on the question of life-saving at sea. They did nothing in the matter.

Mr. Larkin said on the question of the Railway Bill, that with the exception of Mr. T. M. Healy, M.P., all the Irish members voted against giving railwaymen a minimum wage of 21s. a week. That only proved that they wanted a new kind of remedy themselves.

Mr. W. E Hill proposed the adoption of the Parliamentary Committee's Report. It was a record of good work which they tried to accomplish during the year. He was particularly grateful to the Parliamentary Committee for their action in connection with the Railway Bill and the statements put forward on behalf of railway workers during the year.

Mr. Rimmer seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

#### NATIONALISATION OF IRISH RAILWAYS.

Mr. Hill (Railway Clerks' Association) proposed :-

"That having regard to the unsatisfactory results of the present Company System under which the Irish Railways are worked, this Congress hereby expresses its conviction that there should be no further delay in carrying out the recommendations of the Majority Report of the Viceregal Commission on Irish Railways, dated 4th July, 1910, and thus nationalising the said railways under a system of public control.

"This Congress further affirms that any Act introduced for this

purpose must contain provisions to secure the following:-

"1. That the Railway Clerical and Operative Staffs shall have the right to elect representatives to be members of the Irish Railway Authority. Such representatives not to be

necessarily servants of the Authority;

"2. The adequate protection of the Clerical and Operative Staffs against reduction, dismissal, or other detrimental changes in their conditions of service arising from such Nationalisation, and that in cases where reduction of staff is absolutely necessary compensation shall be given to the displaced servants;

"3. That the salaries, wages, and other conditions of service of the Clerical and Operative Staffs shall be approximated to

those in existence in the Postal Service; and

"4. That they shall retain all the civil rights and privileges of the ordinary citizen, and these shall not be curtailed or interfered with in any way whatsoever by reason of their becoming servants of the Irish Railway Authority.

"That copies of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and the Leaders of the Irish

Parties."

He said next after the question of national self-government now before the country he thought the question dealt with in the resolution was the most important that the country could consider. The land question was now practically settled, and unfortunately there were no minerals worth while worked at present. He was sure that there would be many interests against the adoption of nationalisation of railways under the new conditions, and it was their duty to keep the question to the fore.

Mr. Rimmer seconded. He said that railways were to a country what arteries were to the human body.

The motion was unanimously adopted.

#### PAYMENT OF ELECTION EXPENSES.

The Chairman (Mr. William O'Brien), Dublin Trades Council, moved:—

"That this Congress of Irish Trade Unionists re-affirms its demand for the payment by the State of election expenses; asks,

in the event of the passing into law of the Government of Ireland Bill, that financial provision be made by Parliament to secure that this principle shall apply in the first election of members to the Irish Parliament; and instructs the Parliamentary Committee to take all possible steps to have the above given effect to."

He said the Home Rule Bill did not provide for the payment of election expenses of members to the first Irish Parliament or for their payment. The only way out of the position was to get the Imperial Parliament to pass a vote for expenses for the first election. The Irish Parliament would have full power to deal with future elections.

Mr. Drummond—Do you mean that we ought to pay your election expenses?

Chairman-Yes for the first election.

Mr. Drummond—Then I oppose it. We in Scotland are over-taxed as well as you are. Scotland was bled as well as Ireland.

Councillor McCarron (Derry) seconded the resolution which was passed, Mr. Drummond dissenting.

GREAT SOUTHERN AND WESTERN RAILWAY-CLERICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Mr. Hill (Railway Clerks) proposed :-

"That this Congress places on record its strong disapproval of the retrograde and undemocratic declaration made by the Chairman of the Great Southern and Western Railway at the last half-yearly meeting of the Shareholders in regard to the Competitive Examination System (which, in the opinion of the Congress, tends to equality and fair play), and hereby calls upon all railway, banking, and insurance directors, and municipal, county, urban and district Councillors to adopt the open competitive examination system for all new entrants into their respective services, and thus afford an opportunity to the children of the working classes to secure such positions."

He said the system of favouritism was rampant everywhere in the country. Even the urban and district and county councils and all other popularly elected public bodies, though passing resolutions condemning the barriers of privilege, had not themselves thrown open the offices in their gift to open competition. They as workers wanted these things swept away for ever.

Councillor Partridge (A. S. Engineers, Dublin) seconded. He complained of the methods that prevailed not only as far as the clerks were concerned, but much more so as far as the men in workshops were concerned. Referring to the religious aspect of this question, he said this was not a question of religion, but rather of want of religion for true religion gave fair play to all.

The motion was carried unanimously.

## FEEDING OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The Chairman (Mr. Wm. O'Brien, Dublin Trades Council) moved and Mr. F. Hodgkinson (Electrical Trades, Belfast) seconded:—

"That we call upon the Government to give effect this Session to the unanimous demand of the Irish workers that the Feeding of Necessitous School Children Act should be extended to Ireland."

Mr. Drummond (Associated Loco. Drivers) suggested that a deputation should visit Scotland to see what was being done there. They should also interview the Irish Party, the Liberal Party, and the Labour Party. He said the resolution did not go far enough. When the matter was introduced into Scotland, Lord Balfour of Burleigh, who weighed twenty-three stone weight, a man who never knew what it was to have a hungry stomach in his life, objected to it.

Mr. Nolan said it was difficult to explain for what reason this measure had not been long since extended to Ireland. They had the authority of St. Ignatius of Loyola for it that a child that was not properly fed could not be properly trained.

The resolution was passed, Mr. Drummond dissenting.

#### STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE REPORT.

The Chairman of Standing Orders Committee (Mr. H. T. Whitley) presented Report of his Committee as follows:—

"Standing Orders Committee recommend that the Balance Sheet be considered at 10.30 on Wednesday Morning.

"That Ballot Papers for election of Parliamentary Committee be issued at 11 o'clock, and doors be locked from 11 to 11.30 o'clock.

"That Congress continue its sitting to 5.30 this evening.

"Seeing that a Conference is about to be held between representatives of the National Amalgamated Union of Labour, the National Amalgamated Union of House and Ship Painters and the Federation, we recommend the Congress not to intefere in the matter, pending the decision of said Conference.

"That time for nominations for Parliamentary Committee be extended for an hour, to 3.30 p.m."

Mr. Johnson, (Belfast) proposed, and Mr. George Burke, (Dublin) seconded the adoption of Report.

Mr. George Greig (Belfast) moved "That the Report be varied in regard to the finding on the complaints made by the National Amalgamated Union of Labour against the National Amalgamated House and Ship Painters, and that Congress disagree with such finding." He knew nothing about a conference, nor did he believe such a conference was to be held. His men, known in Belfast as "red leadders," had gone out on principle and members of the

Painters' Union had gone into their places and done the work the "red leadders" had hitherto done. Under those circumstances their representative had no right to sit in the Congress.

Mr. Bradley seconded.

Mr. J. Larkin said the Secretary should wire Appleton and get confirmation about the conference.

Mr. Whitley, Chairman of the Standing Orders Committee, said they had fully considered the objection lodged by the National Amalgamated Union of Labour (Belfast District) against the representatives of the National Amalgamated House and Ship Painters and Decorators. They had been in communication by wire with the heads of both Unions, and reading between the lines of the wires which he got in reply the Committee were of opinion that a conference was likely to take place between the two Unions and pending such a conference they recommend the Congress to take no action.

Mr. Grogan, of the National Amalgamated House and Ship Painters' Society, said his Society always objected to unqualified men doing the work of painters who had to serve a long apprenticeship to the trade, His view was that no man should be allowed to handle paint who was not a painter. In case of a conference the line of demarcation should be clearly defined.

Mr. McCarron said the point was whether members of the Painters' Union blacklegged the Union of Labour when the men of the latter were withdrawn. If that was so Mr. Grogan had no right to take part in the Congress.

Mr. Larkin said the representative of the Painters' Society should be expelled from the Congress. He did not deny that his men went in and did the work of the men who went out.

After some further discussion in which Messrs. Heathcote, Rimmer and MacMahon participated, a poll was taken on Mr. Greig's motion to reject the recommendation of the Standing Orders Committee. There voted for, 30; against, 31.

The amendment was declared lost.

Mr. Greig, leaving the chamber, said he hoped the Congress recognised that they represented blacklegs, and not trades unionists.

Messrs. Bradley and Lockett also left with Mr. Greig.

It was agreed to amend the Report by adding on the motion of Mr. M. J. O'Lehane, seconded by Mr. J. Bohan, T.C., "that the hour for nomination of P.C. be further extended to 4.30."

The Report as amended was then put and declared carried.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Connolly (Belfast), O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G. (Dublin), and Lynch (Cork), presented the following resolution as their report, viz.:—

"That in view of the widening of the scope of the Congress—consequent on the adoption of the resolution at last Congress, including amongst its objects the Independent Representation of Labour upon all public Boards—the Incoming Parliamentary Committee is hereby instructed to draft a Constitution, and such alterations in the Standing Orders as this change renders necessary; and, in the meantime, in view of the additional duties imposed upon the Parliamentary Committee, that Standing Order 10 be deleted, and the following substituted therefor, and take effect immediately on being adopted:—

"A Parliamentary Committee, consisting of a secretary, a treasurer and eight members 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; (4) to secure the independent representation of labour upon all public boards; and (5) generally to support the Parliamentary Committee of the United Trades Congress upon all questions affecting the workers of the United Kingdom. The Parliamentary Committee shall elect a sub-committee of four who shall meet at least once a month, and shall transact all routine and urgent business, matters of importance to be submitted to all the members of the Committee. The full 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. Delegates to Congress only shall be eligible for election to the Parliamentary Committee, and more than one member of the same trade or occupation shall not be entitled to sit; but this condition shall not apply to the election of secretary. The secretary and the treasurer shall be elected by Congress, shall attend the meetings of the Parliamentary Committee and Congress by virtue of their office, and be eligible for re-election. Should a vacancy occur between the annual meetings of the Congress, the Parliamentary Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy. 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."

Mr. Larkin thought Ulster and the provinces should get representation on the Committee. The Chairman said he thought it was desirable, but it would be foreign to the resolution.

Mr. Larkin moved, and Mr. Hill seconded, that there be ten members on the Committee, exclusive of the secretary and treasurer.

This was agreed to and the resolution as amended passed.

#### SCOTTISH FRATERNAL DELEGATES.

The Chairman said the time had come for the fraternal delegates from the Scottish Trades Congress to address them. He was sure they all expressed their thanks to the fraternal delegates for their attendance there.

Councillor Turner, who was received with loud applause, then addressed the Congress. He said the Trades Union movement in Scotland was growing stronger, both numerically and financially. The Scottish Congress, held a week ago, was the largest ever held in Scotland. He thought it was essential that the delegates should consider the statement made by those who welcomed them, and he had read in the local papers where some gentlemen were exceedingly anxious they should recognise that the interests of capital and labour were identical. He hoped that they would remember there was no identity between capital and labour. They were diametrically opposed one to the other. He would put it in this way. Up to a certain point the interests of capital and labour were identical, and that point was that when the wealth the workers produced was being distributed the workers received one-third for the labour power, and people who supplied no labour power took two-thirds of what the workers produced. There was now an industrial war going on, and so long as it existed they were bound to have strikes. His definition of capital was-first capital, next cop-it-all, and then keep-it-all-(laughter)-and the classes that represented capital to-day had been doing that with a vengeance to the detriment of the men and women who were toiling in factories and elsewhere for a pittance that would not keep body and soul together. The workers should work out their own industrial salvation, and should recognise clearly the paths along which they must travel. He would not say whether they ought to have an independent political party for Ireland or not. He detailed how the Scottish Labour Party had become "beautifully merged" into the English Labour Party, and what work had been done? None at all for the Scottish workers from a labour point of view. He believed that there was a great evil from what was commonly called over-centralisation. There was too great a desire to centralise everything. movement was not only international, but was also a national movement which should be kept going or there would be a loss of national characteristics and temperament. They should have a political democracy, and two great factors to bring it about were adult suffrage and proportional representation; but once they had brought political democracy, if it had not an economic basis, then it would not enable them to work out their industrial salvation or to bring about the solution they were fighting for. In regard to freedom to produce wealth, and also political freedom and economic freedom, he believed the greatest factor was education (applause). They could not get men and women to agree with them by insulting them, but by reasoning with them.

Mr. James Browne (Annbank, Ayr) next addressed the Congress. He was received with cheers, and said he might content himself with formally conveying the fraternal greetings of Scottish Trades Unionists if he did not think it necessary to give some reasons for the faith that was in them. He recognised since coming across to that Congress that in Ireland and Scotland the workers had got the very same problems to face; they had got the very same enemies to encounter. In both countries they had men out of work, men underpaid, women sweated, and so on. He knew that there were political differences between Ireland and Scotland, and what applied to one country did not apply to the other. Now that the great question which Irishmen as a whole were so long interested in was practically settled, the Irish workers would have to consider the new problems that should be faced. Their experience in Scotland and England was that though there may be political differences between capitalists, yet when it came to a question of voting against workers' interests, they found Tories and Liberals voting together in the same lobby, and political shades of opinion were forgotten. He did not wish to say anything that he ought not to say, but they would have in Ireland the same enemies to meet as the workers had to meet in Scotland. Last Saturday three thousand young Scotchmen and women had to emigrate because they could not find room to live at home. They had landlordism in Scotland as rampant as it ever had been in Ireland, and land was not available for the people to live in because of deer forests and playgrounds which the landlords insisted on

A voice in the public gallery-Why don't ye shoot them (great

laughter).

Mr. Browne—I forgot that I was in Ireland (renewed laughter). Continuing, he said the workers would do much more execution in the ballots than could be done with bullets (laughter).

On the motion of Mr. Larkin, seconded by Mr. Clarke (Belfast) a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Scottish delegates for their addresses.

Councillor Turner having briefly replied,

Mr. Thomas McPartlin (Dublin) made an appeal on behalf of the silk workers who were out on strike in Dublin. He traced the history of the dispute and showed that it was really one of principle. They had no doubt but the silk weavers would win, but meanwhile they were suffering the hardships incidental to such a fight. In that fight the only aim the employers put before them was to crush the workers, and in asking the delegates to invite the co-operation of their societies they were only doing bare justice.

Mr. Lawlor, in seconding the resolution, said it was a significant commentary on the boom given to Irish industries of late that these workers were now practically locked out. If Irish industries were to be built up on the sweat and blood of the workers they ought not be supported.

Mr. Grogan, as the grandson of one who lived by that trade, supported the appeal. The way these men had been treated after building up the reputation of the firm of Messrs. Atkinsons, of College Green, was cruel. Now, this man who had got rich on their sweat had his mansion and motor-cars, and he got his scabs to come in and take the place of the workingmen, and further, he got the Government to assist him in that.

Mr. O'Lehane suggested that the Secretary of the Congress should send a short statement of the case of the silk weavers in Dublin in the employment of this one firm, which had come along on the wave of the great industrial revival that had taken place recently in Ireland through the aid of unpaid agents. He (Mr. O'Lehane) represented a society that had a good deal of influence—they were at the distributing end of the stick, and he thought his society would very soon refuse to handle their stuff.

Mr. Johnson (Belfast) agreed with Mr. O'Lehane's motion.

Mr. Campbell moved that the Congress vote them £5 at once.

This was agreed to, and it was decided that the Secretary should issue a history of the case to all Trade Unions in the country.

#### NOMINATIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

The following were nominated for Parliamentary Committee:—James Gleeson (Waterford), James McCarron (Derry), M. J. O'Lehane (Dublin), Delia Larkin (do.), M. Egan, T.C., J.P. (Cork), T. McConnell (Belfast), Jos. Cahill (Dublin), Richard P. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G. (do.), John O'Sullivan (Cork), Thomas McPartlin (Dublin), Thomas Johnson (Belfast), James H. Bennett (Belfast), W. H. McNulty (Derry), N. Rimmer (Dublin), J. Larkin (do.), George Greig (Belfast), W. E. Hill (Dublin), Jas. Grogan (do.), Jas. Nolan (do.), Wm. O'Brien (do.), Mary Galway (Belfast), Thomas Lawlor (Dublin), and Thomas Cassidy (Derry).

The following withdrew their names:—James Gleeson, James McCarron, Delia Larkin, Patrick Lynch, Thomas Lawlor, and Thomas Cassidy.

#### MEDICAL BENEFITS.

Mr. Grogan (Amalgamated Society of Painters) proposed :-

"That the delegates of the various trades affiliated to the Irish Trades Congress demand that the Medical Benefits be extended to Ireland, and we consider a 7s. 6d. capitation fee per insured member sufficient to cover member, wife, and family up to 16 years of age, and we strongly condemn the dispensary and Poor Law at present in vogue in Ireland, as it makes a person a pauper; and we desire that a true and proper system of help for deserving cases shall be instituted in place of the present degrading system, and

the sooner it is done the better it is for the welfare of the country. The inquiry which has been held has not given satisfacton to organised Labour.

"Having had experience of the working of the Insurance Act, especially in the distribution of the sickness benefits, and the gross injustice to Irish workers by the withholding of the Free Medical Benefits from Ireland, we again demand a One-clause Amending Act be passed so as to put the workers of this country on the same level with that of England and Scotland;

"That while we agree that the medical profession is entitled to just payment for services honourably and efficiently performed, we consider that no Amending Act would be just that did not provide for the medical treatment of both insured persons and their dependents. We are convinced that the bringing about of this most necessary reform will destroy the hateful pauper dispensary medical service and save the poor from the horrors and dangers of the infected atmosphere of the Poor Law Dispensaries."

Mr. J. Hanlon seconded. He said it was absolutely ridiculous to say that the Act could in any way be beneficial without the services of the medical profession, and they should demand that the same rights should be given to Ireland as England and Scotland. As far as the working of the Act was concerned it was absolutely appalling the amount of malingering that was going on. The people whom it was intended to benefit were not getting what they should under it.

Mr. Rimmer opposed the resolution.

Mr. Egan, T.C., supported the resolution. There was no getting away from the fact that, as far as the organised workers of the country were concerned, when the Insurance Act was first introduced the workers spoke out in favour of medical benefits, but, for some reason or other—he thought it was a political reason—they were debarred from the medical benefits. They again demanded medical benefits.

Mr. Connolly (Belfast) supported the demand for the medical benefits. A statement had been made that there had been a vast amount of malingering going on. He wished to contradict that. As secretary of an approved society he was satisfied that was not so. He showed how utterly unworkable the Act was. It was an absurdity and a traversty on administration. Unless they got the medical benefits they should counsel their people not to pay under the Insurance Act at all. The amount of sickness in Belfast was appalling, especially amongst women workers.

Mr. Larkin said that any man insured was entitled to get while sick all that the Act promised. He pointed out to the Congress that a man while receiving sick benefit could not be evicted. At 9d. a head a doctor could not efficiently work the Act. If the medical benefits were extended to Ireland they would get more money. England got £1,800,000 for medical benefits. Ireland got only £50,000. That was because this country had no Labour members to look after their interests.

Mr. O'Lehane said it was hard to understand why the persistent demand of the trades unionists of Ireland for the extension of these benefits to Ireland had been ignored. It struck him that the influence behind this was the small manufacturers and the farmers. The motion being put from the chair was declared passed.

## THE WATERFORD BAKERS' STRIKE.

Mr. Lynch said some effort should be made to give a helping hand to the Waterford Bakers. He had taken the responsibility of asking Mr. Larkin to take the matter in hand, and Mr. Larkin had consented.

Mr. Larkin proposed "That Messrs. Lynch (Cork), Whitley (Belfast), and Partridge (Dublin) be appointed as a Committee to prepare and present a report to Congress dealing with the matter."

Mr. Lynch seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

#### TRADES UNION SHOPS.

Mr. T. Johnson proposed, and Mr. A. Doran (Belfast) seconded, and it was agreed:—

"That we call on all Trades Unionists and their families to make inquiries when purchasing goods, not only in regard to the conditions under which those goods were produced, but also in regard to the conditions in the particular distributive shop in which they are purchasing, and to ascertain from the assistant on all occasions whether he or she is a Trades Unionist."

#### REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

Messrs. Partridge, T.C. (Dublin), Whitley (Belfast), and Lynch (Cork) presented their report in the form of a resolution, viz:—

"That this Congress strongly recommend to the Executive of the Belfast Operative Bakers' Union to withdraw immediately their members who are at present working at the firm of Messrs. O'Brien in Waterford, i.e., those who previously replaced the local men who were dismissed from the firm."

Mr. Larkin moved and Mr. D. Lynch seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

It being 5.30 p.m., Congress adjourned till Wednesday.

## THIRD DAY.-WEDNESDAY, 14th MAY, 1913.

Congress re-assembled at 9.30 a.m., the Chairman (Mr. O'Brien) presiding.

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

TRADE BOARD ACT AND THE TAILORING TRADE.

On the motion of Mr. T. Lawlor T.C., P.L.G., seconded by Mr. R. P. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G., the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"That this Irish Trades Congress call upon the Irish and Labour Members of Parliament to urge upon the present Government the necessity of so extending the scope of the Trade Board Act as to fix a minimum rate of wages for bespoke tailoring which shall not be less than the present Trade Union rate, which has been mutually agreed to by employers and employees. And in order to ensure that the rates paid shall be the Trade Union standard, the Labour Exchange Act be so amended as to make it compulsory upon each employer within the area covered by each Exchange to make to the manager thereof a return showing the wages of time workers and prices for piece-work of each section of the work-people in their employ; and every alteration of same should within seven days of its coming into operation, be reported to the manager, who should provide a register, and enter thereon the information received; and every worker replying to requests of employers should have access to such portion of the register as deals with the particular trade or calling that the employer belongs."

#### FEMALE FACTORY INSPECTORS.

Miss Mary Galway proposed :-

"That we urge upon the Government the necessity for additional female inspectors of factories whose whole time would be devoted to the work of inspection in Ireland, as we believe such appointment essential for the protection of the women workers of the country.

#### THE TRUCK ACTS.

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

#### FACTORY ACT AMENDMENT.

"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 Home Office."

She said there was only one female Factory Inspector for the whole of Ireland. Her headquarters was at Belfast. She (speaker) thought three or four female inspectors would be required for Belfast alone. As to the system of fines, it was enough to drive operatives insane with worry and anxiety, and mentioned the case of a young girl who was at present confined in a lunatic asylum owing to the fining system.

Mrs. McCaughey (Belfast) seconded the resolutions, which were adopted.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT ON RAILWAYS.

Proposed by Mr. Hill (Dublin), seconded by Mr. Ward (Belfast), and agreed:—

"That, in view of the inadequacy of the information at present supplied in regard to the actual conditions on the various Railways in Ireland, and bearing in mind the public necessity for up-to-date statistics upon this subject, this Congress urges upon the Government the necessity of obtaining, either by legislation or an Inquiry, full information regarding the rates of pay, hours of labour, and all other conditions of employment of all grades of employees in the Railway Service; also to ascertain the amount of additional revenue received annually by Railway Companies as a result of all increased charges to the public and the amount of expenses saved by reductions in staff, train service, and other facilities; further, to gather definite information as to the proportion of such increased receipts and decreased expenses allocated to the improvement of staff conditions as compared with the proportion absorbed in increased dividends.

"That copies of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and the leaders of the Irish

Parties."

COMPULSORY CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY FOR ENGINE-DRIVERS.

Mr. Flanagan proposed the following resolution :-

"That this Trades Union Congress, assembled in the City of Cork, demand of the British Parliament that the engine drivers and firemen of Ireland be issued certificates of competency by the Board of Trade, seeing the responsible positions they hold, being entrusted with life and property; and, further, seeing that when an accident occurs, that those men are held firmly to a Board of Trade Inquiry, the decision of which is of such public importance.

"We consider that the time has arrived when this automatic Government Department, the Board of Trade, should take the necessary steps to issue those certificates at once; that engine drivers and firemen from three to five years in charge be eligible for those certificates at once without examination; and for others that the Board of Trade do decide the necessary qualification and examination which must be passed by candidates for such work before they are allowed to take charge.

"That copies of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the President of the Board of Trade, the leaders of the Opposition, Labour and Irish Parties, and the principal boiler and engine insurance companies of Great Britain and Ireland."

Mr. Grogan seconded.

Mr. Rimmer opposed the resolution. He said the first part of the resolution contradicted the second part. It would be better if the second part of the resolution were struck out.

The Chairman suggested that the words—"that the Board of Trade should be given power to take immediate steps"—be inserted.

Mr. Connolly (Belfast) said the words "of the British Parliament" ought to go out.

After some discussion the resolution passed with the omission of the words "of the British Parliament."

#### THE SHOPS ACT.

## Mr. M. J. O'Lehane moved :-

"That this Congress, composed of the Representatives of Irish Trades Unionists, heartily sympathise with the object of a weekly half-holiday and shorter hours for shop assistants. We strongly protest against the manner in which certain public bodies in Ireland endeavour to evade the provisions of the Shops Act, more especially in regard to the granting of the weekly half-holiday and adequate time for meals. We are of opinion that the Act should be amended in the following respects:—

- 1. There must be a limitation of the hours to 48 per week; a compulsory closing on the weekly half-holiday; and a total abolition of Sunday trading.
- 2. The provisions of the Act must be extended to all shop assistants and clerks no matter where employed, and the clause exempting towns other than Borough or Urban areas must be deleted.
- 3. The exemption clause dealing with Licensed Traders must also be amended.
- "Copies of this resolution to be sent to the Home Secretary, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and to the Whips of the various Parties in Parliament."

He said there was no reason why the 48 hours week should not be given. He argued it was unfair to exclude nearly one-half of the shop assistants from the Act because they lived in excluded areas. An extraordinary anomaly in the Act was that in premises that were licensed they could sell anything, whilst other shops which were not licensed were closed. That clause was not in the original Bill, and was smuggled in in the interests of the licensed trade, and was not opposed by those who should have opposed it.

Mr. Johnson (Belfast) seconded the resolution. The 48 hours week should be the limit for shop assistants, as it should be for the general workers of the country (hear, hear).

The resolution passed unanimously.

At this stage Mr (freig (Belfast), who withdrew from the Congress on Tuesday after a vote on a question affecting the National Amalgamated Union of Labour, entered the Hall and engaged in conversation with Mr. M'Carron and some others.

Mr. Larkin asked would he be in order in moving a welcome to the "prodigal son" (laughter).

Chairman—The only difficulty is that we have not the fatted calf (laughter).

Mr. Daly, Secretary, read a note from Mr. Greig withdrawing his name from the nominations for the Parliamentary Committee.

Mr. Egan appealed to Mr. Greig to let his nomination stand, but Mr. Greig did not do so. The matter ended.

#### IMPORTATION OF JOINERY.

Mr. Andrew Breslan (Dublin) proposed and Mr. McPartlin seconded the following resolution, which was passed nem com:—

"Seeing that a large amount of public money is about to be expended by the County Committees on Sanatoria, etc., in Ireland the Parliamentary Committee are instructed to circularise these, Boards with a view of having these works executed by Irish firms."

## AMENDMENTS TO NATIONAL HEALTH INSURACE ACT (PART II.)

Mr. T. Hegarty (Cork) proposed and Mr. Hanbrich (Passage) seconded the following resolution, which was adopted without discussion:—

"Resolutions urgently required to be introduced in Labour Exchanges in their relations to Part II. of the National Health Insurance Act:—

"1. When employers apply for men for a country job, volunteers should be called for, as there are always a number of young single men who would go to the country.

"2. Single men should be, if possible, for obvious reasons,

called on in the case of pressed men.

- "3. That no man be compelled to go to a job away from home at a lesser rate of wage than the currency of the place in which he resides.
- "4. That if an employer has the privilege of applying to any Labour Exchange he pleases, that is to say, if an employer in Belfast can apply to Cork for men, and ignore all the Labour Exchanges nearer home, he be compelled to pay railway fare to and from in addition to travelling time.
- "5. In the case of an employer applying to the nearest Labour Exchange he should pay the fare one way, also travelling time, and the Labour Exchange the other way."

GOVERNMENT INSPECTION OF RAILWAY OFFICES.

Mr. Hill (Railway Clerks' Association) proposed :-

"That, having regard to the great prevalence of lung diseases amongst Railway Clerical Workers and to the harmful physical effects produced by the speeding-up and continual pressure of present-day business methods, this Congress reaffirms its claim that railway offices should be subjected to statutory regulations as to sanitation, ventilation, cubic air space, limitation of hours of labour, night work, Sunday duty, etc., as laid down in the Bill promoted by the Railway Clerks' Association and presented to Parliament by Mr. G. J. Wardle, M.P.; it further expresses its regret that the Home Secretary has at present given no facilities for the passage of this Bill, and calls upon the Irish Members of Parliament to assist in getting the measure placed on the Statute Book during the present Session.

"That copies of this resolution be sent to the Prime Minister, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, the Home Secretary, and the

leaders of the Irish Parties."

Speaking to the resolution, he said railway clerks were looked on by insurance offices as good lives, but that was due to the fact that they had to pass medical examinations before entering the service. But the conditions under which they worked were far from ideal, and caused many break-downs of health. The conditions in Ireland were even worse than in England.

Mr. Bresnan (Cork) seconded the resolution, which was adopted unanimously.

CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT.

Mr. Arthur Doran (Belfast) proposed :-

"That this Congress condemns the present contributory scheme of Health Insurance, and calls upon the Government to substitute for it a non-contributory scheme, to be administered by friendly societies existing prior to December, 1910, and trades unions."

Speaking to the resolution, he said the ideal working conditions did not recognise the grades employers or employees; but the Insurance Act divided the community into two sections, and a

member of one class could not go to earn the price of one loaf of bread without producing a ticket-of-leave in the form of an insurance card. Take again the case of a man earning only 16s. a week, with which he wanted to buy bread for his family. Was it fair that the price of a loaf of bread should be deducted from his weekly wage to provide for a contingency which may or may not ever happen? If a worker got sick, it was not generally through his own fault, but through bad housing conditions.

Mr. McConnell (Belfast) seconded the resolution.

Mr. Larkin rose to oppose the resolution—unless the part referring to the friendly societies was withdrawn. The friendly societies were all based on contributory schemes, and he did not see how they could work a non-contributory scheme.

Mr. Doran agreed to delete the clause of the resolution referring to the friendly societies, and the resolution as so altered was unanimously adopted.

### ADOPTION OF BALANCE SHEET.

Mr. Brophy proposed "That the Balance Sheet be adopted." He had seen vouchers for all expenditure, had examined the Bank Book and had seen the cash in hand. There was no trouble to the auditors owing to the satisfactory manner in which the books were kept.

Mr. Stewart seconded, and concurred in all that had been stated by his colleague.

Mr. McCarron raised a question on the affiliation fees paid by the organisation represented by Mr. Campbell, of Belfast. He questioned his bona fides to be there at all, and wanted to know if it was true that he was unable to supply the Secretary of the Belfast Trades Council with the address at which the society met.

The Chairman—If the Secretary of the Belfast Trades Council is here I'll allow you, but if he is not I shall rule all references to statements of this kind out of order.

Councillor McCarron—I say that Mr. Campbell represents a membership of six (laughter).

Mr. D. R. Campbell—I deny in toto all the statements by Mr. McCarron. The fact that my society meets in the house as tenants to the society of which the Secretary of the Belfast Trades Council was also Secretary is sufficient contradiction of Mr. McCarron's vile insinuations (hear, hear).

Mr. Larkin asked how it came that the society which McCarron was representing had so far reduced their affiliation. They had four delegates and were only paying on a membership of 500. He thought they were entitled to some explanation (hear, hear). Was it that the membership of the Amalgamated Society of Tailors had dropped so much? If so, that was a bad testimonial to Mr. McCarron and his colleague.

Mr. McCarron said the membership had gone up. But his E.C. could not see the wisdom of paying affiliation fees for delegates to the Congress who were avowedly out to smash up international trades unions.

Mr. John MacMahon said that if he had known that the affiliation fees were not paid he would not be there. He felt sure that the branches of the Amalgamated Society of Tailors in Dublin would want to know the reason for this sort of thing.

Councillor McCarron—There is no such thing as an Amalgamated Society in Dublin.

Councillor Lawlor (Dublin) said he, too, would not be there if he had known that the right affiliation fees were not forwarded by the E.C. of his society. He challenged Mr McCarron to say in Dublin what he had said there (hear, hear).

Mr. Cassidy (Derry) said if a branch of the Amalgamated Society of Tailors wanted to be represented there could they not do as the Belfast branch of the T.A. did—pay for it themselves? (hear, hear).

Messrs. Lynch (Cork), Grogan (Dublin), Connolly (Belfast), and Hill (Dublin) also spoke, after which

The Chairman put the motion for the adoption of the Balance Sheet, which was adopted unanimously.

#### ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS.

Messrs. George Burke (Dublin), 48; Daniel Lynch (Cork), 44; and Thomas Cassidy (Derry), 44, were elected Scrutineers for the election of Parliamentary Committee. The following were also nominated:—Messrs. J. Bohan, T.C. (Dublin), 43; Ben. Drumm (Dublin), 32, and W. Allen (Belfast), 21.

#### REPORT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

Mr. H. T. Whitley (Chairman) submitted report of the Standing Orders Committee as follows:—

"Your Committee recommend that Mr. T. McPartlin be given permission to speak for five minutes on the dispute in the Joinery Trade at Waterford, and that permission be given to Mr. Larkin to move a resolution on the attempted suppression of free speech by the Liberal Government."

The Report was adopted on the motion of Mr. James Connolly (Belfast), seconded by Councillor R. Corish (Wexford).

#### FAIR WAGES RESOLUTION.

Mr. James Nolan (Dublin) proposed :-

"That, having regard to the unsatisfactory interpretation given to the Fair Wages Resolution by the greater number of Irish administrative bodies, this Congress instructs the Parliamentary Committee to use its influence with County Councils, Poor Law Boards, and other departments of Irish administration, to adopt and enforce the Fair Wages Clause, clearly defining that only firms who pay Trade Union rates and observe Trade Union conditions shall be eligible to tender for their contracts.

"Recognizing that certain printing firms sub-let their book-binding without inquiring if the work is to be produced under conditions considered 'fair' by the National Union of Book-binders and Machine Rulers, we appeal to public Boards to prohibit sub-letting in their specifications for estimates unless fair conditions are clearly defined by the contractor."

#### GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.

"That the Irish Trades Union Congress is of opinion that the clothing required by all Government departments in Ireland should be made in this country by Trades Union labour; and we enter our protest against the action of the Treasury in directing the Irish Land Commission to obtain the uniforms of their porters and messengers in England; and that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the First Lord of the Treasury, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and the Chairman of the Labour and Irish Parties.

"That this Congress pledge itself to inquire minutely into the conditions of labour which employees on all Government Contracts work under, and see that the Fair Wage Resolution of same be put into full effect to secure to these workers the remuneration which they are entitled to by law.

"That the workers of Ireland generally protest against the violation of the Fair Wages Clause re Government and Board of Works contracts, and also by their own staff, viz.: labourers doing painting work on War Office contracts. Painting is often done by men who have no claim to call themselves painters, and also a body of men who term themselves whiteners, who have been and are doing work which belongs to painters; and we consider no one has a right to decide what is or is not a painter's work but a qualified painter; and we direct the Parliamentary Committee to aid us in our endeavours to protect the painting trade of Ireland generally, and ask that this matter shall be brought before the District Commanding Officer of Dublin Castle, the Secretary of the War Office, the Secretary of the Board of Works, the President of the Local Government Board, and the various heads of the political parties."

The resolutions were seconded by Mr. T. Lawlor, T.C., P.L.G. (Dublin), and Messrs. Ronayne (Queenstown), and J. Hanlon (Dublin), supported the resolutions.

Mr. J. Hughes said that in the Baking Trade in Dublin one of the firms who had secured the contract (Galbraith) did not employ trades unionists and did not pay the standard rate of wages.

The resolutions were adopted unanimously.

#### MINIMUM WAGE AND APPRENTICESHIPS.

## Mr. M. J. O'Lehane proposed:-

"That owing to the miserably low wage generally paid to shop assistants and the growing practice of introducing boy and girl labour into shops, we are of opinion that a minimum wage for all shop assistants and clerks should be at once established, and we strongly condemn the action of employers who trade on cheap labour, and who induce apprentices to enter shop life under false pretences, knowing that a very large percentage of them will never have an opportunity of making a livelihood. We desire to warn parents and guardians of the fact that shop life is considerably overcrowded, and before being induced to send their sons or daughters as apprentices they should make strict inquiries in regard to the possibilities of the future."

He wished to impress upon everyone the fact that in drapery establishments the minimum wage was only paid. That was a topic in which everyone was interested. There were many classes of workers receiving a recognised wage in shops, while in other shops there was nothing whatever. In fact, persons worked from a shilling a week upwards. He appealed to farmers and other parents to avoid sending their children into such establisments, as with the exception of a few cases they never would get a living wage.

Mr. Bankhead seconded the resolution, and said that the cooperative movement was the greatest movement of the day.

The resolution was adopted.

#### IMPORTATION OF HARNESS.

Moved by Mr. Thos. McPartlin (Dublin), seconded by Mr. B. Drumm, and carried unanimously:—

"That this Congress deplores the continual importation of all classes of saddlery, harness, etc., and calls on all horse owners and others requiring same to purchase only that bearing the imprint of the Irish Trade Mark, and not to continue by apathy or carelessness in purchasing foreign manufacture, thereby depriving those employed in the saddlery trade of work which is their right, and forcing Irishmen to swell the tide of emigration, and this Congress calls on all employers in the saddlery and harnessing trade who have not applied for the Irish Trade Mark to do so immediately, and so assist in again making this old industry a flourishing one in Ireland. And further, this Congress is of opinion that it is the duty of all the Irish Parliamentary Representatives and the members of the various public Boards to encourage, by every means in their power, the revival of the Irish Harnessmaking and Leather Industry."

Proposed by Mr. James Nolan; seconded by Mr. J. Clarke, and carried unanimously:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the Parliamentary Committee should use its influence with the Educational Authorities to have their Literature printed and bound in Ireland, and when entrusting their orders to enquire if they are to be produced by Trade Union Labour.

"We appeal to School Managers, the Clergy of Ireland, and to Authors of New Literature, to consider the competitive efficiency of our Irish publishing firms and workmen, and to ensure that the publishers use the Irish Trade Mark on Books and Covers.

"We regret that the number of unemployed Bookbinders during the past year is mainly due to the action of responsible people who have imported their literary contributions.

#### COMPULSORY AFFIXING OF PRINTERS' IMPRINTS.

"That, in the opinion of this Congress, it is expedient that all printed matter should bear the imprint of the printer; and we are further of opinion that the time has arrived in the interests of the printing professions when such should be enforced by law."

#### THE HOUSING QUESTION.

Proposed Mr. W. O'Brien (Chairman), seconded by Mr. W. P. Partridge, T.C. (Dublin), and passed unanimously:—

"That this Irish Trades Congress, speaking on behalf of the workers of Ireland, reiterates its demand for a thorough solution of the Housing Question, which has become one of the most pressing questions calling for the attention of Local Authorities; that if any substantial progress is to be made with this reform, the cities and towns must be assisted by State Grants; we are of opinion that legislation ought to be passed giving County Borough Councils power to obtain money for this purpose on the same terms as regards the rate of interest and repayment of capital as loans are at present obtained by Rural District Councils in this country; and we call for the extension to Ireland of the Town Planning Bill."

### OUTWORKING IN TAILORING TRADE.

Moved by Councillor T. Lawlor, P.L.G. (Dublin):

"That this Congress urges upon the Parliamentary Committee the necessity of having the Factory and Worshops 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."

Seconded by Mr. J. MacMahon (Dublin) and passed.

REPRESENTATION OF URBAN WORKERS UNDER HOME RULE.
Moved by Mr. W. O'Brien (Chairman):—

"That this Trades Congress, representing the workers of Ireland, regrets that effect was not given to the resolution adopted last year at Clonmel, urging that under the Government of Ireland Bill the constituencies should be arranged so that the industrial workers in the towns would have an opportunity of securing adequate representation; and we are of opinion that the decision to adopt Proportional Representation in the large cities should have been applied to all constituencies."

He said an urgent representation was sent forward that such changes should be made in the schedules of the Government of Ireland Bill as would give important urban centres representation in the coming Irish Parliament. It was very regrettable that that had not been done, and that no steps had been taken to meet the wishes of that important body, representing the workers of all parts of Ireland. A change was made in proportional representation as regarded Dublin, Belfast, and Cork, and he thought it was the greatest possible pity that the principle of proportional representation was not extended all round, and they would have automatically represented in the various constituencies the workers in the urban areas (hear, hear).

Mr. Connolly Belfast), seconded the resolution. Even as proportional representation stood at present, it was in an absurd form.

The resolution passed unanimously.

## IMPORTATION OF GLASS BOTTLES.

Mr. Longmore (Dublin), proposed :-

"That this, the Irish Trades Union Congress representing the Trade and Labour bodies of Ireland, strongly protests against the continued importation of foreign manufactured glass bottles into this country, seeing that an equally good, if not superior, article can be had at home, and where industries are in such a deplorable condition, owing to the action of the consumers or users, in not supporting home industry, and by so doing help to stem the tide of emigration, which is steadily draining our country of its most useful population, as it is only the young and strong who are invited to the Colonies. As an example of the foreign importation during the year ending December, 1912, the enormous total of 62,334 gross of bottles was landed at five Irish ports, value £37,908. Into Cork above 3,638 gross of foreign bottles came last year value £1,675, all of which could be manufactured at home and the money circulated amongst our people."

Mr. Longmore, continuing, said that all bottlers should use home manufacture. Irish bottles should have the Irish trade mark stamped upon them. Bottles need not of necessity be solely used for intoxicating drinks. There were other uses to which they could be put. There seemed to be a great deal of indifference to the Irish bottle-making industry. People should insist that their beverages should be in Irish-made bottles. Unless a demand was made for Irish-made bottles that trade would soon be defunct, and it was their duty to strongly protest against the importation of foreign bottles. Into Cork alone last year there were nearly 5,000 gross of bottles imported and all these could have been made at home. However if Belfast and other cities took example by Cork, which went in for Irish-made bottles to some extent, the industry would soon be in a flourishing condition.

Mr. Heathcote (Dublin) seconded.

Mr. Michael Egan said that last year some small action had been taken in connection with the revival of the industry in Dublin. They might have succeeded if the manufacturers had co-operated with the workers. If the representatives of the bottlemakers took a small bit of advice from him they would try and make their employers a trifle more energetic. If the employers and employees worked together he was sure that at the next Congress they would be able to say that the industry had thrived and that there were more men employed (hear, hear).

The resolution was passed unanimously.

#### WAGES AT HAULBOWLINE.

Mr. Daniel Cotter (Queenstown) moved :-

"That the wages of both labourers and mechanics at the Dockyard of Haulbowline does not come up to that paid in the Royal Dockyards of England; and, as the wages and conditions generally are below that paid in private yards, this Congress, in support of the recent demands of the workers, pledges itself to use its influence to bring the yard up to the standard of those in England and compare favourably with the conditions of labour in outside private yards."

He said that recent events as appearing in the Press had not in the least obviated the necessity for pressing home the resolution. Apparently it was true that advances that had been made would come into operation in June of the present year. But the rate with the concession did not come up to that paid in large industrial centres and was below the amount paid by most private employers. As regarded the forty-eight hours' week, that privilege was not the sole right of the Admiralty. There were other firms which had found it to their advantage to adopt the forty-eight hours' week. The rate paid for overtime was nothing short of scandalous, and it was no wonder men in naval establishments had absolutely refused to work any overtime at all. He did not favour overtime; he

regarded it as a necessary evil. As regarded the Superannuation Act, that was an investment by the men themselves; sums from one shilling to three shillings per week were deducted from the wages to allow them a pension when they were sixty years. As to the labourers, their wage had been proved over and over again to be quite insufficient to obtain for them even the necessaries of life. He appealed for fair play for the Irish Dockyard workers.

Mr. Ronayne seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

#### RESULT OF ELECTION OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

The Scrutineers reported the result of the ballot for Parliamentary Committee as follows:—

		Votes.
Mr. John O'Sullivan (Brewery Worker, Cork)		63
Mr. M. J. O'Lehane (Drapers' Assistant, Dublin)		57
Mr. T. McPartlin (Carpenter, Dublin)		55
Mr. J. Larkin (Transport Worker, Dublin)	3.2.	55
Mr. M. J. Egan, J.P., T.C. (Coachmaker, Cork)		54
Mr. W. O'Brien (Tailor, Dublin)		53
Mr. W. E. Hill (Railway Clerk, Dublin)		50
Mr. R. P. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G. (Bricklayer, Dub	olin)	48
Mr. Thos. Johnson (Shop Assistant, Belfast)		46
Mr. Thomas McConnell (Baker, Belfast)	1	44

The above, with the Treasurer (Mr. D. R. Campbell) and the Secretary (Mr. P. T. Daly), who were re-elected unanimously, constitute the Committee.

. Votes were also recorded as follows:—For, Mr. W. J. McNulty, 36; Miss Mary Galway, 35; Mr. Nathaniel Rimmer, 34; Mr. James Nolan, 32; Mr. James H. Bennett, 19; Mr. J. Cahill, 7, and Mr. George Greig, 3.

Mr. McNulty (Derry) said they had done right to elect a scab Parliamentary Committee, and on the motion of Mr. Jas. Connolly (Belfast), seconded by Councillor Lawlor (A.S.T., Dublin) a motion was adopted unanimously expelling Mr. McNulty from the Congress

Mr. James Connolly (Belfast) moved the following resolution:-

"That this Congress expresses its detestation of the cowardly and coercion-like methods of Mr. McKenna, the Liberal Home Rule Secretary, in suppressing newspapers and denying the right of public meeting to the militant section of the Women's Franchise movement. We call upon the two sections of the Nationalist representatives to instruct their leaders, Mr. J. E. Redmond and Mr. William O'Brien, to indict the Government and demand the

removal of this incapable, irresponsible McKenna, as we believe the right of freedom of expression is too sacred and too vital a principle to be abrogated by an alleged Liberal Government."

He felt compelled to express his regret that a man bearing such an historic name as McKenna should be capable of being guilty of such acts as were committed in his name and by his authority. He wished to say also that, personally, he was in accord with the action of the women in demanding their rights and all should recognise that until the women were made equal with them politically they could only be half free. If the women had been driven to violence let them remember that members of the Liberal Government had said that by committing violence the men won their freedom, and this action of the women was a direct answer to the Government. It was a cowardly Government-a Government that ran away from Sir Edward Carson and then went and prosecuted women who had not the power to defend themselves. He was glad that that Congress had spoken in support of the women and against those prosecutions. The only way to restore peace where trouble reigned to-day was to give those human rights to women which ought not to be denied them, all the Asquiths and McKennas notwithstanding (applause).

Mrs. Gordon (Belfast) seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

#### NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

Mr. Gleeson (Waterford Trades Council) said he had been directed by the Waterford Trades Council to invite the Congress to come to Waterford for next year's Congress. He therefore moved, "That the Congress for 1914 be held in Waterford."

Mr. Cotter (Queenstown) seconded.

Mr. J. Grogan (Amalgamated Housepainters) proposed as an amendment that "Dublin" be substituted for "Waterford."

Mr. J. Hughes (Dublin) seconded.

Mr. J. Connolly (Belfast) supported the amendment. He said that next year would be the "coming of age"—the twenty-first anniversary of the birth of the Congress, and he thought it should visit the city of its nativity on the occasion (hear, hear). He would have supported the claim of Waterford under any other circumstance. He knew the strides they were making there and the good work they were doing, and he hoped in the near future the Congress would meet there.

Mr. J. H. Bennett (Belfast) supported the motion. He believed it would be a big assistance to the movement in Waterford (hear, hear). The amendment on being put from the chair was carried, 39 voting for and 29 against.

It was then put as a substantive motion "that Congress for 1914 be held in Dublin" and carried unanimously.

Councillor Lawlor (Dublin) moved "that the best thanks of the Congress be tendered to the local Reception Committee for the magnificent manner in which they worked up and organised the Congress." When they took into consideration that some vile letters had been circulated in the Cork Press and the Dublin Press to injure the Congress, and in the teeth of that the Local Reception Committee—instead of being disheartened—it gave them an incentive to make the Congress greater than ever it had been, the committee were entitled to their thanks, and he had very great pleasure in proposing that the very best thanks of the Congress be extended to them (applause).

Mr. Connolly (Belfast), in seconding, said when it was moved last year that the next Congress be held in Cork he believed that their Cork friends would have a very strong trial and thought it questionable whether they would be able to withstand the influence that would be brought to bear on them. But they were proud of the magnificent manner in which Corkmen had rallied to the standard at the present time. They had shown themselves capable of sinking all petty jealousies in their desire to advance the interests of organised labour in Ireland (applause).

The Chairman put the vote, which was passed with acclamation.

Mr. Michael Egan, in reply said as the Chairman of the Reception Committee he wished to return on their behalf their most sincere thanks for the way in which the Congress had received the vote of thanks. At Clonmel last year he was the only Cork delegate who was opposed to that Congress being held in Cork, as owing to the action of certain people he was afraid it would not be the success he as a trades unionist would wish. But when he came back and found that the majority of the Cork trades unionists were in favour of having it in Cork, he said, notwithstanding all the opposition and all the fear and terror there was about Jim Larkin coming to Cork-(laughter)-they would make the Congress a success, and he was glad they had done so (applause). They were charged by men who were running a blackleg union with bringing Jim Larkin to Cork. He denied that the Cork United Trades and Labour Council ever invited Jim Larkin to Cork as an individual, but they invited the Irish Trades Union Congress to Cork (applause). He should say for Jim Larkin, and they differed in many things, that he was a trades unionist at all events and was not a McIntyre. They now found Mr. McIntyre and Mr. Denehy of the District Trades Council in the same company and they wished them well.

Mr. Cassidy objected to Mr. Denehy's name being mentioned as they belonged to the same trade, and he believed Mr. Denehy was a good trade unionist.

Mr. Egan said they could not get away from the fact that Mr. Denehy had coupled himself with McIntyre in a letter to the Press.

In conclusion, he returned thanks to the Congress.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Press, and also to the Lord Mayor, Corporation, and citizens of Cork for having given the use of the City Hall.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought the proceedings to a close.

# BALANCE SHEET, CORK CONGRESS, MAY, 1913.

		DOTA:	-	5
INCOME.	EXPENDITURE.			
£ s. d.		200 3	8.	10000
To Balance from last Congress 89 16 0	By Auditors' Fees (Clonmel)	0	2000	0
" 99 Delegates' Fees 74 5 0	" Two Secretaries (Clonmel)	3	0.	0
" Affiliation Fees 85 11 1	" Standing Orders Committee (Clonnel)	2	10	0
Special Appeal 4 16 0	"Two Tellers	0	10	0
" Sale of Congress Reports 10 14 0	" Furnishing and Fitting Town Hall (Clonmel)	0	8	0
	Hall Caustakan	0	0	0
	Printing Ralance Short &c	0.	0	0
	P.C. Montings and Danutations	52	10	n
	Soaly Bruore and Walken (Drinting)	16	10	77
	W Honvahan	0	13	6
	Davarany Namth & Co	3	8	0
	City Printing Works		1	6
	" Doyle's Account	2 3	Ô	0
	" Secretary's Honorarium	20	ŏ	0
	, Treasurer's £5 0 0		-	1000
	"Treasurer's Petty Cash 0 10 0			
		5	10	0
	"Secretary's Petty Cash	7	18	9
	"Grant to Lurgan Weavers	3	3	0
	" Hall Caretaker (Capel Street)	0	10	0
	" Cheque Book	0	4	2
	" Balance in Bank £99 18 8			
	" Cheques in hand 5 18 4			
	, Cash in hand 28 11 2	-	100	1100
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Audited and found correct.

CHRIS, G. STEWART,

Auditors.

# AFFILIATION FEES.

	£	8.	d.
Amalgamated Tram and Vehicle Workers	1	10	0
Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners			1
(I) while 2nd)	0	6	0
Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners		10	
(T) 11' (11)	0	5	0
(Dublin 4th) Amalgamated Union of Cabinetmakers	1	8	4
Amalgamated Society of Engineers (Dublin 2nd)	1	4	11
Amalgamated Woodcutting Machinists (Cork)	0	1	3
Amalgamated Society of Tailors and Tailoresses	1	8	4
Amalgamated Society of Housepainters	2	10	0
Ancient Guild of Brick and Stonelayers	1	8	4
Associated Loco Engineers and Drivers	1	10	0
Amalgamated Union of Co-operative Employees	1	8	4
Amalgamated Society of Lithographic Artists (Dublin)	0	5	0
Belfast Bakers' Society	0	15	0
Belfast Journeymen Butchers' Society	0	15	0
Belfast and Dublin Locomotive Engine Drivers	2	0	0
City of Dablin On austing Fauricus	0	8	0
Cork United Trades Council	1	0	0
	ō	5	6
Cork Carmen and Storemen's Society	0	7	6
Cork Bakers' Society	ő	5	
Cork Brewery Workers	1	5	00
Dublin Metropolitan House Painters	3	The second	0
Dublin Trades Council		0	
Dublin Tinsmiths and Sheetmetal Workers	0	7	0
Dublin Typographical Society	2	10	0
Dublin Saddlers	0	6	0
Dublin Fire Brigade Workers	1	1	0
Electrical Trades Union (Dublin)	0	10	0
Electrical Trades' Union (Belfast)	0	18	4
General Union of Carpenters	1	0	10
Irish Amalgamated Bakers	1	5	0
Irish Glass Bottlemakers	0	16	8
	1	5	0
arish Stationary Inginoarion	7	10	0
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Irish Transport Union No. 3	1	5	0
Irish Transport Union No. 16		10	0
Irish Transport Union (Belfast)	1000	10	Ö
Irish Transport Union (Sligo)	1	1	8
Irish Transport Union (Kingstown)	1000	10	0
Irish Women Workers' Union (Dublin)	- NACO	THE REAL PROPERTY.	0
Irish Women Workers' Union (Belfast)		10	Post
Irish Linenlappers (Belfast)	200	10	0
Irish Drapers' Assistants	1 MIN	10	0
Limerick Trades' Council	1	0	0
National Union of Bookbinders (Dublin)	0	16	8
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		£ s. d.
National Amalgamated Furnishing Trades		1 4 0
National Union of Shop Assistants and Clerks		184
National Union of Sailors and Firemen	Marrie 1	2 10 0
National Amalgamated Union of Labour	Santa	1 10 0
National Union of Dockers (Derry)	1000	1 8 4
National Union of Dockers (Drogheda)	bind	0 13 5
National Union of Assurance Agents (Relfast)	000	0 5 0
National Union of Railwaymen	going.	2 5 0
Newry Trades Council	upple 201	0 10 0
Postmen's Federation	abog /	3 10 0
Passage West Workmen	7980 10.0	0 10 0
Queenstown Trades Council	The Cal	1 0 0
Royal Liver Agents' Union	AB TALL	0 9 0
Railway Clerks' Association	notifice.	1 10 0
Textile Operatives of Ireland	and L.	1 10 0
Typographical Association (E.C.)	9	2 10 0
Typographical Association (Belfast)	abel	1 10 0
United Kingdom Society of Coachmakers	2000	1 10 0
Waterford Trades Council	de march	1 0 0
Wexford Foundrymen	-	1 8 4
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of of the American American		£85 11 1
SPECIAL APPEAL.		
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Belfast Trades Council	ALTO DE	1 0 0
Irish Linenlappers	MI SEE IN	0 15 0
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		£4 16 0

# 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), affillation 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.—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 all 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, consisting of a secretary, a treasurer, and ten members 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; (4) to secure the independent representation of labour upon all public boards; and (5) generally to support the Parliamentary Committee of the United Trades Congress upon all questions affecting the workers of the United Kingdom. The Parliamentary Committee shall elect a sub-committee of four who shall meet at least once a month, and shall transact all routine and urgent business matters of importance to be submitted to all the members of the Committee. The full 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. Delegates to Congress only shall be eligible for election to the Parliamentary Committee, and more than one member of the same trade or occupation shall not be entitled to sit; but this condition shall not apply to the

election of Secretary. The Secretary and the Treasurer shall be elected by Congress, shall attend the meetings of the Parliamentary Committee and Congress by virtue of their office, and be eligible for re-election. Should a vacancy occur between the annual meetings of the Congress, the Parliamentary Committee shall have power to fill the vacancy. 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.

- Parliamentary Committee's Report.—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.
- 12. Labour Representation. The independent representation of Labour upon all Public Boards is included amongst the objects of Congress. One day at least is set apart for the discussion of all questions pertaining thereto, and the affiliated bodies are asked to levy their members 1s. per annum for the necessary expenses, and the Parliamentary Committee are instructed to take all possible action to give effect politically to this resolution.
- 13. 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 or the local trades council to render such assistance in arranging for halls, advertising, etc., as shall be requisite.
- 14. 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.
- 15. Next Place of Meeting.—Nominations for the 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.

## LIST OF DELEGATES.

- Amalgamated Association of Tramway and Vehicle Workers.— Michael McCann, McMillan's Place, Belfast.
- AMALGAMATED BAKERS OF IRELAND.—James Hughes, Bakers' Hall, Upper Ormond Quay, Dublin.
- Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners, Dublin, 3rd Branch—Andrew Breslin, 33 Emerald Street, Dolphin's Barn, Dublin.
  - Dublin 4th Branch—Thomas M'Partlin, 13 St. Joseph's Place, Dublin.
- Amalgamated Union of Cabinetmakers—W. Allan, 18 Springfield Parade, Belfast.
- AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS (DUBLIN, 2nd BRANCH)—W. P. Partridge, T.C., Brookfield Road, Kilmainham.
- AMALGAMATED UNION OF CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYEES—Samuel Bankhead, 7 Ravenhill Avenue, Belfast.
- AMALGAMATED SOCIETY WOOD-CUTTING MACHINISTS—Patrick Hickey, 21 Peter's Street, Cork.
- Amalgamated Society of Tailors—James M'Carron, T.C., 48
  Stanley Walk, Derry; Patrick Lynch, P.L.G., 2 Crosses
  Green, Cork; Henry Gibbs and John Donovan, Grattan
  Street, Cork.
  - Dublin Branches—John MacMahon and Thomas Lawlor, T.C., P.L.G.
- Antient Guild of Incorporated Brick and Stonelayers—R. P. O'Carroll, T.C., P.L.G., 49 Cuffe Street, Dublin.
- Assurance Agents, National Life (Belfast Branch)—D. R. Campbell, 11 Kimberley Street, Belfast.
- Associated Society of Loco. Engineers and Firemen—John Drummond, 101 Hillhouse Street, Glasgow, and Frank Whelan, 44 Carey's Road, Limerick.
- Belfast Journeymen Butchers' Association—Arthur Doran, 12 Merkland Street, Belfast.
- Belfast Operative Bakers—Thomas McConnell, 58 Oldpark Avenue, Belfast, and Christopher Stewart, 12 Aughrim Street, Belfast.

- CARPENTERS, GENERAL UNION-Richard Brophy, 55 Ring Street, Inchicore, Dublin.
- CITY OF DUBLIN OPERATIVE FARRIERS—Benjamin Drumm, 15 Parnell Street, Dublin.
- CORK CARMEN AND STOREMEN—Daniel Lynch, 63 Kearney's Lane, Cork.
- CORK BREWERY WORKERS SOCIETY.—Patrick Doolan, Bandon Road, Cork.
- CORK OPERATIVE BAKERS—Patrick Murphy, J.P., T.C., P.L.G., Hillside, Sunday's Well, Cork, and John O'Connor, 242 Blarney Street, Cork.
- CORK UNITED TRADES AND LABOUR COUNCIL.—Mr. Michael Egan, J.P., T.C., 19 Commons Road, Cork; John McCarthy, Shangle Hill, Cork; Mr. Timothy Hegarty, 6 Garfield Terrace, Wellington Road, Cork; Mr. John O'Sullivan, 8 Madden's Buildings, Cork.
- Dublin Tinsmiths and Sheet Metal Workers—John M'Namara, Trades Hall, Capel Street, Dublin.
- Dublin Trades and Labour Council—Wm. O'Brien, Trades Hall, and Christopher Timmins, Trades Hall, Dublin.
- Dublin Typographical Provident Society—Henry Bodie, 35 Lower Gardiner Street, Dublin.
- ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION—BELFAST BRANCH—Frank Hodgkinson, 5 Kashmir Road, Belfast.
  - Dublin Branch-R. B. Macaulay, 27 Nelson Street, Dublin.
- FURNISHING TRADES ASSOCIATION—Thomas Simpson, 57 Great Victoria Street, Belfast.
- IRISH DRAPERS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION—M. J. O'Lehane and T. Liston, 76 Grafton Street, Dublin.
- IRISH GLASS BOTTLE MAKERS—Henry Heathcote, 59 South Dock Street, Irishtown, and James Longmore, 25 Pembroke Street, Irishtown.
- IRISH STATIONARY ENGINE DRIVERS—Stephen Roe, Old Mount Pleasant, Ranelagh, and Joseph O'Flanagan, 89 Bride Street, Dublin.
- IBISH TRANSPORT AND GENERAL WORKERS' UNION (DUBLIN NO. 1 BRANCH)

  —James Larkin, Joseph Metcalfe, Michael Brohoon, T.C.;

  Michael McCarthy, Bernard Conway, and William Fairtlough, Liberty Hall, Beresford Place, Dublin.

Belfast Branch-James Connolly, 122 Corporation Street, Belfast.

- Dublin No. 3 Branch—John Bohan, 15 Basin Street, Upper, Dublin; Thomas Burke, 62 Queen Street, Dublin.
- Dublin No. 16 Branch—Edward Gibson, 52 Bishop Street, Dublin.
- SLIGO BRANCH—James Stanford, Cartron View, Sligo, and P. T. Daly, Knappagh Road, Sligo.
- KINGSTOWN BRANCH-James Byrne, 5 Clarence St., Kingstown.
- IRISH WOMEN WORKERS (DUBLIN BRANCH)—Miss Delia Larkin, Liberty Hall, Dublin.
  - Belfast Branch-Mrs. Ellen Gordon, 41 Kilwood Street, Belfast.
- LIMERICK TRADES AND LABOUR COUNCIL—Michael Murphy, P.L.G., Clare Street, Limerick; Edward Ryan, Denmark Street, Limerick.
- METROPOLITAN HOUSE PAINTERS—Joseph Cahill, E. McCabe and John Scully, 27 Aungier Street, Dublin.
- NATIONAL AMALGAMATED HOUSE AND SHIP PAINTERS AND DECORATORS— John Grogan, Rose Cottage, Ballydown, Lucan, Co. Dublin.
- NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION OF LABOUR (BELFAST DISTRICT)—
  George Greig, 41 Elgin Street, Belfast; Albert Lockett,
  71 Witham Street, Belfast; and S. Bradley, 197 Ainstworth Avenue, Belfast.
- NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION OF SHOP ASSISTANTS, WAREHOUSEMEN, AND CLERKS—Thomas R. Johnson, 13 Ranfurly Drive, Belfast.
- NATIONAL SAILORS' AND FIREMEN'S UNION—J. H. Bennett, 15 Gamble Street, Belfast; A. O'Hea, 249 Bishop Street, Derry; Geo. Burke, Liberty Hall, Dublin; and J. Bennett, 21 Coburg Street, Cork.
- NATIONAL UNION OF BOOKBINDERS AND MACHINE RULERS (DUBLIN BRANCH)—James Nofan, 10 North King Street, Dublin.
- NATIONAL UNION OF DOCK LABOURERS—W. J. M'Nulty, 74 Long Tower Street, Derry; R. Nugent, Drogheda.
- NATIONAL UNION OF RAILWAYMEN—N. Rimmer, 7 Lower Abbey Street, Dublin; Thos. Ward, 54 Eliza Street, Belfast; and James Howell, Woodbine, Seapoint, Bray.
- Passage West Workingmen's Union-Alexander Hanbrich, The Square, Passage West.

- POSTMEN'S FEDERATION—T. Irvine, 13 Cadogan Street, Belfast, and F. J. Mortimer, 15 North Portland Row, Dublin.
- QUEENSTOWN TRADES COUNCIL.—Daniel Ronayne and Maurice Cotter.
- RAILWAY CLERKS ASSOCIATION—W. E. Hill, 12 Lr. St. Columba's Road, Drumcondra, Dublin, and J. V. Bresnan, 1 Clifton Terrace, Summerhill, Cork.
- ROYAL LIVER AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES—John Hanlon, 24 Millmount Avenue, Drumcondra.
- Textile Operatives of Ireland—Miss Mary Galway, Avenue Hall, Lower Garfield Street, Belfast, and Mrs. Elizabeth M'Caughey, 10 Abyssinia Street, Belfast.
- Typographical Association—John Clarke, 12 Frederick Street, Belfast, and T. Cassidy, 1 Clifton Street, Waterside, Derry.
  - Belfast Branch—Frank Hall, 12 Frederick Street, Belfast, and H. T. Whitley, "Florida," Ardenlee Parade, Belfast.
- UNITED KINGDOM SOCIETY OF COACHMAKERS—William Gardiner, 31
  Walnut Street, Belfast, and M. Moriarity, 3 Seminary
  Buildings, Gt. Britain Street, Cork.

CORK BRANCH-Mr. D. Kiely.

- WATERFORD TRADES COUNCIL-Jas. Gleeson, O'Connell Street,
  Waterford.
- Wexford Foundrymen's Union-Richard Corish, T.C., William Street, Wexford.

## FRATERNAL DELEGATES.

Scottish Trades Congress—Councillor A. R. Turner, 86 George Street, Glasgow; Mr. James Brown, Annbank, by Ayr.

## VISITOR.

BOARD OF TRADE-D. C. Cummings.

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# IRISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS, 1894-1913.

1894 1895 1896 1897 1898 1899 1900 1901 1902 1903 1904 1905 1906 1907 1908 1909 1910 1911 1912 1913	121 -93 -86 -90 -62 -77 -73 -98 -86 -74 -72 -72 -87 -85 -108 -85 -75 -87	Cork Limerick Waterford Belfast Londonderry Dublin Sligo Cork Newry Kilkenny Wexford Athlone Dublin Belfast Limerick Dundalk Galway Clonnel	Thomas O'Connell (Carpenter) J. H. Jolley (Printer) Junes Daiton (Printer) P. J. Leo (Pork Butcher) Bichard Worthly (Tailor) James M'Carron (Tailor) George Leahy, P.L.G. (Plasterer) A. Bowman, T.C. (Flax Dresser) Wm. Cave, Ald. (Bootmaker) Walter Hudson, M.P. (A.S.R.S.) Wm. Walker, T.C. (Carpenter) Jus. Chambers, P.L.G. (Saddler) Stephen Dineon (Baker) James M'Carron, T.C. (Tailor) John Murphy, P.L.G. (Printer) M. Egan, J.P., T.C. (Coachmaker) James M'Carron, T.C. (Tailor) D. R. Campbell Insance, Agent) M. J. O'Lehane (Draper's Asst.) Wm. O'Brion (Tailor)	Hugh M Manus E. L. Richardson, T.C.	

<sup>\*</sup>in 1901 and from 1903 the Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for the year was also President of the Congress.