



THE NINTH ANNUAL

— IRISH —

TRADES UNION CONGRESS

WILL BE HELD

— IN CORK —

ON

WHIT-MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY,

1902.



"Labor Omnia Vincit."

REPORT

OF THE

NINTH

Irish Trades

Union Congress

HELD IN THE

**MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
CORK,**

MAY 19th, 20th and 21st, 1902.

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

LIST OF DELEGATES.

- BAKERS' I.N. FEDERAL UNION**—M. PRENDERGAST, T.C., Mechanics' Institute, Bank Place, Limerick.
- BAKERS' OPERATIVE SOCIETY, CORK**—JOHN O'CONNOR, 97 Wolf Tone Street, Cork.
- BAKERS' OPERATIVE SOCIETY, DUBLIN**—WM. COLLINS, Bakers' Hall, Upper Bridge St., Dublin; NICHOLAS MULLIGAN, ditto. (600)
- BAKERS' OPERATIVE SOCIETY, BELFAST**—THOMAS MCCONNELL, 43 Oldpark Avenue, Belfast; WM. HATES, 45 Delle Street, Belfast. (560)
- BELFAST AND UNITED DISTRICT TRADES COUNCIL**—WM. WALKER, P.L.G., 83 Stratheden St., Belfast; ALEXANDER TAYLOR, 99 Donegal St., Belfast.
- BOTTLMAKERS' IRISH GLASS, DUBLIN**—JOSEPH MOORE, 20 Irishtown Road, Dublin; THOMAS COLVIN, 2 Sea View Avenue, Church Road, Dublin. (190)
- BRASSFOUNDERS' AND FINISHERS' SOCIETY, DUBLIN**—JOHN THOS. DUGAN, 77 Lower Dorset, St., Dublin; THOMAS BONIFACE, 32 North Summer St., Dublin. (140)
- BRUSHMAKERS, UNITED SOCIETY OF, DUBLIN DIVISION**—JOHN MOXLEY, 12 Lower Dominick St., Dublin. (72)
- BREWERY WORKMEN'S ASSOCIATION, CORK**—JOHN O'SULLIVAN, 8 Madden's Buildings, Cork; TIMOTHY LYNCH, 6 Shandon Place, Cork. (300)
- BOILERMAKERS' SOCIETY, DUBLIN**—EDWARD BROOKS, 36 Gray St., Dublin. (150)
- BOOKBINDERS' CONSOLIDATED UNION, DUBLIN**—ANDREW MOORE, 4 Aungier Street, Dublin. (220)
- CARPENTERS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, DUBLIN, 3rd BRANCH**—PATRICK O'SHEA, 70 Benburb St., Dublin. (196)
- CARPENTERS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, DUBLIN, 4th BRANCH**—A. STICKSON, 48 Strandville Avenue, North Strand, Dublin. (235)
- CARPENTERS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, DUBLIN, 5th BRANCH**—EDWARD J. O'NEILL, 35 Lower Gloucester St., Dublin. (300)
- CARPENTERS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, DUBLIN, 7th BRANCH**—JOHN SIMMONS, 53 Sygne St., Dublin.
- CARPENTERS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, CORK BRANCH**—RICHARD COLEMAN, 2 Elizabeth Place, Cork; JOHN HURLEY, 2 Geraldine Place, Cork. (310)
- CABINETMAKERS, AMALGAMATED UNION OF, DUBLIN**—JOHN SMITH, 33 Arnott St., Dublin. (61)
- COACHMAKERS, UNITED KINGDOM SOCIETY OF**—JOHN MORAGHAN, 74 Unity Street, Belfast.
- CORPORATION WORKMEN'S TRADE UNION, DUBLIN**—MICHAEL CANTY, Strand St., Dublin; DANIEL MCGEE, ditto. (1,019)
- COOPERS, REGULAR OPERATIVE SOCIETY OF, DUBLIN**—WILLIAM J. LEARY, T.O., 25 Blackhall St., Dublin; P. J. QUINN, 50 St. Joseph's Road, Kilmainsham, Dublin. (430)
- COOPERS, REGULAR OPERATIVE SOCIETY OF, CORK**—M. J. O'CONNELL, 8 Upper Panorama Terrace, Cork; DANIEL HIGGINS, 34 Watercourse Road, Cork. (100)
- CORE TRADES AND LABOUR COUNCIL, CORK**—J. KELLEHER, Ald., Mechanics' Institute, Grattan St., Cork; WM. CAYE, Ald., ditto; P. CHERSON, T.C., ditto; G. COATES, ditto. (1,800)
- DUBLIN UNITED TRADES COUNCIL**—E. L. RICHARDSON, Trades' Hall, Capel St., Dublin; GEO. LEARY, P.L.G., ditto; WM. DOYLE, Ald., ditto; P. T. DALY, ditto. (13,000)
- ELECTRICAL TRADES UNION, DUBLIN**—T. J. SHEEHAN, 43 Patrick St., Dublin. (26)
- ENGINE DRIVERS, STATIONARY, DUBLIN**—T. KAVANAGH, 59 Lower Dominick St., Dublin. (140)
- ENGINEERS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, CORK BRANCH**—TIMOTHY MORPHY, 41 Cove St., Cork; THOMAS MORPHY, 15 South Terrace, Cork. (139)
- FLAXDRESSERS' TRADE UNION, BELFAST**—ROBERT GAGNEY, T.O., 17 College St., Belfast. (1,250)
- FURNISHING TRADES FEDERATION**—JAMES McQUILLAN, 5 Lawnview Street, Belfast.
- IRONMOULDERS' SOCIETY, CORK**—JOSEPH GRANT, 8 Dean St., St. Finbarr's, Cork. (17)
- LIMERICK TRADES AND LABOUR COUNCIL**—MATTHEW MCINERNEY, Mechanics' Institute, Limerick; JOHN LYNCH, ditto. (700)

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Dublin :

PRINTED BY CAHILL & CO., GREAT STRAND STREET,
ON IRISH-MANUFACTURED PAPER.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

WALTER HUDSON, A.S.R.S., DUBLIN.

Vice-Chairman :

ALDERMAN WILLIAM CAVE, CORK.

Treasurer :

GEORGE LEAHY, P.L.G., 23 BLACKHALL PLACE, DUBLIN.

(To whom all Remittances should be sent).

Committee :

JAMES McCARRON, T.C., Derry. WM. WALKER, P.L.G., Belfast.

W. J. LEAHY, T.C., Dublin. J. CHAMBERS, P.L.G., Dublin.

HUGH McMANUS, Belfast.

Secretary :

E. L. RICHARDSON, 7 MELROSE AVENUE, FAIRVIEW, DUBLIN

(To whom all Communications should be addressed).

Trustees :

MESSRS. WALTER HUDSON, HUGH McMANUS, and E. L.
RICHARDSON.

REPORT.



FIRST DAY—Monday, 19th May, 1902.

The Ninth Annual Irish Trades Union Congress was opened on Monday, 19th May, 1902, in the Council Chamber, Municipal Buildings, Cork, which had been placed at the disposal of the local Reception Committee by the Lord Mayor and Corporation. The Congress was called to order at 11.30 by Mr. Hugh M'Manus, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee, who presided at the opening of the proceedings. The Lord Mayor, Alderman Fitzgerald, was present officially to receive the delegates, and his Lordship was supported by the City High Sheriff, Mr. A. Roche, T.C.; Alderman T. O'Connor, Alderman John Murphy, Alderman William Cave, Alderman Jeremiah Kelleher, Alderman M. J. O'Riordan; Councillors C. Millerd, J. Delea, James Myles, Denis O'Callaghan, J. Hegarty, E. Fitzgerald, etc., etc. Mr. D. D. Sheehan, M.P.; and Mr. James Long, Chairman of the Cork Harbour Board, were also present.

The Chairman, in welcoming the delegates to Cork, said it was seldom given to one man to be in the proud position of presiding for the second time at the opening of proceedings of a Congress of the importance of theirs. It had been his privilege twice to be associated with Trades Congress meetings in Cork, and he was sure that those who, like him, were present, enjoyed nothing but the most profitable and enjoyable recollection of the Congress of '95. Their business that day and for the succeeding days would, he hoped, be conducive to the prosperity of the country with which they were so closely identified. It would be presumption on his part, in presence of those who were so well acquainted with the industries of the country, and especially in the presence of the Lord Mayor, to refer at any length to the great work that had been achieved on the Mardyke, Cork—the International Exhibition. He merely referred to it in passing, and would not detain them further beyond expressing the hope that the business of the Congress would be conducive to the interest of the country. (Hear, hear).

Correspondence was then read by Alderman J. J. Kelleher, including a letter from Mr. J. J. Howard, Chairman of the County Council, regretting his inability to attend, but wishing the highly important proceedings and deliberations of the Congress every success.

Alderman Phair and Mr. C. Moynihan, T.C., also wrote expressing regret at inability to attend.

The Chairman then asked the Lord Mayor to address a few words to the Congress in his official capacity.

The Lord Mayor, who was received with applause, said his first duty was to most cordially wish them a hearty welcome to Cork. He did that with the greatest pleasure. Since he was elected to the high position he at present held, it had been his lot to preside at various meetings. Indeed, not many days ago he was in presence of Royalty, but he begged to assure them that he never came before any meeting at which he considered himself more at home than he did at this meeting. He might tell those who did not happen to be as intimately acquainted with him as some of those that he saw about him that he commenced the world like themselves and earned his bread by the sweat of his brow. That was one of the proudest boasts of his life, and that was one of the reasons why he said he felt so much at home in their midst. At any time a man holding his position should deem it his duty to welcome such an important body of delegates as the representatives of working classes of Ireland, and it was a position they might well feel proud of. He felt proud of their visit, especially at present, because the Citizens of Cork, aided by the people of Ireland, had within the past twelve months erected a series of buildings in their midst for the purpose of showing what Irishmen could do in the way of turning out articles of manufacture and articles of commerce which were to compete with those made in other countries. He referred to the Exhibition that was now of worldwide repute, and on behalf of the Executive Committee he bade them a hearty welcome to that Exhibition on next Wednesday. Their duties would be very serious, and though the Chairman had said they would be engaged all the while at business, yet he intended to relieve them a little, and with that view he cordially invited them to accompany his colleagues and himself down the river the following day on the occasion of "throwing the dart"—a ceremony by which it was meant to warn all and sundry whom it might concern that anyone who tried to interfere with their noble harbour and came within the bailiwick of the Mayor of Cork would have to look out (laughter and applause.) He was not going to enter into the spirit of trades unionism. He did declare publicly that it was absolutely necessary in the interest of the working classes that they should have combination. It was perhaps right and well that there would be amongst what were known as capitalists, if not a combination, at all events somewhat of an understanding, and he wished to explain himself. He believed that if both did not exist that perhaps either of the two might be oppressive to the other. He felt sure that when going into the various details of the working of their trades unionist body their first desire would be the prosperity of our native country; that it was also their desire, and they had given evidence of it on many occasions, that while they were mainly concerned with the cause associated with themselves, that they did not wish it to be understood as opposing those who were known as capitalists. Our poor country could not afford two parties in opposition to each other. They wanted co-operation, but at the same time each body minding their own interests. That to his mind was best calculated to advance the interests of them all. He would not

intrude further on them just then. He would have the pleasure of their company on more than one occasion before they left Cork, and when they did go away on Thursday morning they would be, he hoped, well satisfied with their visit. If they were not it would not be through any fault of his, who, as far as he was concerned, desired to pay them the greatest compliment in his power (applause).

The High Sheriff said he wished to join cordially in the welcome which the Lord Mayor had extended to them. It was the desire of Corkmen, on all occasions, to make those visits to Cork as pleasing to visitors as possible. In every sense he joined heartily in the welcome, and as far as Cork was concerned that it would do honour to itself in honouring them. He might also say that they were in the hands of very capable local organisers—his friends Alderman Cave and Alderman Kelleher—who had done so much for trade and labour in the city of Cork (applause). He had been an observer of what had been done in the trade and labour cause in Cork, particularly for the last three or four years, and he had seen the successful efforts which had been made by the members of the Corporation to improve the condition of the trade and labour bodies of the city. If the same work was done elsewhere, the cause of trade and labour would be greatly advanced. He thought every honest Irishman must desire that the condition of the community should be improved. There was always room for progress and improvement, and, for himself, he could promise that anything he could do he would at all times do to serve the interests of the trade and labour bodies of the city and the country as well.

Mr. Long, Chairman Cork Harbour Board, said it afforded him very great pleasure to be associated with the Lord Mayor as well as the High Sheriff, to assist in a small way in opening that Congress, representing as he did a Board engaged in giving a large amount of labour, and his sympathies had always been going forward in that direction. He felt he was not out of place alongside their Chairman in extending to them a hearty welcome, and expressing the hope that the result of their deliberations would be that they would assist materially in advancing those interests. He was quite sure they would take back from the city of Cork, pleasant recollections of their visit, and he could only express the hope that the future of the organisation would advance and progress. He was glad to know that the workers' cause had been and was advancing, and he was proud and delighted to be with them that day.

Mr. D. D. Sheehan, M.P., also briefly addressed the delegates, and in the course of his remarks said that all his energies would be directed to serve the cause of labour.

Councillor McCarron (Derry) then proposed that the best thanks of the Congress be given to the Lord Mayor, High Sheriff and other gentlemen for their attendance. He spoke eulogistically of the Lord Mayor's action in connection with the Exhibition, and said his lordship deserved the special thanks of every worker in Ireland for the great work he had done. According to what they saw in the papers sometimes it appeared as if the Lord Mayor and some members

of the Labour Party in the Cork Corporation were not friends. They might have said some things that perhaps might not have been said, and they believed they were doing their duty in what they were doing, but the Lord Mayor honoured the Labour members in the Cork Corporation by coming there officially that day to honour the delegates who were there for the purpose of trying to improve the conditions under which they lived and worked. The fact that the Lord Mayor was present proved that he forgave and forgot, and that he had a capacity for broad-mindedness and generosity of spirit which he hoped would be emulated by Lord Mayors and capitalists all over the country.

Councillor W. J. Leahy (Dublin) seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The Lord Mayor in reply said that the mover of the vote had said that sometimes they would think from what appeared in the papers that at first sight the Labour Party and himself were anything but friends—in fact that they were at very extremes. Well, all he could say in answer to that was to refer them to the old story of the husband and wife who had differences occasionally, but when a third party interfered he was told very quickly to go about his business (laughter). Sometimes the Labour Party and himself did not agree on some points, but there was one thing he took credit for, and that was that since the first day he entered public life, though he might not agree with individual acts of trade bodies, he had not given a vote nor ever said a word against the principle of trades unionism (hear, hear). He thanked them most heartily for the way they had received the vote of thanks to him, and hoped they would remember their visit to Cork with pleasure and satisfaction.

The Lord Mayor and his colleagues then withdrew.

The following Officers were elected:—

Secretaries to the Congress: Mr. E. L. Richardson (Hon. Sec., P.C.) and Alderman Kelleher.

Tellers: Messrs. Hayes (Belfast), Falvey (Cork), Jos. Birmingham (Dublin), John O'Connor (Cork).

Auditors: Messrs. Hurley (Cork), Comiskey (Dublin).

Standing Orders Committee: Councillor Lynch (Cork), Messrs. James Chambers, P.L.G. (Dublin), Wm. Walker, P.L.G. (Belfast), D. A. Kiely (Cork), and Patrick Shelly (Dublin).

The Chairman then asked for nominations for the Presidency, thereupon Alderman Kelleher moved, and Mr. Joseph Grant (Cork), seconded. "That Alderman William Cave, President of the United Trades and Labour Council of the city of Cork, be, and he is hereby elected President of the Congress."

There being no other nomination, the Chairman declared Alderman Cave unanimously elected.

Mr. McManus then vacated the chair, which was taken by Alderman Cave amidst applause.

The President then rose and said—Ladies and gentlemen, it is with mixed feelings that I rise to address you this morning. On the one side I most acutely feel my own shortcomings to preside over

such an influential gathering as this is from all the cities and counties of our beloved country. I feel that I can only fill in an inadequate manner the duties and responsibilities attaching to the high office of president, which it is my honour to occupy on this occasion, and for which distinction I most sincerely thank you all. I shall ask you, therefore, to be to my faults a little blind, and to help me to maintain the usefulness and dignity which have characterized previous congresses. On the other hand I am desirous, on behalf of my colleagues of our United Trades and Labour Council, and of its members generally, to welcome you all most heartily to our ancient and historic old city of Cork. We hope that your stay amongst us will be productive of good to you all mentally, morally, and physically, and that the bonds of brotherhood between the different sections of our countrymen here represented will not be loosened but strengthened through the medium of this Congress (hear, hear). Gentlemen, this year will long be remembered, I trust, as a red letter year for our dear old city. On the initiative of our worthy Lord Mayor (the Right Hon. E. Fitzgerald), through his unflagging energy, aided and helped by an excellent committee of local gentlemen—among whom I am proud to say some of our Trades Council are to be found—an International Exhibition has been brought to completion in our midst, I hope you will all visit it several times. So far it has exceeded our brightest hopes. We believe its success is assured. It redounds to the credit of citizens of all classes and creeds who unitedly carried through to so successful an issue this mighty and herculean undertaking. It will well repay visit after visit. Its educational value, to which I would especially direct the attention of my colleagues, is undoubtedly very great; and I would urge on all to make the most of the opportunities there afforded for instruction; for, after all, the race—the modern race—will be to those people and nations who are the best informed, most strenuous, alert, active, and alive in everyday life (hear, hear). I hope that when we disperse, and everyone returns to his own circle, his own little sphere, perhaps in a distant part of old Ireland, that he will take some additional knowledge with him from our Exhibition, a hint, an idea, an improved process; that he will spread that idea; that it shall bear fruit and fructify an hundred-fold. Then, again, this will be a red letter year for Cork, as this Congress meets here a second time after a lapse of seven years. And gentlemen, this is no mean, no paltry Congress. It is representative of a most important and powerful portion of the community, and I hope and trust that your deliberations may forward and improve the lot and safeguard the interests of the trades and labour bodies of Ireland, and through them of the people generally. Gentlemen, I have been thinking of what subject or subjects I should bring under your notice to-day; of what should the keynote of my address to you be. It is not an easy matter. There are so many things one would like to dilate on, and yet time and opportunity are so short. My thoughts run on two points particularly. They are (1) the need, the urgent and ever present need, that every skilled, and, indeed, unskilled worker should be organized; (2) the great value of education

—and when I speak of education I mean a liberal education for all our people, technically and otherwise (hear, hear). Gentlemen, it is because I am full of confidence as to the people's future that I speak thus. The drones in the hive, the favoured one per cent. of the people, of these I have nothing to say; but my thoughts, my desires, my wishes, my hopes, are bound up with the happiness and prosperity of the ninety and nine. Times are changing; the power has been, and is more and more every day, passing from the aristocrat to the people. No longer are we serfs but freemen. No longer are we servants but masters. The positions are indeed reversed. Yet it will depend on us and our children as to whether this power and authority will stay with us and that we shall enter into our inheritance fully. If we, through our want of organization or our want of knowledge or patriotism; if we, I say, from any of these causes are not men enough to bear the burden of the state, to fill our places—let it be in our Trades Council or in any or all of our public bodies—then be assured the opportunities will be lost to us and ours, and the power will pass to other hands. Let me repeat, let me inculcate on each and all of us the duties of organization. How frequently do we see the workers defeated because of the lack of organization among us. Gentlemen, be assured that if the workers to themselves were true, no earthly power could defeat them. The victory is lost through defections on our side. Then, I say, keep this question of organization in the forefront. You can readily picture what our condition was before Trades Unions were established, and you can easily imagine what advantage would be taken of us if they now became defunct. Again, in reference to education. All over the country, especially since the passing of the Local Government Act, labour is taking its proper place in most of our public bodies, and I believe this will increase and be fruitful of great good, not only to Trades Unionism but to labour generally. Now on these representatives many onerous duties will be thrown, and, gentlemen, it must not be said that through lack of education, the cause—the great cause of labour—the cause of the people—was unworthy; that we were not prepared; not fit for the position. Therefore, I repeat, educate; educate! educate! (applause). While I am on this matter I should like to refer to a very grave grievance which the artisan and labour classes throughout Ireland can justly complain of, and that is the exclusion of all labour representation whatever from the magisterial bench. Now, as I have already pointed out, labour is an integral portion of the community. We earn at least our full proportion of its wealth. We contribute to the rates. We pay our taxes. We fulfil our duties as citizens. And yet this right is denied us. Some of our prominent men pretend to be very anxious about equal rights in a distant continent, but hold up their hands in horror if equal rights are suggested at home. Gentlemen, let it be an instruction to each delegation to bring this matter forward in their own districts; to choose their best and ablest representatives and agitate until this just demand becomes an accomplished fact—not in any spirit of cringing, but as a matter of right and justice. The same should apply to every public board in the country. Repre-

sentatives of the people should have their just proportion of seats, and nothing less should satisfy us. But always let the best men be placed in these positions. I believe also that the time has arrived when labour might be more fully represented in the House of Commons by distinctly labour members. Don't for one moment imagine that I have any fault to find with our present Irish Parliamentary Party, for I am firmly convinced that they are doing noble and herculean work for Ireland under circumstances of a most difficult and trying character (hear, hear); and I hope you will not take exception to my special mention of the names of Captain Donelan and Messrs. W. Field and E. Crean, M.P.'s, as three who have rendered yeoman service to the cause of labour in the British House of Commons. I know you will all join with me in the wish that they may long be spared to carry on their noble and laudable projects (applause). Gentlemen, I would like to suggest for your consideration a few points which are frequently arising of late in labour disputes. We often read of the wrongs done by workers when they agitate for shorter hours or increased remuneration. Hardly any language is strong enough to use against us. We are too often condemned in sledgehammer style. I believe this arises most frequently from want of thought. If people reflected they would find that all wealth is the fruit of land, labour, and capital; that aided by monopoly the landlord adds to his rents, the capitalist his prices. In fact, the capitalist changes his prices perhaps monthly, perhaps weekly, even daily, and sometimes hourly. He curtails supply. He takes advantage of short supply or of abnormal demand. He combines, "pools," joins syndicates, practises a thousand and one schemes to benefit himself without a thought of the consumer; but let labour engage in legitimate combination and it is immediately and unequivocally denounced—most unjustly, as I think. What is right and proper for capital ought to be equally so for labour. But custom, the iron-bound law of custom, will not have it so. It is, therefore, part of our duty to destroy this inequality. Again, we are frequently told that we are not rate-payers; that we do not contribute to the rates of our city or county. But such is not the case, because in rent and the selling price of all goods, rates and taxes, and, indeed, expenses and profits, in addition to the cost price, are included; so that it is beyond doubt that it is the consumer who pays everything (hear, hear). I should like, if time permits, to refer to the excessive railway charges made in Ireland on both goods and passenger traffic, and to point out the increased burden this means on all industry. The remedy is to be found in railway nationalisation, which has proved so successful in other countries not dissimilar to our own. If time had allowed, I should like to speak of the growth of monopoly, of the organisation of enormous capital in the hands of a few men, and the danger to the whole community that arises therefrom, and the remedy that is suggested; of the value of the study of Political Economy to men engaged in public work as we are; of the want of self-confidence that is one of the Irishman's drawbacks; of the revival of Irish industries and the creation of new ones, so as to stem the constant flow of emigration so

ruinous to the social and material welfare of our country; of the great movement for the preservation of the Irish Language; of the better housing of the working classes; of the extension of the Allotments Act to all cities and towns; of improved sanitation in working-class dwellings; of the great necessity that exists for the appointment of female inspectors of factories; of the retaining in Ireland of a proper proportion of Government contracts; of the thorough equipment of Haulbowline Dockyard for the building and repair of Government ships; of the recent decision of the House of Lords *re* trade union organisations, and other Government legislation which bears directly on labour. But the time at our disposal will not admit of this, and again thanking you for the favour done me by appointing me President of this important Congress, and wishing you all a pleasant and profitable sojourn in the city by the Lee, allow me to conclude by saying—God save and prosper old Ireland (applause).

Mr. JOHN SIMMONS, Dublin, proposed—"That the marked thanks of the delegates assembled be accorded to the President, Alderman Cave, for his address, which no doubt will be productive of good for the furtherance of trades unionism."

Mr. G. LEAHY, P.L.G., Dublin, seconded the motion, which was carried amidst applause.

The President briefly acknowledged the vote, and thanked them on behalf of the trade and labour bodies.

The Congress then proceeded with the agenda.

TECHNICAL SCHOLARSHIPS.

Councillor McINNES (Belfast) moved:—

"That the Department of Technical Instruction be urged to provide and offer free Scholarships in sufficient numbers and made available at every National School in the country, whereby the most capable pupils would be enabled to attend without loss to their parents the nearest Provincial or Metropolitan Technical Institute, and so train and develop the industrial resources of our countrymen." He said that it would strike them as being an injustice to the poorer classes that while it was perfectly possible for the wealthier classes to take advantage of the technical education that would be provided in the different county boroughs and in the Metropolis, those parents who had been unable to maintain their sons at a distance from their own homes would not have the same advantages as the people of the middle and higher classes who desired to train their sons up for a commercial or manufacturing life, and in order that their sons might have those advantages he moved this resolution.

Councillor LIDDELL (Belfast) seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND READING-ROOMS IN IRELAND.

Mr. E. L. RICHARDSON (Dublin Trades Council) moved:—

"That this Congress declares that Free Public Libraries and Reading Rooms under the Public Libraries Acts should be established in all the cities and large towns, and suitable village libraries

and reading-rooms should be provided in the villages of Ireland; that the Congress deplores the fact that the Urban Authorities have, with rare exceptions, neglected to establish libraries in the municipal towns, and calls upon the Trades Councils and trades bodies in every Urban District in which no Free Library at present exists to enforce their rights under the Public Libraries Act of 1894, by compelling the local authorities to take the opinion of the voters with respect to the establishment of Free Libraries; and that as the income raisable by the maximum library rate of one penny is and would in many townships be so small that the library would be inadequately equipped, and as neither County Councils nor Rural Councils have power to establish libraries or reading rooms in Rural Districts, or combine with Urban authorities for this purpose, this Congress calls upon the Government to bring in a Bill for the necessary amendment of the Libraries Acts, so that efficient libraries can be maintained." He said if a requisition signed by twenty ratepayers of a district were presented to the local body they would be bound to take a plebiscite as to the establishment of free libraries (hear, hear).

Mr. COMISKEY (Dublin) seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

RAILWAY PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTS ACT.

Mr. WALTER HUDSON (A.S.R.S.):—

"That in the opinion of this Congress, the delayed enforcement of the rules drawn up by an independent Committee, for the administration of the Prevention of Accidents Act, 1900, by the continued objections raised by railway companies and their now enforcing an appeal to the Railway and Canal Commissioners, is, in the opinion of those most deeply concerned for the safety of life and limb, an unwarrantable evasion of the provisions of the Act, by delay for the longest possible period. We ask the attention of the public to this matter, and for the assistance of all Members of Parliament, whose desire it is to see reduced to the lowest possible minimum the great waste of human life on railways, against this relentless opposition."

Mr. HARVEY (Belfast) seconded the motion, and said members of Parliament were more in favour of improving cattle waggons than looking after the prevention of accidents to railway men. Until they sent men of their own to Parliament and paid them for being there they could not have those accidents prevented (hear, hear).

The resolution was adopted.

REPORT OF STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

Mr. Wm. WALKER, P.L.G. (Belfast) Secretary of the Standing Orders Committee, presented a report, which recommended the grouping of two motions (Nos. 1 and 2) dealing with Technical Education; four motions (Nos. 11-14) with amendments, dealing with the Amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1897; two motions (Nos. 18 and 19) dealing with Coroner's Inquests; two motions (Nos.

27 and 36), dealing with the Importation of Brass and Metal Work; the withdrawal of two motions (Nos. 42 and 44), amending Standing Orders, on the application of the Parliamentary Committee; and the withdrawal of one motion (No. 31), dealing with Poor Law Reform, on the ground that the fees of the delegate representing the Land and Labour Association had not been paid. The report also recommended that Alderman Kelleher be allowed 10 minutes that afternoon to refer to the dispute between Messrs. Lunham Bros. and the Cork Society of Pork Butchers; also that Mr. T. P. Gill, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, be granted 30 minutes to address Congress on Wednesday at 12 o'clock. The report further stated that the representative of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants (Mr. E. W. Stewart) appeared before the Committee, and urged the rejection of the credentials of the delegates from the Cork Trades Council on account of the refusal of that body to accept the affiliation of the Cork Branch of the Shop Assistants' Union. The Committee decided they had no jurisdiction.

Mr. TAYLOR (Belfast) moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. STEWART (Dublin) moved the rejection of that portion of the report dealing with the Shop Assistants' complaint. He contended the Standing Orders Committee should have decided the question at issue. If the local Trades Council were a bona fide one they would allow all trades in their district to be represented. The Cork Trades Council, in order to get rid of one or two men who were obnoxious to a few who were pulling the strings, shuffled them out of the Cork body. The Shop Assistants' Union was represented in all trades councils where they had a branch.

Mr. C. COMISKEY (Dublin) seconded the amendment.

Ald. KELLEHER asserted that Mr. Stewart had no right to dictate to the Cork Trades Council the course of action they should pursue. He deprecated the idea that the Shop Assistants were not admitted to affiliation for the reasons given. He supported the decision of the Standing Orders Committee, and asserted that the Shop Assistants Committee tried to smash the Cork Trades Council.

After a short discussion, the decision of the Standing Orders Committee was accepted by 42 votes to 23.

THE FAIR WAGES RESOLUTION.

Mr. GEORGE LEAHY, P.L.G. (Dublin) moved:—

"Whereas much difficulty is experienced in obtaining particulars relating to Government contracts in Ireland, and in identifying the persons entrusted therewith; and whereas serious complaints have frequently been made against such persons for breach of the Fair Wages Resolution: Be it therefore resolved—That, in order to remove these difficulties and to secure a more rigid observance of the conditions laid down by the House of Commons, this Congress strongly urges—1st. That concise particulars of all Government contracts, together with the names, etc., of all persons whose tenders are accepted, be given in the 'Labour Gazette'; 2nd. That a penalty

of not less than five per cent. on the amount of the tenders be imposed upon all contractors who fail to comply with the Fair Wages Resolution in executing the work; 3rd. That the names, etc., of such contractors be published."

Mr. WM. WALKER, P.L.G. (Belfast), seconded the motion, and asked that the following addendum from the Belfast Trades Council should be adopted: "That contractors be deemed to violate the Fair Wages Clause who shall pay to any section of their workmen less than the standard rate of wages of the district in which the contract is executed."

Mr. HENRY REILLY (Sligo) supported the motion, and requested the Congress to accept the following further addendum from the Sligo Trades Council: "That where the Fair Wages Resolution has been adopted by any local body in Ireland it shall be imperative on the Local Government Board to insist on its practical observance, with power to cancel any contract given to employers who may violate its terms."

Councillor McINNES, Councillor LIDDELL, and Mr. O'SHEA also spoke, and the Resolution, with the Belfast and Sligo addendums, was adopted.

FEMALE FACTORY INSPECTORS IN IRELAND.

Councillor GAGEBY (Belfast) moved:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress efficient inspection of the mills, factories, and warehouses of Ireland cannot be obtained without the assistance of permanent female inspectors; and we hereby instruct the Parliamentary Committee to have this question raised in the House of Commons, either upon the estimates for the Home Office or by such other method as will best promote this end." He said there were over twenty thousand female workers in the city of Belfast alone, and they were continually complaining because they had not one of their own sex appointed to this important duty. There were questions affecting their interests which they could not nor would not communicate to a male inspector.

Miss GALWAY, Irish Textile Workers' Society, Belfast, said one inspectress was urgently needed in the city of Belfast alone. Every day in Belfast there were violations of the Truck and Factory Act in regard to female workers because there was no inspection by a female. The long hours worked by the young girls under fifteen was a disgrace.

Mr. J. O'BRIEN (Cork) supported the motion.

Mr. H. REILLY (Sligo) suggested that they should add the following to the motion:—

"And we are further of opinion that sanitary inspection in urban and rural districts in Ireland cannot be efficiently performed unless by the appointment of independent sanitary inspectors who shall be free from local influences."

Mr. GAGEBY said in Belfast they were prevented by the Local Government Board from appointing anyone they liked because the Local Government Board paid half the salary, and that was the reason he could not accept the addendum.

Councillor PRENDERGAST (Limerick) supported the motion. The resolution was adopted without the addendum.

STATE PURCHASE OF IRISH RAILWAYS.

Mr. ALEX. TAYLOR (Belfast Trades Council) moved:—

"That in the opinion of the Irish Trade Union Congress the time has fully arrived when the Irish railways should be owned and worked by the State, in the interests of the taxpayers, the travelling public, and the commercial and agricultural community. As a means to this end, it is desirable that the Irish Members of Parliament should press upon the Government the necessity of appointing a Special Commission, to sit and examine witnesses in Ireland, and to report to Parliament with the least possible delay." He said that the railways were in the hands of monopolists, and would not be to the country the benefit they should be till they were owned and worked by the State. When coming to the Congress the delegates had the greatest difficulty in obtaining cheap fares. For some extraordinary reason the Belfast Corporation when coming to the opening of the Cork Exhibition were allowed to travel first class for 35s.; but the delegates from the same place who travelled third class were charged 38s. 6d.

Councillor McCARRON (Londonderry), in seconding the motion, said if anything would kill the Cork Exhibition it was the attitude of the Irish Railways. Three years ago there was an excursion from Derry to Dublin, a distance of 166 miles, and the tickets were sold at 4s. per head. This year he thought that they could have an excursion of the kind much cheaper, and the Managers of the Great Northern Railway and the Great Southern and Western Railway were written to, but the fare was fixed at 15s. It was the railway companies across the water who controlled the fixing of the Irish railway rates, and these English companies did not wish to see Irish industries developed.

Mr. O'BRIEN (Cork) supported the motion.

Mr. HUDSON (Irish Secretary of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants) said the rates on the Irish railways were higher than those on any other railway in Europe.

Mr. HARVEY (Belfast) said the great success of the Glasgow Exhibition was due to the cheap fares given by the different railways.

Alderman DOYLE, Mr. COMISKEY (Dublin), and Mr. JOHN O'CONNOR (Cork) also supported the motion which was adopted.

CORK PORK BUTCHERS' STRIKE.

At this stage the Standing Orders were suspended in accordance with the Committee's recommendation.

Alderman KELLEHER then addressed the Congress and related the facts leading up to the pork butchers' strike at Messrs. Lunham Bros. Many of them may not be aware that for the past five weeks a strike existed in the city of Cork, and men came from Dundalk and other cities in Ireland and acted blacklegs. He wanted to ask them to inform their various Trades' Councils when they returned

home of the existence and the facts of the pork butchers' strike in the city of Cork and to see that any man who was working at that industry would not come to Cork to act as blackleg. At the outset of the strike a strike committee was formed in the city and funds were solicited and obtained from the various trade bodies affiliated to the Cork Council for the support of the men on strike and their families. On behalf of that strike committee he would also appeal to the delegates present to give some financial aid to the pork butchers so that the employers would see that they had the support not alone of the Trades' Unionists of Cork but of the delegates representing the whole of Ireland at the Congress (hear, hear).

Mr. J. O'BRIEN (Cork) suggested that a practical way to deal with the matter was to send an influential deputation to wait on Messrs. Lunham Bros. with a view to arriving at a settlement of the strike. He would therefore propose that the Congress appoint the Parliamentary Committee in conjunction with the Cork Trades' Council and the Pork Butchers' Society, to form a deputation to confer with Messrs. Lunham Bros. for the purpose of effecting a settlement of the strike.

Councillor W. J. LEAHY (Dublin) seconded Mr. O'BRIEN's motion, which was supported by Mr. McINERNEY (Limerick), and other delegates, and unanimously adopted.

THE CORK "CONSTITUTION."

Mr. D. A. KEILY (Cork), suggested, and it was agreed, that the proprietors of the Cork "Constitution" should be asked to receive a similar deputation in order to effect a settlement of a long-standing dispute between that house and the Cork Typographical Society.

The matter then dropped pending the result of the deputations.

A considerable sum was subscribed for the support of the pork butchers on strike in response to the appeal of Alderman Kelleher.

PRINTING WORK FOR IRISH PUBLIC BOARDS.

Mr. S. MONRO (Belfast) moved:—

"That in view of the triennial elections for County Councils and other public Boards in Ireland, this Congress, representing each branch of industry in this country, condemns in the strongest terms the action of those County Councils and other public Boards who do not adopt and enforce the provisions of the Fair Contracts Resolution in all tenders for printing, advertising, and other work, and we declare that public bodies should take every possible means to prevent local contractors for printing and book-binding from subletting such contracts, or exporting portions of the work out of the country, while many willing and competent Irish workmen and Ratepayers are compelled to remain unemployed through such reprehensible and unpatriotic practices."

Mr. JOHN MURPHY (Belfast) seconded the motion.

Mr. D. DENEHY (Cork), proposed to add:—

"And this Congress further calls upon all representatives of labour upon Irish public boards to oppose the granting of advertise-

THE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

FELLOW-DELEGATES—Your Committee beg to present a record of their proceedings for the past year.

Immediately after the adjournment of the Sligo Congress, copies of all resolutions dealing with matters then before Parliament were forwarded to members of the Government, the heads of the Various Departments, and to the Secretaries of the Irish Party. In regard to

THE FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS BILL,

which was the principal measure then before the House, the amendments adopted by Congress were immediately placed on the Notice Paper, in accordance with the following notification:—

7th June, 1901.

Dear Mr. Richardson—I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst., and agreeably to your request placed the letter and the amendments to the Factory and Workshops Bill before the meeting of the Irish Party yesterday, and it was agreed that Mr. Nannetti should place these amendments down when the Bill obtains second reading and is referred to the Grand Committee on Trade. The other resolutions adopted at the Irish Trades Union Congress, respecting various other Bills, shall have the careful attention of the Party whenever opportunities may arise.—With kind regards, believe me, very truly yours,

WM. ABRAHAM, Joint Hon. Sec., I. P. P.

Your Secretary was in daily communication with the Member for College Green Division of Dublin while the Factory and Workshops Bill was in Committee, with the result that, through the hon. Member's watchfulness, many of the amendments urged by Congress and your Committee, including the long-time agitated "Particulars Clause," have been incorporated in that Measure. Further on in this report will be found interesting statements made by the Home Secretary in Parliament in reply to questions put by Mr. Nannetti, M.P., regarding the appointment of Female Factory Inspectors in Ireland, and other matters.

With regard to the resolution of Congress on

TECHNICAL EDUCATION,

the Vice-President of the Department of Agricultural and Technical Instruction writes:—

Dublin, 18th June, 1901.

Dear Mr. Richardson—It was only to-day that I had an opportunity of reading the resolution of the Irish Trades Congress with reference to Technical Education, etc., which you were kind enough to send me. I need scarcely say that I am in complete accord with the opinion expressed by the Congress that "the important question of the revival and retention of home industries has a material connection with the advancement of primary, normal and technical education," and that "it is essential to the success of any movement having for its object the development of the resources of the country that the fullest scope should be given to the mental and manual training of our apprentices, artisans, tradesmen and agriculturists." The Department fully recognise these facts, and I think it will be found that no effort on their part will be wanting to make the system of Technical Instruction, which is being initiated under their direction, fully subserve the needs of all those connected with our Irish trades and industries.

With regard to the last part of the resolution, which deals with the direct representation of the Trades Unions upon the Board of Technical Instruction,

this seems to be a matter which requires legislation, as, of course, the Department cannot alter in any way the constitution of the Board as set forth in Section 10 of the Agriculture and Technical Instruction (Ireland) Act, 1899. It is true that the Department nominate four members on the Board, and, of course, this gives the Department an opportunity of selecting persons representative of any interests that may not be represented by the members appointed by the County Boroughs or by the provincial Committees of the Council of Agriculture.—Yours very truly,
HORACE PLUNKETT.

In this connexion a bill has been brought in by the hon. Member for Newry (Mr. P. H. Carvill) to extend the powers of the Department—that of agriculture and other industries and technical instruction for Ireland—in the matter of the development of tourist traffic, and to amend the Agriculture and Technical Instruction Ireland Act, 1899.

Regarding the resolution of Congress calling for the re-establishment of a

RECEIVING DEPOT AND THE EXTENSION OF THE ORDNANCE
WORKSHOP SYSTEM IN IRELAND,

in connection with supplies for the troops, the following letter has been received:—

War Office, Pall Mall, S.W., July 17th, 1901.

Sir—With reference to your letter of 12th June, which has been referred to this Department by the Admiralty, enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted by the Irish Trades Union Congress, relative to the establishment in Ireland of a Depot in connection with this Department, I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to acquaint you that it is not considered that any advantages which might possibly be derived from the establishment of an Irish Depot would compensate for the considerable difficulty and expense involved in such an establishment.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

W. P. PERRY, Assistant Director of Army Contracts.

The Secretary, Irish Trades Union Congress.

In regard to this matter and the extension of the Ordnance Workshops System in Ireland, your Committee have availed themselves of every opportunity of pressing upon the authorities the desirability of meeting the demands of Irish workers. They have been greatly fortified by the evidence given before the War Department Organization Committee by the Commander of the Forces in Ireland (here annexed), and have strong hopes of securing this reform in the near future, as the Committee in their report presented to Parliament on the 12th June last made the significant recommendation that “the relations between the contracts and supplies departments call for immediate re-adjustment.”

Extract from Minutes of Evidence given before the Committee on War Office Organization by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, Commander of the Forces in Ireland, pp. 365-366.

Q.—You recommend that the scope of the ordnance workshops in Ireland should be extended, and that simple articles should be manufactured in them?
A.—Most certainly.

Q.—It would be very desirable to do so, would it not? A.—Most desirable. The present system is a great expense to the Government, because all these things have to be sent over to Ireland, and the freight is considerable, whereas they could be bought or made on the spot.

Q.—What are ordnance workshops limited to doing in Ireland? A.—Repairs, really. That is the only thing they are doing.

Q.—And it would be a matter of policy also to employ Irish labour to supply the army? A.—Yes.

Q.—Your point is, sir, that your ordnance workshops should be allowed to make anything they can? A.—Yes.

Q.—The store accommodation. A.—Is complete.

Q.—Your general recommendation, I take it, is in the direction of making Ireland a self-contained and self-supporting organization so far as the forces go? A.—Yes; that is entirely my contention. I think it is the most practical plan.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, ETC., ETC.

Formal replies, acknowledging receipt of copies of resolutions adopted by Congress have been received from Mr. A. J. Balfour, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, the Home Secretary, the Board of Trade, the War Office, the Admiralty, the Chief Secretary, the Lord Chancellor, Sir Charles Dilke, the Town Clerk of Belfast, and from the Mayor of Cardiff, acknowledging with thanks receipt of the Congress subscription in aid of the sufferers in the Welsh Colliery Disaster. Your Committee direct attention to the replies of the Chief Secretary and the First Lord of the Treasury to questions on the appointment of Workingmen Magistrates and the amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act, which will be found further on in this report.

FEES FOR DEATH CERTIFICATES.

With regard to the resolution calling for a reduction of the fees chargeable for death certificates in the case of members of Trade Unions, the Chairman and Secretary of your Committee waited on the Registrar-General on the 18th June, who informed them that he had no power in the matter as the fees payable to registrars and superintendent registrars in cases both of deceased members of Trade Unions and of registered Friendly Societies were fixed by Statute.

DIRECT LABOUR ON ROADS.

With reference to this matter your Committee have pleasure in reporting that in accordance with the undertaking given by the Chief Secretary to your Committee in January, 1901, (see last report) the Provisional Order promoted by the Irish Government legalising the employment by the County and District Councils of direct labour on the maintenance of public roads has been placed on the Statute Book.

STEAM BOILERS (PERSONS IN CHARGE) BILL.

In regard to this measure, which engaged the attention of a Select Committee during last Session, your Secretary was called as a witness on behalf of the Congress on the 5th July. The following is a brief resumé of his evidence, contained in replies to some sixty questions put by the Chairman and other Members of the Committee, including Mr. Nannetti:—

Mr. E. L. Richardson (Dublin) called in and examined. He said he was local correspondent to the Labour Department of the Board of Trade for Dublin and district, and Secretary to the Parliamentary Committee of the Irish Trades Union Congress, which represented over 70,000 organized workers in Ireland. He

appeared before the Committee in the latter capacity in support of the Bill. He produced the official reports of the proceedings of the Irish Trades Congress in Dublin (1894), Limerick (1896), Belfast (1898), Londonderry (1899), Dublin (1900), and Sligo (1901). At each of these meetings of the representatives of the trades of Ireland (at which he was present) resolutions were adopted urging that it should be enacted by Parliament that all persons having charge of steam engines and boilers in factories and public works should give evidence of their fitness before being placed in charge. So strongly did they feel on this matter in Ireland that at the last general election he was instructed to inquire from each candidate whether if elected to Parliament he (the candidate) would support the present Bill, or some such measure having a provision for the certification of enginemen. He was glad to say that over 60 of the present Irish members answered that question in the affirmative. He was also past President and a member for nearly 12 years of the Dublin United Trades Council. He had during that time ample opportunities of discovering the desires of those most intimately concerned in this matter, and he had no hesitation in stating that the one thing which the Engine and Boilermen's Society had for years past persistently agitated was the placing on the Statute Book of some such provision as is contemplated by the present Bill for securing that qualified and certified men only should be placed in charge of steam engines and boilers.

Your Committee have satisfaction in reporting that the Bill passed the ordeal of the Select Committee's exhaustive examination without the slightest amendment, but regret to state that its chance of reaching the Statute Book is at present unfavourable.

RETURNING OFFICERS CHARGES.

In obedience to the decision of Congress your Committee prepared the following petition, which was duly signed by your officers and presented to Parliament by the Hon. Member for College Green on the 11th July:—

The Petition of the Representatives and Delegates of the Irish United Trades Congress, at the meetings in the Town Hall, Sligo, Whit week, 1901

Humbly Sheweth,

1. That your Petitioners are Delegates elected to represent upwards of sixty thousand skilled artisans, labourers, and female workers from each province in Ireland.

2. That your Petitioners have been duly authorised by their constituents to pray your Honourable House to give effect and sanction to any Bill introduced into your Honourable House for the purpose of defraying expenses of returning officers in Parliamentary Elections out of the public rates, as is now authorised in the case of County Council, School Board, Municipal, Poor Law, and similar elections.

3. That as the incidence of taxation for the payment of returning officers' official expenses incurred through the holding of a Parliamentary Election for either borough or county division would be as equitably imposed as for any other public election paid for out of the rates, your Petitioners respectfully submit that the present anomaly ought to be abolished, and thus enable the electorate to have a wider choice of candidates and more perfect purity of elections.

4. That your Petitioners believe your Honourable House would be acceding to a long-expressed feeling of the majority of the electorate of the United Kingdom in giving legislative sanction to the matters herein set forth.

5. Your Petitioners therefore pray that your Honourable House will take such steps as may be necessary to secure an Act of Parliament declaring that all official expenses incurred by the duly authorised returning officer in any election for a Member of Parliament shall be allowed and paid for out of the public rates of the locality in which such election shall be held.

And your Petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Signed by the President and Office-bearers in the name of and by the authority of the Irish United Trades Congress.

IRISH LOCAL BODIES AND THE FAIR WAGES RESOLUTION.

On the 30th August the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary of your Committee waited by arrangement on the meeting of the Irish County Councils General Council for the purpose of impressing upon them the terms of the motions passed at Sligo relative to the non-observance of the Fair Wages Resolution by County Councils and other local bodies in Ireland in the execution of their contracts. Your deputation received a sympathetic hearing, and, after some discussion, the Chairman (Sir Thos. G. Esmonde, Bart., M.P.), in assuring them of his personal interest in the matter, urged the desirability of making representations to each of the County and other Councils who had not adopted the resolution, which, he felt sure, would be backed up by the members present at that meeting.

On the 9th October the same subject was brought under the notice of the Local Government Board by a deputation from your Committee (Messrs. McManus, McCarron, T.C., and Richardson), accompanied by Mr. Nannetti, M.P. The deputation laid special emphasis on the Limerick case where the auditor surcharged the Limerick County Council because of their accepting a tender for printing executed under fair conditions within the county at £10 over a tender offered by an outside contractor who did not conform in any way to the Fair Wages Resolution. It was urged that the auditor should have considered certain sections of the Local Government Act together, which gave such officials power to have regard to the intentions of Parliament in dealing with matters of this character, instead of relying upon one clause of the Act. It was also strongly urged that the Board should instruct their auditors to have regard to the terms of the Resolution in checking payments for contract work executed for local bodies in Ireland.

The reply of the Vice-president (Sir Henry Robinson, K.C.B.) was sympathetic, and while he could not promise to have the Limerick case re-opened he undertook that every matter into which the Fair Wages Resolution entered would be specially considered by them, and that they, as a Board, were in complete accord with the objects which the deputation had referred to.

SIR CHARLES DILKE'S VISIT TO DUBLIN.

In conjunction with the Dublin Trades Council and the local branch of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, your committee undertook the arrangements for the great labour meeting addressed by The Right Hon. Sir Charles Dilke, M.P., in the Ancient Concert Rooms on Tuesday evening, the 8th October, at which the Lord Mayor and members for the city also spoke. The meeting was a remarkable success, and the results have been satisfactory.

SECOND YEAR OF OFFICE FOR LORD MAYORS.

Having forwarded copies of the Congress resolution on this question to the Dublin Corporation, the following reply has been received from the Town Clerk:—

The Town Clerk's Office, City Hall, Dublin, 13th August, 1901.

Dear Sir—I duly submitted your letter of the 9th ultimo, enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted by the Irish Trades Union Congress of 1901, in reference to the practice of appointing Lord Mayors or Mayors for two years in succession, to the Municipal Council at their meeting on yesterday, when I was directed to inform you that the Council had already instructed me to frame a Standing Order to the effect that no Lord Mayor in the City of Dublin do hold the Office for more than one year.

I think it only right to inform you at the same time that counsel has already advised that such a Standing Order would be *ultra vires* and could not be enforced.—I am, yours faithfully,

HENRY CAMPBELL, Town Clerk.

In face of this statement, your committee are agreed that the only method of giving effect to this resolution is by pledging candidates at election-times against the practice.

MILITARY CANTEEN CONTRACTS.

Consequent on the character of the replies hitherto received from the War Office in this matter, your Committee, in order to test the matter, addressed communications to the General commanding the Curragh District, to which the following is the reply:—

District Office, Curragh Camp, 17th August, 1901.

Sir—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 15th August on the subject of the Canteen Contract in the Curragh District.

The position of the Military Authorities here in the matter is a simple one, *i.e.*, to do the best they can for the soldier. The tender accepted offered better quality at more favourable rates than those that were declined. Reference to a War Office specialist confirmed the view of the local Military Authority and the tender was definitely accepted.

If the resolution forwarded implies that preference should have been given to tenders of Irish firms, on the ground of national industries, apart from the question of the most advantageous terms, I must point out that in view of the free trade system which prevails in the United Kingdom, it is quite beyond my local competence to adopt such a measure of protection.

The Military Authorities here will, of course, consider all future tenders on their merits, and would be very glad to find successful Irish competition.

It is possible that the separation of the contract for porter from that for ale might favour the acceptance of Irish contracts for the former, but I cannot say offhand whether this separation would prove a satisfactory or convenient arrangement.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

HERBERT CHERMSIDE, Major-General,
Commanding Curragh District.

The Hon. Secretary, Parliamentary Committee, Irish Trade Union Congress.

On receipt of this letter copies of its contents were immediately sent to the secretaries of the brewing companies, which your Committee were informed were interested in the matter. One replied that they had no concern in the question of canteen contracts; the other did not even vouchsafe an acknowledgement. Questions in Parliament in this connection will be found further on in this Report.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY AND YOUR COMMITTEE.

In accordance with the usual practice, application was made to the Chief Secretary to grant the customary pre-Parliamentary interview to your Committee for the purpose of submitting to him, as the representative of the Government in Ireland, those matters dis-

cussed at the Sligo Congress which came within the purview of the different Government departments. The following is the reply received:—

December 20th, 1901.

Dear Sir—In reply to your letter of the 14th inst., requesting the Chief Secretary to receive a deputation from the Irish Trades Union Congress on the 7th of January next, he desires me to say that he will be at that date absent from Dublin, as he has an engagement in the north of Ireland. He directs me further to say that in view of his many pressing political and administrative duties he sees no prospect of being able to fix a date before the beginning of the Parliamentary Session on which to receive your deputation, and he is compelled, therefore, to ask you to be good enough to put into writing the representations which you desire to bring before him.

The Chief Secretary is fully aware of the importance of the class of questions with which your organization deals; they appear to him of much greater consequence than many of those to which his time is devoted, but it is a necessary part of Parliamentary Government that the attention of a Minister must be largely, and even principally directed to those subjects which chiefly interest his Parliamentary critics. The subjects with which Irish Members of Parliament mainly concern themselves must, from the nature of the case, occupy the attention of the Parliamentary head of the Irish Government to an extent which seriously diminishes, though it does not exclude, his consideration of other matters equally or more important.

Mr. Wyndham will give the fullest consideration which circumstances permit to any views and facts which you may put before him in writing, and he directs me to express his regret that the exigencies of his position prevent him from receiving your personal representations.—Yours truly,

P. HANSON.

To the Hon. Secretary of the Irish Trades Union Congress.

Your Secretary thereupon immediately forwarded the following letter and memorandum to Mr. Wyndham:—

Irish Trades Union Congress,
Parliamentary Committee,
Dublin, 4th January, 1902

Right Hon. Sir—I am in receipt of your favour of the 20th ulto. While my committee very much regret your inability to receive them at present, owing to the pressure of engagements, they venture to hope that during the Easter Recess they may be accorded the favour of an interview. In the meantime, and in accordance with their instructions, and your desire, I beg to submit the enclosed memorandum of the matters which they are anxious, through you, to bring under the notice of the different Government Departments, and respectfully beg that you will be good enough to urge their importance upon the attention of his Majesty's Ministers. I enclose copy of the report of our last Congress, with the matters referred to marked for your guidance, and rely upon your good offices in the desired direction.—

I am, etc.,

E. L. RICHARDSON, Hon. Sec.

MEMORANDUM

War Department—(a) In regard to the boycott of Irish contractors in the matter of canteen supplies for the troops stationed in Ireland, (b) asking for an equitable share of the contracts for general supplies for troops stationed in Ireland, and (c) for the extension of the ordnance workshop system in Ireland.

Board of Trade—(a) Complaining of the delay in putting into operation the Railways (Prevention of Accidents) Act; (b) asking for the amendment of the Railway Regulation Act of 1893, empowering the Board of Trade to make periodical inquiries into railwaymen's hours; (c) calling for such alteration in the law as will legalise the appearance of officials of the railwaymen's union at inquiries into the death or injury of railwaymen while following

their occupation, as now obtains for miners under the Mines Act; and (d) calling for the amendment of the Merchandise Marks Act in regard to the stamping of marks of origin on bottles and other articles imported into this country.

Home Office—(a) Directing the attention of the Department to the ventilation of flax-sorting shops, and (b) calling for the appointment of a resident female factory inspector for Ireland.

Treasury—(a) Directing attention to an anomaly in regard to Stationery Office contracts; (b) asking for the publication in "Labour Gazette" of the names, etc., of all persons whose tenders are accepted for Government contracts, and other proposals for the better working of the Fair Wages Resolution; and (c) calling for amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act in regard to the 30 feet limit, painter's plant, etc.

General—Asking the support of the Government for the Steam Engines and Boilers (Persons in Charge) Bill; the Bakehouses Bill; Sir Charles Dilke's Shops Bill; and for the passage of similar facilities for Private Bill legislation in Ireland as now obtains in Scotland.

To this the following reply was received, the request expressed therein being forthwith complied with.

Chief Secretary's Office, Dublin Castle, 6th January, 1902.

Dear Sir—The Chief Secretary directs me to acknowledge your letter of 4th inst., enclosing memorandum of matters which the Irish Trades Union Congress wish to bring to the notice of Government, and a copy of your report.

He desires me to say that he will be happy to enquire of the various Government Departments concerning the matters mentioned in the memorandum, and that it would facilitate the process of reference if you would be good enough to send me half a dozen more copies of the Report, so that one could be sent to each Department.—Yours truly,

P. HANSON.

The Hon. Sec., Irish Trades Union Congress, Parliamentary Committee.

THE IRISH PARLIAMENTARY PARTY AND YOUR COMMITTEE.

In response to an application to Mr. John Redmond, M.P., on behalf of your Committee for an interview with himself and his principal colleagues, that gentleman wrote:—

8 Leeson-park, Dublin,

21st December, 1901.

Dear Mr. Richardson—In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, I beg to say it will afford me great pleasure to meet a deputation from the Parliamentary Committee of the Irish Trades Congress, on the 10th January, at any place and time convenient to your friends.—Very truly yours,

J. E. REDMOND.

It was accordingly arranged, by kind permission of the Lord Mayor, that your Committee* should meet Mr. Redmond and his colleagues in the Mansion House, Dublin, on the date named at five o'clock p.m. The following is a brief *resumé* of the proceedings, which have already been fully reported:—

MR. J. P. NANNETTI, M.P. Dublin (College Green), in introducing the deputation, said the Committee represented about 100,000 Irish Trade Unionists. They were men who held divergent views on all questions save that of Labour, and although many of them also disagreed with the main policy of the Irish Party, they were unanimous in acknowledging the good work which the Party had done, and was capable of doing, for Irish workers.

MR. HUGH McMANUS, asked for the co-operation of Mr. Redmond and his colleagues in having the Fair Wages Resolution of the House of Commons more

* Mr. Chambers, P.L.G., attended in place of Mr. Alex. Bowman, whose absence was unavoidable.

generally observed by local popular bodies in Ireland. He complained that one of the objects of the National organization was more honoured in the breach than the observance. It provided for "*The practical observance by all public bodies of the Trade Union rules of skilled and unskilled labour regarding those in their employment; and, where contracting is unavoidable, to employ only such persons as pay the Trade Union rate of wages and observe the standard hours of labour adopted by the trades.*" He also deprecated the exportation of public printing work, paid for by local ratepayers, and urged that more local effort should be put forth in each district to help the Parliamentary Committee in enforcing the Fair Wages Resolution.

MR. WALTER HUDSON complained that practically nothing had been done to put the Railways (Prevention of Accidents) Acts, 1900, into operation. In regard to the working of the Railway Regulation Act, 1893, he asked for the support of the Irish members in having the law amended, so that the onus of complaint should be placed on the Board of Trade. He also asked for support of Mr. Channing's Bill legalising the appearance of trade union officials at coroner's, and other inquiries into the death of, or accident to, workmen while following their employment.

COUNCILLOR LIDDELL and MR. JOHN SIMMONS contended for the amendment of the Workmen's Compensation Act, abolishing the 30 ft. limit, and the bringing of painters' plant, and painters' and decorators' work when applied to buildings, etc., within the scope of the Act.

COUNCILLOR W. J. LEAHY complained of the boycott of Irish breweries by the War Office authorities in the canteen supplies for troops stationed in Ireland. He asked for the active support of the Irish Party in redressing this grievance.

MR. JAMES CHAMBERS, P.L.G., also complained of the action of the War Department in refusing to appoint an Examiner for the existing Receiving Depot at Arbour Hill, Dublin. He also contended that much, if not all, barrack stores and requisites for the use of the troops in Ireland could be manufactured in Ireland, instead of being imported here from cross-Channel sweating dens, if the authorities extended the Ordnance Workshop System in this country. He quoted from the Duke of Connaught's Evidence before the War Department Organization Committee (pages 365, 366, questions 8789-8799, 8803-8818, 8821) in support of his claim.

MR. GEORGE LEAHY, P.L.G., referred to the subletting of Government contracts in Ireland, which he alleged was done in violation of the Fair Wages Resolution.

COUNCILLOR MCCARRON asked for support for amending the Factory Act in the direction of abolishing outworking in the tailoring trade by the compulsory erection of workshops for the operatives.

MR. E. L. RICHARDSON thanked Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party for the support given to the Factory Act, and the Sale of Liquor to Children Act of last session. He referred to the decisions in the Taff Vale Case and Leatham v. Quinn, and stated that two Bills would be immediately introduced dealing with picketing, and providing for the better protection of the provident funds of trade unions. He solicited the co-operation of the Irish members in placing these important measures on the statute book. He also asked for support for Sir Charles Dilke's Shops Bill, the Steam Engines and Boilers (Persons in Charge) Bill, the Bakehouses Bill, and other measures affecting Irish workers.

MR. REDMOND expressed the great pleasure it gave him to meet the Deputation and hear their views on the various questions under consideration. Speaking for the Irish Party, he assured the Deputation that they were most anxious that the Fair Wages Resolution should be practically observed by all public bodies in the country. Speaking on the question of the prevention of railway accidents, Mr. Redmond told the Deputation that he was in full sympathy with the demands put forward by the men, and he promised that he and his friends would do all in their power to assist Mr. Richard Bell, M.P., to have the Railways (Prevention of Accidents) Acts, 1900, put into operation. He also said that they were in favour of amending the Railway Regulation Act, 1893, in such a way that the onus of proof in cases of excessive hours of duty should not be left as at present resting on the men themselves. On the question of the Workmen's Compensation Act, Mr. Redmond also expressed his sympathy with the views put forward by the deputation, and promised to give all the assistance

possible to get the thirty feet limit abolished, and to bring painters, decorators and other workmen within the scope of the Act. Speaking generally, Mr. Redmond expressed his agreement with the views put forward by the Deputation, and hoped that, in future, meetings between the Irish Trades Union representatives and the Irish Parliamentary Party might be more frequent than in the past.

Your Committee beg to report that shortly after this interview the Board of Trade awoke to the importance of the Railways (Prevention of Accidents) Act, 1900, which is now being put into operation.

THE TAFF VALE CASE AND LEATHEM V. QUINN, ETC.

Your Committee have given the decisions of the House of Lords in these cases their earnest consideration. They have been in constant communication with the secretaries of the British and Scottish Congresses, and although bills have been introduced to Parliament, dealing with picketing and the better protection of the provident funds of Trade Unions, they recognise the enormous difficulties of attempting to carry these measures through the House of Commons, not to mention the House of Lords, as at present constituted. They are indebted to their colleagues of the Scotch Parliamentary Committee for the accompanying valuable legal opinion.

QUERIES FOR THE OPINION AND ADVICE OF COUNSEL.

OPINION OF COUNSEL.

1. To what extent are Trades Unions liable for the illegal acts of (a) their Executives or Officials, or ordinary Members acting on instructions from them; (b) Officials or ordinary Members acting in violation of instructions; and (c) Non-members who may be co-operating with them in any Trade movement or dispute?
2. To what extent are said Executives, Officials, Members, and Non-members liable in respect of the same acts?
3. By what means would it be possible for Trades Unions to protect their funds against attachment by legal diligence, so that such funds might still be available for Benefit and Trade purposes?
1. I am of opinion that Trades Unions are liable to the full extent of their funds for illegal acts done by their Executives and Officials and also by their ordinary Members acting on instructions from them. For acts done by Officials within the ordinary scope of their duties Trades Unions are, in my judgment, liable, even though such acts were done contrary to instructions. But I consider that no Trades Union is responsible for acts done by Members or Non-members who have no instructions to do the acts complained of.
2. I am of opinion that Members of Executive, Officials, Members, and Non-members are liable, each to the full extent of his own means, for illegal acts committed by each. But, unless they are acting in conspiracy, each is liable only for the consequences of his own acts, and not for the acts of others.
3. I cannot advise the Memorialists to adopt the plan suggested.* Apart from the objections urged in the Memorial, I entertain doubts of its efficacy to secure the funds for their legitimate purposes.

* The plan here suggested the placing of the funds of local Unions in the hands of Federations of allied industries.

QUERIES FOR THE OPINION AND ADVICE OF COUNSEL.

OPINION OF COUNSEL.

4. Does the Taff Vale decision involve
(a) liability on the part of Trades Unions to be sued for all purposes—e.g., for debts, or for delicts, or quasi delicts only; and (b) the right to sue in the registered name (omitting, of course, the matters specified in Section 4 of the 1871 Act)?
5. Is the decision in *Quinn v. Leatham* to be regarded as prohibiting such acts as (a) publishing a list of fair shops, or otherwise making known the merits of a trade dispute, where the effect may be to alienate customers; and (b) publishing lists of defaulting members under the heading of "Rats" or the like?
6. Must that decision also be regarded as a bar against (a) strikers seeking in a peaceful manner to increase the number striking, and (b) the sympathetic strike of men in other trades?
7. To what extent and under what circumstances are strikers entitled in the exercise of moral suasion only (a) to induce men desirous of entering the service of an employer whose men are on strike not to do so, and (b) to induce them to leave after they have entered?
8. Has Counsel anything further to add?
4. Yes; I think so.
5. Yes; provided it can be shown to the satisfaction of the Jury that the acts mentioned were done with a malicious purpose.
6. I answer this query in the negative.
7. I think that strikers are at liberty to reason and expostulate with other men in order to induce them to take the course suggested in the query. But strikers are not, I think, at liberty to molest or threaten or use of force even for the attainment of the ends set out in the query.
8. I have nothing to add,

The Opinion of
ALEX. URE.

27th Dec., 1901.

As a further guide to the Unions affiliated to Congress, your Committee desire to submit the following memorandum from the pen of Mr. Clem. Edwards, B.L.:—

The gravity of the Taff Vale decision has been greatly increased by a number of decisions which have been given in recent years in reference to the quality and degree of actionable wrongs of which a Trades Union official may be guilty. According to the interpretation of the law it was hitherto generally thought that an officer of a Trades Union had a legal right to do the following things:—

1. To stand outside a house or works, and peaceably ask a man not to work for an employer where a dispute was in progress.
2. To issue a list of "blacklegs" or non-union firms.
3. To tell employer B that if he supplies material to employer A with whom a dispute is in progress his men will come out on strike.
4. To tell an employer that if he does not discharge certain non-unionists his unionist workmen will be drawn out on strike.

But during the last eight years, a series of decisions have been given, upsetting the foregoing views of the law. Taking each of the four points separately we find that:—

1. The case of *Lyons v. Wilkins* decided that the picketing of the works or place of business of an employer for the purpose of persuading people (even peaceably), whether masters or men, not to work for him, is an actionable wrong, as being a "watching and besetting" contrary to the Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act.

2. The case of *Trollope v. London Building Trades Federation* decided that to issue a black list of "free labourers" or non-unionist employers is an actionable wrong.
3. *Temperton v. Russell* decided that it is an actionable wrong against employer A for the union men in the employment of employer B to strike or to threaten to strike if he continues to use material supplied by employer A with a view to induce employer A to comply with union rules.
4. And the last point has been dealt with in the recent Irish case of *Quinn v. Leatham*. The case decided, among other things, that for union officials to threaten an employer that they will withdraw union men from his works unless he discharges some non-union men may be an actionable wrong against such an employer.

A Trade Union may now, by reason of the *Taff Vale* decision, be sued for damages for any of these wrongs (as well as others) if committed by an officer acting as the authorised agent of the union.

THE CARDIFF CASE.

Your Committee, however, direct attention to the judgment delivered at Cardiff by Mr. Justice Walton on March 25th, 1902, in the case of *Giblan v. The Amalgamated Labourers Union of Great Britain and Ireland—Harry W. Williams, General Secretary, and John Toomey, Local Secretary and Agent*—which seems to suggest a way of getting out of the decisions of the House of Lords above referred to. The facts of the case may be briefly stated. The plaintiff had been treasurer of a trades union. In that capacity he misappropriated some of the funds of his organisation, which, however, instead of prosecuting him compromised the matter by an agreement under which he was to pay back by instalments the amount of his defalcations. He failed to fulfil his part of the agreement, and he also failed to comply with the order of the court to which he was subsequently summoned. Eventually he was expelled the union, and a circular was issued stating that he was thenceforth to be treated as a non-unionist. The consequence was that strikes occurred in every place in which he was employed, and he at last sued the union and two of its chief officials for conspiring to prevent him from getting employment. Mr. Justice Walton decided that while the two officials of the defendant union (Williams and Toomey) were responsible and should pay damages, the union itself was not so, because its registered rules having made no provision for a strike against a non-unionist or an expelled member it could not have ordered such a strike, and any act of that character done by its officials was *ultra vires*, and therefore could not have been punished, except so far as these officials were personally concerned. In other words, Mr. Justice Walton laid down that unions are not liable for such acts of their agents as are done outside the scope of their authority, from which it may be inferred that unions to be safe in such cases have only to frame their rules so as to leave their agents no authority to conspire to boycott. If this decision is upheld it is scarcely too much to say that it reduces to nought the *Taff Vale* decision.

THE MANCHESTER CASE.

But the hopes of the workers consequent upon the decision in the Cardiff case was short-lived, for at the Manchester Assizes on

the 12th April, 1902, before Mr. Justice Wills, one Sydney Joseph Thomas, working joiner, of Warrington, sued the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners for damages for unlawfully procuring his dismissal from his employment and for conspiring to prevent employers giving him employment. Plaintiff asserted that owing to his having worked in a non-union shop the members of the defendant society had procured his dismissal from employment, threatening his employers that they would bring all the union men out if he was allowed to stay. The defence was the society had done nothing illegal, and that they were entitled to protect the general interests of their society in the manner in which they had done. The jury found for the plaintiff with £100 damages, and Mr. Justice Wills granted an injunction preventing further interference with Thomas's actions.

It seems, therefore, to your Committee that the Taff Vale Case and *Leathem v. Quinn* have opened the legal flood-gates, to close which an act of Legislature can alone be effective.

DEPUTATION TO THE SCOTTISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

In accordance with the unanimous direction of the Sligo Congress, your Committee appointed their Chairman, Mr. Hugh McManus, and Councillor William Liddell, to represent them at the Sixth Annual Scottish Trades Congress, held at Falkirk, on the 23rd—26th ultimo. The following is their report:—

What struck us most during the proceedings was the important discussion (in camera) on the recent trade union decisions in the House of Lords and the law courts. The assistance of men of the highest legal standing in Scotland was at the service of the delegates during this discussion in Falkirk. The interesting portion of the debate was the questions from all aspects put by the various delegates, and answered by their legal advisers, both orally and written.

We need not dilate on the questions discussed in public; ye know them.

One thing is strongly in favour of the Scottish as compared to the Irish Congress. That is, the financial support accorded to the Parliamentary Committee to assist in carrying out the resolutions annually arrived at. This has always been a sore point—a weak point—with us in Ireland. Can we remedy it?

The Congress in Falkirk appointed two of the best known trade unionists in Scotland to represent them—in response to our invitation—during the proceedings of the Cork Congress. Both Messrs. Alex. Haddow and John Templeton will certainly do their duty. We are sure of your cordial Irish welcome to our friends from Scotland.

HUGH McMANUS,
WILLIAM LIDDELL, T.C.

1st May, 1902.

THE EARLY CLOSING OF SHOPS.

It will be in the recollection of Congress that your Secretary was, in March of last year, summoned to give evidence before Lord Avebury's Committee on the Early Closing of Shops. (*Vide Report Sligo Congress, p. 32*). The report of that Committee was issued as a Parliamentary paper in July last, and therein their lordships state that—

The evidence has satisfied the Committee that the subject is one of urgent importance, and that the existing evils show no general or sufficient sign of amendment. They are able to appeal to the highest medical testimony as to the injury thus caused, and in their opinion serious warnings from the heads

of the medical profession cannot safely be disregarded. The evidence has convinced the Committee that earlier closing would be an immense boon to the shopkeeping community, to shopkeepers and shop assistants alike, that the present hours are grievously injurious to health, especially in the case of women, and under these circumstances they recommend that Town Councils should be authorised to pass provisional orders making such regulations in respect to the closing of shops as may seem to them to be necessary for the area under their jurisdiction.

While the findings of Lord Avebury's Committee completely justify the demands of Congress upon this question, your Committee are agreed that the remedy recommended is totally inadequate, and that nothing short of a compulsory measure can satisfactorily cope with the evils disclosed.

QUESTIONS IN PARLIAMENT.

At the instance of your Committee, the member for College Green has been good enough to put the following questions to ministers:—

THE FACTORY ACT AND THE TAILORING TRADE.

MR. NANNETTI: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department whether he will take advantage of the Committee now sitting to amend the Factory and Workshop Acts so as to give effect to the request of the Irish Trades Congress sent to him to have it made imperative that all employers in the tailoring trade shall be compelled to provide sufficient and suitable workshops for all those employed at that trade; and whether he will also propose a clause making it illegal to have the work of clothes making in bedrooms or living rooms by out workers.

MR. RITCHIE: The questions raised by the hon. Member are amongst those which I have considered in drafting the Bill, and he will find in it provisions which go as far in the direction indicated as I think practicable.

INSPECTION OF IRISH FACTORIES.

MR. NANNETTI: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he is aware of the necessity existing in the north of Ireland for additional female factory inspectors, if the textile factories in that part of the country are to be properly inspected; and having regard to the fact that the Irish Trades Congress have passed resolutions asking for an additional female inspector to be appointed, whether he can see his way to appoint an Irish lady to this position.

MR. RITCHIE: As I stated yesterday, if the Factory Bill passes, I will carefully consider whether any increase is required in the inspectorate, but as regards lady inspectors, they are not broken up into English, Scotch and Irish departments, but are all available for service throughout the United Kingdom. This is an arrangement which has great advantages, and which I am not prepared to disturb. If, however, any vacancy does arise, I shall be glad to consider the claims of Irish ladies.

MR. NANNETTI: I do not ask for a lady resident in Ireland, although of course I should be pleased to see one appointed.

WORKINGMEN MAGISTRATES IN IRELAND.

MR. NANNETTI: I beg to ask Mr. Attorney General for Ireland whether he has received a resolution from the Irish Trades Congress calling for the appointment of workingmen to the magistracy; and whether it is intended to extend the principle of appointing workingmen to the magisterial bench in Ireland, in view of the fact that working men have been appointed in England with satisfactory results.

MR. WYNDHAM: Perhaps I should reply to this question. Applications and recommendations for the Commission of the Peace are made in the case of boroughs to the Lord Lieutenant, and in the case of counties to lieutenants

of counties. Both the Lord Lieutenant and the Lord Chancellor are always desirous of making suitable appointments.

MR. NANNETTI: Is the right hon. gentleman aware that working-men magistrates have been appointed in England? Will he not favourably consider a proposal to appoint some in Ireland?

MR. WYNDHAM: It is altogether outside of my province. It rests with the Lord Lieutenant and the Lord Chancellor.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT.

MR. NANNETTI: I beg to ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether he has received a resolution passed at the Irish Trades Congress last month calling on the Government to so amend the Workmen's Compensation Act as to include all wage earners within its provisions, and urging that more efficient inspection should be exercised by the Home Office in order to secure as far as possible security from accidents to workers; also that all plant used in the execution of painters' work should be deemed scaffolding, and that the thirty feet limit should be removed from the Act; and whether the Government purpose this session to endeavour to give effect to this resolution.

MR. A. J. BALFOUR: Yes, Sir, I have received the resolution. We have never supposed that the present position of this Act was to be its final position. I have no further statement to make on the subject.

ORDNANCE WORKSHOPS IN IRELAND.

MR. NANNETTI (Dublin, College Green): I beg to ask the Secretary of State for War whether he has received a resolution from the Irish Trades Congress, urging the re-adjustment of the relations between the Contracts and Supplies Department, as recommended in the evidence of the Commander-in-Chief in Ireland on War Office Organisation; and that effect should be given to the resolutions adopted at the Trades Congress by establishing workshops attached to the Military barracks in the principal districts in Ireland similar to what obtain in Great Britain, and by reopening a receiving depot in Ireland.

MR. BRODERICK: The resolution has reached the War Office, I cannot give any opinion on it at present.

ARMY CONTRACTS, ETC., IN IRELAND.

MR. FIELD: I beg to ask the Financial Secretary to the War Office, whether he can make arrangements, so that the fodder used by troop horses stationed in Ireland shall be native produce, not imported Foreign forage.

Whether he will arrange that a receiving depot shall be established in Dublin, to receive samples of tenders for supplies of materials, outfits, saddlery, and other stores for the troops stationed in Ireland.

MR. NANNETTI (Dublin, College Green): At the same time, may I ask the Secretary of State for War, whether it is the intention of the War Office to give effect to the recommendations of the Commander of the Forces in Ireland, in his evidence on War Office Reorganisation, as regards the opening of depôts in Ireland for receiving, and the manufacturing of work necessary for the troops in that country.

LORD STANLEY: As regards the first paragraph of this question, I cannot undertake to include this stipulation in forage contracts, as fodder of the quality and quantity required would not always be available locally; but local purchases are in every way encouraged.

As regards the second paragraph, and a similar question put by the hon. Member for the College Green Division of Dublin, the points raised have been carefully considered, and it was decided that the stores required were not large enough to justify any action of the nature suggested.

MR. NANNETTI: May I ask whether the noble Lord will make arrangements so that the refreshments supplied to the troops in Ireland shall be the product of that country. Also with reference to the second question, is it not the fact that the Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Ireland recommended that a certain class of work should be executed in Ireland when possible, so that employment might be given to the people.

LORD STANLEY: I have nothing to add to the answer I have given.

MR. NANNETTI: I will raise the question on the vote for the noble Lord's salary.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON IRISH UNIVERSITY EDUCATION. PRINTING MINUTES.

MR. NANNETTI: I beg to ask the First Lord of the Treasury whether he has received a communication from the secretary of the Irish Trades Congress urging that the minutes of evidence of the Royal Commission on University Education should be printed in Ireland; and whether, assuming the sittings of the Commission are held upon this side of the Channel, and seeing that the inquiry is one affecting Ireland only, he will undertake that the claim put forward on behalf of Irish Printers will be favourably considered.

MR. A. J. BALFOUR: I have received the communication to which the Hon. Gentleman refers. I have no doubt the Commission may find it convenient to have many of its meetings on this side of St. George's Channel, but as it is an Irish Commission dealing exclusively with an Irish question I think, in all probability, the printing will be done in Ireland.

SUPPLIES TO THE MILITARY IN IRELAND.

MR. NANNETTI: I beg to ask the Secretary of State for War whether his attention has been called to a resolution passed at the meeting of the Irish Trades Congress at Sligo protesting against the contract for beer and porter for the troops in Ireland being withdrawn from Irish firms; whether any complaint has ever been made as to the quality or purity of the beer or porter supplied by the Irish brewers; and whether, seeing that an influential authority has stated that all articles for barrack necessities should be obtained in the districts where the troops are stationed, he will see that the old system be reverted to?

LORD STANLEY, in reply, said that a copy of the resolution referred to had been sent to the War Office. Nothing was known there of complaints as to the quality of beer or porter supplied by the Irish brewers, nor would anything be known, as this was purely a matter for the local military authorities to deal with. No change had taken place in the system, as the local military authorities had power to place orders for malt liquor with the firms they considered most desirable.

MR. NANNETTI: I beg to ask the Financial Secretary to the War Office whether he will inquire why the authorities responsible for supplying the canteens in Ireland with stout, have accepted the tender of the Burton Brewery, whose tender was higher than that of the Dublin Brewers; and whether, in the interests of the troops, he will inquire what reason induced the canteen authorities to depart from the commercial custom of accepting the lowest tender.

LORD STANLEY: No, Sir. The matter is left entirely to the discretion of the General Officer Commanding.

MR. T. M. HEALY (Louth N.): Did not the noble Lord give a guarantee last year that he would inquire into this matter, and has he not entirely failed to do so? Why, should the contract for Irish whiskey and porter be given to a firm at Burton-on-Trent?

LORD STANLEY: We have pointed out to General Officers commanding districts the advisability of dealing as far as possible with local firms. These are, however, questions of the expenditure of the money of the men and not of the Government, and therefore we leave the matter entirely to the discretion of the Commanding Officer.

MR. T. M. HEALY: And because it is the men's money the contract goes to an English firm for articles which Irish firms would supply at lower prices!

MR. NANNETTI: Will the noble Lord lay on the table of the House copies of these tenders?

LORD STANLEY: Certainly not.

THANKS TO MR. NANNETTI, M.P.

Your Committee at their meeting in August last, in order to mark their appreciation of the services rendered by the hon. member for College Green, unanimously adopted the following resolution, which was forwarded to, and suitably acknowledged by Mr. Nannetti:—

Resolved—That the Parliamentary Committee of the Irish Trades Union Congress hereby places upon record their entire appreciation of the services rendered to the workers of Ireland in the present session of Parliament by the Member for the College Green Division of Dublin, and in returning him and his colleagues their sincere thanks, venture to express a hope that Irish Trade Unionists may continue to have the benefit of Mr. Nannetti's valuable services in the interests of the Irish labour movement.

Your Committee trust this feeble expression of appreciation of valuable services rendered will be endorsed by Congress in a more emphatic manner.

BILLS IN PARLIAMENT.

As usual a great number of Bills dealing with industrial questions (including many upon which your Committee have received instructions) have been brought in and read a first time; but it is scarcely necessary to state that in the present condition of public affairs, there is not the remotest chance of any one of them reaching the haven of the Statute Book this Session.

DEATH!

In conclusion, your Committee, with deep regret, have to record the deaths of two valued colleagues in the work of the Irish Trades Congress—Councillor Murray Davis, secretary of the Belfast Bakers' Association, and Mr. James Murray, secretary of the Irish Glass Bottlemakers' Society, Dublin. Both lamented friends were delegates representing their respective industries at every Annual Congress since its inception, and each, in his own sphere, was a typical representative of progressive trade unionism. By their all too early demise the Labour Movement in Ireland is the poorer; but we confidently hope that, as they passed the threshold of the Unknown, they merited the reward promised to those who fight the good fight.

We are, fellow-delegates,

HUGH McMANUS, Chairman.	ALEXANDER BOWMAN.
WALTER HUDSON,	JAMES McCARRON, T.C.
Vice-Chairman.	JOHN SIMMONS.
GEORGE LEAHY, P.L.G.,	WILLIAM LIDDELL, T.C.
Hon. Treasurer.	W. J. LEAHY, T.C.

E. L. RICHARDSON, *Hon. Secretary.*

CORK, May 16th, 1902.

On the item in the Report dealing with second year of office for Mayors and Lord Mayors,

Mr. HAYES (Belfast) said that in Belfast they never saw any harm in the re-election of their Lord Mayors, and as an example, he might say that the Lord Mayor, who was in the chair, was the same gentleman who had fulfilled the position in the previous year. As a citizen of Belfast, he could not see how the system could work any evil or harm, or any ill effect on the industries of Belfast (hear, hear). In his opinion it was one of the questions which the Congress ought not to touch upon.

Mr. RICHARDSON (Dublin) said that at last Congress a resolution was adopted protesting against the system, and the Parliamentary Committee had to deal with the matter in the best way they could. The only way they could do so was by taking the case of Dublin as a test; the report contained the letter of the Dublin Town Clerk, and that settled the matter, so far, at any rate, as Dublin was concerned. Indeed, it was also settled so far as the rest of Ireland was concerned (hear, hear).

Mr. HAYES said his action was only against the principle and not against the report of the Parliamentary Committee.

On the item which dealt with the subject of workingmen magistrates in Ireland,

Mr. WALKER (Belfast) said he would now move that this matter be sent back to the Parliamentary Committee for reconsideration. The committee had not acted on the instructions of the last Congress on the matter. There had been a resolution directing the committee to obtain from the Trades Councils of Ireland the names of workingmen qualified to act as magistrates, and to submit them to Lieutenants of counties. This had not been done; the only action taken being the asking of a question in Parliament by Mr. Nannetti.

Mr. RICHARDSON (Dublin) said it was impossible within the time and means at the disposal of the Parliamentary Committee, which meets only three or four times in the year to deal with all the questions raised at Congress. The only way the question was dealt with was by communicating the terms of the Congress resolution to the Lord Chancellor and by the suggestion contained in the question by Mr. Nannetti. The Parliamentary Committee had not applied to any of the Trades Council or any other bodies for the names of eligible candidates for the magistracy.

The matter was referred back to the Parliamentary Committee.

Mr. DALY (Dublin) complained that the Standing Orders had been altered without the sanction of the Congress.

The Chairman ruled Mr. Daly out of order.

On consideration of the paragraph in the report referring to the deaths of Councillor Murray Davis and Mr. Jas. Murray, it was agreed that the name of the late Mr. Francis McBride (Amalgamated Society of Tailors) be added.

The remainder of the report of the Parliamentary Committee was adopted as read.

Alderman CAVE resumed the chair at this stage.

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION.

Mr. TAYLOR (Belfast) moved:—

"That this Congress, which has advocated the establishment and development of technical instruction for many years past, desires to testify its interest in the technical institutes throughout the country, and that in the interests alike of employer and employed, and the hope of a higher standard of manual and practical technology, all sections of the community should still further take advantage of the various classes in technical schools, but in all those practical classes in which the machinery, bench room, or other working equipment is limited preference should be given to those pupils who are apprentices or journeymen actually working at the trade for whose benefit the instruction and classes are founded." He said that Ireland had been handicapped hitherto by the want of technical education.

Mr. SIMMONS (Dublin) seconded the resolution. They wanted by the spread of technical education to improve the condition of the workers. They knew what had been done in Germany and other Continental centres for the workers by means of technical education.

RAILWAY REGULATION ACT.

Mr. WALTER HUDSON proposed:—

"That this Congress views with grave apprehension the great encroachments and, in many cases, distinct violations of the Hours Act of 1893' purposely practised by many railway companies, as revealed by various inquiries, and duly reported to the Board of Trade, showing great laxity on the part of the State Department in giving effect to the provisions of the Act as it now exists. Further, we are of opinion that due regard to a reasonable limitation of hours of duty on railways can only be secured by removing the onus of complaint from the men concerned (who are at present ignored) to the Board of Trade, who shall be responsible for making periodical inquiry into the hours of working by inspectors having a practical knowledge of the work, with power to prosecute in cases of systematic overwork and gross violations of compelling men to resume duty without a sufficient amount of rest." He said the onus of complaint should be removed from the shoulders of the men to the Board of Trade. The State Department should be made responsible for inquiry instead of the crude system by which a man directly in the employment of the company was expected to make a complaint.

Mr. HARVEY (Belfast) seconded the motion, which was adopted.

THE SCOTTISH DELEGATES.

The Congress was then addressed by the delegates of the Scottish Trades Union Congress, Mr. JOHN TEMPLETON and Mr. ALEXANDER HADDOW, of Glasgow, who were warmly applauded.

Mr. JOHN TEMPLETON conveyed to the delegates the fraternal greetings and good wishes of their fellow-toilers in Scotland. They rejoiced to know the success that had attended their efforts in the past, and he was pleased to inform them that at their Scotch Congress

last month they had over 128,000 workers represented. What did the workers want? Better conditions of living, higher wages, shorter hours, regular work, protection from being arbitrarily dismissed, and unemployed benefit. These could all be obtained through trades unions, but without the unions there was very little hope of the workers ever bettering their position. The interests of the workers were practically the same all over the world, and they in Scotland were very desirous of being as closely allied as possible with their friends in Ireland. His firm belief was that if ever that glorious time referred to by their National Bard ("When man to man the world o'er will brothers be") was brought about, it would be through such gatherings as the one he had the pleasure of addressing (applause). There never was a time when there was greater necessity for the workers standing shoulder to shoulder than there was at present, with gigantic combines of employers and organized opposition to trades unions from quarters hitherto unthought of. One thing was certain, and that was that the trades unions would have to fight for their existence. The much-talked-of Old Age Pension scheme, promised some years ago by Mr. Chamberlain, seemed as far off of being realised as ever. Yet it was a fact that a Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed to inquire into the condition of the aged poor, came to the conclusion that in the majority of cases their poverty was no fault of their own. They were now told that the difficulty in the way was the finding of the money. But what difficulty, might he ask, had been experienced in finding abundance of money to carry on the disastrous war in South Africa? He felt sure he expressed the feelings of the workers when he said that they had no sympathy with the slaughter of their fellow-men (loud applause). They would rather, in true trades union spirit, extend the hand of friendship, believing, as Russell Lowell well said—

"Es for war. I call it murder,
There you have it plain and flat;
I don't want to go no further
Than my Testament for that.

Et you take a sword an' dror it,
An' go stick a feller throo',
Gov'ment aint to answer for it,
God'll send the Bill to you."

(loud applause). They earnestly desire to push forward an Old Age Pension scheme on the lines that the pension might be claimed by any citizen as a civic right on his reaching a given age (hear, hear).

Mr. HADDOW also addressed the Congress, and invited a delegation to attend the next Scottish Trade Union Congress at Dundee.

On the motion of Councillor LIDDELL, seconded by Mr. HUDSON, a warm vote of thanks was passed to the Scottish delegates.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

Councillor LIDDELL (Belfast) proposed:—

"That this Congress instruct the Parliamentary Committee to urge upon the Government the necessity of having the Workmen's

Compensation Act so amended as to include within its scope all workers in all employments, without restriction as to place of injury, height of building, or use of scaffolding; that compensation be payable from date of injury, and that a sister or brother whose maintenance shall wholly or partly suffer by reason of any accident coming within the scope of this Act shall be deemed a dependent within the meaning of the Act. Also that the permanent officials of trades societies, acting in conjunction with a legal adviser, shall have a right to appear before coroner, judge, or arbitrator in arguing for claim on behalf of any members of the union so represented."

Mr. WALKER, P.L.G. (Belfast) seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

ORDNANCE WORKSHOPS.

Mr. CHAMBERS, P.L.G. (Dublin) moved:—

"That this Congress again reiterates the claim of Irish workers for an equitable share of the Army supplies; and we urge on the Parliamentary Committee and the Irish Parliamentary representatives to press upon the attention of the War Office and the leading Ministers of the Crown the desirability of carrying into effect the following recommendations made by H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, Commander of the Forces in Ireland, before the Committee on War Office organisation, viz.: That Ireland should be made a self-contained, self-supporting organisation as far as the forces go, and that the Irish ordnance workshops should be allowed to manufacture everything they can. And this Congress strongly endorse the remarks of H.R.H., as we are fully aware that the extension of the ordnance workshop system in this country would give much-needed employment, and thereby remove one of the many long-standing grievances so justly complained of by Irish tradesmen against the War Office Department." He said the Government extracted everything they could from this unfortunate country without giving them anything in return. They should acknowledge the invaluable services rendered by Mr. Nannetti, M.P., on this subject.

Councillor LYNCH (Cork) seconded the motion, which was adopted.

STATIONERY OFFICE CONTRACTS.

On the motion of Mr. MONRO, seconded by Mr. MURPHY (Belfast), the following resolution was passed:—

"That this Congress, in view of recent discussions and disclosures in the House of Commons in respect to the Contracts entered into by H. M. Stationery Office and firms who execute the larger portion of the work outside the area of their Chief Offices and principal business premises, and entirely away from the district where the tender emanated from, is of opinion that a serious breach of the House of Commons Fair Contracts Resolution is involved therein, unless it be provided that a fair and equitable minimum rate of wages and working conditions be inserted in the tender, and complied with by the Contractors where the work is executed.

CORONERS' INQUESTS.

On the motion of Mr. HUDSON, seconded by Mr. COMISKEY, the following resolution was passed:—

"That in view of the nature of the avocations of railwaymen and other workmen, and the various precautions which should be provided for the protection of life and limb, immediate steps should be taken to secure such alteration in the law as shall enable relatives of workmen who meet their death while following their employment to be represented at Coroners' inquests by trade union officials, or other expert persons whom they may select. In view of the large number of casualties occurring annually, necessitating the holding of Inquests, and that as those inquiries are generally held by men having little knowledge of the work, this Congress is of opinion that the right of representation by a technical person is necessary to help such inquiries to a right conclusion; that the time has arrived when it should be compulsory on coroners' juries to view the scene of the accident (where an accident occurs to a workman in the course of his employment); and that it be an instruction to the P.C. to endeavour to give effect to this motion."

NIGHT INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

On the motion of Mr. JOHN MURPHY (Belfast), seconded by Mr. WM. COLLINS (Dublin), it was resolved:—

"That in the opinion of this Trades Congress the inadequacy of the inspection and the inspectorate of Factories and Workshops, as also the neglect of many local sanitary authorities, where night labour is carried on—such as bakehouses and newspaper printeries in Irish country towns—is an existing evil that demands immediate attention in the interests of the producer and consumer, and to enforce the statutes in respect to health, labour and sanitation."

INSPECTION OF BAKEHOUSES IN IRELAND.

On the motion of Mr. WM. HAYES, seconded by Mr. THOMAS MCCONNELL (Belfast), it was resolved:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the present system of inspection of bakehouses in Ireland is inadequate. 1st. As the manufacture of bread is largely carried on at night, that portion of the Factory Act relating to young persons employed at night is frequently violated. 2nd. The sanitary arrangements and ventilation in many of these places leaves much to be desired, and in the opinion of this Congress will remain so until more Inspectors are appointed, as the present system of inspection is often at long intervals."

REPORT FROM STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

Mr. WALKER, P.L.G., said:—

The Standing Orders Committee recommend that at the conclusion of Mr. Gill's address on Wednesday, the Congress elect, by open vote, two delegates to represent Irish Trade Unions at the next Scotch Congress. He also announced that the following dele-

gates had been nominated for election on the Parliamentary Committee for the next twelve months:—

William Cave, Alderman; James Chambers, P.L.G.; P. T. Daly; William Doyle, Alderman; John Farren; William Hayes; Walter Hudson, A.S.R.S.; George Leahy, P.L.G.; W. J. Leahy, T.C.; William Liddell, T.C.; James McCarron, T.C.; Edward McInnes, T.C.; Hugh McManus; John Murphy; Joseph O'Brien; John Simmons; William Walker, P.L.G.; and that E. L. Richardson was the only delegate nominated for secretaryship.

Mr. Joseph O'Brien, by leave, withdrew his nomination.

The President declared Mr. E. L. Richardson unanimously re-elected secretary, and the report passed.

The Congress then adjourned to permit the delegates to accept the Lord Mayor's invitation to witness the ancient and interesting triennial ceremony of "Throwing the Dart," specially fixed for this date as a compliment to the Trades Congress. On the return journey his Lordship hospitably entertained the delegates and a numerous company on board the steamer. The usual toasts were duly honoured.



THIRD DAY—Wednesday, 19th May, 1902.

Congress assembled at 9-30 a.m. Mr. Walter Hudson, and, subsequently, Alderman Cave (President) in the chair.

Minutes of Tuesday's sitting read and confirmed.

REPORT FROM STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.

MR. WM. WALKER said the Secretary (Mr. E. L. Richardson) having received a letter from Messrs. Lunham, Bros., appointing 11 o'clock to-day for the reception of the proposed deputation *re* the Pork Butchers' dispute, the Standing Orders Committee recommend that Mr. Walter Hudson and Mr. George Leahy, P.L.G., together with Alderman Kelleher, of the Cork Trades' Council, be deputed to represent the Congress at the interview. The Committee also recommend that the ballot papers for the election of Parliamentary Committee be distributed at 11-30 o'clock; that the adjournment for lunch be for half an hour only; and that after lunch the Balance Sheet be taken; next place of meeting decided; and the election by open voting of two delegates to represent Irish Trade Unionists at the next Scottish Congress.

Councillor LEAHY moved, and Mr. McCONNELL seconded, the adoption of the report, which was agreed to

Messrs. John Hurley (Cork) and Thomas McConnell (Belfast) were appointed scrutineers for the election of Parliamentary Committee.

The remaining motions on the Agenda Paper were then proceeded with.

AMALGAMATED SOCIETIES AND THE CONGRESS.

Mr. P. O'SHEA (Dublin) moved:—

"That this Congress calls on members in the Irish Branches of the various Amalgamated Societies to insist on their Executive Councils giving financial support from their general funds to assist in defraying the expenses necessarily incurred by the Irish Trades Union Congress in protecting the rights of their members in Ireland, and as this Congress is recognized by the Irish Parliamentary representatives as voicing the opinions of Irish Trades Unionists, they (the Executive Councils) can rely on the support of those representatives in advancing the common interests of all workers in the House of Commons." He urged that if members of Amalgamated Societies in Ireland (who, equally with members of local unions, derived benefits from the work of the Congress Committee) made a united demand to their various executive Councils, funds would be forthcoming to make the work of the Irish Congress more effective and useful. He considered it a shame that members of Amalgamated Societies should come there year after year with instructions to have resolutions put into practical effect without providing the necessary funds for that purpose.

Mr. HURLEY (Cork) seconded the motion.

Councillor McCARRON (Derry) contended that many of the Amalgamated Societies were doing their duty by the Irish Congress. So far as his Society and others were concerned, he was inclined to oppose the motion; but seeing that Mr. O'Shea's object was good, he would support it, in the hope that it might have fruitful results.

The resolution was unanimously adopted.

IRISH PRIVATE BILL LEGISLATION.

Mr. E. L. RICHARDSON formally moved; Councillor LEAHY seconded, and it was unanimously resolved:—

"That this Congress is again fortified in expressing the general opinion now held by all sections of the people in Ireland, and which was emphasised at the representative meeting held in the Mansion House, Dublin, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor, that the present system of Private Bill Legislation (involving serious, costly, and totally unnecessary delay and damage to the community, and pressing heavily upon trade and agricultural industry) demands immediate reform; and it is absolutely essential, to conduce to such reform and economy, that all necessary inquiries should be conducted locally in Ireland."

RECEIVING DEPOT FOR ARMY AND NAVY CONTRACTS.

Mr. J. MOLONEY (Dublin) proposed:—

"That while Ireland contributes her full share of the revenue for the maintenance of the army and navy, this Congress desires to point out to His Majesty's Government that the Irish trades do not receive anything like their due proportion of the contracts for supplies; and especially is this so in regard to the contract for brushes, as at present the Irish manufacturers are obliged to forward their

goods to the receiving depot at Woolwich, paying extensive freight charges, with the risk of rejection through deterioration in transit. We, therefore, instruct the Parliamentary Committee to do all in their power to secure the re-opening of a receiving depot in Dublin, and to impress upon the Government the justice of our demand for an equitable share of the contracts for the supply of His Majesty's forces in this country." He said the brush makers of Cork, Belfast, and Dublin were deterred from tendering for any supplies owing to the fact that they had to send the goods to the department in Woolwich. Ireland was compelled to pay taxation very largely in excess of her fair share, and they should receive in return a fair share of army and navy contracts.

Mr. CHAMBERS, P.L.G. (Dublin) seconded the resolution, and hoped that the Parliamentary Committee would most earnestly attend to this matter.

The resolution was passed.

MILITARY CANTEEN CONTRACTS IN IRELAND.

Councillor W. J. LEAHY (Dublin) proposed:—

"That this Congress of Irish workers enters its most earnest protest against the action of the military authorities in giving the contract for porter and ale to the Burton Brewery Company, in face of the well-known fact that the best porter in the world is brewed in Dublin and other parts of Ireland, and we view their action as a gross injustice to the Irish brewery industry and a serious injury to the mechanics and labourers employed in those establishments." He said he had an assurance that the Irish Party would take strong measures in the House of Commons to see that the military code was carried out in its entirety in reference to this matter of the army authorities in Ireland. The soldiers themselves wanted the Irish porter, but the officers insisted upon them taking the English article.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. DANIEL HIGGINS, president of the Cork Coopers' Society, supported by Mr. TIMOTHY LYNCH, Brewery Labourers, Cork, and unanimously adopted.

IMPORTED BRASS AND METAL WORK.

Mr. J. T. DUIGNAN (Dublin) proposed:—

"That this Congress deplores the continued importation of manufactured brass-work and tin-work, and calls upon all public bodies—clergymen, architects, brewers, distillers, licensed vintners, farmers, Cow-keepers' Association, managers and directors of gas works—to have their brass fittings and tinware and gas meters made in Ireland and by legitimate labour, as the practice hitherto extensively prevailing (through the agency of others) has been to procure this class of work from foreign countries to the detriment of Irish workmen." He said he had the greatest fault to find with clergymen of the Catholic Church, to which he himself belonged, who went to the Continent for brass-work for their churches, while the Irish brass founders could do better work.

Mr. FARREN (Dublin) seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

TRADE UNIONISM AND THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Mr. ALEXANDER TAYLOR (Belfast) moved:—

(a) "That this Congress is of opinion that the judgment given by the House of Lords recently, in the case of the Taff Vale Co. *v.* the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants, is only another familiar illustration of the practical uselessness of expending huge sums of money in contesting erratic and technical judicial interpretations. This Congress is, therefore, of opinion that the money thus spent could be more usefully expended in the advancement of direct labour representation in Parliament, and that this is the best solution of labour inequalities." (b) "That this Congress pledges itself to use every legitimate means possible to ensure a full support to the Bill introduced into the House of Commons by Sir Charles Dilke, for the purpose of legalising peaceful picketing during trade disputes, and the amendment of the law of conspiracy." He said the legal position of trades unionists should not depend upon the caprice or prejudice of judges either in Ireland or England. A law should be made which would protect trades unionists, and secure justice for them. It was unjust that the union to which a man who did an illegal act belonged should be made liable for that act, though the union might not have instructed him to commit the act. Recent decisions had made it impossible for trades unionists to exercise the ordinary rights of citizens. There was no doubt that the members of the Judicature of these countries were prejudiced against the workers, and looked upon them as agitators, as people who practically had no stake in the country, and who were trying to upset the trade of the country, the fact being that the workers had a strong stake in the country, and were anxious that the trade of the country should be preserved. But if the trade of Ireland was to be preserved and conserved it was only by the workers, who were the wealth producers of the country, obtaining justice and the due reward of their labour. He hoped trades unionists would not vote for any Parliamentary candidate who would vote against their interests in the House of Commons (applause). Trades unionists should put the bread and butter question first, and see to it that any man, be he patriot or loyalist, who was not in favour of fair play to the workers, would not receive their support.

Mr. GAGEBY, T.C. (Belfast) seconded the resolution, which was passed.

LABOUR REPRESENTATION AND PARTY POLITICS.

Mr. TAYLOR (Belfast) proposed:—

"That this Congress calls upon all elected representatives of Labour to observe the urgent necessity of abstaining (in their representative capacity) from supporting the nominee of any political party unless such nominee has been approved of by the local trades council, trade union, or other recognised Labour organisation." He said he was entrusted with this resolution by the Belfast Trades Council, and he was not authorised to accept the amendment of Mr. Daly, to which he himself did not agree. He considered it would be

better if trades unionists abstained from appearing on political platforms except in support of candidates who were pronouncedly in favour of the interests of the workers.

Mr. HAYES (Belfast) seconded the resolution.

Mr. P. T. DALY (Dublin) proposed as an amendment to add the following to the resolution:—"recognised by this Congress; and that in order the better to give effect to this resolution the Parliamentary Committee be and is hereby instructed to take all necessary steps to formulate a scheme for the creation of a pledge-bound labour party, controlled by, and answerable to, the Irish Trades Union Congress." He said he was in agreement with the general tenor of Mr. Taylor's resolution. A resolution in the same terms was passed at the last Congress at Sligo. But what binding force had this upon the men who participated in the Congress, and bound themselves by it? In Dublin men who did not receive the support of the Dublin Trades' Council, and men, some of whom had been previously condemned by that body, received the public support of labour men. He wanted the object that underlay the resolution passed last year carried out in its entirety.

Mr. O'SHEA (Dublin) seconded the amendment.

Mr. MURPHY (Belfast) opposed the amendment. It was utterly useless to pass it, and he would vote against it, because he knew that it was based upon insincerity.

Mr. M'NAMARA (Cork) spoke in support of Mr. Taylor's resolution.

Mr. WALKER (Belfast), Mr. KINSELLA (Dublin), Mr. STEWART (Dublin), and Mr. SHELLY (Dublin), supported the amendment.

Mr. CANTY said that any resolution which Congress might pass in regard to this matter would have no effect on those present.

Mr. HARVEY (Belfast) supported the resolution.

Councillor McCARRON (Derry) moved the closure which was carried by 37 to 10. On the chairman putting Mr. Daly's amendment there voted for, 45; against, 12. The same division deciding the main question.

TOWN TENANTS.

Mr. T. P. DALY (DUBLIN) moved:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress no solution of the town tenants' problem can be regarded as satisfactory which does not provide for (a) the taxing of ground and land values and the rating of unoccupied houses; (b) the establishment of a tribunal for the fixing of fair rents which shall be accessible to every tenant room-keeper as well as inhabitant householder, (c) fixity of tenure whilst obeying the finding of such tribunal; and (d) the compulsory registration of tenement houses."

Alderman DOYLE (Dublin) seconded the motion, which was adopted.

HOURS IN THE BUILDING TRADES.

Mr. W. WALKER, P.L.G. (Belfast) moved:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the hours of labour in the building trades in Ireland are excessive, and it urges representa-

tives of all sections of the building trades here present to impress upon their fellow-members in the provincial towns the desirability of adopting a maximum working week of fifty-four hours, and where possible less."

Alderman DOYLE seconded the motion. Passed.

VACCINATION ACT.

Mr. W. WALKER, P.L.G. moved:—

"That this Congress being of opinion that the Vaccination laws, as administered in Ireland, are unjust, coercive, and opposed to the industrial liberty of His Majesty's Irish subjects, we, therefore, urge upon the Parliamentary Committee to bring under the notice of the Government the desirability of amending this Act by the insertion of a conscience clause, making its observance optional to the individual, as is the case in England."

Councillor LEAHY (Dublin) seconded the motion.

Mr. E. L. RICHARDSON, moved, as an amendment to omit all after the word "Congress" on line 1, and insert instead—"is not in a position to advise any alteration in the Vaccination Laws as administered in Ireland."

Councillor GAGEBY (Belfast) seconded the amendment, which was lost by 16 to 36, and the motion adopted on the same division.

ELECTRIC TRAMWAY WORKERS.

Councillor W. J. LEAHY (Dublin) proposed:—

"That having regard to the arduous duties of Motormen and Conductors in the Electric Tram Service, this Congress is of opinion that an eight hours' day should be the maximum for Motormen and Conductors; and we respectfully request the Parliamentary Committee to have a clause inserted embodying the above hours in any Bill introduced into Parliament, whether for new lines or extensions of existing lines." He said motormen of the electric tramway service had most arduous duties to perform. There existed in the Dublin Tramway service what was known as the split day, under which a man went in at 7 or 7-30 in the morning, came off duty about one o'clock, returned about four, and was then working perhaps till about 12-30 or one o'clock the next morning. That system should be abolished if the Dublin Tramway Company were prepared to do what was right to their men. They had tried to get some redress, but had failed. A gentleman who took a great interest in this and other labour questions—Mr. Michael Davitt—had, by a series of letters, put Mr. Murphy, Chairman of the Tramway Company, into a position that he did not like to occupy, because he had demonstrated to a great extent the fact the Tramway men in Dublin were labouring under grievances that should very soon be remedied. Mr. Murphy contrasted their position with that of the men in Glasgow, but he failed to note the fact that the Tramwaymen of Glasgow had a free Sunday off, and that they were paid better wages than the Tramwaymen of Dublin; and he need not say that their hours were less. The Tramwaymen of Dublin had formed a strong organisation, and they meant

to carry this question through, with the aid of the Tramwaymen of Cork and Belfast. They had received from some members of Parliament an intimation that they would introduce into Parliament an eight hours Bill for motormen and conductors.

Mr. BERNARD CULLIGAN (Organiser Dublin and District Tramwaymen's Union) seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

STEAM ENGINES (PERSONS IN CHARGE) BILL.

On the motion of Mr. T. KAVANAGH (Dublin), seconded by Councillor LEAHY, it was resolved:—

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

WORK IN SLACK SEASONS.

On the motion of Mr. J. BERMINGHAM (Dublin) seconded by Mr. JOHN DOYLE, it was resolved:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress very much hardship and inconvenience accrues (which might be completely obviated, or at least much reduced, in many trades which cannot be called season trades) by the prevailing practice of hurrying up work at one part of the year, and thus causing idleness for a considerable period from time to time; and that it be an instruction to the Parliamentary Committee to consider whether it can devise some means of influencing public Boards and Government Departments where this practice prevails."

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Councillor McINNES (Belfast) moved:—

"That this Congress believes it to be the duty of all the Irish Members, belonging alike to the Nationalist and Unionist parties, to bring in a Bill dealing with the question of Old Age Pensions. The principle to underlie the Bill should be that (a) no contributory payment will be required; (b) that there shall be no disqualification political or otherwise of any claimant for pension; and (c) that good conduct for a period of ten years before reaching the age of 60 shall be the only condition insisted on. This Congress affirms its belief that no contribution can be paid by the great majority of Irish workmen, particularly agricultural labourers, owing to the low wage rates prevailing, and the Congress instruct the P. C. to communicate with all the sections of the Irish Members so as to secure their united action and support." He said that though opposed in politics to the Nationalist Parliamentary Party, he should as a labour man give credit to that party for their invariable adherence to the cause of labour; and he believed it to be the duty of those who were particularly opposed to the Irish Party to pay to them on every possible public occasion the tribute of being sound

labour men, no matter in what other ways they might differ. On this question they were sure of the support of the Irish Nationalist members. They should also take steps to secure the support of the Irish Unionist members.

Mr. GILMORE (Belfast) seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

SIR CHARLES DILKE'S SHOPS BILL.

Mr. E. W. STEWART (Shop Assistant's Union) moved:—

"That this Congress reiterates its opinion that the earlier closing of shops, and the consequent relief from excessive hours of labour at present endured by a large number of male and female shop assistants, can only be brought about by compulsory early closing; and we again instruct the Parliamentary Committee to make every effort to secure the passing of Sir Charles Dilke's Shops Bill at present before Parliament."

Miss GALWEY (Belfast), in seconding the resolution, said shop assistants were as entitled to fair hours and a weekly half-holiday as any other class of workers (hear, hear).

The resolution was agreed to.

SANITARY AND WATER INSPECTORS.

Mr. BOLTON (Cork plumbers) moved:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the local authorities of Ireland should appoint only practical plumbers to the position of Sanitary and Water Inspectors, as it is impossible that unskilled persons, such as are to a large extent at present employed, can perform the duties of these offices with satisfactory results.

Mr. SAMUEL CURRIE (Belfast) seconded the motion.

Alderman DOYLE (Dublin) thought it was ridiculous to say that no one was fit to occupy the position of such inspectors but registered plumbers. He considered that the words "practical men" should be substituted for "practical plumbers."

Councillor GAGEBY, and Messrs. WALKER (Belfast), O'BRIEN (Cork), O'NEILL and O'SHEA (Dublin) also spoke.

The closure was moved and carried by 42 to 11 votes, and the main question adopted by 44 votes to 17.

WORKINGMEN MAGISTRATES.

Mr. WM. WALKER (Belfast Trades Council) moved:—

"That in the opinion of this Congress the continued refusal of the Lord Chancellor to appoint, or Lord Lieutenants of counties to recommend, workingmen to the commission of the peace is a grievance to the entire working community: and we hereby instruct the Parliamentary Committee to bring this matter not merely under the direct cognisance of the Lord Chancellor, but that the Lord Lieutenants of the several counties or county boroughs should have placed before them the names of two or more of each county or county borough who in the opinion of the Parliamentary Committee are competent to administer equity; and that the M.P.'s of all Ireland should have their attention called to this matter, and also to the

course adopted by the Lord Chancellor of England." He said it was their duty to abolish the system of monopoly in the magistracy which prevailed from Cork to Moville. They in Belfast had men like Lord Londonderry who would sink trades unions throughout Ireland.

Mr. SIMMONS (Dublin), in seconding the resolution, said that as long as they were under the British Government they should have a share in the administration of the law.

Mr. COMISKEY (Dublin) also spoke, and the motion was adopted.

MR. T. P. GILL'S ADDRESS.

The Standing Orders were at this stage suspended to hear Mr. T. P. Gill, secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, who came specially to Cork to address the Congress.

Mr. Gill said:—Mr. President and Gentlemen—I have to thank you on my own behalf and on that of the Vice-President, who would have gladly been here to-day if it were possible, for the honour you have done the Department in giving us, in my person, the opportunity of meeting this important Congress. I shall have pleasure in returning you the compliment by inviting you to visit our section of the Exhibition this afternoon, where our officers will be prepared to welcome you and to explain the meaning and purpose of our various exhibits (hear, hear). These reciprocities, if I may say so, between the Trades Council and the Department are of good omen (hear, hear). It is right—it is necessary—that we should understand each other, for we have work to do in common. Those of us who are engaged in this endeavour to establish practical education and stimulate enlightened and self-confident industrial effort—and I do not speak of those of our Department alone, by of all those forces of every party and creed who have this in common—that they believe such an endeavour is necessary to the salvation of our country—we look upon those whom you represent, the artisans of Ireland, as forming, with the farmers and the agricultural labourers, the true hope of the country in this work (hear, hear). I do not mean merely that it is your skilled and industrious hands that must do the labour for our industrial future, but that largely it is your brains that must do the thinking. It is from you and your children, with the aid of those educational opportunities we are striving to create for them—education which will not be technical in the narrow sense, but which, if I may quote our own words in our annual report, will aim at so training a man as to render him morally, intellectually and physically master of his best aptitudes, and able to apply these aptitudes in every fitting direction that opportunity offers (hear, hear). It is from you and your children, I say, that a large share of the industrial leadership, as well as of the industrial workmanship, of the Ireland of the future must come. This is true of a rightly-educated working class in every country. Their inventive brains, their skill, their developed character, with that consciousness of power and moral vigour which such education gives a man; these qualities discover and create opportunities for action all round them, and capital meets them half way. That is how industrial enterprise really grows in modern nations. But what I say is peculiarly true of Ireland. Ireland, for good or ill—and I am not one of those who think it an evil—is now a democracy (hear, hear). We have no genuine leading class in the sense that other countries have such a class; and while we must get our leaders from all the classes that are left us, and I hope we shall save all our classes (hear, hear), "we cannot spare a single Irishman"; they must be furnished in a peculiar degree by the people themselves. Ireland, like some other countries, such as Denmark, must rely for her regeneration mainly upon that hitherto undeveloped resource, the latent intellectual power and the moral stamina of the masses of the people (hear, hear). It must be the business of education to develop this resource to the utmost. We must see that opportunities are given to the children of the artisan, of the labouring man, of the farmer, of the shopkeeper as well as of every other class, which will, on the one hand, fit the average—the average boy and girl—in the best way for their respective walks in life; fit them in such a way

that they will have pride and love for their work, whatever it may be, and understand its dignity and beauty, and which, on the other hand, will open to the exceptionally talented the road to the highest domains of knowledge (applause). I was delighted to see from your President's address, and from some of the resolutions of your Congress which I read in the paper this morning that you are alive to this great aspect—I was going to say of our task as a Department, but in truth it is the task of all true Irishmen; and I was exceptionally pleased to see from your President's references to the study of political economy by members of trades unions, and to the importance of general culture, that your conception of education is broad and true. Believe me, it is a bright augury for the future of a country when the representatives of its working classes call out for education as you have done, and call out for it in such a spirit (hear, hear). Nor are these references and resolutions of your Congress the only testimony of the desire of the Irish working classes for the education we have to offer. The Department have for now going on two years been engaged in organising with the local authorities schemes of technical instruction in several Irish cities, towns, and districts, and although these schemes are still, most of them, necessarily incomplete, for the building up of a system of technical instruction is not a work to be done in a day, I am in a position to say from our experience, and having studied something of the history of technical instruction in other countries, that in no other country has the introduction of a new system of education of the kind been welcomed with such avidity by the working classes and their children as it has been in Ireland (applause). The technical classes, some of them still housed in temporary premises, are, as a rule, thronged with more pupils than can be accommodated. This is the case in nearly every part of the country—there are very few exceptions—from Belfast southward. The experience has been something of a revelation to us all, for generally the reverse has happened elsewhere, the pioneers of technical education have had to wait years before the work was valued—and it may be taken, I think, as, in its way, a new evidence of the traditional zeal of the Irish people for education. Three of your resolutions deal directly with the educational work of our Department, and I think I can say of all three—without committing the Department, however, before they are formally considered—that in principle they will be welcomed. In principle two of them may be said to have been adopted in our practice already. One deals with providing scholarships which would be available to pupils from the primary schools to enable them to attend technical institutes. Such scholarships may already be provided for in our local schemes of technical instruction, and the ultimate provision of a system of such scholarships—of such an educational ladder, reaching to every grade—will be part of the great work of co-ordination which we are in course of carrying out with the other educational authorities of the country. Another of your resolutions reads as follows:—"That this Congress, which has advocated the establishment and development of Technical Instruction for many years past, desires to testify its interest in the Technical Institutes throughout the country, and that in the interests alike of employer and employed, and the hope of a higher standard of manual and practical technology, all sections of the community should still further take advantage of the various classes in technical schools, but in all those practical classes in which the machinery, bench room, or other working equipment is limited, preference should be given to those pupils who are apprentices or journeymen actually working at the trade for whose benefit the instruction and classes are founded." This is a resolution with which it would be hard for the Department to find fault (hear, hear). It states a liberal and a moderate view of what has always been a difficult point in the administration of technical instruction. I do not think it asks for more than what the actual workers of a trade which is the subject of instruction in a technical school are fairly entitled to have conceded to them (hear, hear). Another resolution asks for representation on the Board of Technical Instruction. With that desire also I am sure the Vice-President and the Department are in sympathy, but you have such representation already in the person of Mr. Taylor, whom I see here to-day, and if you want to increase it I would point out that the means of doing so are rather in your own hands than ours (hear, hear). Are you not aware that of the twenty-two members of that Board seventeen are elected by various bodies, including the Municipal Councils of our leading cities? It is part of the devolution

of power to popular representatives, which is one of the inevitable tendencies of our time. Now having said something of the increased power and the new opportunities before the working classes of Ireland, may I say a word as to the responsibilities which these powers and opportunities will bring. I think it is a happy coincidence that this new movement which has been arising spontaneously for the last few years in Ireland for the revival of our industries should synchronise with the resolution of the Irish Trades Unions to have a Trades Council of their own. I think this is fortunate, for a national Trades Council of the kind will enable you the better to concentrate your attention upon the very special problems of Irish industry and labour, and to look at these problems in a patriotic spirit, if I may say so, from the point of view of the industrial benefit of your own country (hear, hear). When you go into these problems and compare our economic conditions with those of other countries, you will learn many things, and amongst them you will learn that not a few—I do not say the chief, or the only, but distinctly not a few, of the disadvantages that Irish industry has to contend with at present are due to the Irish workingmen themselves. I do not fear to say this to you, for I am speaking as an Irishman to Irishmen, and I know you will take it from me frankly as I say it (hear, hear). When you study the wonderful supremacy of American industry, I would ask you to make one calculation and comparison. Compare the average output per day of the Irish workingman, and think over that. These are the sort of things I would commend to your sense of responsibility. I would ask you, the artisans of Ireland, to set before yourselves an ideal—an ideal for yourselves and for your country. I know well that no class in the country are more capable of devotion to a noble ideal than the artisans of our towns. Well, as the saying goes, it takes all sorts of people to make a world, and it takes all sorts of activities to make a nation; and surely you know that amongst such activities none is more potent for the building up of a prosperous and self-reliant people than that which the artisan can put into the work that his hand finds to do in his own craft (hear, hear). You can strive for an ideal which will help at the same time to save your country and to serve yourselves and to open at least a happy future for dear old Ireland (applause).

Councillor GAGEBY (Belfast), proposed a warm vote of thanks to Mr. Gill.

Alderman DOYLE (Dublin), in seconding the vote of thanks, said he regretted that preference had not been given to apprentices and members of trades directly interested in the technical instruction classes in the Kevin Street Technical Schools, Dublin, where the Typographical Association had to make a very bitter fight through their representative on the Board, Mr. Lyons, to prevent outsiders from being brought in. As the matter stood at present, outsiders would be admitted next year, but Mr. Gill's statement, he felt convinced, would settle this matter in a way satisfactory to all.

The vote of thanks was passed unanimously.

Mr. GILL, in responding, said he did not propose to reply to the remarks of Alderman Doyle, which had reference to a particular question in the Dublin Technical Schools.

Congress then adjourned for lunch. On resuming, the following report was presented:—

THE PORK BUTCHERS DISPUTE.

Ladies and Gentlemen:—We beg to report that, in accordance with your decision, the deputation consisting of Mr. Walter Hudson, Mr. George Leahy, P.L.G.; Alderman Kelleher, Mr. Jeremiah O'Brien, Cork; Mr. McMahon, Limerick Pork Butchers Society, waited upon the firm of Messrs. Lunham Bros., Ltd., and were received in a most courteous manner by Mr. Lunham, head of the firm, and Mr. Sonners, Manager. Our interview lasted about an hour, and we are pleased to report that an offer was made for a settlement, which we recom-

mend should be submitted to the Pork Butchers for their consideration, and that they communicate their views to the Parliamentary Committee immediately on the conclusion of Congress. We are pleased to say that a way is still open for a further interview to-morrow morning if necessary, and in view of these circumstances, we are of opinion that it is most desirable in the interests of all parties concerned to await further developments.

Signed

WALTER HUDSON.
GEO. LEAHY, P.L.G. } Parliamentary Committee.
JEREMIAH KELLEHER, Ald., Cork Trades Council.

The report was adopted.

THE "CORK CONSTITUTION" DISPUTE.

The Secretary (Mr. E. L. Richardson) read the following letter:—

Shelbourne Hotel, Dublin, May 20, 1902.

My Dear Sir:—Your letter addressed to me at the "Cork Constitution" office received, and I regret, owing to my absence from home, I am unable to have the opportunity of seeing you. In any case I regret that under existing circumstances it would not be possible to make a change at present in the working of the "Constitution" office, and, therefore, any discussion, however friendly, could scarcely lead to such a result as you desire. I do not wish to rake up unpleasant matters past and gone these fifteen years, but I think it cannot be forgotten that what has been regarded by many as a trade dispute was really caused, to a large extent, by the local trades societies lending themselves to a political assault upon the "Cork Constitution," making it absolutely necessary that the office, in self-defence, should set itself free from such institutions. Political feeling at the time in Ireland ran high and the "Constitution" was very unreasonably held accountable for the passing of the Crimes Act in 1887. A general assault and boycott was attempted at a time when the office had in its employment a large body of society printers, and far from objecting to it the local trades body gave such a proceeding their support, and further sought by imposing rules not recognised by the Manchester and other English centres, to cripple the production of the paper. As a proof of this aspect of the case, another large Irish daily paper, which had for years previously been produced by non-society labour, was left untouched. I am against the resort to coercion in Ireland applied towards any body engaged in a lawful undertaking, and I decline to be coerced myself as to the political views I think it right to express. To the present day the same strong political principles are allowed to dominate the local trades bodies in Cork, and while they exist I should never think of placing myself in their power. Circumstances in the printing trade, as you are also aware, have materially altered within the past ten years, the work of the old case hands being now done by linotype operators. I have a large staff earning liberal wages, and I have every reason to be pleased with them, and for vacancies, there are far more applications for them than I can entertain. It happens that in connection with another concern I control a large body of society men, between whom and myself there is a most excellent and, I am sure, permanent good feeling. My feeling towards those who work under me has always been one of sympathy and esteem—I am, Dear Sir, yours faithfully,

HENRY L. TIVY.

Mr. E. L. Richardson, Secretary Irish Trades' Congress,
Municipal Buildings, Cork.

Mr. HARVEY (Belfast)—Is the *Cork Constitution* representative here?

A Delegate—Yes.

Mr. DENNEHY (Cork)—As the only representative of the Typographical Society of Cork present, I say that letter is equivocating and inaccurate in its general tenour. With regard to the statement that the *Constitution* was attacked on political grounds, I say that is absolutely false.

Mr. M'MANUS (Belfast) said at the time this dispute arose, years ago, he came down from Belfast at the special request of the Cork Society, and he knew that there was an inaccuracy in Mr. Tivy's letter in that respect. Let them not accentuate the line of demarcation that existed between the Cork Society and the *Cork Constitution*. If Mr. Tivy imagined that he had been in any way attacked on political grounds let them not, by their action, accentuate that feeling (hear, hear).

Mr. MURPHY (Belfast) expressed his regret that Mr. Tivy had not seen his way to meet the deputation. If some of Mr. Tivy's allegations were true—and he had no doubt they were made in good faith—there must have been faults on both sides in the matter.

No action was taken.

ELECTION OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

The scrutineers (Messrs. M'CONNELL and HURLEY) presented their return, which, according to Standing Order No. 9, resulted in the election of the following:—

1. Alderman Cave (Bootmaker), Cork	...	50 votes.
2. Councillor James McCarron (Tailor), L'derry	...	48 "
3. Councillor W. J. Leahy (Cooper), Dublin	...	45 "
4. Mr. Geo. Leahy, P.L.G. (Plasterer), Dublin	...	43 "
5. Mr. Wm. Walker, P.L.G. (Carpenter), Belfast	...	43 "
6. Mr. Jas. Chambers, P.L.G. (Saddler), Dublin	...	38 "
7. Mr. Walter Hudson (A.S.R.S.), Dublin	...	37 "
8. Mr. Hugh McManus (Printer), Belfast	...	28 "

Not elected—Mr. John Simmons (Carpenter), Dublin, 38; Alderman Doyle (Carpenter), Dublin, 35; Mr. P. T. Daly (Printer), (Dublin) 34; Mr. Wm. Hayes (Baker), Belfast, 22; Councillor Liddell (Painter), Belfast, 20; Councillor McInnes (N.A.U.L.), Belfast, 20; Mr. John Farren (Tinsmith), Dublin, 11; Mr. John Murphy (Printer), (Belfast), 11.

ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO SCOTCH CONGRESS.

Alderman Cave, Councillor Gageby, Councillor McCarron, Messrs. E. L. Richardson, Patrick Shelly, and Wm. Walker, P.L.G., were nominated as Delegates to Scottish Congress at Dundee. Alderman Cave, Councillor McCarron, and Messrs. Richardson and Walker withdrew, and Councillor Gageby (Belfast) and Mr. Patrick Shelly (Dublin) were unanimously selected.

NEXT YEAR'S CONGRESS.

Newry, Galway, Ballina, Wexford, and Dundalk, were suggested as the location of next year's Congress. Eventually, on the motion of Mr. Wm. Walker, Newry was selected.

BALANCE SHEET.

On the motion for the adoption of the accounts, Mr. HARVEY (Belfast) said he was glad to see that the Railwaymen headed the list in their financial support of the Congress.

Councillor PRENDERGAST (Limerick) asked the meaning of the item "Settlement of Printing Account, Limerick Congress, £10."

Mr. RICHARDSON explained that the Reception Committee of the Limerick Congress of 1896 threw upon the Parliamentary Committee a debt they had incurred of considerably over £20, which the Parliamentary Committee had no alternative but to liquidate for the sum stated.

The Balance Sheet was then adopted.

UNPAID MAGISTRATES.

Mr. WM. WALKER moved, and Mr. WM. HAYES seconded, and it was resolved:—

"That this Congress declares that the law requires amendment in respect to the adjudication of the lay, or unpaid, magistrates in all cases brought under the Masters and Servants Act, Factory Acts, or actions between employer and employed under the Summary Jurisdiction or Petty Sessions (Ireland) Acts—all of which cases ought to be decided by duly qualified stipendiary magistrates."

ADDITION TO STANDING ORDER.

On the motion of Mr. McMANUS, the following addition to Standing Order 3 was agreed to:—

"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."

AMENDMENT OF THE FACTORY ACT.

Councillor McCARRON moved, Mr. JOHN McMAHON seconded, and it was resolved:—

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

AMENDMENT OF THE MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT.

In the unavoidable absence of the Bottlemakers delegates, Mr. E. L. RICHARDSON formally moved:—

"That this Congress calls on the Government to amend the Merchandise Marks Act so as to have the mark of origin stamped on bottles and all other articles coming into these countries from the Continent."

Mr. M. CANTY seconded the motion, which was passed.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.

Mr. PATRICK SHELLY moved, Mr. JOHN DWYER seconded, and it was resolved:—

“That in the interests of public health this Congress earnestly calls upon local authorities in Ireland to rigorously enforce Part VI. of the Factory Act of 1901, relating to home work.”

STATE OWNERSHIP OF LANDS, MINES, AND RAILWAYS.

Councillor M'CARRON moved, Mr. WM. WALKER seconded, and it was resolved:—

“That in the opinion of this Congress, the time has now come when all Lands, Mines, and Railways should be owned and controlled by the State for the people.”

SUPERANNUATION OF CORPORATION WORKMEN.

Mr. M. CANTY moved, Mr. D. MAGEE seconded, and it was resolved:—

“That the Parliamentary Committee be instructed to secure in the Bill next to be promoted by the County Borough Council of Dublin that powers be taken to provide for the superannuation of all employes of 15 years service and upwards.”

NOTIFICATION OF CONSUMPTION UNDER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACT.

Mr. WM. WALKER moved, Mr. JOHN MURPHY seconded, and it was resolved:—

“Whereas, the death-rate from consumption is steadily falling in Great Britain while in Ireland it is actually increasing, being 4 per cent. higher and causing 49 per cent. of all the deaths between thirteen and thirty-five, and whereas it is now known that through the inhalation of dried consumptive sputum the disease is mainly spread, this Congress calls upon the sanitary authorities in our towns and rural districts (1) to take steps to thoroughly cleanse and disinfect the houses occupied by consumptives both during their illness and after death, and to this end consumption shall be classed under the Notification of Infectious Diseases Act, whereby immediate notification of the disease may be registered, and that we recommend the appointment of female sanitary officers, whose duty it shall be to warn the patient and his friends of the risk of infection and the necessary precautions to adopt; and this Congress calls upon the Local Government Board to convene a conference of the representatives of the several boards of guardians in Ireland to arrange for the establishment of sanatoriums for the open-air treatment of those suffering from this disease.”

THE BREAD TAX.

The following special resolution was unanimously adopted, on the motion of the secretary of the Standing Orders Committee:—
“Resolved, that this Congress of the representatives of the workers of Ireland condemns and protests against the imposition of the proposed tax on corn, which will fall almost exclusively upon the working

classes; and this Congress calls upon the workers to bear this fact in mind when next called upon to elect their Parliamentary representatives."

VOTES OF THANKS.

On the motion of Councillor M'CARRON (Londonderry), seconded by Mr. E. L. RICHARDSON (Dublin), votes of thanks were unanimously passed to the President, the Reception Committee, and the Press.

Alderman Cave replied.

On the motion of Mr. GEORGE LEAHY, P.L.G. (Dublin), seconded by Mr. ALEX. TAYLOR (Belfast), a vote of thanks was passed by acclamation to the Lord Mayor and Corporation of Cork.

The Congress then closed.

OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE EXHIBITION.

In the evening the delegates by invitation paid an official visit to the Exhibition. They were received by the Lord Mayor, High Sheriff, the members of the Exhibition Committee, and by Mr. T. P. Gill, of the Agricultural and Technical Instruction Department. Having spent a considerable time in examining the various exhibits, chaperoned by Mr. T. P. Gill, they were subsequently entertained to dinner in the Palace Restaurant on the grounds by the Lord Mayor.



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 Delegates who are or have been bona-fide workers, and are legal members of trade societies, and who shall have worked or be working at the trade they represent, or members of trades councils or similar bodies, by whatever name they may for the time being be known. The expenses of such Delegates must be defrayed by the association they represent. No delegate shall leave the Congress during the progress of business without the consent of the Chairman. The fee for each Delegate shall be 15/-

3. 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 dispatch of business.

4. Mode of Voting—Tellers.—The Voting upon all matters shall be by show of hands. Tellers shall be appointed at the opening of the Congress, whose ruling as to numbers shall be final. In cases where the Tellers disagree, the Chairman shall order a re-count.

5. 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 trade and labour societies and trade councils in Ireland.

6. 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.

7. 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. The Standing Orders shall be printed along with the Agenda Paper and the Report or the Proceedings of Congress.

8. 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.

9. Parliamentary Committee.—A Parliamentary Committee of nine, including Secretary, shall be elected on the last day of the Congress, whose duties shall be—(1) to endeavour to give practical effect to the resolutions of Congress; (2) to watch all legislative measures directly affecting the question of Labour in Ireland; (3) to initiate such legislative and other action as Congress may direct; and (4) generally to support the Parliamentary Committee of the United Trades Congress upon all questions affecting the workers of the United Kingdom. The Committee to meet quarterly, or at such times as, in the opinion of the Chairman and Secretary, the exigencies of the Labour movement in Ireland call for immediate action, and shall present a report of their proceedings to the next Congress. No candidate shall be eligible for election on the Parliamentary Committee unless he is a Delegate from his own trade society, labour union, or trades council. In no case shall more than one member of the same trade or occupation, or more than one representative of the same trades council, be allowed to sit, but this condition shall not apply to the election of Secretary. The Delegates' fees to Congress (after deducting actual expenses) shall go to the fund for defraying the expenses of the Parliamentary Committee, to be supplemented, if necessary, by contributions from the trades councils and trade societies of Ireland. A printed Balance Sheet, duly certified by the Auditors, to be presented to each Delegate on the second day of the meeting.

10. Parliamentary Committee's Report.—The Congress having been duly opened, the Parliamentary Committee shall present their Report for the past year, which shall be laid on the table for discussion, after the disposal of which their tenure of office shall terminate.

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

12. 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.

NINTH IRISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS.—BALANCE SHEET.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
To Balance from last Congress, 1901, per Mr. A. Taylor	...	26	16 2
Subscriptions to P. C. Appeal.			
Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants	£10	0	0
Irish National Federal Union of Bakers	5	0	0
National Amalgamated Union of Labour, E. C.			
Newcastle-on-Tyne	5	0	0
Dublin Typographical Society	3	0	0
Amalgamated Society of Tailors, E.C. Manchester	3	0	0
Typographical Association, E.O. Manchester	2	2	0
Dublin United Trades Council	2	0	0
Belfast Bakers' Society	2	0	0
Stonecutters' Union of Ireland	2	0	3
Belfast Typographical Association	2	0	0
Belfast and Dublin Locomotive Engine Drivers' Society	1	10	0
Limerick Typographical Society, per Mr. R. P. O'Connor	1	0	0
Dublin Operative Plasterers' Society	1	0	0
Dublin Metropolitan House Painters	1	0	0
Belfast House and Ship Painters	1	0	0
Belfast Municipal Employees, per W. Liddell, T.O.	1	0	0
Dublin Stationary Engine Drivers' Society	0	10	0
Dundalk Trades and Labour Association, per Mr. A. Taylor	0	10	0
United Society of Brushmakers, Dublin division	0	5	6
Belfast United Enginemen and Firemen's Union	0	5	0
Sligo Trades' Council, per Mr. H. Reilly	1	7	6
		45	10 0
Congress Reports' Sales		7	12 8
Delegate Subscriptions at Sligo Congress to Welsh Colliery Disaster		3	16 6
Ninety-five Delegates at 15s. each		71	5 0
		£193	0 4

EXPENDITURE.

	£	s.	d.
By Expenses, P.C. Meetings	45	3	9
Secretaries to Sligo Congress	2	0	0
Standing Orders Committee	2	10	0
Honarium to Treasurer, Mr. A. Taylor	2	2	0
100 Copies of Balance Sheet	1	0	0
Hallkeeper, Sligo	0	10	0
Ad. Sligo Congress	0	7	6
Reporting Congress, Sligo	4	4	0
Printing Congress Reports, Sligo	23	1	10
„ Preliminary Notices, etc., Cork	3	7	0
Rent of Room, P.C. Meetings, Sligo	1	0	0
Auditors	0	10	0
Deputation to Scottish Trades Union Congress	6	12	8
Settlement of Printing Account, Limerick Congress	10	0	0
Deputation to L.G.B. and County Councils	1	10	0
Part Expenses in re Lecture by Sir C. Dilke	3	3	4
Honarium to Secretary of Congress	15	0	0
Postage, Newspapers, etc., Secretary	5	2	2
„ Stationery, Treasurer	0	10	6
Cancelled Stamp	0	0	6
Welsh Colliery Disaster	5	0	0
Telegram	0	2	0
Balance in Hand 19th May, 1902	60	3	1

£193 0 4

LIST OF DELEGATES—continued.

- LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTERS, AMALGAMATED, CORK BRANCH**—JAMES FITZGIBBON, 10 Grattan St., Cork.
- MASONS AND BRICKLAYERS SOCIETY, CORK**—JOSEPH KEDNEY, 14 York St., Cork; CORNELIUS HOBART, 5 St. Mary's Road, Cork.
- NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION OF LABOUR, BELFAST**—E. McINNES, T.C., 105 Bloomfield Avenue, Belfast; R. GILMOIR, 111 Northumberland St., Belfast; J. McVIE, 42 Argyle St., Belfast. (2,127)
- NATIONAL UNION OF GASWORKERS AND GENERAL LABOURERS, CORK**—JEREMIAH O'LEARY, T.C., 13 Abbey St., Cork. (100)
- NATIONAL UNION OF BOOT AND SHOE OPERATIVES, CORK BRANCH**—F. ROSSMOROUGH, 2 Devonshire St., Cork. (40)
- PAINTERS, OPERATIVE HOUSE AND SHIP, BELFAST**—WM. LIDDELL, T.C., 61 Great George's St., Belfast.
- PAINTERS, METROPOLITAN HOUSE, DUBLIN**—JOSEPH BIRMINGHAM, Painters' Hall, 27 Augier St., Dublin; JOHN DOYLE, ditto; CORNELIUS COMISKY, ditto. (420)
- PLASTERERS' OPERATIVE SOCIETY**—JAMES HEFFERNAN, JOSEPH O'BRIEN, JOHN FALVEY, 37 Old George's Street, Cork.
- PLUMBERS, UNITED OPERATIVE, BELFAST BRANCH**—SAMUEL CURRIE, 23 Richardson St., Belfast. (330)
- PLUMBERS, UNITED OPERATIVE, CORK BRANCH**—JOHN BOLTON, 30 Mary St., Cork. (45)
- RAILWAY SERVANTS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF**—WALTER HUDSON, Irish Secretary, 35 Melrose Avenue, Dublin; JOSEPH O'MARA, 90 James's St., Dublin; JAMES HARVEY, 6 Ormeau Avenue, Belfast; THOMAS O'CONNELL, Cork. (3,000)
- SMITHS, UNITED SOCIETY OF, DUBLIN**—JOHN MCCORMICK, 36 Long Lane, Dublin. (65)
- SADDLERS AND HARNESS MAKERS, DUBLIN**—JAMES CHAMBERS, 27 St. Ignatius' Road, Dublin. (90)
- STONECUTTERS' UNION OF IRELAND**—R. S. McNAMARA, Stonecutters' Hall, Cork; JOSEPH KELLY, Newry. (540)
- SHOP ASSISTANTS, AMALGAMATED UNION OF**—EDWARD W. STEWART, 14 Nottingham St., Dublin. (408)
- SLIGO TRADES AND LABOUR COUNCIL**—HENRY REILLY, John St., THOMAS KELLY, Knappagh Road, Sligo.
- TYPOGRAPHICAL PROVIDENT SOCIETY, DUBLIN**—JAMES KINNELLA, 23 Denmark St., Dublin; E. G. MINTHAM, ditto. (1,000)
- TYPOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION, IRISH BRANCHES**—H. McMANUS, 14 Ardmoulia St., Belfast.
- TYPOGRAPHICAL ASSOCIATION, BELFAST BRANCH**—SAMUEL MENNO, 20 College St., Belfast; JOHN MURPHY, ditto.
- TYPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, CORK**—D. A. KIRBY, 34 Mary St., Cork; D. DENNEY, 1 Ophelia Place (The Lough), Cork. (130)
- TINSMITHS AND SHEET METAL PLATE WORKERS, DUBLIN**—JOHN FARRER, 23 Usher's Quay, Dublin. (56)
- TAILORS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, DUBLIN**—PATRICK SHELLEY, 82 St. Ignatius Road, Dublin; JOHN DWYER, 4 St. Mary's Avenue, Inchicore. (600)
- TAILORS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, CORK**—PATRICK LINCHE, T.C., 47 Grattan St., Cork; CORNELIUS RING, ditto. (270)
- TAILORS, AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF, IRISH BRANCHES**—JAMES MCCABOY, T.C., 2 Stanley Terrace, Londonderry; JOHN McMAHON, 25 St. Alban's Road, Dublin. (2,500)
- TRAMWAY MEN'S UNION, DUBLIN**—BERNARD CULLIGAN, 10 Dorneybrook Road, Dublin. (565)
- TRAMWAY MEN'S AMALGAMATED ASSOCIATION AND HACKNEY CARRIAGE DRIVERS, BELFAST**—A. FARRELL, 104 Hillman St., Belfast. (350)
- TEXTILE OPERATIVES SOCIETY OF IRELAND**—MISS MARY GALWAY, 25 Henrietta St., Belfast; MISS JULIA LEE, 34 Leoville St., Belfast. (1,300)
- TAILORS' AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, BELFAST DISTRICT**—LAWRENCE O'NEILL, 4 Adela Place, Antrim Road, Belfast; WILLIAM McNEILLY, 80 Roslyn St., Belfast. (800)
- SCOTTISH TRADES UNION CONGRESS**—MR. JOHN TAMPLETON, 256 Cumberland St., Glasgow, S.S.; MR. ALEX. HADDOW, ditto.



THE TENTH ANNUAL

Irish Trades
Union Congress

WILL BE HELD

IN NEWRY.

ON

WHIT-MONDAY, TUESDAY, AND WEDNESDAY,

✱ 1903. ✱



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the Congress
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Parliamentary
Committee.

REPORT

OF THE
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(OLD TOWN HALL)

NEWRY,



June 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, 1903.