



7. 7. 1915 -

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Yam de Róire

2 Spáiré Bpízde Naomíra

13 Caráip Cópcaíze.

7. 7. 1915.1915.

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1. 7. an yeacmaí ló. Oia Ceudaoing. Spáiré Bpízde. 5 p.m.

A friend of mine, talking to me last night, told me he had been trying to work out some matters connected with the Great War to a logical conclusion and he has got very much befogged in consequence. He says it has always been admitted that an

army in retreat loses far more in men and munitions than a pursuing army. But, if we believe English accounts of the present war and the Irish copies of those accounts, the reverse is the case, when the Germans are the pursuers. The great retreat of the Russians is an example. "To advance is to win: to advance is to win: to advance is to win". That is one of the great war maxims of English war manuals. But, for the Germans, according

to the news we are allowed to know, to advance is to lose. My friend also says - Lloyd George and other great men of England have been impressing upon us all the fact that plenty of munitions of a right sort are what will win the war. It is admitted now that the Allies, particularly the English forces in France are short of munitions and that the Germans have large quantities of the right sort. But our news-mongers tell us day after day

that the Germans are losing: so large quantities of munitions will not win the war. We are further told the central European powers have a population of only 150 millions: the Allied countries

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July 7:- have at least 280 millions: so the central powers cannot win.

Therefore no country with a small population could ever have, ^{or} can ever, become a big power, for the big countries must always win.

Again, we are told the peoples of Germany and Austria-Hungary are despondent and on the verge of starvation: we are also told they are not, that, in fact, they are taking summer holidays almost as usual. But, if the former news is correct, it looks very sad for the allied peoples if they win - the more they win the more despondent they must become, like the Germans.

So, my friend is puzzled. *Thi nāi iongnāi.*

The report of Hamilton, English general commander of the forces in Gallipoli, is published to-day. Certainly the landing there was a great military achievement. Irish blood flowed fast in the achievement. The progress is slow, very slow. The Turks are formidable foes, are excellently entrenched and apparently well supplied with munitions. Hamilton calls their machine guns "those inventions of the devil!" To get to Constantinople from Gallipoli seems well nigh impossible. Yet I have still that strange feeling that, in some way, it will be accomplished.

The governors of the British Empire, however, seem hopelessly confused. There is a very Babel of discordant voices at the heart of the Empire: distracted counsels; muddled advisers; carping critics. The "Daily Mail" of Monday last was very

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July 7:- despondent. Either Kitchener or Asquith must go: or both must go. And who, in England, can replace Kitchener? It is the very Nemesis of fate that "the butcher of Andromeda", the destroyer of the Boers, should be at the head of the British Empire in this day of its destiny. Can it be that the desecrator of the Madhi's tomb bears a curse for his Empire? His Empire - we hear practically nothing of George V. A weak man that by all accounts; hardly fit as ruler of an Empire in a day of dangers.

I have no doubt but the soldiers of the British Army, of all colours, fight as well as they know how. So, as a rule, do the soldiers of all nations when the fight is on. But, what is most striking in war is the directing mind and certainly, to any impartial observer, the directing minds behind the German forces are stronger and greater than those behind the Allies. There must also be more jealousy between the great commanders of the allies: result of ^{greater} differences in mentality, than can possibly be between German commanders. The national outlook must count. We hear very little of the French armies or French generals: if anything, we hear more of the Russians. This comes of the French and English being on the same battle front: the Russians are alone in the east. We hear very much of the Germans. One's enemies, I

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July 7:- notice, often make one's reputation. The Germans have almost become superhumans to us. They seem capable of achieving anything. Even the flood of abuse poured out on them only adds to their reputation for being something beyond ordinary men. There would be no such flood of abuse did the English not fear them.

The weather has been very broken recently: heavy rain, wind, cold, variable. It is anything but summer-like. Not a pleasant harvest prospect now. Well, we must live through as God will.

lul an 8ao lā. Diapdoon. Spaid bñiðoe. 5.10 p.m. The "Reader" this week has a note, referring to my article in its issue of June 26th (signed "Seannachán"), and stating "We now learn that a member of the Dublin Corporation has taken up this matter and forty members have signed a requisition for a special meeting at which this resolution is to be proposed and discussed." My suggested resolution was "We demand, as the right of the Irish Nation, that the Home Rule Act, agreed to and accepted by the English Government and signed by His Majesty, King George V., be put into operation for all Ireland on September 14th next." On the strength of this I am writing another article for the "Reader". If the Dublin Corporation carries ^{this or} some such resolution, and sends it

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July 8:- to the Corporations and councils of Ireland. there will be some vigorous thinking, and vigorous talking. Of course, John E.P. cries "Home Rule is safe when the war is over." But, will his followers be satisfied with that? When the war is over is an uncertainty: to demand that the Act be put into operation on September 14th next is fixing a certain time. They cannot in reason, publicly oppose the demand to have it put into operation then and for all Ireland. They will more probably try to stifle discussion on the matter secretly. I don't at all love the Home Rule Act and am not so foolish as to think it goes more than a thousandth part on the way of Irish freedom. But there is this much good to be got from discussion of the resolution above - it will strengthen the backbone of Ireland. If the Act were really put into operation and an Irish Parliament or even Executive called into being Ireland would have a national centre at least. If the English Government refuse to make it operative, or make it operative with the Partition articles, the mark of hypocrisy would be torn from its face and all Ireland would see how false their pretensions of justice towards us land. Further, if that Government refuse to grant Ireland's request, the whole world could see the hypocrisy of those who say they are fighting in Europe "for the rights of small nationalities."

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July 8:- altogether, it is worth trying to arouse the Irish people to make the demand. If all Ireland make the demand, the Coalition Govt. may repudiate any obligation for what the Liberal Govt. did. Then indeed Ireland will see realities. "New Ireland" is still strong on the matter. The "Leader" has now made the thing its own. Will Ireland take the hint? In the useful words of Prime Minister Asquith, let us "wait and see".

Jul an 9th 1915. Dia h-Aoine. Spáio Bríche. 6, p.m.

The discussions

in England at present are attracting almost more attention from the newspapers there than the war itself. Lloyd George and Lord Haldane are at it now. The "Northcliffe press" are against Haldane: another group are for him. It arose over a speech recently delivered by Haldane, where he gave out some secrets of a Munition Committee that was formed under the late Liberal Government. George practically calls him a liar and a tell-tale. It is all interesting and amusing to an Irishman. Interesting as showing the type of men that presume to govern this country and lecture us on our "discussions", and "factories", and lack of business capacity.

The Registration Bill has passed the English Commons. It is optional as regards Ireland. Chief Secretary Binnell

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July 9:- came out with the information, well known to Irishmen, that "the Irish Government" had ^{already} ~~almost~~ all the information necessary to fill up the Register, as it knew practically everything about the individual Irishman that is required. We know it well. The spy system in Ireland is excellent - from the English Govt's point of view. The Orangemen withdrew amendment on assurances being given by Sir Ed. Carson that the Lord Lieutenant has power to apply the measure to Ireland, or any part of it, if he desire. Consequently, "Ulster" can come into accord with "the rest of the Kingdom".

What is "Ulster"? I have got what I think is a new definition - all those Irishmen who do not believe in Irish Nationality. Most of them live in the north east corner of our island, but there are very many in other parts of the country. Their allegiance is to England: their thoughts, ideas, ideals are pro-English, though they are decidedly not like the English in England in many ways. They are as aliens in Ireland. For a good while I was of opinion it was possible to win them, by argument or a show of good feeling, to Irish Nationality. I have modified that opinion somewhat. It will be easier to mould them into the Irish Nation by standing up to them as men. Their traditions, so carefully fostered by the "Big Brother", lead them to despise Irish Nationalists.

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J. July 9:- They will not be shaken in that by argument or false tolerance. To make them respect Irish nationality, they must be fought. "Civil War" - some will cry. Well, these are worse things than civil war - national slavery for instance. The Americans did not hesitate to have a Civil War in order to assert a principle. Civil war is not nice: war of any kind is not nice: but it may become a necessity for a nation in the assertion of principle, right, justice, and freedom.

Jul 27 12³⁰ 14. Orluain. Spáiríníge. 5:15 p.m.

1. What is to be thought of a man who sees the right thing to do but is afraid to do it? What further if the man is a priest and a canon of the church? That is the case of Rev. Canon Barnett, P. P., Passage, a member of the Co. Technical Committee whom I saw to-day in reference to the dismissal of Cummins, MacSwiney and myself. He acknowledges the three of us have a case in justice for re-appointment by the committee as against MacCarthy, appointed last year. But, Macb. has powerful friends. Canon B. thinks the priests will remain away from the meeting for re-appointment next Thursday, and why I may ask? Because they know a "job" is to be performed and they are afraid to protest. all the

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8.

July 12:- Co. Councillors will vote for Macb., deliberately now, with their eyes open, knowing it to be wrong, as we have put the case for abstract justice before them. 'Tis an ugly business indeed. Canon B. would like to be present to vote for me but he has almost made up his mind to remain away altogether. I did not ask him to vote for me apart from doing the right thing by C. and Macb. May God inspire him to stand for the right. He is wavering now: a pitiable thing. What a sad commentary it all is on the ways of supposedly honourable men in public life. No principles; no courage; no brave stand for right or justice.

Yesterday, I was in Ballingearry at a meeting of Coláiste na Múnaí Comaithe. The day was fine, with a strong breeze that was life-giving; stirring the blood in one's veins. It clarified my brain and strengthened my soul. Coming back by Kilbarry a man - ordinary country small farmer type - was walking on the road. ~~was~~ "Good evening, Con" said my jockey. "Good evening, kindly" says Con. "That's Sergeant O'Leary's father, sir." "Oh! indeed" said I "he's like the pictures of him I have seen in the papers. I suppose the sergeant got a number of recruits here." "No indeed, sir. He nor his father."

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J. July 12: wouldn't advise anyone here to join the English Army. He's in the north and in England doing that. There's the spot he was born. There was a house there once. His father has three or four acres of land thereabouts. "Mike" himself was in Hyde Park,

London, yesterday: J.P. O'Connor, M.P. doing the honours.

Got another few pages of an ^{american "New York World"} paper, from Fawcitt, about half leaves being stolen by the Censors. Only interesting thing on the pages I got is an account of the "World's" correspondent describing England in wartime and all the regulations regarding aliens. He states no foreign ^{newspaper} correspondents are allowed into Ireland! Those who came to Limerick to report the sinking of the "Lusitania" were arrested! The same regulations regarding correspondents as apply to munition areas in England apply to all Ireland. Significant.

"The Irish Volunteer", dated for next Saturday, is out to-day, fast on the heels of last week's issue. Sean O'Sullivan tells me this means that "Nationality" (Griffith's paper) is about to be suppressed. Probably the "Volunteers" itself is in danger too. It is a strong number. Seems to indicate there is to be a fight of some kind soon. *Tha Dáppaínn air 30 bfuil an t-icpáirín*
Tha Fadaí do Ríagáirí Sáirna leagairz dúinn leasamairz na g-a bfuil agairz

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July 12: *A dul, na gairz a dul, leagairz sa na Seana Sáirín: 5 to 30. 16. ly*
esiriz map air a g-airz le na h-ogairz ap fuil na ipis.

"Independent" of yesterday has requisition signed by members of Dublin Corporation to the Lord Mayor to discuss the resolution I sent to the "Reader". The resolution is also given. The meeting is to be held on Wednesday. There are 39 names to requisition as given on "Independent."

"We" have taken all German South West Africa and added it to the Empire. That is, General Botha has done it for us. Hurrah! the only thing "We" have won. "We" are a great people, "we" Anglo Saxons.

Jul on 13th 14. *Tha Máirz. spairt bfuilz 5. 30 p.m.*

I have been taking a glimpse five or six years past in looking up copies of "Sinn Féin"; "Irish Peasant"; "Nation" and so on. It started with a hunt for a Whitmanesque piece of mine published in "Sinn Féin", February 1, 1913, entitled "Ireland Calls." It would have been better entitled "The Irish Nationalist's Creed." I met nobody who read it in full. Most of my friends did not read it at all: only glanced at it. Yet nothing I ever wrote satisfied me more. and I wrote it to satisfy my own soul, as a reply for myself to a promise made somewhere in England by Mr. John B. Redmond, that when Ireland

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July 13:- was granted Home Rule all Irishmen would be loyal to England and the Empire. In looking up the papers I find several interesting things. Certainly there was much thinking done in Ireland five or six years ago - we have reaped the fruits of it in the Volunteer movement and are reaping them further to-day.

Still the prosecutions under the Defence of the Realm Act go on. There are three reported to-day: one or two yesterday.

All are petty cases. Saturday, "Patrick Sheehan, Fenit, Co. Kerry, was arrested for spreading false news." How dreadful indeed!

If every man who has spread or is spreading false news: newspaper men and others, were taken up, where would jails be found to lock them all into? If every liar were taken up who would be the guardians?

In an 11⁴⁰:- Dia Ceudaoim. Spaid b'p'ide 7.15 p.m. "Echo" report of Dublin Corporation meeting to-day. Press association telegram, is a very short one. The debate was proceeding when telegram was sent. Result given in "late news" column. An amendment to my resolution was carried by 30 votes to 22. Amendment was in general terms to trust Mr. Redmond and the J.P.P. as to when Home Rule Act is to be put into operation. But speakers to amendment said they accepted the Act only as an instalment of Irish freedom and that if Ireland was to be kept loyal the Act must be put into operation.

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July 14:- The instalment idea is certainly not Mr. B's. Heard through a printer at "Examiner" that P. Y. Daly said at the debate he stood, like his father and grandfather, for an Irish Republic. Report to hand is too vague to pass full judgment on proceedings, but so far it is good enough as calling the country's attention to possibilities and to the position of Home Rule. No one but my wife knows that I have had anything to do with the matter. It is very interesting as showing how easily the country can be stirred at present.

Liam Mellows and Ernest Blythe have been ordered out of Ireland, not to return, by General Friend! They must clear out, according to order, by Saturday next. Blythe has been in Galway and Mellows in Athlone, organizing those districts.

To-morrow the position of Cummins, MacSwiney and myself will be decided. MacS. thinks he is the man to go; but there is no particular reason. I believe, why he should think so. He is convinced himself that there is a political "move" in the matter and regards himself as far more prominent than me. He is good, sincere, earnest, but his temperament is not quite the same as mine. He

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J. July 14! - seems too eager to be, as it were, "made a martyr of." I am quite reconciled to the worst that can happen and, thank God, have a cheerful spirit over the matter. Whether I am re-appointed or not, I am considering other plans for making a livelihood. If anyone of the three of us -go- and it seems certain one is to go - the position won't be at all nice for the two who remain, with MacCarthy and the Co. Secretary, Buckley, and such a Committee.

Inl an 15th La. Dáiríú. Spóiríú. 10.20 a.m.

When amendment was carried at Dublin Corporation yesterday there was a row. Cries were hurled from both sides and some members had to be separated from others. It was a lovely exhibition apparently. Several declared they had no confidence in Mr. Redmond. Some accused the mover of the amendment of trickery and of having drafted the resolution! Report first says there were about forty out of eighty "city fathers" present but division shows 52 voted. The "Cork Examiner" has two notes about the matter: it is quite puzzled over the affair and doesn't quite know how to take it, whether it means support for Mr. Redmond or not.

More deportations! "A. Newman" (Pim) added to the list. Ordered to clear out of Ireland. Others - names not

July 15! - given - ordered not to go to certain areas, within Ireland.

It is stated Mellows and Blythe will refuse to obey the order. Rightly so. It is also stated whatever country or district the "deportees" go to must be with the approval of by the British Government and they must not move from those places without that Government's permission. A ridiculous statement. Cannot be correct. The B.G. has no jurisdiction in - Peru for instance.

Strike troubles in South Wales.

Inl an 14th La. Dáiríú. Spóiríú. 5.45 p.m. Torpedoed!

I am out of the service of the Co. Cork (Joint) Technical Instruction Committee. Degrees of relationship, Hibernian intrigue, and Mr. J.M. Buckley's bouncing lie knocked me over. I was not even proposed for re-appointment at Thursday's meeting of the Committee. Mr. J.M. Burke, B.L., M.C.C. of Shillbreen had his forces marshalled on Thursday. Some he brought in a motor car. He is a first cousin to MacCarthy mentioned above. C. MacS. and myself were about to telephone to Buckley to learn result when Very Rev. Canon Cohaney of Bantry came on the scene. He was "sorry to say Mr. Roche was ~~not~~ not re-appointed." He would have proposed me but Mr. Buckley states I had not got a "Diploma" as required by original conditions of appointment and

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I July 17:- was thus not qualified, he could do nothing. Mr. Cummins' qualifications were also questioned — after eight years. Mr. Burke criticised a circular the three of us had sent to members of the Committee, on the advice of most Rev. Dr. Broome, "in his lawyer-like way."

My little wife broke down on learning the news not so much for my having lost the position as for the unjust way I was treated. She is a dear, good little wife. And we had been at Holy Communion that morning. But God knows best.

I have been very busy since in the endeavour to get the injustice made right. Buckley's statement that I did not obtain "Diploma" is a lie: with, perhaps, a technical truth of a kind in the name "Diploma": Certificate is the name of the qualification I needed and obtained at University College, Cork, where I spent three or four sessions. This morning I discovered a thing I had forgotten — that I also passed first Commerce examination of the National University of Ireland. There is only one examination to obtain Degree or Diploma, but the cause for me was and is attendance at the College here. I attended all the courses but one — a series of lectures given from 9 am. to

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July 17:- 10 am. and as I had to come from Skibbereen w/Bantry, a 60 miles journey by train, to attend the College, I did not arrive in Cork till after 11 a.m. On looking up press reports of my original appointment — October and November, 1910 — I find certificate, not Diploma, was the ^{very} word mentioned by Dr. Windle, President U.C.C., who was on the Committee at the time. Press report of Committee's proceedings appeared yesterday. Burke states Buckley's lie, but only mentions examinations which I should have but did not pass. Buckley's statement not reported. The reporter himself was a Hibernian — and a vindictive one. He was one of those who led the assault on Boim MacNeill at the founding of the Volunteer movement in Cork, December, 1913.

So I must start the world again. Well, God is good. I am like some men, whose life stories I have read but whose names I forget, that at certain periods when placed in circumstances like mine, take out from their pockets all the available cash and count it and reckon how many days more they can live. Well, thank God, my circumstances, thanks chiefly to my little wife, are not too bad. It is not a question of days yet! Why do the lions of old Omar come to me —

"'Tis all a chequer board of nights and days
Where Destiny, with men for pawns, plays."

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July 17:- Old Omar's philosophy is to me a very sad one and slightly flippant.

The Great War drags on: the prosecutions and banishments in Ireland continue.

Still England is convulsed by faction, and now by the great strike in South Wales coal-fields.

The Government has "proclaimed" the district, but the miners, 250,000 strong, have defied the proclamation, in spite of their leaders' advice.

The coal-mine owners are making big profits: the miners want a corresponding increase in wages. There is bullying and parleying and coaxing and appealing, but they stand firm.

So, the rules of Merry England are not quite in vogue just now.

Striking, stirring, upsetting times, boys.

Tu. or 1915.14. On Tues. Spáid b'páide, 6.15 p.m. The boys of the Fianna Fáil believe, as there is beyond doubt some foundation for believing that my non-appointment by the Technical Committee was due to politics, so I had sympathy from them on Saturday night. Others' sympathy I care not much for but I like the good feeling of true men such as the O'zigs are. Yesterday, I went out to my native parish of Incheon to help in getting a Volunteer Corps started there. The start was not great in point of numbers, but it was at all events, a

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July 19. beginning. This morning, on his invitation, went to see Professor Smiddy, M.A., Dean of Faculty of Commerce at University College, Cork, to secure written evidence of course I attended there in addition to what I have already got. He too, was sympathetic and promising, without any asking on my part, to do anything he could for me.

Sent a personal letter and the joint circular letter of C. MacB. and myself to Cork papers on Saturday. They are published to-day. I called a spade a spade in mine: uses the words "absolute falsehood", but the papers have toned the words down: "entirely incorrect" are "Examiner's" words: "incorrect" - the "Constitution" substitute.

Replied to two ads. for teachers in the "Independent" of Friday. Had a communication to-day from a Rev. J. Buckley, Wicklow Hotel, Dublin, asking some questions, saying application will come before the school authorities. He doesn't state school, nor is there anything to show me which advertisement I am dealing with.

Pim has been arrested in Belfast, apparently because he addressed a public meeting. Denis McBullogue, Mallow, and Blythe have been given till Wednesday to clear out of Ireland. They went go.

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In an 20th 15. Ds Máirtín Spáid b'áide 11.40 am. Some comments are appearing the papers as to the different ways the D. of the R. Act is being enforced in Ireland and in England. The London correspondent of the "Independent" yesterday stated there was much comment "in Parliamentary and non-political circles in London" concerning this. There are "Pro-Germans" in England, it appears working an open propaganda; "Stop the War" Committees; anti-recruiters and so on. But, there are no prosecutions in that happy land, while every day there are reports of prosecutions, removals, banishments in Ireland. Now, to those who know English Government ways this is all quite natural. To those who think, honestly think, Ireland and England are one and the same in the "United Kingdom" it must appear puzzling indeed. What does the difference of treatment prove? That Ireland is as distinct an entity as ever; that English Government in Ireland is the same tyranny it ever was; that all the sloppy talk of recent times is veritable humbug. I have heard, not having seen it, that the very mild "Cork Examiner" had the daring to make a little, weak comment on the working of the D. of the R. Act in Ireland, fearing it was being brought into dispute owing to recent ridiculous cases. Examples of such cases were - a farmer at a fair in Middleton said to two policemen who were officious - "Pity the Germans, wouldn't catch ye". John and Julia Cole were being taken to Tralee Gaol as vagrants. They uttered "seditious" language on the way. They were brought up for using

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July 20th - such language, in Cahirciveen. John got 14 days and Julia was bound to the peace for 12 months. I have no doubt they used the bad language, particularly if they were drunk - very bad, seditious language. To have them up under the D. of the R. Act was the humor of the situation. Truly it makes that act ridiculous, but such are the ways of English "Law" in Ireland.

The Russians are again been driven back. Rumors of warms having fallen or about to fall are current. Its fall certainly seems imminent and will be a mighty victory for Germany - one that cannot be denied. There has been fierce fighting recently in the west, but we are not informed if there are any definite results. Losses in the Verdunelle on English side are admitted by assault to be over 52,000 up to June 30th. South Wales coal mine still idle: men on strike. They have taken no notice of the Govt. proclamation making it a crime to strike, punishable by fine or imprisonment. The Govt. cannot enforce this proclamation. Cujolery negotiations still going on. Poor Séan Burke is in a bad way, I fear. Mí Brien an tEigean dá Deapcarb rin.

J.M. Burke has a short note in "Examiner" to-day in reply to mine. He pins Buckley for the false statements made. I am perfectly satisfied with his note. It increases the chain of evidence necessary to vindicate my professional character. I have also a nice private note from Turnbull, Department's Inspector, which will help me to that end.

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Sent a short story yesterday to "The Story-Teller", an English magazine, of fairly good standing. If I can make "the enemy" pay for my support it will be well. Have several other little plans on hands that would help to my life and support for my little wife, for that is a big part of my present problems.

We can hold out for a long while on our savings, but "poor Richard" has a saying "Always taking out of the meal tub and never coming in soon comes to the bottom." Feargus a Beo a yind.

When one - or two - has no expensive tastes the problem of how to live is not so difficult as otherwise.

There is a post as partner to friend Seán O'Neill, wholesale newsagent and bookseller, waiting for me whenever I wish to take it up. It would not be any way lucrative, unless I made it so myself by developing that business. Seán starts with less prospect and the business is now on a good footing. He, however, is at present in a consumptive's sanatorium - cannot attend to the place in consequence. There are prospects before the business I believe and it was partly due to my advice that he took it up first. My little wife advises me to wait before entering this and I am acting on her advice. No harm done by waiting either to

1915.

22.

July 21:- Seán or myself. The attraction for me there is, that though I would have to work hard to push the concern, I would be far more independent than in another post. The prospects for a literary career are not bright, particularly when one has strong principles. It looks as if literary work as a means of livelihood held no prospects and I am very poor in effort when writing for reward. I am here writing as if things were somewhat normal, which they are not. They are distinctly abnormal and no one knows what a week or a month may bring.

Friend MacSwiney is determined not to take post as Communal Teacher. He wishes to withdraw and let Co. Committee re-appoint me. I can never consent under those circumstances. I have told him plainly and distinctly so. I wish to have the injustices done me made right but I am not going to accept the position on MacB.'s withdrawal. My little wife backs me up in this. MacB. is taking up O'Leary's organising, as owing to banishment order against Blythe, Mellows, MacLough and Bin, there is a want of organisers. This will probably lead to his banishment or arrest too. Considering this, I naturally let nothing of his refusing to take Comm. Teacher post to his own conscience and discretion. Others, of his relatives and friends call his action foolish - but we are all "fools" in Ireland's case.

1915.

23.

July 21:- MacB. is writing up something to be sold as a pamphlet at Rosa's funeral, expected to take place on August 1st. Will the "authorities" allow public funeral? There are some little doubts. We shall see.

Had a letter from D. F. this morning, sent in a roundabout fashion. A long, rambling kind of letter, with little or no information. Was to see his wife and family last evening. J. D. O. is helping to support them. Mrs. F. does not at all seem to realize things in this true light.

Some very loyal pro-English Irishmen in Dublin are anxious to make munitions and earn an honest penny thereby. They won't get the chance as are becoming disappointed. The war office or munition bureau have refused the help of any kind, but are glad to take their workmen to make the munitions in England. Quite right and proper to hint these pro-English Irishmen. Why this whine? Can't they be either decent Irishmen or out and out English and go to live in that country.

John B. R. has a long letter in to-day's paper, answering Dublin Corporation vote of confidence. General burden of it all's well, if Irishmen are quite loyal and good boys and don't talk or do anything but help the Allies. Notwithstanding which the discussion about Home Rule in September still continues. Russell Higgins has a letter in "Independent" about it.

1915.

24.

July 21:- to-day. A hard people to keep quiet, John, eh!

The Russians are still retreating and being broken in many places. The Austro-Germans are driving them back. Warsaw is being encircled. "The greatest war movement in history" is taking place in Poland these days - a mighty conflict, a gigantic struggle, a stupendous operation. Thus all opinions and little doubt entertained as to the result - Warsaw will fall. From Windau in the Baltic to Bessarabia - almost to Odessa - the fight is going on and the whole Russian line is being driven back on this stretch of over 1100 miles. The news from the west is the same as ever; small trench engagements. The Italian news is of the same kind. Little news from the Dardanelles or from other fighting quarters.

The general opinion prevails in the United States that the war will be over in a few months. No reason why given except the vague term "economic pressure". The war is costing England now well over three millions a day. Asquith moved for more money in the Commons yesterday, bringing expenditure up to One thousand and twelve million pounds. A tidy sum that! If it has cost ^{England} so much as far what will it cost the Allies to get to Berlin? Modern warfare is indeed not a shooting picnic party.

1915.

In an 23rd Ia. On 1-Home. spate breeze. 10.10 am. To-day is a fairly fine day, not warm for this time of the year and with showers threatening at times. The nights are cold and altogether the weather has been very broken for some time. We have had no glorious, golden sunnier days.

The Dublin Corporation resolutions and amendment have attracted much attention. Mr. Redmond's letter has brought more attention to bear on on them. What affords amusement to me is how many bad shots are made at the original draught of the resolution: the mover of the amendment in Dublin is charged in many of the papers with having drawn up the proposition himself and then running from it! Certainly, there is confusion amongst the Redmondites. Though John has spoken, their speeches and resolutions indicate that they have doubts about all being well with Home Rule.

The plain logic of the situation is a bit too much for them. Mr. R. and his satellites have declared again and again that all is won, all is well, all is safe.

But - Ireland must remain quiet and loyal and back the allies.

But - also, the U. I. L. and the Red. Vols. must be re-organised and kept up to full strength. The first assertion and the last "but" seems contradictory. If all is well, given the ~~reasons~~ first "but" what is the need of the

1915.

July 23! - second "but"? Surely no man is foolish enough to believe the Nat. Vols. can fight Carson and the British army for Home Rule, if the British Army be triumphant in the war. And if the Nat. Vols. are not going to fight for Home Rule, what are they in existence for? How can they be kept up to full strength anyhow if one of the conditions of obtaining Home Rule is the paying of a blood price by them on the Continent? 'Tis all very muddled indeed, no matter what bright, shining things Mr. John E. R. may say.

The extension for clearing out of Ireland granted to Mellows, Blythe and MacLennan expired on Wednesday. What has happened then since, if anything, I don't know. Ginnell continues his questioning in Parliament concerning them and a multitude of other matters: Fawcett's removal, the prohibition of erecting the commemorative tablet on Bachelor's Walk, etc. Mr. J. J. Healy took a hand in yesterday and suggested men, ^{ordered} out of Ireland would be far more dangerous than the same men could be in Ireland. Tennant, Under Secretary for War replied that the D. of the R. Act was being used with judicious care and careful discrimination! Oh! shade of asenias.

The great fight for Warsaw is still unfinished though there is little doubt of the result now. In other quarters there is very little activity. It is as if the world was holding its breath to see the issue of the Warsaw fight.

1915.

lul an 24a1a. Dia Saiaipn. Spaid bpijde. 11 am.

McLulloch and Mellors have been arrested. So much was in the "Independent" yesterday. No news of Blythe. Mr. Birrell, our amusing Chief Secretary, doesn't give "two stuns" what their political opinions are. So he said in reply to a question of Birrell's. Everything is in the hands of the "competent military authority". That's his contention. Thus he, Pilate-like, washes his hands of the crime of the authorities in arresting innocent men. Eoin MacNeill reminds us that even Cromwell left Connaught to the wild Irish but Birrell and his boys goes further than Cromwell. The O'Leary Executive last Saturday issued a manifesto dealing with the matter of the deportations. The aim was to steady opinion and fix Birrell for responsibility as a political partisan; to show the whole thing up as a political move not a D. of the R. Act action in reality. Of course the Executive is right. It is Irish Nationality is being struck at. They are not afraid of "the Realm". They are afraid of Irish Nationality. They know as well, if not better than we do, that the O'Leary alone cannot fight the English armed forces in Ireland now with hope of success. But they fear the strong spirit of Irish nationality wounded by the O'Leary. Hence the repressions, imprisonments, deportations.

1915.

July 24th: Lord Lieutenant Wimbourne has begun to apply the Registration Act in Ireland, to Belfast, Derry, Antrim, Down. And it was only the other day the "Freeman's Journal" declared the Act did not apply to Ireland! It need not certainly, for the police have all the information necessary. Under cover of taking statistics of crops they are obtaining the information that the Registration Act will bring forth in England. Every day brings forth something of interest now to Irish Nationalists.

I am engaged in some literary activities at present. Yesterday, sent another short story to the "Weekly Independent". Wrote Seán O'Callaigh, editor of the "Catholic Bulletin" asking if he pays for contributions to the "Bulletin" and saying I was "out of a job." I have a pamphlet - on the style of the "Tracts for the Times" which Pim and the others are bringing out in Dublin - ready for publication. I entitle it "Voices of the Past." It is a collection I am working on since last December, of pieces emphasising some principles of Irish nationality and Irish freedom, taken from many sources - Davis, Mitchell, Tone, Lalor, Emmet, Swift, Grattan, Irish poets, English travellers in Ireland and so on, covering a period of about four hundred years. I wish to publish it in Cork, but as I cannot well bear the ^{financial} burden myself now, I am asking help from some friends.

1st July 24:- If they cannot assist, I mean to try the Dublin men.

I am dressing up several stories, articles, etc. long on hands.

1st July 24th. Dia Luam. Spáid Bríde. 3.40 p.m. Yesterday, with my little wife and a party of Óglaz friends went to loc Éidín, near Baltimore. Most of the others went to Bantry and Glengarriff: Óglaz had an excursion on south coast line. loc Éidín and surroundings are magnificent, meet spot as the scene of a stirring romance. The day was fine: the view from a high hill over the sea magnificent, superb: a fair breeze blowing. We enjoyed ourselves immensely.

Blythe was arrested on Saturday at a Parish Priest's home in Co. Monaghan. So the few ordered out of Ireland have been rounded up now. No charge whatever has been brought against them: but they refuse to obey tyrant Friend's military order of banishment for ever from their native land. What tyrants the "Hans" in "Belgium" are!

1st July 24th. Dia Máire. Spáid Bríde. 1.40 p.m. Sunday, by the way, yesterday by the date, was the anniversary of the coming of the "White Yacht" to Howth with rifles for the Irish Volunteers and of the shooting down of men, women, and children at Bachelors Walk, Dublin, by the King's Own Scottish Borderers. Notable events in Ireland's

July 24th history. A year has gone by. What a change has come over the scene! I was in London at the time - as I have noted before. At twelve o'clock at night my landlady came to the door of my bedroom, calling out "they are shooting down the people in Dublin." She had a late evening paper with the account. "Rifles street covered with streams of blood." It was an event. The dark deed of blood spilling overshadowed the glorious deeds of the morning. The landing of the rifles, the coming of the yacht exact at the scheduled time, the promptitude of the Volunteers, the holding up of the small "crown forces", the march back to Dublin city, the outwitting of the soldiers and police. It was a smart piece of work.

To-night, our Cork Óglaz are to celebrate the event by a route march, with rifles on their shoulders, thus asserting, as has often been asserted since Howth Sunday, the right of Irishmen to bear arms in defence of Ireland without giving allegiance to any foreign king or government. There were great days last year: the tyranny called the Defence of the Realm Act is ^{up}heaving on the land this year. Latest example - a young man out by Kilsnoo road, in the (Cúin Ríog an Domhnaigh) south western city suburbs, shouted "Up the Gens." on Sunday. He was up himself before the police

1915.

July 27:- Court yesterday. Bail was refused. The District Inspector of Police states there was "a lot of this sort of thing" in that district and ^{from that district} he had to get a man sent out of Ireland, because of Pro-German sentiments! Refers to Tawlett apparently. Knowing D.I.! Iniminating D.I.! The inference is that the Óglaigh, or Sinn Féinide, are not as much Irish nationalists as "pro-Germans" and nothing is bad enough for "Pro-Germans" — in Ireland. They are allowed to express their views with some freedom in England. So I see by English papers. But in Ireland, "the one bright spot" — oh! dear, a "Pro-Ger." is a criminal.

Jul an 28ú lá. On Cúrsaíonn. Spáis Bpúide 11-30 am. Sunshine and shower: shower and sunshine — the way of the weather so the way of life. It is gloriously fine and warm at this moment, after a shower.

I wrote above — In Ireland a "Pro-Ger." is a criminal. It is quite right and proper for the safety of the Empire and the Defence of the Realm that an Irishman should express no ideas or thoughts whatever except such as the English Government wishes him to express!

Last night was a great night with our Cork Óglaigh. We made a very good muster, with our pipers' band, our green

1915.

July 28:- flag waving, our rifles glistening in the soft moonlight.

It was like "old times" with us — a crowd awaits us outside our headquarters, accompanies us through the streets, where it swelled to very large dimensions, and saw us back. And it displayed a friendly attitude.

Our own boys turned up in good numbers — the chance of showing the rifles always brings them out. Tomás Curtin spoke at the end for a few seconds, saying we stood now as we always stood, for the defence of the rights and liberties of Ireland, and he invited recruits to join. A number did join as a result.

So we celebrated 40th Anniversary in fine fashion. What struck me most was this — the large number, despite intimidation, cajolery, threats, fear of imprisonment or banishment or loss of employment. The spirit indeed must be strong. All over the country too, corps are again getting together under our banner. Though there are many and great handicaps for proper training, even the sympathy thus shown is of account.

The remains of Ó'Donobáin Rea have come to Bídai. Next Sunday the funeral procession will take place. I have no doubt there will be a very, very large muster of armed men and a monetar attendance of spectators. I contemplate going to Bídai with my little wife and some friends on Saturday, but have

1915.

July 28th - not yet quite decided. Had a note from Farwell yesterday, in which he hints that he is returning to Ireland. What now? I don't quite understand his actions, either in going or in returning.

The O'Connell and Spodoff are being held in Dúnodalgan this week. I would have been there had my position remained as it was. The expense stopped me.

Jul an 29th Lá. Dáiríocht. Spáid b'fáid. 4 p.m. The remains of Ó Donabáin Ropra arrived in Dublin on Tuesday night.

Requiem High Mass was celebrated for him in the Pro-Cathedral yesterday, the O'Learys forming a guard of honour. The remains were later removed to Dublin City Hall and there lie in state.

An tEaglaí M. Ó Flannagáin delivered an oration on the opening of the coffin lid by Mrs. O'Donovan - a strong, stirring oration, a vigorous, virile oration. Mrs. O.D. herself had a letter in the paper yesterday denying that Rosa had in any way changed his nationalist principles or ideas or weakened in his hatred of English tyranny in Ireland. Fr. O'Flanagan touched well on that. The coffin is covered by an Irish Republican flag. Some Redmondites are anxious to claim Rosa as a Parliamentarian in his later days. Why this? except they know that Ireland still honours the Píonáir, the man of the I.R.B. - all

1915.

July 29th - recent pronouncements notwithstanding. There is no doubt but that there will be an immense funeral on Sunday next - O'Learys and other Vols. will take part.

Ginnell's questions in the English Commons are amusing and interesting: but certainly are full of "point", from the Irish view.

"Do the military authorities contemplate removing the Treaty Stone of Kimerick under the D. of the R. Acts as 'likely to cause disaffection and prejudice recruiting for His Majesty's forces'?" "Do they contemplate removing '98 monuments?" "Has Chief Secretary Binnell considered the advisability of hanging offenders under the Acts?" and so on. Entertaining questions: annoying questions these.

As Parliament adjourned yesterday for six or seven weeks, Ginnell will have to cease questioning. Mr. Pat. O'Brien yesterday said the Irish Party would resist conscription to the bitter end. But what will you do Mr. O.B. if the Coalition thinks it necessary "for the safety of the Empire"? Or, if Mr. John G.R. thinks resistance "a false step"?

"The Reader" and "New Ireland" are excellent this week in many particulars. The latter is strong - rightly so - on the removal of Pin and the others: calls the removal by its proper name of tyranny - no charge having been made against the men: thinks this a case for all Ireland. Kimerick

35.

1915.

July 29:- Board of Guardians have passed a resolution on the matter, denouncing the removals.

Tuesday up in Ballyeastle some Christian Brothers were brutally assaulted by a crowd of soldiers - men of the Ulster Division of the new army - and had to fly for their lives into a church. The Brothers, in court, swore they language used by the soldiers was shocking. "Kill them, the bloody Fenians" were some of the words. Two of the soldiers got two months imprisonment with hard labour. Let us assume the punishment commensurate with that crime - but compare it with the punishment inflicted on traitors and machiavellians or any of the poor fellows who shout "Up the Germans". All right - Messieurs Imperialists: that's your justice. But, be well sure those little things will sink into the minds of Irishmen, "his Finians" or others and you are laying up something for your selves in the future. And this is "The New Era" in Ireland!

The struggle for Warsaw still continues. This is a hard and mighty struggle; a gigantic enterprise as the Germans are conducting it. There is more, vastly more, involved now in the fight in Poland than the capture of Warsaw. As far as one can gather from the news we are allowed to have and from looking at maps, if the Germans

1915.

36.

July 29:- success there, Russia will be knocked out of the conflict indefinitely, her armies shattered. I wrote the other day that the capture of Warsaw was a foregone conclusion. The capture of Warsaw may be - though I see now some Englishmen doubt it - but the complete victory is not a foregone conclusion; the struggle is so vast. The Germans are driving, pushing, winning at many points: the Russians are resisting stubbornly beyond a doubt. The issues are immense: victory on either hand would count for a very, very great deal; one would almost say the end of the Great War if one could be sure he had full information. The Russian resistance is being praised highly by the English, and pro-English in Ireland: 'tis a strong resistance. But what seems even more remarkable is the bigness of the German offensive and this holding at the same time the French, English, and Belgians in the West. Progress is being reported for the Italians and in the Ardennes but these seem small things compared with the huge fight in Poland. South Africa is won by Botha - now above to us as a most loyal Imperialist. The English also report progress in Mesopotamia. No particular news from Egypt. German submarines are again active in the North Sea. Notes to Germany from the U.S.A. and from England to the U.S.A. are still attracting attention. Asquith acknowledges English casualties to be over 330,000.

1915.

July 29:- It must be acknowledged England has done very well in raising a huge army under the voluntary system, but she has muddled very much and France has probably lost 10 casualties for England's one. Did I note the Welsh coal strike was ended? The Government and the employers has to climb down. The miners won. There were no imprisonments and no fines imposed after all. Oh! for six days of such strength in Ireland as the Welsh miners showed.

There are some indications that French people are getting weary over English muddling or want of help. All is not well either at the centre of things in Russia. Muddles there have been swept away.

What an interesting time to live in - even for me, like myself, "out of a job"!

Jul An 31st Ia. Dia Sāzayen. Spawo bpiḡoo. 2.45 pm. Little time to write now as I am going, le congnain Dē, to Tāz Chai at 6. Just to record - Pin got 3 months imprisonment in Belfast on Thursday; Macchellough 4 months, for disobeying order of banishment from Ireland. "Fried" was an absolute farce: this apparent was to an outside. Brian Mellows, in Dublin yesterday, got 3 months. No charge, no evidence of why ordered from Ireland; impudence by military officers Prime: but they did not

1915.

July 30:- leave Ireland ~~soon~~^{on} General Friend's ipso dixit. The "authorities" would not reveal who moves first - Dublin Castle or Friends, but "nationality" this week has exposed some things which make the Castle responsible and Joe Devlin, M.P. the informer. This was brought out in the case of Pin Macch. also.

Rose's lying in state in Dublin City Hall has apparently drawn enormous crowds. Fr. O'Flanagan's oration was better and stronger than reported, I hear. And there was a large number of order and other priests present when he delivered it. A Mr. Muldown B.H. delivered a lecture at a N.S.H. branch in Dublin last night on John Redmond, his party and his critics. According to report he was frequently interrupted by "physical force" advocates. General Lord Mayor Sherlock who presided had also to interrupt him, as he said it was the young priests who were criticising Redmond and that many of them were policemen's sons! Sherlock also pledged his reputation that Home Rule would soon be attained! Perhaps for I have an idea the Brit. Gov. will soon be asking Goin Macchell what he wants to keep Ireland quiet. There are various rumours that the same Brit. Gov. is in a fix over Ireland. Not surprised. Rose's funeral is a bit of a puzzle to it no doubt at this particular time. And Warsaw has fallen! That's not the way it's put of course - only the Russians have quietly and orderly and strategically

1915.

July 31 evacuated it. up to yesterday the Russians were winning, had sent the Germans flying back across the river and stopped them on the Vistula and defended them on the Bug. So the news was, then the news - unofficially - the Russians were leaving Poland, as they had determined to do goodness knows how many years ago, in case of war. Let us leave it at that. Big world history is in the making these days, but in the absence of genuine news we in the presence of fine lies we cannot adjust our minds properly to it.

Lužnaya on Trepak. Dia Maupz. Spaid Bpizde. 1.45 p.m.

To Bichai Saturday evening at six. A crowded holiday train. With friends, Irish speaking. Reached Bichai about 12. Night very wet: torrential rain. Early morning hazy. Cleared about 10 and then a gloriously hot summer's day, with brilliant sunshine. To City Hall to see all that was mortal of Disposed to Donatium Ropra. The face was uncovered, beneath a glass shade. Calm, peaceful face of the old man, not much changed since last I saw him alive in 1904-5. A natural thrill through the soul at the look of that dead face: sorrow for the dead, hope for the future, strengthening of faith in the high principles of Irish nationality, resolution in the great work for Gaelic or Nationalism. There was a constant stream of visitors and the arrangements were perfect: carried out by the men who

1915.

Aug. 3:- believe in the principle of Irishism. Then to Slingsbridge to meet Cork O'Leary. Crowded trains - Kildenny, Waterford, Kimerick, Cork. Kimerick O'Leary a good contingent: Cork even better. Took my place in the ranks; my beloved Mauser rifle having been brought up by Seán MacDonn. We took up position in Jones's St. A long wait before the advance came. Bulmer Hobson - not in uniform passed by our ranks. Even MacNeill also in private dress, and alone, passed by, no company, no state. Had a handshake with him and a greeting in Irish. Then the advance, with the sound of muffled drums and the sad music of the dead march; with slow steps and arms reversed. By York St., Stephen's Green, Dawson St., Nassau St., O'Connell St. to Glasnevin. Crowds, dense, immense, enormous, lined the streets. Irish march from near College Green almost to Glasnevin. I was not in a position to see numbers taking part in procession: only the masses on the streets. We did not go into the cemetery: there was not room, so turned back by a circuitous route, a very goodly contingent. Cork boys made an excellent show down O'Connell St. Disposed for a short time on the south quay below O'Connell Bridge. I fell out of the ranks then as I was remaining in Bichai and the corps marched to Slingsbridge to arrive by 8.30 and to reach Cork about 3 a.m. yesterday morning.

1915.

41.

Aug. 31:- Such the outline. What can I say of the general impressions? Impossible to deal with them or with every aspect of the affair. It was too stupendous, too vast. The "Freeman's Journal" gave the best report in an endeavour to claim all the credit for the Redmondites - who has absolutely nothing to do with the affair. The "Independent" gave a shockingly poor report; so did the "Cork Examiner". The "Irish Times", I believe, computes that 7,000 men, at least, "of military age" carried rifles in the procession. It is very difficult to arrive at any clear estimate of numbers, either in the procession itself or as spectators (who certainly appeared most sympathetically). I suppose there were ten or twelve thousand Volunteers - O'Garra, Rathinella, and Corkinella. I am rather inclined to minimise that suggestion in these cases, as there may have been more. I should say, with spectators as well, there were over two hundred thousand people there. It was a sight never to be forgotten. The "Irish" P. Party were conspicuous by their absence, as were most of the great "leaders" of the Redmondites. The Lord Mayor of Dublin's carriage and representatives were, I heard, present, but he would not be allowed there himself. Lord Mayor O'Shea of Cork was also there, but not in state. (He may lose his expected slighthood over being there at all as the Lord Lieutenant is coming to Cork next

1915.

42.

Aug. 31:- week - it is apparent he is working for a title). Killenny's Mayor and Corporation were there in one state and so were many other public representatives. The Dublin Rab. Vols. were without rifles - I hear there was some friction among themselves as to whether they would take part or not, but the "free" one. They were all in uniform, I think, and looked a fine body of men. The lesson of Ross's life and work was well driven home by distribution, or sale, of leaflets, pamphlets, etc. (One of them written or compiled by Lennox MacSwiney). Ross's wife and daughter were at the funeral. A fairly large number of priests; mostly young priests. Prayers were recited in Irish at the graveside and Pádraig mac Píapáir delivered an oration in Irish and English - an excellent one judging by the very meagre report given of it. So passed a great day, a remarkable and memorable day, comparable only to the MacManus funeral, which Ross himself doubtless had something to do with.

We returned to Cork at 12 last night, having had an exciting run to catch the train at Kingsbridge.

3.30 p.m. A year has passed since the great war began. So narrow is the anniversary of England's entrance into it - officially. So few, Germany and Austria are triumphant.

1915.

43.

Aug. 3:- These very days the great Russian retreat in Poland is taking place. The news is obscure. The Germans officially report entering Lublin and taking Mlawa, in Poland, drawing the curtain close around Białystok, crossing the Vistula, pursuing and pressing the retreating Russians, but there is no news of their having entered Warsaw. The usual hunting is being written - the Russians are not beaten: they are only retreating in good order, of this our free will and the Germans are still suffering enormous losses. But, the retreat is taking place anyhow and the Germans - Austrians are pushing on behind them.

A telegram lines was sent to the bottom of the sea off the Irish coast on Saturday: survivors were brought to Cove.

The Russians are going to give "Home Rule" to Poland - after the war. How nice! If Germany be wise and declares Poland free - can it rise to that height of magnanimity? - it will place a nice puzzle before the good allies. What it is going to do next is puzzling many good people already. No one believes it is going to advance further into Russia towards the east - though its armies may march on Riga. The obvious thing for it to do in the east seems to be to make Poland independent and thus raise up a buffer state between itself and Russia. Can the Five Big Powers fighting for small nationalities, (map D'aoi) refuse to

1915.

44.

Aug. 3:- recognise Polish independence? They may refuse, but they, they would refuse their hand. There are two or three further moves open to Germany - 1. To get through Serbia to the Dardanelles - if that can be done. 2. To turn on Italy (this seems easier and more immediately profitable, if successful against that country, as clearing the Adriatic and the way to the Mediterranean for Austria). 3. To attack the French-English-Belgian forces in the west and push a way to Calais. (The most difficult operation of the three I should think, as twelve months experience of trench warfare must have taught both sides those own lessons). 4. If they could force themselves to Odessa, they could probably master the Black Sea and this would yield good results for helping Turkey in Europe and Asia. I have seen no comments about this fourth alternative, but looking at the map of Europe, it seems easy enough of accomplishment from Galicia through Bessarabia, along the Dniester, assuming the Russians well held up. One of the great objects of forcing the Dardanelles is to get the grain of south Russia a free passage. If Odessa were in German-Austrian hands that were would be well countenanced. And, with submarines in the Black Sea, Germany-Austria-Turkey could hold the Bosphorus indefinitely.

Lúznaga an bád lá. Dia h-Aoine. 7 Duig Seán ní Énema, idéirín Dubh,
i n-áice le béal ára 'n-áiríais, Dom. 5.25 p.m.

Éiníis mo bean y me féin ango maidin Dia Ceathúar.
lá breá a b'ead é y b'í supur aibinn álainn a'ann.
Cuprad an canóin é m'páda. 7 M'áiríais an lá céanna y
b'í a lán pagort y daonra móra (dárkóirín) a raicir an an
d'páda. Beanaicir é le h-anamais na maib!

Éiníis T. Mac S. an oibice céanna. Buail pé umairín ríur
ra éiríad. M'páda a'fíor a'ann go páda T. éin raicir. Cuadimí,
go d'í an ríis go n'glóir an lódra aip na iannra.
Anrao do gab an ríur a'ann b'íairín ríearna na zann rí
féin ríis éin. 7 ríis. Spesreannup an ríis. B'í Seán y a bean
y c'óiríais an. An lá ran éiníis bean é. é b'í claid 7 ó
c'íais.

B'í an lá n'í anáilín a'is b'í rí anáilín anra.
Tá pé c'óiríais, c'óiríais, c'óiríais áiríais ango ní ceapraic éin
go b'íml cozaic móir op'íml ní pó fáda uainn. Áis rí
y'íalá móra maib a'ann an gozaic anra. Tá Marsan
r'íais c'óiríais ra d'íais anra a'ann i zann áiríais anra a'ann.

Lúznaga an zóiríais lá. Dia Donnais. Turpín Dubh. 12.50 p.m.

The morning was excessively wet. Had early mass and
Holy Communion. The day is brightening now with a strong
breeze blowing, fresh from the hills. A moment since the
strains of "A Dio poor type" reached me, sung by one of the young men
of the O'Quinn family. A true Irish family it is, with a strong,
independent Irish spirit, ready for a fight for Ireland's freedom.
A very happy family, pleasant, loving, united. There is
fighting blood in their veins indeed: ancestors of theirs fought in
the skirmish at Cinn an Fíar which m'áiríais immortalised in the
poem "C'íais Cinn an Fíar". Fighting blood and a fighting spirit:
yet, through the exertions of the priests and the machinations of
the police it is curbed from taking its course in the maintenance
of a Fianna Fáil corps. Seán o h-Éiríais and his wife are
neighbors here and are well watched by police; so well watched
and looked after indeed that some of the people of the place
have been prevented from giving them a helping hand - turf
from their bogs, milk from their cows and the like. Great indeed
is English Government in Ireland!

Yet across the hills
some time since came a true youth of our Cork corps with a
rifle to Seán, on a sweltering hot day, I hear, and at much
trouble. Such are the times we live in. There are

1915.

Aug. 8:- grumbings up the country at the tyranny that has sent Pin and Mellors and MacLullogh to jail without a charge being brought against them. Blythe is still in custody without even a trial. Have I noted that Joseph Devlin, M.P. had a letter in last Sunday's "Freeman" regarding the "trials" - protesting that a base innuendo was made that he or some members of the I.R.P. were responsible for the deportation orders; stating that the Party protested (privately) against the prosecutions of Irishmen (why did they not make the protest publicly?); asking Marshall for a new trial of Pin & MacL. so that he - Devlin - might be afforded an opportunity to refute the "vile innuendo" made. The letter is addressed to Birrell. That is interesting indeed, seeing that Birrell, in the English Parliament, denies responsibility for the prosecutions - all the prosecutions - saying the "competent military authorities" were responsible and that the prosecutions were for the defence of the Realm. Evidently Devlin does not believe that or he would have written to General Friend not to Birrell. And strange! no one in Ireland I suppose believed or believes Birrell. Everyone knows it is Dublin Castle at its old game against Irish Nationalists: simply because they are Irish Nationalists. "The One Bright Spot" of August 1914 has become very, very clouded indeed.

1915.

Aug. 8:- World news comes very slowly and very meagrely here. We have to fall back on the country edition of the pleasant "Cork Examiner" - pleasant in its fine falsehoods. Warsaw has fallen: so has the fortress of Ivangorod. The Russians are still retreating. There is joy in Vienna, jubilation in Berlin; flags are waving there and church bells tolling joyful strains; an enthusiastic populace parading the streets of those cities. So the despatches state. "The Pirates busy again off Cork Coast" - We are also told that, but there is no further information as to what "business" was done. But, do you think German Austria victorious matter? Not at all, a mic. The more they win; the greater their victories; the more they lose, the better for "us". That is the deliberate idea which our ragacious and very truthful newspapers nurse most sedulously. 'Tis a mad world, I fear.

Seriously, however, the Germans have done and are doing marvellous things and have won astounding victories. Their one failure so far is in meeting the English fleet and smacking it. While that remains intact they are not secure in their victories in that they are menaced on the sea. They have taken a shake out of it indeed and a very big shake out of Sean Buidé but - he has his big battleships yet. England's fleet smashed - her day is definitely over. But the Germans,

49.

1915.

Aug. 8:- among other wonders of this national character, are worry and leave nothing to chance. They fight for success.

Now, a last note. Though now unemployed, with no particular prospect before me, with many disturbing elements in my life, cognisant of many meannesses and unkindnesses on the part of some of my closest friends, feeling that injustice has been done me because of my principles, yet, *Buidéacáir mór le OK, Rí na Bóipe*, I am as contented and as happy as is possible and so is my dear boy.

Lúgnara an Gaoilá. Timpín Dubh. 6 p.m. Fhlinn y anafhlinn indé. Bóipeáir Bpiallaí indin go dtí cúig nómearáí ó pin. Ceoáic anoir.

Still the Russians are being pressed back: the Germans and Austrians advancing. The line of the Vistula, probably the strongest frontier line in Europe is in the German-Austrian hands. They have even gone over the Vistula eastwards. They are attacking the Russians north-east in Riga direction, endeavouring to outflank them. They are also pushing up from the south. There are rumours of the Kaiser offering terms of peace to Russia. Also rumours of the re-establishment of the Polish Kingdom with an Austrian Archduke as King. That would be splendid. But the English correspondent who mentions it says some of the Poles will prefer to

50.

1915.

Aug. 9:- trust the Czar's promise of How Rule for Poland, when the war is over. And why because? The correspondent only hints at it. The Poles have thrived commercially and increased in population under Russian rule. What lessons for poor old Ireland. Our West Britons might learn a little yet.

Received an invitation a few days ago from Lord Mayor O'Shea to a garden party he is giving next Saturday to Lord Lieutenant Wimbourne. It would be a good joke for a police "suspect" (of Irish Nationality) to go there. But — *greadaí cúgaráí a popairí!* Confounds their invitations and their garden parties.

Reply from Department to day regarding original terms of my appointment as Co. Commercial Instructor. ^{among other things,} *Departo says, A Co.* Committee states I would obtain Degree in Commerce at U.C.E. within two years of date of my appointment. Ridiculous, because impossible. Whether Dept. or Cttee. made mistake I know not, but, if there was such a condition mentioned by Cttee. it was an impossible one and is thus reduced to absurdity.

Lúgnara an Gaoilá. Timpín Dubh. 5 p.m. Ceoáic ór maidín: Bpíeáir anoir aís rá zaoz láidip a réidead y ycamall Dubh ra ppip. Da ^{Nauidéacáir} ~~Deapacáir~~ yin rá yé Bpiallaí.

War news of to-day contains nothing of very great

1915.

Aug. 10:- importance. accounts of Poland operations are somewhat involved. The only clear thing is that the Russians are retreating all the time and the Germans are pursuing them. The same old tale from the west.

Here in this quiet retreat the war troubles us very little: other interests prevail. The days pass quickly, quietly and pleasantly. I love the spot and the people.

Though there are many disquieting features regarding the preservation of Irish here and many of the students who come to the College have not the right Irish spirit - yet the place is glorious and the people lovable. A people easy enough to lead but impossible to drive are those people.

There is much that is mystical and poetical in Irish character but there is also much that is money-saving and worldly-minded. The Irish "peasant" - a name I dislike somehow as a term of affectation - is neither the pure-blooded, chivalrous, devil-may-care character at one time shown in plays and novels nor is he the "screw" shown at the Abbey Theatre. As in other countries, there are different types of character in Ireland, even among "peasants" and the "screw" is no more typical than was the "buffoon" of an earlier period.

The fear a rise in this very house is

1915.

Aug. 10:- neither one or the other, but is as fine a type of man as one could wish to meet anywhere and as "typical" an Irishman, an Irish farmer, as one could find within the five empy fives.

I am contemplating entering the wholesale newspaper and book trade with my friend, Sean O'Cuill, who has a business in the former established in Cork.

50th willing, I believe I can make a living in it somehow and there are prospects at all events of being independent - "a consummation devoutly to be wished for".

The prospects of obtaining a teaching post where one could have freedom to express one's opinions are not bright in Ireland. There is every kind of repression of character in this land, particularly at present and the only hope of even comparative freedom of expression of ideas is in "working for myself".
So d'fízigé Dia mo. A mbeir Máireap
5:10 p.m.

Luánapa an nua. Luánapa 5 p.m. Had a pleasant chat to-day with Fr. Matt Ryan, of Dunadrum, Tipperary, known as "The General" since Gard League days. He was imprisoned in those days. Though over 70 years of age, he is attending the college here as a student, with his book in his hand like the youngest. He is Vice-President of the Gaelic League with Com. MacNeill. A strong man, with a fine Irish spirit and a very keen sense of humour. He is an out and out pro-German and a splendid hater of

1915.

53.

Aug. 11th - England. To meet him is to strengthen one's will and harden one's backbone. He is as simple and unaffected a man as ever I met: the very antithesis to the tyrannical, over-bearing parish priest of some fiction in which, I regret to say, has a foundation in fact.

Some war news to-day. An air raid on the "east coast" of England. 14 reported killed and as many more injured. An English destroyer sunk by mine in the North Sea. In reply to a telegram from American journalists to the Kaiser asking for an expression of opinion as to effect of German victory in Poland, the German Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg replied saying what Germany is principally fighting for is freedom of the seas. The Kaiser hopes, he says, the Polish victory will have the effect of shortening the war.

Lúznara 15th. Dia Domanaiz. Lá le Mairé ya bfojánp.

Enghin Onb. 12.10 p.m. To our regret we are about to leave here to-day. It is sad to go, to leave pleasant companions and happy places. The weather has not been too good but despite that the time has passed very quickly and my little wife and myself have enjoyed ourselves immensely. Each day has been full of some interest or other. I do

1915.

54.

Aug. 11th not think there is a finer spot than this in all Ireland. There are ever varying aspects of sky and earth that produce an eternally new interest in one's mind. And though English is creeping in steadily the heart - or rather tongue - of the majority is truly Irish. The people of the village are not at all what they should be but the districts around are predominantly Irish speaking yet.

and the Coláide brings some fine characters here: many "Cranks, Factionists and Boreheads" that have stirred the police to unwonted activity. Why no one can say, but I suppose the so-called guardians of the peace have their orders to watch every Sinn Féinist or Óglac that comes here. And there are some true ones here - Fr. Dominick of the Capuchin order for instance - one of the very best. It has been indeed, "good to be here."

The war news of the past few days has been exciting.

Lúznara an 17th. Dú Máirt. Spaid b'páde. 4.20 p.m.

Back again in caitéar zill b'páde Copeage. Divining ways and means of earning a livelihood and doing a bit to get the injustice done me by the Co. Technical Committee rectified. I have now definitely decided to join the fortunes of Sean O'Cuill & Co. and gave Sean £25 to-day as a beginning "share" in the business. May God the Father of all

55.

1915.

Aug. 14th. - bless my endeavours.

I have sent a long statement to Mr. Buckley for the Co. Linc. Cttee. and wrote to Canons Cokerlan, Barnett, and MacCarthy (Kinsale) saying I was doing so and expressing a hope that they would be present to see justice done.

I am employing a solicitor to appear for me at the meeting - to be held next Thursday.

I fear, however, the matter will hardly be discussed on Thursday as it is likely the Committee will adjourn in consequence of the recent death of Canon Murphy of Marazion, one of its members. Anyhow a new chapter of work is opening for me.

Nothing ^{was} new these times. The latest is the sinking by submarine, of an English transport with heavy loss of life. That is on the placard of its "Sinking Rocks." Yesterday morning, towns in Cumberland, around white haves, were shelled from German submarines.

"Emulating Paul Jones" the "Daily Mail" calls it. It does more than that. It shows the English west coast can be hit as well as its east coast. Ireland too can be hit, if Germany wishes, and I should say more effectively as the coasts of Ireland, if reports can be relied on, are but poorly guarded by the British fleet. There were

1915.

56.

Aug. 14th. - two air raids on England last week. Of course the official accounts are bald statements and everyone knows they are not quite trustworthy.

It is part of the general war plan to minimise most of all the damage done by airships or submarines. The latter have been very busy too during the past week and have bagged a goodly number of ships.

What we get information of is large enough: but if we add what we do not get official information of the total damage to English shipping must be enormous. There have also been some terrible train disasters in England during the past week.

It seems certain now that the Kingdom of Poland is to be restored. In fact "our" papers say Germany and Austria have had a little quarrel as to who is to be King there. The strings are being vigorously pulled to get the Balkan states into the war. Both sides are apparently working hard to get Greece, Rumania, and Bulgaria into the scrimmage. The Allies - Quadruple Entente is the new name - are loudly denouncing "German intrigues" - this means Germany is doing better than themselves at present. German-Austrian troops are concentrating on Serbia, to force a way down to the Dardanelles apparently. So it all goes on.

1915.

Kiznara on 19th. Трапезице. Спад Бризде. 3:40 p.m.

Great happenings these days. The transport sunk the other other day was the "Royal Edward" and the place was the Aegean Sea. There was a loss of over a thousand lives - English soldiers presumably.

The night before last or yesterday morning there was another air-raid on the east coast of England. Place not stated. Many casualties. This is recorded as the 18th raid. Judged by the number of injuries admitted to have been killed and injured there must have been great damage and probably many soldier casualties.

Then Kovno has fallen. It was taken by storm on Tuesday night despite a fierce Russian resistance. Over 400 guns and an enormous quantity of war materials have been taken there. The taking of Kovno is a very big affair and may have far reaching results. It looks like the turning of the Russian flank and a threat on Petrograd itself. There is unofficial news that Riga and Vilna have been practically evacuated. Mendenburg is the hero of this north Poland fight. In the south too the German-austrians

1915.

Aug. 19th - are pushing on still further and the Russians still falling back. There is joy in Berlin and Vienna and not songs.

(a Wilson line)

and the very latest - another liner, ^asubmarine and sunk. The submarines have been very active for the past week.

Kiznara 20th. Трапезице. Спад Бризде. 3:20 p.m.

Molad 30 Deo le Ora! Events crowd.

Still another liner, the "Arabic" a trans-atlantic ship, sunk by submarine yesterday morning off the Fastnet. Little or no loss of life. She went down in ten or eleven minutes. What will America do now? That's the English question. Little or nothing I should think. I think this from some things in an American paper I received last week from D.F. In glaring headings the paper - a cent evening one - reported how the American government had strongly protested to England against the holding up of American ships by England since the beginning of the war. Further, the allies are declaring, or have declared cotton contraband and Americans I should think would like this.

1915.

59.

Aug. 20:- my own affairs now. absolute and complete indication at yesterday's meeting of Co. Technical Committee. A letter from Jerry Mac., + Buckley, and my own letter published in full in "Beho." Buckley does the right thing; does it in an abject manner even: acknowledges he told an untruth (not intentionally) at last meeting regarding my qualifications as a Commercial Teacher, that it was owing to this misstatement I was not proposed for re-~~election~~ appointment; had I been proposed he believes I would have been re-appointed; is willing to do all in his power to make amends. That was all right and my solicitor thanked him.

Then, Terence's resignation was accepted and I was there and then re-appointed! My solicitor states I did not seek re-appointment. All I wanted was to clear myself. I was proposed by Rev. Canon Garrett, seconded by Rev. Canon Cahalan.

Terence has placed me in an awkward position, though I freely acknowledge the sincerity and nobility of his motives. He resigned on principle for me and I am unwilling

1915.

60.

Aug. 20:- accept the job because he has done so. I did not wish him to sacrifice himself for me. There are other interesting things in connection with the matter but I have not time now to write more.

6pm. The Russians are being knocked around like ninepins. The fortress of Novogeorgievsk - 10 miles N.W. of Warsaw at the confluence of the Vistula and Bug, has fallen. Over 20,000 Russians taken prisoner and an enormous stock of war material captured. This was "the Russians last bulwark in Poland." It is gone.

"Our warships protecting the entrance to the Gulf of Riga yesterday drew closer in, owing to the great superiority of the enemy's fleet" - This is from the Russian despatch of yesterday. Riga will fall too apparently. and the ^{very} latest news of this evening "British submarine runs aground." It was on its way to the Baltic and ran aground on the Danish island - Saltholm. 15 saved. 15 missing.

As I long ago anticipated, the Pope has come out, as far as he may, on the German Austrian side. This is now fairly certain.

At the present time, from the Vatican and from Holland are coming rumours of

61.

1915.

Aug. 20:-peace. Surely the only peace at this moment is a peace that would leave the Central Empires triumphant.

I think I have noted about Joseph Devlin writing to Chief Secretary Birrell re Pim and the others. Well, Birrell's reply, dated 10th August, is published to-day. It is difficult to understand the reply. The definite things he says are - and there were as a matter of course - the I. P. P. had nothing to do with the prosecution of Pim, etc. and there will be no re-trial. Devlin has further written: an amazing letter: if there is to be no re-trial, he demands the immediate release of the four prisoners! What is happening at all, at all? Are the Reds, and the Hibs. recanting?

To-day, one of the local Hib. "strong men" came up to me and expressed the regret of many of their men at my dismissal from the Co. Tech. Cttee. service. "And it would surprise me to know who some of those men were." Good. But I fear 'twas not so much my dismissal as the manner of it; and the new factor now that I have won despite what they may think of my "politics". I have always held that, if you go right, the wheel turns

1915.

62.

Aug. 20:- in your favour and certainly, Buidéacap l^a D^a, it is turning wonderfully in the Sinn Féin side's favour in Ireland these times. And a pleasing feature now coming to light - a very large proportion of priests are on the Sinn Féin side: some of the younger, better educated priests violently so. I have met some recently, and the strength of their opinions astonished me. There is no longer a doubt as to the volume and the force of real nationalist opinion in Ireland now.

attended a most interesting debate on military manoeuvres at Oslawz hae last night - result of work on last Sunday. The force of public opinion is on our side beyond a doubt. Recruits for the British Army are still being got in some numbers but the mind of the Irish public is not at all what it was expected to be by the pro-English. Desertions are frequent and in large numbers and everyone feels - Shan Bui is in a dooleema. Hurrah!

Uznara an 21^{ad} Dia Sáirapn. Spáid Gpíde. 8.15 p.m.

I have spent a very busy week indeed in this remarkable week in the world's history, so busy that I have had very little time to think or note many of the

63.

1915.

Aug. 21. interesting things that came under my notice. I am duly installed as partner in Sean O'Neill & Co., wholesale newsagents and booksellers. Hours and duties are as yet undefined. I have been doing a little general overhauling of yos. etc. - a much needed task there as it happens.

This evening I received formal notification from Mr. Buckley of my reappointment as Commercial Instructor. Everyone I meet is urging me to accept the position. Had a very short conversation with Kenne MacS. to-day. He thinks I ought accept. His resignation is final as he is organising for the Óglaij - a congenial task, though it may ultimately lead to his banishment or imprisonment. The line apparently I will ^{ultimately} take will be to accept the re-appointment while still sticking on to Sean O'Neill. Yet, I have some hesitation and will not finally decide till I have a good talk with Kenne. There is one point which has been mentioned to me that appeals a little - if Y. does not go back, it would be a pity that "non Sinn Féin" should get the job. And certainly I feel I can now go back in the most independent way. The Committee knows my national opinions, knows my work, my reputation as a

1915.

64.

Aug. 21st - Sinn Féinists, yet have re-appointed me, so I have no qualms whatever about giving expression to my opinions. Not that I believe I ever had any, but yet I may have, now and again, thought if it were quite proper for a Technical teacher to speak his mind quite so openly as I have often done. So, owing to circumstances, my resolution not to go back as a Commercial Teacher is weakening. Were there any conditions: were the situation regarding my dismissal not so plain in public: I would keep to my original intention firmly but now, things seem different. Yet, 'his MacSwiney's resignation made the opening for me and that circumstance I don't like. It looks as if my acceptance of re-appointment makes me acquiesce in his sacrificing himself for me - and I don't acquiesce. I don't think he should have done it. I protested against his doing it. Were I not married, I would myself have taken on his position as organiser, but I have a little wife to look after too, who has some claims on me too.

One of the finest nights in my life was spent last night, on night operations with the Óglaij boys. It was a glorious moonlit night. Up in Gurrainbraher, at the top of a high hill, overlooking the city, we were. There were

1915.

Aug. 21. - attacking and defending forces. I was with the latter. The actual spot to be defended was a place called "the Coopie's Grave." We lay as sentries in the grass by the side of a low "ditch", each man at an interval of some yards. Silence reigned supreme at times and I looked at the bright moon, slightly brown in a haze, and at the stars. What thoughts at such a time! Alas! the attack never came off. There was some misunderstanding as to the actual spot and the attacking force did not discover us before the time arranged for discontinuing the operations. But, it was all well and useful and pleasant, as we marched back "as the double". Good indeed it was.

A man of ours, one John Grimes, was arrested yesterday and brought before the police court to-day. Remanded for a week. He was distributing "sedition literature": written by himself and duplicated by means of carbon paper. A terrible crime. He is a married man apparently. Poor fellow, he will probably get imprisonment for love of Ireland.

1915.

Uzina on 23rd. Orluan, 6.15 pm. Spaid Bpizide.

Had a glorious day yesterday. Went with Vice-Commandant Sean O'Sullivan, Pipers Band and some O'Learys to Spaid a Mullins Feis via masoom to accompany P.H. Pearce back to Cork. He is to speak to a public meeting from the Hall, Sheares St. to-night. The day was a very fine one. We did some good work in Spaid a Mullins and in Cappanahone. Pearce spoke at the Feis and spoke well. He did not expect to address a public meeting in Cork - only in Glanna - and he has been warned to be very careful. This, I suspect, consequent upon his oration at Rosa funeral.

Uz. an 24th. - Orluan, Spaid Bpizide 3.40 p.m. Have made my decision to-day, after some painful thought and with no enthusiasm, to accept re-appointment as Co. Commercial Instructor and have notified Buckley accordingly. God grant it be for the best.

Uz. an 25th. Orluan, Spaid Bpizide. 10.30 a.m. It is hard on me now to get at all my work - Colaide namian; Co. Technical Committee; O'Connell & Co., with my heart going to Volunteering and other work for Eire. I hope to get into routine stride next week or the week after. J.M.B. writes this morning. He is glad I am on the staff again.

1915.

67.

Aug. 25:- My winter centres are to be Bandon, Bantry, Drimoleague.

of the great war I had not much time to write recently. After the big events of last week the Allies are consoling themselves this week with tales of A Great Naval Victory of the Russians and English submarines over the Germans in the Gulf of Riga. There seems to have been some kind of a naval fight and the Germans seem to have been defeated in their object but the unofficial accounts do not tally with the official ones and later official ones differ from earlier ones, so it is very hard to judge the exact extent of the victory. This kind of mixed up news is very common in all the war centres. It is almost impossible to judge accurately of the precise value of various movements.

The Petrograd official report of Sunday in the opening sentence, states definitely that "the German fleet had evacuated the Gulf of Riga". Monday's despatch from the same quarter, in the course of giving details, says "the Germans have apparently left the Gulf". Now, what is a poor far away neutral to do in the face of that? I am quite willing to believe the Germans had to leave

1915.

68.

Aug. 25:- the Gulf of Riga; were beaten out of it; that they cannot prevail on sea as on land, but, in face of the conflicting official and other reports, it seems to me the best course is suspended judgment till later.

3.50 p.m. The great Russian naval victory in the Gulf of Riga is still the leading war news in our papers. Still the official account is scanty. On land, the Germans are still pushing east, the Russians retreating. The task at the Dardanelles is tough as ever. There is nothing very important on the western front. The press of the Allies expect America to cut off diplomatic relations with Germany. But, an American paper of a week old, seems to show that the States have quite as big a quarrel with England as with Germany and that Sweden has a crow to pluck with John Bull too. Their ships have been held up it seems regardless of neutral rights and they resent this. Since the publication of that paper, cotton has been declared absolute contraband of war by England and France. This is not likely to please America. No doubt the Germans know these things too and so it seems very unlikely that America will declare war on one or

1915.

Aug. 25:- against another. It has a grievance against both sides in Europe.

The police in Ireland have received instructions to compile a register in this country, but they are to do it secretly. They can easily do it. They have the means at their disposal. Will it mean paving the way for conscription in Ireland?

Pierce's oration on Monday night was good. The public meeting was large. The Volunteer turn out, with full equipment, was excellent. Many recruits joined. There was some disturbance caused by soldiers' dependents - drunken women, who had received their separation allowances on Monday. The disturbance was after the meeting.

Very vile language was used along with cheers for King George and questions like "Why don't ye go and fight for England?" The police left when the disturbance began. Some soldiers apparently were ringleaders. Our boys, as usual, took no particular notice, or took the affair good-humouredly - the only way.

A short paragraph in the "Echo", supposed to come originally from some German newspaper denies that there has been any naval battle at all in the Gulf of Riga! Well, well.

1915.

Aug. 25:- Poor Dr. O'Daly has met with a serious accident, a fall from a motor car, and is lying in a critical condition in the hotel, Inchigeela. Poor, simple-minded priest. and Colaride na Múinhan in full session too. His injuries are to the brain, Opa idip yios y an zolk. It is very strange indeed that it should happen thus to him. Some years ago he was "wandering" in his mind for a time. This session it was noticed and indeed was apparent that he was not as well as usual in mind. And now to think that an accident should overtake him and the injury be in the brain! It seems somewhat remarkable. May God be kind to him; he was a deeply spiritual man.

Aug. an 25aò. Clapdaom. Spaidéiríde. 10.30 am. A thick veil of silence has been thrown over the naval victory in the Baltic by the "Cork Examiner" this morning. Did that naval fight occur at all? One is left wondering. Our attention is called away to the Dardanelles. It is now admitted that the task there is a mighty one for the Allies and there seems no hope of immediate or early victory. The winter will come perhaps before any great advance can be made and then operations will have to be postponed. Great hopes are entertained of re-establishing the Balkan League. Serbia

1915.

Aug. 26 has consented, on allied pressure (principally English pressure, I fancy) to give up portion of its territory to Bulgaria. Foolish Serbia! you will be deceived, being only a cat's paw in the game of the big bullies.

I have been astonished in looking at the map to find the German Austrian armies are so far east in Russia. It is some time since I followed the map there as war maps of Russia are small scale ones. If the map can be trusted (hard to trust anything these days) there seems no hope for the Russian forces. They will be broken and surrounded and scattered. The line they were to take up after the fall of Warsaw is being broken into. The great fortress, Brest Litovsk, is being surrounded. It looks as if it will fall too and then? What can Russia do?

And there is no Push from the Allies on the west!

Wignapa on 30th 1st. Dialuan. Spaid Bpizor. 5.45 p.m.

Brest Litovsk fell sooner than I anticipated above. The Russians are still retreating, apparently on three lines, to Petrograd, Moscow, and Kiev. The point of view presented to us is that it is all an orderly retirement and makes no great matter, as the Russian armies are neither surrounded nor outflanked. The "comforting"

1915.

Aug 30:- assurance is also given that Petrograd is safe. Why this assurance when nobody in these countries has been led to believe there ever was any danger of it.

The Germans have point blank denied that there was any naval engagement in the Gulf of Riga! They also deny an English official announcement of the sinking of one of their submarines. Almost every day there are "corrections" on each side of what the others say: so what can we really believe?

It appears that, in deference to American representations, the German submarine warfare on merchant vessels is to be modified. The English and pro-English are crowing over this.

The Allies expect the Balkan League to be re-established: Bulgaria, Rumania, and Greece to join them in beating the "Huns". How many more nations will they want for that job? Germany has not declared Poland free: a Governor-General has been appointed. Apparently then all the big bullies are alike in treatment of small nations. They are all out for conquest.

There is a rumor that the four *Osly* organizers are to be freed from prison. A Finnish Corporation resolution is going round protesting against their deportation and is being

73.

1915.

Aug. 30:- adopted generally. Even the Cork Corporation last Friday adopted it. They suffered another spile from J. Walsh to pass almost without comment; though it looks then unmercifully. And Alderman Ford - one of Mr. O'Brien's henchmen - rubbed it in that the deportations would never have taken place if they had protested against Walsh's removal at the beginning. In which there was I believe a grain of truth. The passing of those resolutions and other things, such as the changes tone of the "National Volunteer" show that the "Irish Party" and the Irishmen leaders are mending their hands a little. They now realise, doubtless, how opinion is going in Ireland. Devlin is emphasising that the Party are, after all, only the servants of the people. He and others are devoting much of their speeches to the "cranks and factionists" and the "mosquito papers" published in Dublin. Which shows they are more than ever feeling the influence now wielded in the country by said "factionists" and "mosquitoes." And indeed, surveying the situation now, it is remarkable that almost every second Irish nationalist one meets these times is a "Crack", "Factionist" or "Borehead". And if Bin and the others are released now, the "Party" will claim the credit for it and wave their flags accordingly.

1915.

74.

Aug. 30:- Another remarkable thing is the attitude of so many of the priests now, particularly the younger priests. Numbers of them are violently "Pro-German"; that is, they are not favourable to England, France, Russia and Italy. How could it be otherwise indeed? These are the anti-Catholic nations in excelsis - or their governments are.

The Welsh miners are giving trouble again as some thousands are once more out on strike.

Liúnapa an 31st lá. Dáimíre. Spáid 6th 12th 2:15 p.m.

Little was news of great importance to-day. There is a hint, to my thinking, in a small paragraph, of one of the reasons why Germany is modifying the submarine blockade. The English have agreed to allow certain goods go from Germany and Austria to America. Is this a hint that the English also are modifying their blockade? I believe so. The English papers say there is a fight between Admiral Tirpitz, as advocate of stern measures, and Bethman-Hollweg, backed by the Kaiser, as advocate of milder measures and diplomacy. They also say a great part of the trouble for the German diplomats is - to modify the blockade and yet "pretend" to the German people that they have not modified it. Peap glia nuaí Seán Lúix! I take it that is the very situation with our good friends of the English Cabinet.

75.

1915.

Aug. 30:- They too are modifying their blockade of Germany but are pretending they have won and that it is Germany which is weakening. And I would not be surprised if there were a "fight" going on behind the scenes between those who would give no quarter to Germany and those ~~who~~ do not wish to anger the United States to too great an extent. The wags of diplomats are indeed wily. And of course the merchant interests of all the countries must be powerfully working to keep commerce going and thus gain more "filthy lucre".

Are we nearing the end of the present war? I am not surprised to see big accounts of peace rumours. Of course here it is made appear that it is Germany which wants peace. I should think Russia and the Allies want it even more but they cannot say so to the common people.

Meathon foz maye an ear la. Dia Ceudaoin. In the house of Stephen J. Crowley, N.T. Sec. of local Technical Committee, Bandon. Here I am "on the round" again, after two full months official holiday, with a smash up in between. It is the first night during that period that I have been separated from my little wife and I feel her absence now. God be good to her, the little darling. I have changed my "diggings" in this town from the

1915.

76.

Sept. 1:- Bandon Arms Hotel to this house, from motives of economy. It is a very quiet home, only the young married couple here. Neath the shadow of Bandon Protestant church. There are trees on the opposite side of the road, through which at present a wintry breeze is blowing. In numbers, the staff of my class here is medium: in material good

On the Cork railway platform this evening I met my "friends" - Mr. Jas. M. Burke, B. L. of Skibbereen. He had a good deal of drink taken. He accented me. "I was unfair in attacking him at the meeting of the Co. Technical Committee." He was far more unfair, I replied, in the attack he made on Cummins, MacSwiney and myself. "He was misled." I knew that. "Well a man must support his friend." Granted, if he was not unfair to others. "Why did I not come to him the day of the first meeting: it would have been all right for me - a married man too." I was standing with the others on a pinnacle, not merely to grab the job for myself. "He was sorry any of us had to go: he advocated keeping the four." I was sorry too and MacSwiney had been unfairly treated. However there was no animosity now. "Right, there was none" and we

77.

1915.

A Sept. I :- shook hands. I am pleased enough to have met him thus and parted thus and conducted myself to my satisfaction not yielding anything, yet not impudent, and certainly with no ill-feeling. So, that's over.

Earlier in the day a telegraphist crossed the street to me. "Were you in Macroom last Sunday?" said he. "Yes" said I - "in Ballingearry in fact." "I suppose you know you are being shadowed?" (by the police). "Yes," I am aware of it. "That's all right then. You were shadowed on Sunday." And I suppose a report of my movements, quite innocent ones indeed, was sent through the post office to Dublin Castle. As it happened, quite by accident I met Piaras Beasley at Macroom railway station as we came to Cork together. Piaras is watched even more carefully than I am and no doubt our meeting looked like a concerted plan of something. What fools in ways the "authorities" are. Yet I suppose they feel they can take no risks. Irish nationalists to their minds are not to be trusted. They know well we are loyal only to Ireland not to England and they act accordingly - to preserve the safety of the English connection as they think.

M

1915.

78.

Sept. I :- How clever in other ways the English "authorities" are - they make the Irish people pay for those police that shadow Irish Nationalists. That certainly is a clever piece of business. What a system it is. I am not a criminal. I have no criminal intentions of any kind whatever. And "the authorities" know that of me as well as I know it myself. But because I wish to see Ireland free (they know that too) they set their hounds to track my footsteps, note my comings and goings, my companions, what I do, what I say. Is it not lovely: British Government in Ireland? Melton Póimur an tApalá. Deanoisage: 9.45 p.m.

Made a very poor start with classes here to-night. The night is too fine and the season too fine and the general characteristic of the people here - due to climate I believe - is laziness or indifference to things in general. The climate here depends very much on the situation of the town. It is in a recess near the sea. Low lying, with hills surrounding it. Consequently the air is very enervating. Usually in classes I have had here there was a good beginning, to break away about the middle of the session.

Had a letter card from J.A.M. to-day to say he has left

1915.

Sept. 2:- what he calls "Up na n-03", in good spirits but he is worried about a Bank loan for which I am one of the securities. He need not be worried just yet as a renewal was granted.

The man, Grimes, pleaded guilty at the Police Court, Cork, to-day of distributing "seditious literature", written and duplicated by himself. His solicitor, MacLachlan, made a very abject apology for him. He was sentenced to a month's imprisonment. One police constable swore he found one of the "leaflets" - or whatever it was - in Sheares St., "near the Irish Volunteers' Hall" on July 24th. This was evidently an attempt to connect our boys with the affair, of which I would pledge my oath they are quite innocent. But, rumour hath it, "the authorities" are very perturbed over the existence of "Sheares St. Hall". Na biceannais! who let Carson bluster and threaten and who connived at the arming of his men to defeat even the very miserable measure of Irish self-government called Home Rule. Under pretence of defending the Realm they dog our footsteps and hint at criminality. The old sting is there for Irish nationality. Even some of the New Garrison see this now and are getting wroth at the

1915.

Sept. 2:- unfairness shown to Irish soldiers in the English army, and the insults hurled at Ireland and Irelanders in connection with recruiting. All of which the New Garrison deserves and which any sensible Irish Nationalist might expect would be the case anyhow. No matter how "loyal" Ireland shows itself to England it will get nothing but contempt - for it deserves it and gets what it deserves. Redmond can never hope to compete with Carson in "loyalty" - I do not mean as an individual but taking the two names as standing for two parties.

Meáion fózmaip an 3rd lá. Dúsh-loine, Tromdálaz. 6.15 p.m.

Back in Drimoleague again. Spent portion of the day on a height overlooking Bantry Bay, with a history of modern Europe. Another portion was spent on a "ditch" by the roadside here with the same book. As I was leaving Bantry, on the railway station, a policeman came up to me. "Where did you spend last night, Mr. Roche?" "At Banchers". "Did you sign a registration form?" "No: I intended reminding them of it, but forgot. Don't be too hard on them." "I told them about it a few days ago. 'I will be all right, I suppose. Are you coming here again.'" "Yes,"

1915.

Sept. 3:- I replied "I'm coming here again, will be coming here two nights a week, Monday and Thursday: I am now going to Drimoleague and will stay there to-night. I'll sign the form at Boucher's next Monday. Is that enough?" all that very politely and agreeably as if we were friends always. Poor chap! Was it that they lost track of my movements last night? Possibly, because I went to my "lodgings" early and to bed.

The chief war news of these days consists of talk of peace.

Wm. O'Brien fears for the constitutional movement in Ireland. He fears the young men are tired of it and are looking more to Germany than to England for freedom. He appeals to them to pause and consider. Mistaken, a ham. Not on Germany: not on England do the young men of Ireland lean. They trust in the invincible spirit of Irish nationality that you once trusted in: and in their own power. They know, as you know, sir, and often said, that "England's difficulty is Ireland's opportunity". But you are far out of

1915.

Sept. 3:- you think 'tis a change of masters the young men of Ireland, to whom you appeal, look for. Try again Mr. O'Brien. All of you botched "the Constitutional movement" because you trusted England not the will power of the Irish people.

Meádon fógmaí an 4a lá. Ola Domnaig. Spaid bríde. 12.50 p.m.

The O'Leary's last night had a night march and a bivouac in Incheon. Being away from home so many nights I did not go with them though I would dearly have liked to. The "Volunteer" of this week is taken up in good part with news of activities of the Cork "boys". Terence MacB. is organising the county: congenial work for him I should think. There is a strong corps out in Ballinacree, near Brandon, and that district is, I believe, ^{going} well. Also out in Ballinacree (wrong direction) things are going well. It is now no easy to get corps started as in the early days of volunteering, but it is not so easy to keep them going. In some districts the police are very active in endeavouring to intimidate the young men from joining: in other places priests are opposed. The Red Vols. are defunct in, I believe, nearly all the country districts in Co. Cork where they were in existence about a year ago. They exist only in name in Cork city but put up some show of activity by ads. in the "Evening Echo." I have often expressed the

1915.

A Sept. 5:- opinion that I would not wish to see them face through altogether. They commit the J.P.P. to some form of "physical force" for the attainment of some form of Ireland's rights. But the needless illogis of this position must be apparent to many of themselves.

Peace talk is the chief topic of the papers these days. It comes chiefly from America. The Pope has sent Cardinal Gibbons to call on President Wilson. What the particulars of the Cardinal's call are, are not disclosed. It is admitted that His Holiness is in touch with Austria and Germany and that he is desirous of promoting peace negotiations. Some of Germany's terms are given in the American press - impossible to say whether they are authorised or not or if they are only a "hit". They are 1. Poland a kingdom re-established. 2. Finland autonomy. 3. Freedom for the Jews. 4. Germany to get Constantinople. 5. To get Belgian Congo in return for leaving Belgium. 6. To get French Morocco in return for leaving France. 7. To keep Alsace and Lorraine. 8. To get back the colonies taken from it. 9. Bessarabia for Rumania. 10. Serbia for Bulgaria, and Greece. 11. Austria to control the Balkan States. 12. The freedom of the seas to be guaranteed by all.

These are conquerors'

1915.

Sept. 5:- terms. The American press is avowedly divided in opinion now: admitted by our "voracious press. In fact, one American paper - "New York World" I think - is grossly insulting to friends Sean Buidhe. "Whenever an Englishman's head is punched" it says "the English press rises on its dignity and says 'What is America going to do about this atrocity?'"! Or words to that effect. Very nasty, insulting words indeed. Of course, in other journals at home, it is made to appear that Germany wants peace because it is beaten. That's a good line to press for peace here - the only line in fact. "We" never could agree to peace until Germany is beaten. Now that she is! we can consider peace terms. Still the "beaten" Germans are pursuing the retreating Russians. Food is the latest to fail. Seriously, the Russian retreat is mastery, but it is none the less a retreat. Very few big guns and comparatively few machine guns are now being captured. There are two explanations for this - 1. The Russians have really saved them all, taken them away to the rear: or 2. They are short of those instruments of war and the big guns are really scarce with them.

During the week a paragraph appeared in the papers beginning "Moscow has spoken." To me, it appeared extra-

1915.

Sept. 5: ordinary. What Moscow spoke about was to unanimously call for the appointment of "a Committee of Public Safety" for Russia. Yesterday it was announced that Petrograd had endorsed the demand. Now, what can that mean if not that M. & P. have no confidence in the present government and administration of Russia and an assertion of public opinion not always apparent in that country. But at all events is how I read it. and further it must mean that all is not well in Russia in high places, and the people are fearing worse will happen than has happened.

The Great Push in the western fighting line seems postponed indefinitely. The Sandanellas is a veritable death trap. No particular notice is taken of what the Italians are doing. and so the autumn is going.

Admitted on all hands that no great advances can be made in the winter. What is to be the end?

Meádon fózmair an Tao. Oia Maíre. Oron da haz. 11 p.m.

These are days of long train journeys and of poorly remunerated labour, mentally with me. There is my teaching; a call to Léon & Cui'll's; Coláiste na Múnaigh; An Chóiste Chonraígha and reading in trains. Result - I feel somewhat tired to

1915.

Sept. 7: - night and was not in too good "form" at class, which was small. My opinion is this is a one-night centre for a winter session immediately following a summer session but Mr. J. Buckley marked it out as a two-night one. Be that as it may.

This was a glorious day. My pamphlet "Voices of the Past" - is in the printer's hands; portion of the proofs corrected.

Another liner "the Hesperian" was sunk off the Fastnet Saturday night - by German submarine? Various small craft have also been done for. The "Hesperian" was outward bound. Very few lost. Liner remained afloat for a time; went down as it was being towed to Looe town. Much is made of its being attacked and torpedoed without warning in view of the German assurance to the U.S. Government that submarine warfare was being modified and warning was to be given in future. Now, accepting that it was torpedoed by a German submarine without warning what's the real explanation? It is I think contained in a letter which Mr. A. J. Balfour, First

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1915

Sept. 7 Lord of the English Admiralty has in yesterday's papers said in the account of an American journalist's visit to the English Fleet published to-day. The English hint they have discovered a means of dealing with submarines besides ramming, firing on, sinking by war vessels, capturing. The means hinted at appears to be netting with steel nets of some kind presumably. Balfour glories in the failure of the submarine menace. Whatever this supposedly mysterious means of dealing with submarines is, apparently the Germans feel justified in combatting it by sinking ships without warning and without showing themselves. First, American Consul at Liverpool, speaking on a report received from an American on board the "Hesperian", says that ship had a gun on board and therefore the submarine commander was within his right in sinking it even without warning. He also says he has got orders to report direct to Washington instead of reporting through the London Consul, a most unusual proceeding.

88.

1915

Sept. 7. Can it be that Washington knows that reports through London may be "cooked"? First is too outspoken I fear. He has tried to excuse the Germans. Would not be surprised if he had to be recalled. All the English attempts to embroil Germany and the State seem doomed to failure.

Meádhon fóigeara an tAilís. The Centauro. Quicad na Cannón
10.55 p.m.

At the very time the English are exulting over the failure of Germany's submarine blockade, calling to witness 1. The greatness of their Fleet; 2. The number of their merchant vessels; 3. Increases in exports and imports, (particularly imports: and by the way these increases seem to be judged by money figures, not quantity, and as prices have gone up enormously, money figures for comparison with other years are fallacious); 4. The number of submarines lost by "some mysterious means"; there is renewed submarine activity. Two or three liners are reported sunk to-day. There is renewed air activity - another raid on east coast, England. The allies have bombarded the Belgian coast. The Germans have probably occupied

Sept. 8:- Riga and its Gulf may be in their possession.

There are only artillery duels on the western front. The "Daily Mail" has attacked Hilaire Bellor as a war strategist and he has replied. Lord Northcliffe, owning that paper and the one-time revered London Times has been raging conscription vigorously and criticising generally and harshly. Were any Irish paper to say one-tenth as much it would be suppressed long since. But the English Trade Union Congress has declared very strongly against conscription so what the outcome of Northcliffe's campaign will be is hard to say. He has won in many things: getting cotton made absolute contraband for example. Of course he must be backed up by some very powerful people.

For instance, it seems he was backed up by French as against Litchner. But rumour has it now that French has been withdrawn: seems likely as there are no despatches now with his name or any other name in fact from the English Headquarters. There is no doubt but there are some very strong factions in England and some very queer things going on behind the scenes. There are divided

Sept. 8:- counsels and personal animosities. Things are not well at the heart of the Empire yet, though indeed it is wonderful enough how the coalition has kept together so long. Though I have no possible means of knowing, I would not be at all surprised to hear of changes in that Government when the public least expect them.

M.F. on Gdā. Dajtdaon. Deann-geige. 11.20 p.m. Yesterday an air raid on the east coast England announced: 56 casualties (civilian casualties only are announced): to-day announcement of, apparently, another raid over "London and eastern counties"; casualties to be announced later. There are also air-raids in the western battle line. All is not well in "Holy Russia" apparently. The Czar has taken command of the Russian armies operating against the Germans, Austrians. Grand Duke Nicholas is sent to the Caucasus. And the brilliant tactics of the Grand Duke who being "written up" brilliantly by the Allies' press! 'tis a blow to the journalists and the safe at home strategists who were building up such great hopes on the Grand Duke and his fine tactics. What's the cause of his practical dismissal?

1915.

M.F. an 10th 1st. Oia h-dome. Trontshaz. 7 p.m.

a great Russian victory is announced to-day at a place called Tarnopol in Galicia, the southern line of the Russian-German front. So big, however, is the line that this victory seems, and probably is, only a local affair. The official accounts of the Zeppelin raids of Tuesday and Wednesday nights over London and other districts are published to-day. A larger number than usual of killed and wounded. The German account says London Docks were attacked and the result of the raid was satisfactory.

The Trades Union Congress of England has pronounced against conscription, but has strongly pronounced for English nationalism as against internationalism.

The "Cork Examiner" is a very clear exponent of the attitude of the New English Garrison in Ireland these days. Its podgy leading articles show clearly what the "Sharp Curve" in Irish meat and means. It speaks continually of Our Empire, Our Trade and Commerce, Our

1915.

Sept. 10:- glorious military records, Our Fleet, our taxation and so on. The thinking is completely Unionist, completely English: to such an extent that it uses the terms Britain and Briton and British as inclusive of Ireland, Irishman and Irish. There is no sense whatever of a separate nationality. Yet it is muddled at times for the separate sense does break out in some discussions.

Mr. D.J. Coakley, Principal Cork School of Commerce (who ought know better) exemplifies this too in a lecture on the financial aspect of the war he delivered in Cork last night. Not a whisper escaped him that Ireland was in any way a distinct country from Great Britain or that there was any such thing as Irish Nationality or Irish National problems.

M.F. an 13th 1st. Oia h-dome. Deannapais. 6 p.m.

In for a busy time of it this winter and, Duideicap 10-11, have a pretty good spirit of work. Canon Coholan and the nuns of the Convent here want me to teach an Irish class at the Convent-nuns and I have just come from

93.

1915.

Sept. 13:- there after making arrangements to have the class on Thursdays. I am also having an afternoon class for schoolchildren in the School here - my ordinary work - and that is to be on Mondays. So I will be much in evidence in Bantry.

"An tSiopa Peadaig" is to be in Cork on next Thursday night for a public meeting and this has kept me very hard at work since Saturday. Meeting of Tipperary Sat. night and of Col. na Múirín Committee yesterday. I have drawn those two together for the public meeting. The Coláiste Cttee. has been separated from the Gaelic League for some time - a little friction some years ago. Now, however, there must be an rapprochement. Practically all the work of organising the public meeting has fallen to me and there have been a number of little matters to look after.

I could not go with the Fianna Fáil yesterday, but heard they had a most unsuccessful recruiting tour in Donoughmore and Buing direction, being received in those districts with open arms and getting corps under way. It is back to the early days of the Volunteers, in early 1914, with us, and the people in ways are marvellous. I see there was

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94.

Sept:- a big meeting of protest against the arrest and imprisonment of Pin, etc. in the Phoenix Park, Dublin, yesterday. My friend, Sn. Mac Bialla Ríog, spoke there. A resolution of protest, from Rimerick Corporation, has been going the round of the public boards of the Country regarding the same matter. In most cases it has been adopted.

From reading the discussion on it at one board (I think Tralee), I have drawn the conclusion that the reason the A.O.H. men are backing it is to show Mr. Birrell that he cannot rule this country without Mr. Devlin. D. has evidently given an order to his men of the A.O.H. to support the protest - in fact that is almost certain - and the reason seems to be as I have stated it. D. asked B. to release the men. B. did not do so. D. wants to show, firstly, to the Irish people that he has protested (whatever he may have done or whatever his views behind the scenes) and secondly, he wants to impress on Mr. B. that he, D., is a power in Ireland. That's my conclusion.

"Great Russian Recovery" is being written up in the papers at present. The Russians are winning battles in Galicia. But Lloyd George does not seem to think much of the recovery. He has issued a

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Sept. 13 "trumpet call" to England, on the assumption that Russia cannot recover for a long while and that Britain must "fill the gap." His call is a fine one from an English point of view. Compulsory service or no compulsory service is agitating the leaders of England at present. The Cabinet is divided. George favours compulsion. So do Churchill and Carson. Balfour, Asquith and a majority are against. The system at present outlined as probable of adoption is the Ballot Act system. This could be easily re-arranged in Ireland, I believe. But, will they dare to force compulsory service on Ireland? There is a doubt about it at present.

"German agents" it is said "are at work in the United States getting up a fund to help in resisting conscription in Ireland." An aid! "German agents" too - so the papers tell us - are tampering with the Irish soldiers in the English army trying to sow dissensions among them. An aid!

'Tis a curious world.

M.F. an 14.00. Dia Máirt. Domhna 14.00. 6.45 pm.
and now German "agents" - so to-day's papers inform us, ~~the~~ have been trying to get up strikes in

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Sept. 14! - America, and most of the labour leaders there we are told, are Irish men. They were helped by Mathew Cummins (of Bandon, uncle by the way to my colleague, Cummins) one-time President of the A.O.H. of America but they were foiled by another Irishman, one J.V. O'Connor! Any relation to J.P., I wonder? So now, the German "agents" seem everywhere, engaged in every kind of nefarious work. I anticipate that most of the romances of the future will be written about German "agents" in various parts of the world and their weird and wonderful doings from Ireland to Easter Island.

Another air raid or two - Sunday night and Monday night; on the Kent coast this time. No harm done. So says the report. But the significant thing now is the airships or Zeppelins go away undamaged. It is publicly stated that the English anti-aircraft guns are useless and London's safety lies in a fleet of "air scouts." This seems the official view for one Admiral Sir Percy Scott has been assigned to the defence of London. But, when is the big Zeppelin fleet

Sept. 14! - coming? The recent raids seem only like the scouting parties of an army. Unless it is a myth I would not be surprised if it came very soon before the bad weather sets in.

Lloyd George's "trumpet call" is much discussed. A change in the Coalition Cabinet is foreshadowed. This can only mean one thing - the triumph of the Conscription party. Well, what then? A very disgruntled England probably to be overcome by the strong hand.

Rumours of the near fall of the Dardanelles are going round again. But the Allies apparently are perturbed about Bulgaria, which, one Bulgarian statesman has said, is thinking only of its own interests. How shocking in such an altruistic world!

M.F. an 15^o 1^a. Ois Ceardaoin. Treisead na Bannam, 10.45 p.m.

The English Parliament opened yesterday. A small debate took place on Conscription - Mr. John Dillon strongly against; the English army M.P.s. strongly for; old man Asquith deprecating discussion. That clever "old" rogue, Horatio Bottomley, Editor of "John Bull" is this

Sept. 15! - week's issue of his rag says all is not well in the high places of English statesmen. He thinks Asquith and Lloyd George are preparing the English for an ignoble peace. There can be no talk of peace, he says, till the allies are in Berlin. *Fid o Baile a mise o!* True, all is not well in the high places. The factionists at the heart of the Empire continue. There are divided counsels apparently while nominally there is a united front to the enemy. Is the tradition of pulling together in England all a myth? Is the fact that the English have simply "muddled through" during this history?

A study of the history of diplomacy tends to make one somewhat cynical. There has been much "muddling through" in many great Empires.

Meáon fóirne an 16^o 1^a. Ois Ceardaoin. Deannraige. 3.15 p.m.

Here I am for the purpose of teaching an Irish class at the Convent at 5 o'clock. To-night the Gaelic League public meeting is to be at which an *raib* peadap will speak. I have made all the necessary arrangements for it, though I cannot be there myself.

Yesterday, Kitchener in the English House and Asquith in the Commons reviewed the military and financial situation of the Great War as far as it

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1915.

Sept. 16:- concerns England. The tone was a somewhat chastened one. They made the most they could of the German failures to be the allies hollow: of their failure to smash the Russian armies completely; of the small advance at the Dardanelles: of the operation on the Soudra: of Botha's victory in South Africa. The English casualties are over 381,000. The cost of the war to them is over four million pounds a day at present. Two-fifty million pounds are again asked for. Kitchener hinted at conscription. Asquith deprecated "dissension". The "Daily Mail" is exuberant for "National Service is official recognised as the vital question." John Dillon asserted again that men had been put to jail in ~~England~~ Ireland and newspapers suppressed for saying far less than Northcliffe and the "Daily Mail" had said. Quite true, John, but what then? The fact is notorious. All Ireland knows it. English statesmen and politicians know it. But, what of it? It only shows that England is still the old, tyrannical, false, faithless England. And that the "One Bright Spot" has been clouded. "A change is

1915.

100.

Sept. 17:- coming over the spirit of the dream" of the New English Garrison.

There are many signs and tokens of this. There are good solid reasons from their own point of view for this furnished by the English Government and the War Office.

Instances like the putting of Irish soldiers into the death traps tell and then completely ignoring any "heroic" deeds they may do. The pampering of Carson's pets: the failure to help munition factories in Ireland or the giving of the least possible war contracts to Irish firms: the differentiation between the working of the *Revelm* Acts in Ireland and England - all these things are telling on those whose "loyalty" to England was based on solid returns. But alas! for poor Ireland and the poor foolish Irishmen led to laughter! the conversion will come too late.

And ^{the operation of} Home Rule has been postponed by Order in Council "to the end of the war." That is probably the last of it. For the Coalition Cabinet is not pledged to Home Rule and the Coalition will probably soon give place to another Cabinet in which the Tory and military elements will be predominant. And who can see how the war will end or when it will end? If England

101.

1915.

Sept. 16:- The victorious, Ireland will be scourged. A victorious England will despise us and can scourge us. What humbug to talk, as some Irish M.P.s do of Irish soldiers returning to help in ensuring Home Rule. Irish soldiers, if they ever return, must obey their officers and the War Office, and we know only too well how those officers feel towards Home Rule. Poor Ireland!

M.F. an M.D. Ld. Oia H-dome. Promd haz. 10.30 pm.

Last night's meeting in City Hall, Cork, was a big success and is fairly well reported. It should give a stimulus to the Gaelic League and language movement in Cork for the coming winter. A good deal of propagandist "literature," which I had prepared, was distributed.

The "murder" is out in Merrie England! Conscription was again debated in "the House" revealing naturally very sharp divisions of opinion. Where is the political truth? A J.H. Thomas, M.P. a Railway workers' representative "votes" at least with what has been fairly common property for some time, namely that Lloyd George is trying to out Asquith and become Prime Minister. So, the papers say George wants an immediate general election to test England on Conscription: others say the election is to be in January.

1915.

102.

Sept. 14th:- The burning question will be conscription. Asquith sought to cloak discussion on it but it is no use now. It is the question of questions in Saxons lands. Thomas also declared that on the day Conscription is passed the railway men will strike! A pleasant prospect for the Merrie Land! And to talk of Home Rule was to break the political truce. To-morrow was the day on which "the Old House in College Green" should have been opened. Now, who can say anything of that humbug? But, in the midst of all the clamour a small paragraph in the "Cork Examiner", a Press association one, giving the Brit. Gov. reply, per their Stockholm ambassador, to the International Peace Congress, seems to indicate that that Govt. desires peace. It is an extraordinary little par. but bears out what "John Bull" says "that the Govt. are about to 'sell' their people", who want Germany crushed to atoms. The "Daily Mail" is putting things as plain as a pikestaff: much in fact as a "crank" or "sorehead" in Ireland might put them, attacking Kitchener, Churchill, Asquith and others. It does not believe Germany is in a poor strait. It says the talk of the Russian "Steam Roller" indulged in last year, was

1915.

Sept. 14th - "an insult to the Russians." It laughs at Churchill's "glit talk of digging the rats (i.e. the German Fleet) from their holes" and the new victory in the Dardanelles. It assumes the Russians are practically beaten. All of which is intensely interesting to a "crank", "factionist", "bothead", "pro-German", "Bird's Nest" in Ireland, who is liable to imprisonment or banishment without trial for saying such things. We are in for stirring times. But all the hubbub at the heart of the British Empire only shows an Irish Nationalist that England is being beaten: that things are not well.

The English are clever in finance. But, to my surprise, that seems a very weak point now. They are poor and foolish under a war strain. English and French banking men are trying to negotiate a loan in America to pay Americans for the munitions, etc. bought. 'Tis a clever dodge - to borrow from your wife to pay you - but will it succeed? German and pro-German interests are strong in the financial world in America; how strong we can measure somewhat by the abuse being heaped upon them and the cajolery being used to coax them. I have got no American

Sept. 14th - papers for some time. I would like to see some now. There are a few Irish-American millionaires in the States. How will they go? Like others where stability, and victory are, I suppose and those certainly are with the German - Austrians at present.

There is a story going round regarding the Dardanelles which gives some meaning to the facts that the Irish soldiers have not been mentioned in the official despatches and are not given credit for achievements of theirs, in the English press or by English statesmen. It is that the Irish soldiers were put in the front of the hard fighting - this we know. But, they were continually and systematically being placed there and finally were given an order to do something impossible. They melted! Then ructions began. They were fired on from behind to urge them on. It may be so. It seems a plausible story and fits in with the facts above. But, of course to hint of such a story is regarded as being in league with "the Huns"!

This other story, however, has appeared in the papers. When Irish regiments took up positions in the trenches in France-Belgium, German musicians in the "enemy's" trenches struck up "The Wearing of the Green" and such tunes!

105.

1915.

Meáonfogmáir an 18^ú Lá. Ois Sácairn. Spáid Bpíde 1.20 pm.

To-day was the day set out over twelve months ago for the setting up of an Irish Parliament under the Home Rule Act. We may regard that incident clad in Ireland's history, I suppose.

England observes "Treaties" and "Scraps of Paper" now as always. 'Twas a poor Act and a mean Act but the English did not even keep their promise to put it into operation. There are no barracks in Ireland to-day. And truth to tell, the Irish people seem singularly indifferent to the fate of that Act.

No one is indeed willing to fight for such a mean thing and rightly so. Yet, were Ireland ready to fight now or in the near future the falsity of the English Government in this matter would surely be sufficient cause and sufficient justification for fighting.

Big nations have gone to war for less than the violation of this Treaty, for the vindication of less rights than that mean Act would confer on Ireland. That phase of Home Rule - the promise of the Act on a certain day - is over. No one knows what the morrow may bring. The political faction fighting is getting fiercer - the weather is hot, hotter than it has been any time this year and that may have something to do with the hot temper of men in divided England. Factionism is rife in that unhappy land.

Factionism is rife in that unhappy land.

1915.

106.

Sept. 18'. Well, the mills of God grind slowly but they grind remorselessly.

And John Bull's day of reckoning seems not far off. But, what of poor Ireland? There is discontent and unrest in Ireland among the New Garrison and even among some of the old Garrison. The good old English policy of the material crushing of Ireland is as plain even to them to-day as it ever was.

The Sinn Féinists: the old, unconquered men of the Gael may be said to have succeeded now in saving the soul of the Nation. Many things have helped them - the betrayal by the English Government of its own pledges; the bigotry of the War Office; the sneer of English newspapers; the utter ignoring by the "Authorities" of the Irish soldiers' actions; the suppression of the Nationalist newspapers; the imprisonment of men for trivial offences; the banishment orders.

But, it is all due to the existence of the old, unconquerable spirit of Irish Nationality ever seeking for freedom. The soul of the Nation has been saved, Buidéacáirle Dá, but what then? Ah! that is the crux. What is to be the outcome? What is to be done? Martyrdom is fine, splendid, glorious and there are many strong souls in Ireland to-day willing to suffer martyrdom for Róiseán Dub'. But - the time should be now ready for success as well as martyrdom. It should be ripe for winning. And a

Scorpáir de go léir? Cad a Scorpáir de.

Maibh, the R.M. who sentenced Maibh and MacDiarmid's dead. He died suddenly yesterday. Ois 18^ú Lá 1915.

107.1915.

Mr. F. J. 202. On 11th. Beannrpaize. 6. 25 p.m.

The weather is very hot and close for the past week or so. not with bright sunshine for the last three or four days but yet oppressively hot. Summer weather in fact when summer is gone.

Had a very pleasant journey to Rigabella yesterday to my aunts, with Baby and friend Seán Horan. One of my cousins was at home. He is coxswain of a torpedo boat with Queenstown as headquarters, his duty being to voyage round the south coast of Cork and see that the Germans do not come near. I neither sought from him nor did he give any particularly interesting information: only ordinary scraps of news that everyone has. One of his brothers is in the Dardanelles; another in the North Sea. The latter was in the last naval encounter there. It is strange, considering my faith and convictions, that all of my immediate relations practically are direct upholders of the British Empire, serving in the British Army or Navy. How I escaped the contamination is wonderful. Not a conversion either but a native growth from earliest childhood: bred in me and grown in a strange soil.

Seán mac Drapimuda was released from prison on Saturday.

1915.108.

Sept. 20:- having served his sentence.

I heard quite casually to-day from Seán macLinn that there was likelihood of a raid by the police to-day on the rifles of the Fians Club.

I may be true: it may be false, but this casual kind of information, this happy-go-lucky way of doing things makes me mad. If it be true for instance, and if the leaders know it to be true, why is there not some definite plan as to what is to be done? As things are, nothing could be done but hand the police the rifles with the best grace possible; unless indeed each individual took it upon himself to be his own leader in the matter and defended himself with his life: a tragic act that might be admirable but would not be conducive to success.

Irite casually too, and from outside sources my Baby heard the other day that on Wednesday last some circulars were sent to prominent people all over Ireland on that night. I have no idea what those were: I was not informed though talking to some who knew all about them many times since.

Is it that they think I am not to be trusted? Such an idea distresses me. And yet to think that in a casual manner through my wife I should learn all about them: how they came to Cork, how they were sent

109

1915.

Sep. 20 - out, and so on, but not to know what they are.

There is a remarkable ad. of White, Thompson & Co. in to-day's "Independent" offering a reward of £100 for information leading to the conviction of anyone who sent out certain alleged "seditious" literature in envelopes of theirs to people in Ulster. Can this refer to the same thing as my wife told me of? Probably.

M.F. an 22^o 1^a. Oia Maíne. Oronólaoz. 6.55 pm.

Another ad. appears in the "Independent" to-day from a Dundalk firm. A note also appears in that paper and in the "Cork Examiner" - complaints of a number of firms, most of them loyalists. Apparently the envelopes were specially printed with the firms' names at the head - Cork, Dublin, Waterford, Limerick firms. The "Independent" says the pamphlet that has been distributed is "Ireland, Germany and the Freedom of the Seas", printed in America in 1911. It is pretty well known, I think, that that pamphlet was written by Roger Casement. Why its wholesale distribution now I know not? What is the particular point of it? The general point is clear enough to everyone. I would not be surprised if the police hit on some persons - and wrong ones - with

1915.110.

Sep. 21 - regard to the sending out of those pamphlets.

The Germans have taken Vilna and are apparently massing on the Serbian frontiers with a view, it is said, of forcing a way to Gallipoli!

Faction is still rife in England over the conscription issue. Though no one notices it the map of political truce has been shattered to smithereens. Though Lloyd George had to give in once before I doubt if he will give in on this. I believe he'll force the question to an issue and will carry his point in some form or shape. But, well! 'twill smash Meerie England somewhat. The Budget is on to-day and a nice bag of taxation is promised. War is an expensive luxury even for Big Bullies.

M.F. an 22^o 1^a. Oia Ceudaoim. Spáid Gúirde. 11.20 am. The British Budget is published to-day and deals with stupendous figures of expenditure and taxation. Many of the hoary old lies - considered sacred canons of finance and trade - are blown away. For instance, the men with big incomes are more and more heavily taxed. Rightly so of course but what becomes of the doctrine that if capital - that is, capitalists - are heavily taxed, industries will be hampered? Imports are taxed. Oh! sacred

Sept. 22. shades of the great apostles of Free Trade! And they are taxed for a very commonsense reason (among other reasons), to diminish those imports so that England will not have to pay so much abroad. What will Professor Oldham of the National University of Ireland say to that? I broke a lance with him last year at the Civic Exhibition in Dublin discussing the Industrial movement in Ireland. He was very wroth with the Gaelic League and Industrial Association for telling Irish people to buy more but home commodities. His argument was that the greater the imports into Ireland the greater the exports must be: consequently the greater industry at home. To buy a foreign article was thus to support the home industry. Theoretically correct I believe. Practically, a pitiful argument. And now what will the Professor think, when Chancellor MacBenna of the great home of Free Trade admits the argument of the "simplicitors" in Ireland that there are times when it is a solemn duty to discourage imports. Further, what becomes of the colossal lie that "Ireland cannot pay its way"? It must, whether willing or not, bear this war taxation. It could not pay its way, we were solemnly assured, for peace purposes. No further revenue could be raised in Ireland in pre-war days! But, revenue can be

Sept. 22! - raised to keep in shooting sermons if it could not be raised to keep education, or industry, or local government in Ireland itself! Merry England won't be quite the same England after the war as before. The Industrial Revolution helped it to bear the burden of the Napoleonic wars. There is no Industrial Revolution now. England has no monopoly of industries now. It cannot bear this burden so easily. Its credit is not so high to-day as formerly. Even if it crush its great trade rival, Germany, there will be the United States and others to supply the world. I have been surprised, though partly knowing how much it depended on credit, on paper money, on prestige, at how unstable its financial condition was to bear a war strain. The state of the exchange with America; the necessity for negotiating a loan there to pay and arrange the exchange; the drop in exports show that England was a bloated financial hunk. M.F. on 23rd. Diapadom. O'eargeige. 10.40 pm. A beautiful moonlit night has become a showery night - very heavy showers too. Over a week ago I got an incipient cold - due to the very hot, close weather - and I am left with an effect in the shape of a deafness in one ear, that "bothers" me. But - away with such slight troubles!

113.

1915.

Sept. 23: My Irish class here progresses well. Yesterday morning in the train from Drimoleague I met my 'friend' Mr. J. M. Buckley, Co. Secretary, with a number of others. A polite but cool greeting between us. Better thus. I bear no resentment. Charity is best after all. Though 'the world' calls you a fool if you be charitable or generous. Well, 'the world' is an ass. He who is guided by 'the world's' opinions lands nowhere but is tossed about from wave to wave of thought. I have discovered that long since. It was brought home to me yesterday by friend Cummins saying that someone remarked to him that my defence against Buckley's attack was simply a piece of self advertisement. Bosh! If self-advertisement weighed with me I could have availed of many, many opportunities for it. Certainly my motive in that defence was anything but self advertisement. But men are likely to try to run up the motives of others.

The millions of the English Budget are enough to make one's head reel. But, the taxes are quite real. We can all feel them. I am in the unfortunate position of having to pay income tax. Some would think it fortunate I suppose. 'Twill be a nice

1915.

114.

Sept. 23: Pearly now. Could I get a dozen others with me I'd refuse to pay. Fear of being thought "a great fellow" keeps me from doing this on my own account. Taxes are increased on tobacco, tea, sugar, cocoa, dried fruits, motor spirit, etc. And though the taxes will bring in millions to the English Exchequer, the millions are only as a drop in the ocean to the expenditure. Of course, they won't be felt so much in England as most of the war expenditure is distributed there. The taxes on Ireland will be far in excess of any expenditure here. But, we are tied to a most expensive partner and some of us seem to think all's well. 'Tis Ireland's war - that's the cant - and we must pay in blood and wealth, with no hope of reward either. How blind slaves can be to their own interests.

I got a copy of the "reditions" pamphlet from Fred. Cronin, to read. It is entitled "Germany, Ireland and the Freedom of the Seas." Most of it was written in 1911. Apparently printed in America. No author's name nor printer's name given. But well put together. Has attracted some attention in the English press - the hypocrites and liars.

Deanaiz Dē oppaun 30 lēp.

1915.

M.F. on 24th 15. On Dominica. Prondalus. 10.35 p.m.

an exceptionally beautiful moonlit night, with a touch of frost in the air: a full moon shining in a clear, blue sky, bathing the hills, the fields, the roads in light and casting dark shadows of trees and shrubs: some soft fleecy clouds and a few twinkling stars are to be seen. A night to 'freshen one's blood and stir one's imagination. It is long now since we had "such a night as this." Why should the trials, the temptations, the sins, the woes, the wickedness of one's own material being trouble one "on such a night as this." It is a night for the soul and the spirit: a night to raise one's thoughts to God, to Heaven and the higher things. What a wonder is a man's being. Of the earth, earthly, dragging one down to fleshly things: of the spirit, heavenly, raising one up to the Eternal. It has ever been thus, thus for the individual: thus for man in the aggregate. When Beauty walks abroad in the moonlight it should be only up: full play to the spirit and the nobler thoughts. The body would revel in the mire of earth when the spirit would soar to the stars. Oh! Thou great Eternal Being who madest all, inspire my

1915.

Sept. 24th - soul to-night, purify and strengthen my spirit!

M.F. on 26th 15. On Dominica. Spino Bridge. 1.40 p.m. My pamphlet, "Voices of the Past", is now on sale. How the sale will go it is yet impossible to say. But, it is not a commercial speculation. It is propaganda. I have received help in getting it out from Jennings, Ahern, and others to whom I am indebted.

Jerome MacS. is busy organising the Fianna Fair. Had a chat with him yesterday and with others. Things seem to be going on pretty well. No doubt now of the Nationalist soundness of the country. But the old wants are now apparent - want of funds and capable organisers. The police keep a close watch on all organisers' movements. The old questions always comes to me - the country is sound; there is a fine organisation on a partly military basis; but what then? What plans are made for the future? What is to be the upshot of it all? These questions disturb me. My imagination may be too vivid. I may have too clear a perception of some things, too distinct a visualisation of a probable future. And what is to be my own share in the great work? That too disturbs me at times. Is it in my own mind the unrest and disturbance are or are all minds so disturbed by ^{the} disturbing

117.

1915.

Mr. O'Leary's events of the times? I am practically out of all news O'Leary work, principally owing to my having to go from place to place, but also owing to my relations perhaps with some of the men in the O'Leary here. We don't "hit it off" somehow. There is a clash of ideas or temperaments or something, I don't quite know what. I can trace some causes all right but what disturbs me is why, in my own mind, any traces of past frictions should remain, I was not wont to be so. And many think me too philosophic! It is all probably due to a spirit of unrest that is abroad generally, due to unrest of the times. Action of whatever kind is a far better state than this weary waiting of seeing what is going to happen. Action would act as a tonic. Verily, in Mr. John E. Redmond's phrase "It is a time to test men's souls."

The Great War drags on. If we now believe reports the Russians are hitting back hard and winning some victories. Submarines are still busy. But, Bulgaria is mobilising. Expected to come in on the German Austrian side. Greece has answered this by mobilising too. What the exact situation between them is we have no means of judging properly.

Mr. O'Leary. Dear Mr. O'Leary. 6.45 p.m. The War has got interesting on the western side at least. The Great

1915.

118.

Sept. 24:- "Victories at East" is the "Daily Mail" announcement. The victories were on Saturday, the fighting continuing when the despatches were sent. The English-French claim 20,000 prisoners. The German despatch notifies the advance of the English-French, after terrific bombardment with heavy guns. London is joyful: Paris no less so, I repeat. around Boulogne: near La Bassée: in Champagne the victories were won. The German lines were pierced. They seem real victories at the points mentioned in the despatches. What they may mean it is impossible to say yet. The Germans officially acknowledge them. (Note: I have now noticed that the English despatches ever acknowledged a German victory). In the East, the Russians also appear to be doing well. That is the general impression given. How well it is also difficult to say, there. The essential facts are that on land the Germans-Austrians have had almost uninterrupted success for twelve months. Such success could hardly continue indefinitely. There are bound to be checks: or defeats at times. But that the Germans are going to conquer, that the allies are going to Berlin: that's another matter. It is evident the English are still strongest on sea.

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1915.

Sept. 24. - It is evident also that air craft and submarines are not so terribly effective as pre-war imagination pictured them. If Allies or Germans - Austrians - Turks will not give in till there is a very decisive and very big defeat on one side or the other, we are in for a very long war.

Mf. an 2840 la. Diarmuid. Omondahaz. 6.55 p.m. Winter seems to be closing in. The harvest came early. The spell of fine hot weather was short. Now the weather is broken and getting cold: the ~~the~~ rains are heavy.

"American Consul-General accused of Pro Germanism"; That's a heading in the evening paper which caught my eye. The name was St. John Gaffney. an Irishman thought I. But further more interesting. In some way Daniel Spellissy, Treasurer of the Volunteer Committee in the State, was discovered sending Gaffney ^{to Munich} despatches not through the regular diplomatic sources at Washington. What the despatches were does not appear. Gaffney is a Co. Limerick man: was a supporter of Parnell: it is said he kept every good Irish movement: is an author, a traveller and learned man. A lot more of as particularly interest to me. Further on a par. - dates the 15th

1915.

120.

Sept. 28. - inst. from New York, to the effect that collections are going on in America for the Defence of Ireland Fund. You'd say that's all right. Such collections were made in Ireland July last year openly in Ireland, Mr. John G. Redmond and party co-operating - or seemingly so. But ah! The English press correspondent has discovered the trail of the serpent. The collecting cards for the particular fund now mentioned have been traced to a German source. The paragraph bears all the evidence of having been cooked before being "released" by the English Censor for publication in Irish papers. What is really going on I would like to know. I expect the collections are going on for the Ózka and the German-Americans may be contributing. That's likely. And collections are to start in Ireland next Sunday. So, perhaps in the hope of doing damage to these collections here, those innocent-looking par. are inserted to make it appear that collections for the Defence of Ireland Fund will somehow or other help the Germans - and you know, the Germans are Huns and all vile things. Oh! Shaun Buidhe is very glib: cunning as the D - when dealing with Ireland. I am convinced the English

121.

1915

Sept. 28. authorities hate Ireland far more than they hate the Germans. They may fear the latter, but they hate Ireland with a malignant hate.

Mf. an 29th. Oíceas na Bannán. Oaleudaom. 7.25pm.

To-night is hard and cold: northerly wind: inclined to frost. an invigorating night: one for exertion: one to make the blood course through the veins.

I have read little of to-day's news and am no worse, but probably all the better for that. The lies, hypocrisies, atrocity stories, bombast, humbug, silliness that fill the daily newspapers are mind-enfuzzling and make one less a man.

Yet, I read enough to see a letter, signed "Nationalist: Rimerick" in the pro-English "Cork Examiners". It was to discredit the Volunteer collection: the argument, what little there was of it, being that the Oíceas are opposed to Redmond and are one with Carson! I was probably connected in the "Examiners" of its itself as it is one of their usual silly, stupid, lying, malicious style of letters regarding Irish Nationalists. The only thought it brings me is how to account for the fact the some Irishmen who call themselves nationalists hate their fellow countrymen so much more than they hate the tyrants

1915.

122.

Sept. 29. who crush us all. One can account for the Carson attitude, for the genuine Unionist attitude, for the "Wild Irish" attitude, for even the genuine Home Rule attitude, but it is difficult indeed to account for the malicious Redmondite attitude against Irish Nationalists. I know that some Sinn Féinites have said, and say, hard things of Redmond and others, but the reason for this is clear - it is due to distrust of the English and in antagonism to Redmond's friendship for them. The real enemy is recognised to be - England.

A small paragraph in the "Independent" states that Mr. John Gaffney, Consul-General in Munich, recently gave a public dinner to Sir Roger Casement.

There was another discussion on Conscription in the English Commons last night though Asquith made an appeal not to have it discussed as a united front. was necessary at the present time.

Deire fóirneap an Céad Lá. Oíce na Bannán. Oíce na Bannán. 7pm.

Mr. John E. Redmond has had an interview with Lord Kitchener. There are to be sweeping changes in the recruiting system in Ireland very shortly. So runs an important item of news to-day. This item must probably

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Oct. 1:- be read with the information regarding Asquith and Kitchener attending a Conference of Labour leaders in London the other day. The information now out about that is that "the voluntary system" of recruiting is getting its last chance: the Labour men are to engage in "a raging, tearing" campaign of recruiting. If this fail, then- Conscription. So, I suppose, this is what Lord Kitchener wanted Redmond about - to do the same in Ireland as the Labour men are to do in England, or, we shall have Conscription. For, would anyone believe, Redmond's Party really have not done the recruiting business in an organized manner. Their manner has been lackadaisical. For, they discovered early that the feeling of Ireland is not so strongly pro-British as they wished the British to think. Now, however, I anticipate they will have to come out strongly and as an organized force. From another point of view:- and this may be hinted at- Redmond is now to get as good innings with the War Office as Curran. The latter has got good innings there and it has been made a grievance, real or apparent, with some of Red's men. Well, we'll see the outcome shortly.

1915.

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O. Fran. 3rd. Lt. Dia Donn. 11.3. Spire bridge 12 noon. A bright day: warm and clear: quite a change from a few days past when winter seemed to have set in. I should have been out with the Volunteers to-day; the bulk of them are to be at field operations. Others - individually or in small parties - are gone to various country places organising corps there. I am either too lazy or a confirmed "crank". Next week collections start in Cork for the "Defense of Ireland Fund". It remains to be seen how they will get on. Friend Milroy is recording his impressions of Mountjoy prison in the "Hibernian" in his own humorous style. The impressions are interesting. The push of the French English last week, it is now stated, is the beginning of the great offensive. They seem to have advanced indeed and, generally, retained the new positions, though, in this as in other cases, there is much obscurity in the information. What is going on on the eastern front is very hard to determine. All that seems certain is that the Germans Austrians are no longer advancing, that the Russians are winning minor successes. It is clear, however, that the advance on the west is due to violent artillery action: the "Daily

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C Oct. 3:- rail "contention about high explosives has been proved correct. Apparently the only way to advance in trench warfare is by the expenditure of enormous quantities of high explosives. Literally a way through must be by blowing everything sky high. What the cost of the recent advance was, in men and materials, we have got no hint of. The cost seems to be now the only limit to advancing. All telegrams to neutral countries are to be delayed for 48 hours - so runs an announcement - lest "the enemy" get any information as to what the French-English are about. It is likely enough that we too shall get less information - so all our calculations are based on incomplete information. The only safe rule for judgment is on the accomplished facts - when we know them.

Bulgaria is apparently to be in the war on the German side. No official declaration announced yet, but the abuse of the King (Ferdinand) and of his government has commenced. He is "weak, cowardly, vain, pretentious, extravagant, a professing Catholic, disliked by the Bulgarians, etc., etc." Greece will take the other side - it is expected. So, "Greece is splendid: showing magnificent

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Oct. 3:- enthusiasm: a wise, brave, sensible people." What Rumania will do is not clear, but "of course Rumania must come in on one side." Such the twaddle of the British and pro-British press. It is fairly well recognised at the same time that Bulgaria is the most formidable factor in the Balkans and that the Bulgarians are a good fighting people. What the Italians are doing against the Austrians does not seem to be attracting any particular attention. And "our ally," Japan, seems to be out of it altogether. It would not surprise me if great events occurred this month. It is a fateful month in war history.

Dapifoz an Kaila. Du luay. Deannepaizo. 3 p.m.

Russia has issued an ultimatum to Bulgaria to have all German and Austrian officers clear out of that land within 24 hours and to ~~have~~ declare itself on the side of the Quadruple Entente. This means war, I suppose. So the area is extending. If one could judge, on the incomplete data afforded ordinary people, I would say the entrance of Bulgaria on the German-Austrian-Turkish side means the failure of the Allies at the Dardanelles and the overwhelming - if desired - of Serbia and possibly Montenegro. But 'tis not

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C Oct. 4. unsafe to judge these things in an offhand fashion on insufficient data. Greece is expected in at once on the allies' side. Rumania is yet uncertain.

Sir John French, Commander in Chief of the British forces in France is perfectly satisfied with the recent victories of the French and English there and is confident of complete and final victory. He states "We have now reached a definite stage in the great battle which commenced on the 25th ult." The despatch of a man like that is certainly more to be depended on than the usual clap-trap we have so much of. He has good sources of information too. Yet let us come up a few facts and we may judge his statements better. The war is going on for 14 months. During all that time, if we believed reports and despatches, the Germans-Austrians-Turks never won a victory. Yet - they hold practically all Belgium since the early days: portion of France: they drove the Russians from the Carpathians, back Prussia, Poland and hold big slices of Russia. Not a foreign soldier has entered Germany, Austria, or Turkey, except as a prisoner. Four powers of great resources and magnitude - Russia, France, Italy, England -

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Oct. 4. - have been opposed to them. Yet, on foreign soil, they have not only held their own, but won. Is a collapse of their powers then likely? No ordinary, unprejudiced person could say it is. That the allied armies will yet enter Berlin and dictate peace terms there seems very much farther from accomplishment now than it did twelve months ago. That they cannot completely smush all their adversaries either seems very certain: but, even in the absence of reliable information, one may doubt if the allies are going to have "complete and final victory." That the English and French made a very big advance recently is certain: the map shows it. But, if such an advance gives ground for complete and final victory, what did the advance of the Germans into Russia and France mean? October will tell much. Bulgarian action will tell much too. But God alone knows who will win or what this Great War means.

"Voluntarism" is on its last legs. That's now clear. If the "Great Recruiting Rally" now being made in Ireland and Great Britain do not produce satisfactory results (satisfactory to the English War Office I take it), then - Conscription.

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1915.

C. D. F. at 5.00 Ls. On Mānpz. Tromdallas. 6.45 p.m.

Bulgaria seems to be definitely in it - though no official declarations are in our newspapers yet. also Greece. It appears the allies have landed forces at Salonika: in anticipation "I suppose: not waiting for formalities. The paper "John Bull" of last week has a remarkable article regarding Bulgaria. Gives them credit for being splendid fighters. On account of the country's situation 400,000 fighting men there are worth 2 millions of men. He suggests the allies should bribe Bulgaria with at least £100 million! It would be worth that sum to them. His suggestion - so nice, honourable and all that - comes too late.

Germany must have offered a bigger price than the allies, and Bulgaria knows for better than we in Ireland know who is going to win.

The "Daily Mail" is a shocking old pessimist! Its news placard to-day is "British lose new ground (official)". How much nicer the "Cork Examiner" puts it - "British gains and losses." The news is - the English have lost an important position they won last week.

And then also how depressing indeed for Sean Buidé's friends to learn that the great recruiting rally in

1915.

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Oct. 5: London last Saturday was a failure. Looks very like conscription soon methinks. I saw something about riots in Moscow in the evening paper but did not read the details.

We are getting a very minimum of news these days: most of the "war news" is piffle. The only conclusion one can draw from that fact is that the news is not very cheering. The submarine warfare seems "off." As no comments are made on it I suspect there's some quid pro quo which we are not allowed to know of.

I am deepening my studies in Irish and in Irish history at present. Lecky's "History of the Eighteenth Century" is my present text, following naturally on a review of Seán Ó Ríada's life and works. Though quite sympathetic and striving to be impartial, Lecky's point of view is not that of, say, Seán's. And what a time it was in Ireland from Crowell's coming to the end of the Penal days!

D. F. at 6.00 Ls. On Cúdaon. Oíceas na Cannóan. 7.15 p.m.

Shiloh! Some things in international affairs are rushing so rapidly it is hard to know what's the meaning of them at all.

1. Bulgaria has not answered the Russian ultimatum. A German paper reported to have said the Germans will answer.

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131.

Oct. 6: 2. The French and English have joined Russia in the ultimatum. 3. A Franco-British force has landed at Salonika, thereby violating Greek neutrality. It was known that Venizelos, Greek Premier, and some of the people of Greece were with the Allies - or rather there is some treaty between Greece and Serbia. A discussion in the Greek Parliament yesterday. On a vote a majority - 142 v 102 - expressed confidence in Venizelos. 4. But Greece protested against the French-British violating its neutrality. 5. Now, in the evening paper, late news bore, "the King of Greece has accepted the resignation of Venizelos and his Cabinet!". In short telegrams of to-day's date, it appears the Premier had an audience with the King, who said he could not countenance Venizelos' attitude (this seems to have been to stand with Serbia and go to war against Bulgaria and with the French-English-Russian), hence the resignations. From which, with the account of yesterday's vote, one deduces that the Greeks are much divided and their King wishes neutrality in consequence. Technically, this affair lands the Allies - the hypocrites - in a nice mess, but one can hazard the guess that they won't quit Salonika and

1915.

132.

Oct. 6: - their press will make it appear this violation of Greek neutrality is NOT on a par with German violation of Belgian neutrality. The putrid hypocrites!

So "the Balkan question" is re-opened in a new and startling phase. In betting phrase, I would put my money on Bulgaria. But who'll get Constantinople now?

D.F. an Yaola. Chapeauin. Deann epaise. 4.25 p.m. A wet day: a very wet day in fact, one of those days when to sit by a rousing fire with a book, smoking, seems a picture of happiness. Did you ever notice, however, that what we have it seems pleasantest?

Nothing new in the Balkans as far as our news goes.

An insignificant paragraph in yesterday's "Independent" states that Ernest Glythe is out of prison. But good General Friend has warned him if he "gives any cause of suspicion" in future he will be summarily dealt with - that is if he organizes Volunteers he may be sent out of Ireland, an "area" under the D.O. the R. acts.

Also I note no private individuals are to send newspapers to neutral countries in future. They must be sent direct from the newspaper office. The private individuals' papers will be confiscated.

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1915.

O.f. an 8aóla. Dia 11.10.15. 1.15 p.m. The interest of the Great War and of the diplomats is turned to the Balkans these days. The Germans Austrians have crossed the Danube and the Drina into Serbia, as the allies, violating Greek neutrality, have got to Salonika. "The Daily Mail" has some good, informative articles on the diplomatic situation. Its leading article is a warning a whine at the failure of English diplomacy in Turkey, in Bulgaria, in Greece. It blames the English Foreign Office, though it does not mention the name of the minister, Sir Edward Grey, who is Foreign Secretary. A correspondent gives what seems a good account of the state of affairs in Greece. The Greeks are an impulsive people. (That used to be one of the supposed faults peculiar to us Irish). There are parties in Greece who don't like the King. There are parties who want their country to remain neutral: parties who don't like Serbia: parties who don't like Bulgaria. And, though he does not say this, parties who don't like the allies probably and who believe Germany is going to win. Extracts from German papers show that Germany is quite confident of the result in the Balkans. They seem to show also that the Germans think this move of the allies is the last stroke of the allies - a sort of trying to get in by a side door I suppose.

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O.f. an 8aó:- Poor old Seán Guidhe. His day is done, the old dog. Bulgaria has not yet declared war on anybody and protests against the attitude of the allies towards her. Good diplomacy. And some Greeks are saying their first duty is to their own country - not to Serbia. How shocking! in this fight for "small nationalities". Well, well. There are great things happening these times and greater things likely to happen in the near future. Pity we are not in a position to get some reliable news of affairs. The news would be very interesting.

O.f. an 9aóla. Dia Sáirín. Spaid bryde. 4.30 p.m.

I have not noted prosecutions under the Defence of the Realm Acts for some time: not that they have not been taking place, but because they have become commonplace and are of minor importance except as showing that there are unconquered Irish Nationalists in all parts of Ireland. The latest is one of our Cork men - Seán Nolan, a member of the Cork Executive of the Volunteers and of the Gaelic League Spaid bryde. He received notice this morning that he is to be tried in mainroom for words uttered some five or six weeks ago at Carrigrohane. The day Sunday following that on which we were at Middleton, he went out there to organise a Corps. He spoke to the young men no doubt - I believe the

1915.

Oct. 9:- local curate parished. At trouble and his own expense, he has been going out every Sunday since doelling and has I believe a very good corps under way. That is too much for the Realm undoubtedly! So, he is "up." How is that the Defenders of Realms are so much afraid of talk? After all, there must be something magical in words. Sean is one of the quietest, most earnest, unassuming of young men. Hence, as things go in Ireland, a most dangerous "criminal".

Depte foizmap an illid. Dia Inain. Deannapaise, 3-20p.m. So many

interesting things to note to-day it is doubtful if I can find time to note them all. On Saturday offered to go with

Sean Nolan to Macroom to start a Volunteer corps there. Had all arranged to go yesterday and went to the station, but Sean did not think it necessary for me to go. Arranged matters for

opening Irish classes in connection with Coláiste na nUiníon at North Monastery, Cork. Wrote to L.J. Healy, B.C. re Nolan's

case. He replied this morning in his usual rambling style to say he would take the case, if so wished, for £2.2. Wrote also to some friends and acquaintances with a view to getting some unprejudiced magistrates on the bench. Impressed on Sean MacDonagh and others that O'Leary Executive in Cork ought take up the case and bear expenses. This is being done. So must form

1915.

Oct. 10:- share. Sean T.N. reports that starting corps in Maginavia was splendid. Good also in Cappargan and Channoyre. He told the men in those places he was being bad up. They may be able to do something also. Whether Sean's summons and trial will have a good effect or bad it is hard to say - good on some, bad on others I should think. Saw McCanna, Solr. this morning also about the case.

Mr. Wm. O'Brien, M.P. is to deliver a lecture on Thomas Davis at the "All for Ireland" Club this week. Sent him a copy of my pamphlet "Voices of the Past" to-day with portions marked where quotations from Davis are given - "The office of supplying England with recruits shall not be our destiny." William is an admirer of Davis. What can he say now to that?

Collection outside church doors yesterday for O'Leary's a splendid success: some £45 collected. It has astonished most of the men. It is not as far short of last year's collections, when all was unity. It shows once again that we have a big section, probably a majority, of Cork people with us. as is shown indeed in many other ways.

Non-significant Ryan spoke at a recruiting meeting in Lipherry yesterday. He appears anti-recruiting posters were put up in the town on Saturday night and he himself received threatening letters. Lipherry is not all bright evidently.

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1915.

Oct. 11:- Some soldiers, who was a prisoner in Germany, has been giving the "freeman's Journal" tales of the efforts of his Rogers Casement to form an Irish Brigade from the prisoners captured. Only 40 or 50 from the camp where he was a prisoner joined and there as an alternative to starvation! The facts mentioned to them by Casement were that they would join the clan na Ruck and come to free Ireland from English rule. But, they missed and looked and cursed Casement. *Páigimís fú map aís p.*

"The London 'Sunday Herald' says that since the war he visited Ireland to meet him Finers." "He" is Mr. Dr. John Gaffney, "the so-called U.S. Ambassador in Munich, who, it is said, intends opposing President Wilson in his campaign for re-election." That item is from the Irish "Daily Independent." Is the first portion true or false? Probably false.

Belgrade has fallen, since Friday or Saturday. "The German and Austro-Hungarian flags float over the castle of the Serbian King." Here is the map of Europe being re-made under our eyes and with the despicable English ownership and daily press we cannot see it nor realize what is happening. The "Daily Mail" attempts to bring it very fairly before us to-day by a map showing all central Europe that is now controlled by Germany. The German

1915.

138.

Oct. 11:- High seas Fleet holds the German coast line in the North Sea and the Baltic. German ^{armies} hold a ⁵⁰⁰ ^{miles} ^{front} against the French-British-Belgians-Turks-Serbs, etc. ~~and~~; a 1000 mile line against the Russians: help the Turks in Gallipoli: ~~and~~ ^{face} the Italians in the mountains: and invade Persia. The map reveals the wonder of it all. The area is stated to be 600,000 square miles of territory. Some news in two pages of the "Irish World" of Sept. 25 that have come my way indicate that this affair of Lohia's invasion was decided on three or four weeks ago at least as a "Master Stroke" "intended to end the war." The Turkish Chamber has declared that the Allies' hopes at Gallipoli will end in the bottom of the sea. "From Smirna to Baghdad" is becoming a phrase.

The English papers are wild, when not depressed. The Censorship and Foreign offices are being savagely attacked. Grey must go, is the cry. ^{English} ~~He~~ ^{He} bribes, slaveholders, diplomacy, secret service have failed in Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria. The "Irish World", says, however, that Rumania has got a bribe of some millions of dollars from the English, but that Germany does not think she will fight against themselves. Serbia too is in dispute with Italy. and a writer in the "Daily Mail" believes a small force at Salonika is worse than no force at all. Its effect

Oct. 11:- anything, he thinks a large force - say 500,000 men, is needed. Egypt and India are threatened he says, and "whoever controls the Suez Canal has the key to the East". And the German view of Gallipoli is that it is only a death trap for the French English. There are "conspiracies" in India too. And Botha is likely to be defeated in the South African elections. What exciting times we live in surely. Pity we cannot get true news in Ireland: put so that it might exalt the imagination. The kind of news we get and the way we get it gives me a headache.

Some little news of submarine activity on the papers yesterday - where we are not told. Ten or twelve English steamers, etc. sunk. The last chief British censor publicly laid it down as a maxim of the censorship that "no depressing news should be allowed through". This is evidently the policy yet.

So, we are left to conjecture what hard blows England has got - and she has got them hard recently. *Ópéip gá deampáin fí láirp tá a péim cairr. 30 duaird M.E.*

D.F. an Baidá. Ois Máire. Oponálasz. 10. 15pm. So far as our news readers give us nothing very striking is recorded to-day. To judge by the way they set out the news there is, the Germans, Austrians, Turks, now as ever since the war started, are being

Oct. 12:- beaten, pushed back, broken up on all fronts. Their lines are pierced; they suffer enormous losses; they are completely demoralised; they cannot hold out; victory for the allies is sure, certain, and speedy. This is the pabulum dished up to us for over twelve months as war news. Everyone must be sick of it. They have cried "wolf" so often that when the allies really do something we shall hardly believe it.

"The Spark" points out this week that the meaning of those ~~attempts~~ in the "Freeman's Journal" about Constance Gaffney, Mathew Cummins, the "Defence of Ireland Fund", etc. is that the "Freeman" has been given the tip from Dublin Castle to felson set the Irish Volunteer leaders by trying to connect them with a German propaganda. I believe there is a great deal in this. The English authorities would like to get rid of the chief Óglaz men and they think the safest means of doing this is by trying to get the public to believe the Óglaz are secretly in touch with the German government. 'Tis an old game in Ireland and I fear may succeed once again.

D.F. an. 13. Ois Ceannán. D. na Bannán. 10. 45pm. Bulgaria has taken a hand in the war; has attacked Serbia. So runs the news. Russia is on

1915.

Oct. 13¹ - Bulgaria. The French-English must have been in Serbia for some time. So at least some items of news would lead me to believe. Miviani in the French parliament has tried to justify the Allies' diplomatic failures in the Balkans. Bulgaria made certain demands, some at the expense of Serbia. The allies had got Serbia to agree and Greece to agree by promises of future rewards. Rumania to be kept quiet. But Bulgaria also negotiated with Germany and — we know the sequel now. The price which the quadruple Entente was willing to pay for Bulgarian help shows best the value of Bulgaria to the Germans-Austrians-Turks. Very valuable apparently. There is a feeling at present indeed that the issue of the war will be decided in the Balkans. If so, I have little doubt of the result. The Germans-Austrians-Bulgarians-Turks will win. The war in Serbia is unlikely to develop into trench warfare and in big campaigns ^{complete} war, with big guns, the Germans have shown superiority. Hence my surmise.

Heard before I left Cork that Sean Nolan was acquitted to-day at Macroom. Hope 'tis true as I did my best for that result.

1915.

Oct. 13¹. It appears Capt. Roberts and a Capt. O'Mahony have been interviewing Tom Curtin. This is the second talk Roberts had with him. Their object, and gaffer, was to "sound" him. What did the Volunteers want? What were their aims and objects? What were their views on conscription? They, themselves, were against conscription but their Colonel (one back) was for it. The deluge! I don't approve of this "interviewing", however it comes about, a such matters, particularly two to one interviews. I absolutely trust Comár, but those fellows are only "fishing". And, if the English authorities think it the easier plan of getting rid of the O'ghaz they will bribe and bribe high. God strengthen our spirits.

D.F. on 14th. Dispendorn. Bannapraiz. 5.20 pm. A fine day, with a warm sun shining and a cool breeze blowing in from the sea.

So, Sean Nolan was acquitted, by a narrow vote, 5 magistrates to 4. As reported certainly the evidence against him proved practically nothing. The chief police witness said he considered the disloyal part of Sean's remarks was when he said the Volunteers were pledged and armed against conscription! Frank Healy riddled them well, with

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Oct. 14:-quotations from English publications and Carson's post-war pronouncements. Sean is free, however. In this case, that's the chief thing.

and while Carson's arguments against Home Rule were being used to effect in an Irish Petty Sessions court to free an Irish Nationalist from the grip of the "authorities", high excitement was being raised in the English Commons over the same man. There was an English Cabinet meeting. 'Twas known the question of Conscription was being debated. Carson was not at the meeting (but in the smoking-room (the bar I suppose). He looked excited. The rumour rose and ran that he had resigned from the Cabinet over the Conscription issue. He himself denied it. But - there is much smoke.

We are nearing a decision of the English regarding Conscription, I fancy. The Balkan muddle has hastened it. Carson in the bar, a bit excited, was only an incident. Conscription or no Conscription is the issue.

An English friend - Windsor - tells me that, so far as he can hear from his people, the workers of England are only waiting the opportunity of Conscription to declare for Socialism. They believe - and there is some ground for their belief - that the "upper classes" wish to force Conscription in order to keep "the lower orders" in check,

1915.

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Oct. 14:-as of late years those "lower orders" have been getting "out of bounds."

There is something in this to my mind, and if the English working classes are really in earnest - some, like the Welsh miners have shown they are - we may look out for high old times in "Merry England", if Conscription is made law.

And the controversies off over the Balkan diplomacy failures, the censorship, and the Dardanelles expedition failure still goes on! And the "Daily Mail" calls the War Office a "honeycomb of mismanagement"! Muddle, muddle, muddle England.

The French Foreign Minister has resigned also. 'Tis pretty well known there was fearful muddling in France and in Russia. Applying the argument usually applied to Ireland by its enemies - Are those nations fit for self-government when they can't agree among themselves?

Another Keppelin raid on London yesterday evening. The censored information given is very meagre. 8 persons killed: 34 injured. "These figures include all the casualties reported at 11.45 p.m." last night. Every one now knows, or ought to know, we can't believe the censorship reports. So all the news of "no material damage done", "a few small fires", etc. may be taken with a grain of salt.

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Oct. 14:- The Russians are beating the Austrians in fine style; if we can believe the reports. The Serbians are stopping the Germans, if we can believe the reports. There is a heavy artillery combat going on in Champagne - this looks true as it is reported on both sides. The British and pro-British press have all unanimously preserved silence on the violation of Greek neutrality by the English-French. But many are commencing to recognise that the stroke of the Germans in the Balkans is a great stroke and likely to be successful, with far-reaching issues.

A new "mosquito" paper - "Honesty", 1/2d., was out yesterday. Issued from the same place as "The Spark". The "mosquitoes" are increasing. The definitely anti-English "little" papers now in existence are - Weekly - "Irish Volunteer", "Nationality", "Workers Republic", "Hibernian", "Spark", "Honesty", "Reader". Auxiliaries more or less true - "Sh Claidé in Solup", "New Ireland". Monthly - "Fianna", "Catholic Bulletin", "The Iriz", "Irish Fun".

Mr. John Redmond has an "interview" published in the "New York World". (This evidently as a counterblast to interviews with American Irishmen appearing in the same paper recently). (This news is per the "Independant").

1915.

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Oct. 14. "Ireland is in a state of profound peace" says John. "No meetings are suppressed, or have been suppressed." (That's true). "Freedom of speech has not been interfered with." (That's a thundering lie). "Three or four men have been imprisoned for short terms for open pro-German declarations, for which in similar cases they would have been shot in Germany." (That's a lie 1. as regards the numbers. 2. as regards "open pro-German declarations". A probable lie as regards shooting in Germany).

Every Corporation, Co. Council, District Council and every elected body of every kind has declared itself in sympathy with the "Irish" Party view of the war. A half-truth based on the fact that they have NOT declared themselves at all in most cases, but that, if they did, there MAY be majorities for the "Irish" Party. The total of Irish recruiting figures in August, were, according to Mr. Redmond, 130,264, and he said recruiting was still going on at the rate of from 4,000 to 5,000 a month." (More shame for Ireland if 'tis true to have its population thus depleted for an immoral purpose. But notice how J.R. takes credit to "Ireland" for Carson's "braves". Cunning John). "And he added to this 115,000

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Oct. 14: Irishmen in Great Britain and the Colonial Irishmen." (Why did he not include all the Irishmen who fell at Waterloo, the Crimea, India, and South Africa, to show "Ireland's share in the Empire"?). "The position of Home Rule is absolutely secure. That Act will come into operation at the end of the war, if not before." (Oh! John, John. God forgive you!).

D.F. an ISad. Dia N-Gloine. Tromdagh. 10.30 pm. It is freezing to night, hence is sharp and cold here. A fine night for a long march.

The ship raid on London on Wednesday night was the biggest affair of its kind on that place yet. It is acknowledged that 170 people, soldiers and civilians, were killed or wounded.

It was this raid which caused so much excitement in the English Parliament and not so much Carson. There was some kind of public meeting to call for "reparations" - ^{The meeting was most disorderly at its end.} that is, to get the allies to bomb open towns in Germany. The German official report names Ipswich, Hampton, the London docks as having been attacked.

The English seem in a fearful muddle - the Balkans the immediate cause. Some of the lords have gone so far as to suggest that the Dardanelles enterprise be abandoned. To

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Oct. 15: - withdraw from there would be a loss of prestige: but, as one put it, to fail there would be a greater loss of prestige. How much to help Serbia is a sore point too between the allies and between different sections in each country. Delcassé in France is said to have resigned on account of it and Carson's rumoured resignation was on account of it.

Some of the Ozkuz have been questioning the "interviews" of the military captains with Tom Curtin; I understand. They want an explanation of those "interviews" - and rightly so. Tomás was to give it to them to night. He gave it, I heard, to the Military Council and some members of Executive last night. As I surmised those Captains are only "fishing" - are we against recruiting? are we against conscription? What was the cause of a "split"? What do we want? Also, probably, was Tomás open to bribery? This test will come. Curtin told Mr. MacLennan, etc. that he answered them quite plainly and directly and he is to report to Headquarters. Sean O'Sullivan (now Commandant of Cork Corps) had guards mounted at the Hall, the night last night. A piece of business I thought should have been done long ago and often said so.

Oct. 19. Dia Mairge. Spaid Bnizte 11.30 a.m. So many important things have happened during the past few days that came

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Oct. 19:- under my notice and are worth recording, it is hard to get up with them now. Herbert Pim was released from jail suddenly and secretly last Thursday week - a week before his time. The daily papers were forbidden to notice the release. What for? Monaghan, another Volunteer organiser was arrested on Saturday, in a small village in Cavan. The O'Leary turned out with rifles. There was much excitement, but no conflict with the police. Thus the daily papers. U Desmond Fitzgerald - unknown to me - who was forbidden to stay in Dublin, was yesterday arrested in Bray. Thus this morning's "examines".

The new recruiting scheme for Ireland, of which the papers spoke recently when Redmond visited Kitchener, was launched on Friday at a meeting in the Viceregal Lodge in Dublin. A small conference was held at which Redmond, Lord Rodd, Lord de Vries, Sir August Enverard, the Lord Mayors of Dublin, Cork, and Belfast, etc. were present. "Proceedings were private" according to English papers. A big account of them is given in Irish papers. General Friend - our "friend" of deportations - gave official statistics regarding Irish recruiting, the first published officially. The central figure is that 81,000 Irishmen have joined

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Oct. 19:- the English Army since the war started. more of the figures anon. Redmond ~~was~~ (was it R.?) read a letter from Kitchener - praising Irish soldiers - the old plámár. Recruits are now wanted in Ireland at the rate of 1100 a week. And Redmonds, with all the others of the Old and New Garrisons are to get them out of our much depleted population. Is it not monstrous, scandalous, appalling while there are 700,000 men of military age in London alone, who could, the "Daily Mail" says, be easily spared?

Carson has resigned from the Cabinet. That's this morning's news. Not, we are told, on the Conscription question, but on the Backland question.

Redmond addressed a N. I. C. "secret" convention in Dublin yesterday. He fears a general election! Home Rule is all right, but the N. I. C. must be re-organised once again and so must the Nat. Vols. Ireland has done magnificently by England in the war. It must do more.

He spoke much of the little munition works in Ireland - great ones in his estimation. I see his whole task is to keep Ireland quiet - not easy, John. He said nothing about taxation. Of course not. That's a disturbing

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O Oct. 19th affair and at all costs, Ireland must be kept quiet for England. He deprecated allusions to Carson's army, hoping they would fight shoulder to shoulder with his own men, to beat the "Huns". "Cheers for Carson" - that caused John's men in Cork to howl down Tom MacNeill. 'Tis John's own creed now. Now Time brings changes!

J. The Oglas collection on Sunday was good, though not as good as previous Sunday, £30 odd being collected. The organising of the county goes excellently on. Yesterday L.M.S.B. was with me to Bantoy. We had a small chat with some men there last night. Promises of a re-organisation there. The corps there was broken up when Red. got control as that town was a stronghold of Wm. Brim. They may get going again. The conscription argument tells with many.

Sir Dan Hamilton is recalled from the Dardanelles and one Munro appointed in his stead.

Thurs. 24.3.15. 7 p.m. There was some air of excitement in Cork about 12 to-day I imagined. Whether this or what, for a short while I felt that something of great importance to Ireland was taking place: in other words a presentiment. I note it just to see

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O Oct. 19th - if a "presentiment" means anything. I have not seen evening paper so cannot say what are the political developments, if any, in England to-day. Northcliffe group of papers are out straight to overthrow the cabinet now. Recruiting, the Censor, the Balkans, the conduct of the war - these are the themes. All this means quite definitely that the war operations are going against England. Will England and its hated Empire pull through this time? It was faced with crises before. It had narrow escapes. It muddled through: muddled is the admitted and acknowledged word now. Can it, will it muddle through this time? It is muddling now: muddling as perhaps it never muddled before. Will luck still follow it? In some of its leading men's appeals there is a sign of Roman and other Empires' decay. They want the black and the yellow races' help. They want what they themselves call the "Fuzzy Wuzzy" men to help them; the Zulus, the Basutos. Horatio Bottomley, Editor of "John Bull" says those people "breed in giant numbers"; are "fanatics"; "lust for blood" - then he pleads, call them up from all parts of the Empire,

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C Oct. 19:- throw them against the "Huns": no more Englishmen can be spared! What other Englishmen may think Bottomley puts openly with. What a detestable, savage, murderous proposition is his. But, it shows clearly one thing - the decay of an Empire. No great importance may be attached to Bottomley perhaps, though his papers boast circulations of over a million; but Mr. Binnell - one of our chief governors - spoke of help in the war from places further afield than Europe. Most of the papers took him to mean Japan, but so Japan, according to bits and scraps we are allowed to see, is speaking rather harshly of England just now and is plainly intimating that it cannot afford to meddle in Europe, perhaps Binnell had the "Fuggies" and others in his mind.

It is said Italy is also about "betraying" the allies - it is not going to send a land force to "aid Serbia" and it has not declared war on Germany. There are also apparently some doubts of Spain - Gibraltar is worth having by any country that can take it I suppose.

Some of the truth about the last Zeppelin raid on London is coming to light now. There was an "official" report intended to hush things up. Useless. The bits of

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Oct. 19:- the truth coming out shows that the raid was most effective and caused great destruction and panic.

The trouble of the Govt. in England as of John B.R. in Ireland appears to be to keep the people quiet at any cost. But, the day of reckoning is bound to come!

11 p.m. The figures of Irishmen in the armed forces of England (it is made to appear the British Army only, so I cannot say if the navy is included or not) is as follows: taken from Mr. John B. Redmond's statement at a United Irish League Convention in Dublin yesterday:-

When the war started 22,000 Irishmen "from Ireland" were in the English army. 30,000 reservists were called up when the war began: (that's 52,000 were serving England before the New Garrison's appeals).

81,408 recruits have joined since war broke out (The 22,000, 30,000 and 52,000 appear to be round numbers for) 132,454 men are (according to the official return given Mr. R.) now in the British Army. 79,511 are Catholics; 52,945, Protestant. (This makes a unit of 6 not 4, but I have given the figures from "Irish Independent" report). No account apparently is taken of Irish casualties since the war began: nor desertions (which were big): nor probably of

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Oct. 19:- diminishes no rejoinders. and I am left wondering how many of the 81,408 may be reservists called up since the war began. Is the 30,000 called up when the war began supposed to include all reservists rejoining since or called up since.

And of the 81,408 how many were Protestants; how many Catholics? And John E.R. says, but this is not official, there were at least 80,000 rejected! Oh, John!

The numbers at first astonished me but I see when they are properly analysed they are not so astonishing. and certainly, if John wants to make a good argument from his own standpoint, they can be riddled by the Orangemen. Thus - 53,000 Protestants to 79,000 Catholics though the Catholics are 3 to 1 in Ireland.

For his argument John E. would want 150,000 Catholics, from Ireland, fighting for England.

after all the prostitution of Irish nationalist principles by him, he'll lose in the argument, particularly if a Tory Government comes into power in England. Oh! John, John, Heaven forgive you, for seeing the bodies of Irishmen to uphold the blood-stained British Empire.

O.F. on 20th. On Censorship. Dandan. 7.20 pm. The

above argument has been used already by Orange papers.

Quite naturally so. The Belfast "messenger" was not going

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Oct. 20:- to let the occasion slip. 81,408 recruits: 44,689 are "R.60"; 36,719 Protestants. Catholics form 75% of Ireland's population: Protestants 25%. John was bound to be outdone in that argument. For the purpose of argument he might as well have done the right thing at the beginning.

He has done one safe thing now. He was to speak at a meeting in Tralee next Sunday week. Owing to the "Political crisis" it is announced to-day he will not be in Tralee. What does that mean? Some say fear of opposition in Tralee. Possibly.

The elections for parliament are on in South Africa to-day. A close parallel to Ireland in the parties. according to the Daily Mail there are six - 1. English (Unionist). 2. South Africans (Boer Party) 3. Nationalists (Hertzog the leader) 4. Labour-for war. 5. Socialist (labour against war). 6. A few "Independents". It is expected the Nationalists will win and Botha will be overthrown. The support of the Nats. is in the country districts, Dutch farmers. Hertzog strong on language and other questions. He is the anti-English party. If elected they will probably, surely, release poor De Wet and the others in prison in consequence of the war there. The parallel with Irish

1915.

Oct. 20:- parties is close. We have our Unionists too: fiercely pro-English; Our Botha party in the Redmondites - in fact some of Red's advisers have been comparing him with Botha (this particularly at the close of hostilities); our Labour men who would support England and the Larkinites who would be anti-war; our independents, like O'Brien or perhaps like strong minded Ginnell; and our Nationalist Party - the terrible Sinn Féinists, strong on the language and such like questions. The analogy won't be pleasant for Redmond if the Hertog party win in South Africa, as I hope they will. But it would be paralleled here I believe were there a general election and did the Sinn Féinists stand.

"Italy to the Rescue" - this the "Cork Scamione" because Italy has declared war on Bulgaria, while deciding not to send a military force to Serbia (It hasn't a force to spare I suppose). And the Bulgarians are progressing in Serbia anyhow: they have the railway at one or two points running from Salonika to Nish. Serbia is calling to the allies for help, but it does not appear they can do very much for her. There is much "jawing" among them: crackiness, criticism, faction, dissension. Things are not going well with the great allies.

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O.F. on 22nd Lá: Oia h-Aoine. Dromidagh. 6.50 p.m. The resignations of Carson; the dissensions in the English Cabinet: a political "plot" of Northcliffe to upset the present English Government: Conscription: the absurd censorship: the failure of the diplomacy in the Balkans: the death-trap of Gallipoli: the execution of an English nurse in Belgium, after Courtmartial - these are the prominent matters in the English and pro-English papers. The Bulgarians are progressing in Serbia; English submarines are holding up German shipping in the Baltic Sea (news not official, however); 43 German submarines sunk; England offers Cyprus to Greece (the island being owned by Turkey but "occupied" by the English); first accounts of S. African elections show Botha and Unionists winning:- those are other matters I note.

We have seen nothing about it, but the blockades - England of Germany; Germany of England - must have been "called off". There is no further talk of starving Germany or of the submarine warfare.

O.F. on 25th Lá. Oia Luain. Beannrepaige. 3.10 p.m. a fine dry day with a bracing north east breeze. Had a strenuous day yesterday with the Pionna fail at Beal na Bláze near Crookstown.

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Oct. 25th. - In part of our operations we charged up a hill, through a high furze brake, over rocky, rough, uneven ground. We reached the top all right, though if the work were real, not one of us would. But, 'twas splendid practice. There were O'Glaiz from various centres around and a corps was established in the place - some 50 men joining in the preliminary drill, after short speeches by Tomás Curtis and Terence MacSwiney. As is usual in all such cases, the whole proceedings were watched, on behalf of the Empire, by two policemen.

The Bulgarians have captured Uskub in Serbia - a most important capture. It is reported from Petrograd that an English submarine recently sunk a German cruiser in the Baltic. The factions in England are still fighting. "English war bulletins" are the laughing stock of the nations", the "Daily Mail" declares. Practically, all reliable news of the war is suppressed by the English Censor. Small victories are magnified. Disasters are not allowed to be referred to at all. We know all this well in Ireland, but 'tis entertaining to find it admitted by Englishmen themselves.

By press paragraphs in Ireland or in America

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Oct. 25th. - the villainous felon setting of O'Glaiz goes on. The latest one appeared in "Irish" ^{daily} papers as taken from some obscure American paper seeking to make it appear that the leaders of the O'Glaiz in Ireland are in the secret pay of the German government and that our Irish Nationalist propaganda is a secret German propaganda. If such were the case of course it would be a good reason to do work for the English Government in Ireland to shoot the O'Glaiz leaders while protesting it had every regard for Irish Nationality. The villains are hypocrites!

MacB. was down here with me again to-day to get the O'Glaiz under way here to-night.

D. F. 29th 28th. Dia Mair. Dromediaz. 11 p.m. Our news of the great world at war seems to shrink more and more. Little that is essential appears. Every silly rumour is magnified. Items of Allied successes are repeated day after day as if the repetition could make the small appear great. Thus are we kept in ignorance while some history is in the making in our days.

D. F. 29th 28th. Dapdaoin. Beannraige. 10.55 p.m. Serbia is being crushed, though apparently making a good fight. The Danube is clear to the forces of the Central Empires. The railway line from Belgrade to Constantinople is reported to be even in their hands throughout its whole length. The

Oct. 26:- middle of England is at last being realized by many Englishmen. To withdraw from Gallipoli and the Dardanelles is being seriously taken up now. It is fairly freely acknowledged that the expedition there was a huge blunder. France too has disappointed the Quadruple Entente and there is sufficient said in a veiled way to show that the Entente is not on too solid a foundation. As I suspected, the blockade of England on Germany is not stringent now: there's a quid pro quo I suppose: but the "Daily Mail" is very wroth at the slackening of the English blockade. It ignores the slackening of the other. The English have thrown over the Declaration of London - "scraps of paper" are being flung to the winds these times: they revert to their old piratical rule over ships at sea. But the defences of London against German aircraft are in a very muddled state we learn. "Voluntary Conscription" is in force now. That's my term for it. Employers threaten to dismiss men in their employment unless they join the army. If they join a promise is given to keep their jobs open for them - a promise easy to make indeed. The alternative is also being given practically to Post-Office officials. But of course we call the system "voluntary": Oh! dear yes.

Oct. 28:- The Government has not courage to enforce legal compulsion but it resorts to a mean means. Will England muddle through this War? 'Twas often in a tight corner before and by bluster and cursing came through. I would dearly like to know but can only "wait and see". Anyhow it is not at all shining these times and much, if not most, of that huge fraud, its prestige, is gone.

And what of old Ireland? Reading Lecky on the '98 period has given me much food for thought and I project writing up something comparing that period of our country's history with the present. A most interesting comparison indeed.

The Oglais second annual convention is on next Sunday. I would like very much to be present but have not been chosen a delegate. Alf. Monaghan, another Oglais organizer, has got three months imprisonment for endangering the Realm. The poor Realm! I cannot stand much in Ireland these days.

La Ximna. Oia Maín. Spao Egníder. 5.40 p.m. Got home from Dicheai about three hours ago having been up for Pianna Convention yesterday after all. Return with new energy and spirit from having met so many strong spirits. Friday morning got a card from adjutant Saithi Barry to say I was requested to

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Nov. 1. represent Monaghan Corps at convention. Travelled by 5-10 train from Corcaigh with fellow delegates, nearly all of us in uniform. Left about 11.30, a fiercely wild, wet night. Four or five of us put up at Wynn's Hotel, Abbey St. Long MacSwiney was already there. Up early: mass at Pro-Cathedral: others of our Cork boys came to Wynn's: most of us went to see J. J. Walsh. Then to convention in Abbey Theatre. Irish military came there to see me. A strict scrutiny of delegates' ^{credentials.} ~~credentials.~~ about 150 delegates present I should think: representing only "live" corps of some time standing. Eoin MacNeill presided. Brouching from about 11 to 4 in the evening. A most business-like gathering: so much so almost dull at times. MacNeill read a well-reasoned statement, general in character. aims and objects of Fianna re-affirmed, along with strong attitude previously announced towards Conscription. Most of business details. Cases of victimization for adherence to Fianna ft in various parts of the country mentioned. No definite line of action on that or any other matter struck out. The underlying spirit which came out now and again however - showed great strength. The limit of patience at persecution for Irish nationalist principles may soon be reached. O'Riordan, Hon. Treas. submitted audited financial report.

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Nov. 1. As there were some a/c's. it was desirable not to make public even at Convention, he suggested that Convention select three men to whom he would give particulars. This was accepted and on Sean MacBain's proposition, I was one of the three. O'R. gave us the particulars which showed large sums received for arms and ammunition: how they were dealt with and how disposed of. Particulars were necessarily incomplete, but I have no doubt they were in the main quite correct. Up to a certain date, they were absolutely so, but the "raids" on O'R's sister's house showed that the "authorities" were after the books of a/c. rather even than rifles. Hence, really rules now kept statements were rendered difficult as books may be seized. The accounts showed the absolute falsehood of the "German gold" cry - which as one of course but our enemies profess to believe in - and which of course is utterly malicious. O'R. too had some interesting information regarding probable number of Fianna and arms - through headquarters - throughout the country, which, while not startling, was satisfactory I thought. On behalf of the three scrutineers, I made a short statement to Convention on the lines that we were perfectly satisfied with O'R's accounts put before us. Eoin MacNeill was re-elected President amid acclamation. A motion of a delegate from Scotland to have Ruairi MacLiammion

Nov. 1. I elected Vice-President was allowed aside after the delegate - a typical, stick-at-it type of North of Ireland man - was spoken to by Dr. MacD. The whole Convention I think felt it was unnecessary to elect a Vice-President. The proceedings wound up enthusiastically with singing of national songs. At night we had a Teibide, given by Guman na mian, in Gaelic League hall, Scannóg Páipil. Herbert Pim ("A. Newman") spoke, giving no glimpse of his prison experiences. A pleasant speaker and a most striking individuality - remarkably like Parnell in appearance. Had the "honour" of introduction to him through "Felon" Milroy. Other "felons" at the Convention or Teibide were MacDiarmuid, Blythe, Mellows.

Samuel 2. Dúnmáha. 10.40 p.m. Desmond Fitzgerald - an unpaid organiser of the Oglaz - who was to have been at the Convention was, on Saturday, at Bray, sentenced to six months imprisonment, for a speech delivered at Bray. There were five or six magistrates on the bench, all but one military officers. The one civilian did not agree with the sentence. The portions of the speech read in court were simply clear, definite expressions of Irish nationalist principles, the clearest yet for which any one has been brought up under the D. of the R. acts and they were cheered and applauded in court. Fitzgerald, defending himself,

Nov. 2. - adhered to every word. And rightly so. Every 99 Irishman out of a 100 would endorse them. There was not even the faintest hint of "pro-Germanism" of any kind in them. I seem to have heard of Fitzgerald before - where I know not. I believe he is a Kerryman, of independent means. His picture appears in the papers and shows a literary or artistic face. His wife I was told was at the Teibide on Sunday night.

On Sat. morning, in common with many others, under the new recruiting scheme of which Lord Lieutenant Wimborne is Director, I received a printed circular addressed "Mr. F. Roche" and signed Kitchener and Wimborne, with a form to fill up ~~and~~ to state if I am willing to enlist in the British army for the period of the war - an envelope enclosed for reply. Three circulars have been sent broadcast and have caused commotion and much discussion in country districts. Postal officials, clerks and postmen have received special ones from the Postmaster General, and in this case it is felt that if they do not reply they may be dismissed. From what I hear, however, the despatch of the circulars has been muddled - like the rest of the muddling of the English. One woman got two for two sons who were killed in the war. In another case half a dozen were received in a house where there are two boys. Others, unmarried men of military age, have received none. And so on. The

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Nov. 2:- thing is open to the greatest abuse. There is nothing whatever to prevent a man filling up another's name and address on the form and sending it thus filled to the recruiting central office. The forms are also appearing in the papers. I do not intend to send any reply. But, if any enemy of mine were so evilly disposed he could send me with my name on and what remedy have I? Now Winbourne wants 50,000 Irishmen for slaughter before the end of November and 1100 a week after. I don't think, even with all the eloquence of all the Irish Party and their supporters, he will get that number. Those insulars will give a great filip to the English. Kitchener has also decided to "brand" - with amulets - every man into three or four classes. Those not "branded" will be subject to every division and persecution. It is not stated if this decree will apply to Ireland. If it does, I am certain the "sense" of the Irish Nation will be against it. This and in many other ways is "Voluntary Compulsism" to be worked. The general feeling in England now appears to be that there will be no Conscription. The reason for this is easily seen - there is conscription at present of a kind, without parliamentary sanction or actual procs-gangs. Mr. John Dillon says there will be no Conscription in Ireland - thanks to the Irish Party and that the Irish Volunteers are only as flesh in Kitchener's eyes. A Mrs. Gordon

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Nov. 2:- M. P. says if Conscription is passed the Irish Party will take to the hillsides and fight with bay forks!!! A priest at a N. I. L. meeting at which Joe Devlin M.P. spoke said he would not become a recruiting sergeant for England. A Dr. Kelleher of Maroon deliberately charges the Volunteers and Sean Nolan especially with receiving "German gold" and being Germany's Volunteers! A Capuchin, Fr. Leonard, in Cork, at a retreat for soldiers, states he felt in the presence of a hero when in the presence of a man in khaki! Yet, ever days police court proceedings shows the "heroes" as drunkards, deserters, immoral lives, criminals. The state of Dublin is receiving much attention these times - great complaints being made regarding its immorality at night time due to the soldiery. and the criminal statistics of England as summarised in last Saturday's "Daily Mail" show that most of the habitual criminals there have joined the army; thus there is a decrease in recorded crime. Upsetting times, my friends.

Sáman an Saolta. Dia Ceannoin. Spáid b'fáide - 12.15 p.m.

Prime Minister acquith made a long statement in the English House of Commons last night regarding the war situation. Great things were reported. He told nothing new, but still to my mind, his statement was as clear as one as could be expected. In defence of what had been done by the English - an army of some

Nov. 3:- millions: help from their colonies: the seas commanded by them: safe and sure transport of men, munitions, stores: success in Mesopotamia. These things made a good case certainly, The Dardanelles:- he took full responsibility, with the Cabinet, the chief naval and military men of England and the approval of the French, ^{and even Sir Nicholas} for that disastrous affair. The reasons of the useless sacrifice of life there were partly political he hints: to influence the Balkan States. Failures, disasters, mistakes, bungling, are admitted there. Conscription:- he has no objection on principle to conscription. If there is substantial unity on the question and if the present recruiting effort to the time limit of November 30 fail, he will accept conscription. Finance: in a very bad way; in a most serious state. He endorsed what Lloyd George said some months ago - England's business in the war is as much to supply materials and money as men. Therefore, business must be kept going. Serbia - they would back Serbia to the end. Easily said, seeing poor Serbia, like Belgium, is nearly conquered, having trusted the allies for help which has come too late to it.

Canon followed Asquith and took up an Opposition criticism. Apparently he is drifting to form a real opposition to the Government. That man will yet cause

Nov. 3:- the British Empire. Then Redmond spoke - many truths but many more lies about Ireland. He had strong complaints to make about the War Office not utilizing his Volunteers; about the deliberate suppression in official reports of mention of work of Irish regiments. Both are true of course, but are just what a Irish Nationalist expects of the English - they don't trust us nor like us from Ireland, all "good" to the contrary notwithstanding. Redmond admitted there was a small section in Ireland opposed to recruiting. He put it on the same level as the small section - Socialists, etc. - in England. This I suppose to show there's no Nationalist sentiment or spirit in Ireland.

Sarasin an 4ú. Dáipdaoin. Deanspáise. 11:20 p.m. Things are still not well at the heart of the British Empire. The failures in the war are telling. There is an attempt to push old Asquith out. "Noble" lords are uttering wild words and making dire threats. There is much criticism: captious and otherwise, all betokening grave uneasiness. In France too, there has been a government knocking about recently. And it is pretty well known that there, as in Russia, there have been many changes in military circles. Things are not well with the Entente. And meanwhile poor Serbia is getting wiped out for having depended on the promises of the Entente: particularly, it is said.

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Nov. 4:- for having depended on England. Yet, these very days, according to our very veracious T. news sheets, the Germans are being beaten black and blue. One's mind gets into a whirl over it all. Lord Derby's recruiting scheme and Kitchener's "amateurs" it is said are huge successes in England - so conscription is unlikely. That's the present idea. I doubt very much the schemes will succeed as "the authorities" desire in Ireland. And then what? "New Ireland" has some good notes on this matter of recruiting in Ireland this week, showing statistics of available men of military age here. We can not afford a further depopulation. Everyone who has studied the question of vital statistics in our little island, and the tide of emigration particularly, knows that's the bare, bald truth. Yet, our "leaders" - God forgive them - want more and ever more to go into the English Army, and drain our country of all vigorous manhood. It looks like the Last Conquest in earnest this time. But 'twill not be, I congraine Dè.

Samain an 5ad lá. Dia h-Doinn. Spáid b'páide. 12 noon. General impression still conveyed by morning papers that the Germans are beaten. The Serbians are making a brave fight - though in danger of being surrounded. It is expected the big English trench forces being landed at Salonika will be in time to help them. A Russian landing was reported to have taken

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Nov. 5:- peace at Varna and high hope were built on this. It is announced this morning from Petrograd that no such landing took place! There is a government crisis in Greece again. Hard to say at present what that means. English submarines have been very active recently in the Baltic, many German trading ships being sunk. No news relative now regarding German submarine activity. The English have captured an American ship off the American coast, under its recently re-established "private law" - supposed German shareholders own the ship, though the flag was American and cargo American. The English forces in Mesopotamia captured now Bagdad, which it is reported will be taken. There is to be no general election in this country; so it is announced in the English House of Lords. General feeling around Smith of Ireland is that Wimburn's farms recently sent out will not be filled up. Many are really emigrating for fear of conscription - a most cowardly thing to do.

Samain an 6ad. Dia Sáidhinn. Spáid b'páide 1:5 p.m. Something very much up at the heart of the British Empire - in its most vital point. Strong rumours in London yesterday apparently that Kitchener had resigned! So strong that an official explanation, for the lying Press Bureau, had to be issued, to say he was away from the War Office on "official duties" and Mr. Asquith was doing his work. Fancy old man Asquith, lawyer politician, chief of the war staff of

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N Nov. 6! - the British Empire! But, it comes out anyhow that the rumour of Kitchener resigning is a few days old and that there is a likelihood of his being shifted from his present position. Whether there is a resignation or not is immaterial. The rumour and comments on it show that things are in a bad way, a very bad way, with the English - y "ní léan liom a Boppáiríon". Without knowing the facts, I would venture the opinion that Kitchener's going is connected with Joffre's recent visit to London. The English War Council or inner Cabinet, we were informed, were to act on Joffre's advice then given them. As Joffre's advice was not what they had intended previously, it is natural enough to assume they were to do something which their own military chief had either not thought of or was opposed to. Here perhaps is the secret of the "resignation". Of course the Russians and the French have changed their men again and again too - shot some of their generals, I believe, and imprisoned others. But, the English live so much on prestige that changes with them appear more serious and, as far as the ordinary public are aware, there is no military man in all England capable of taking the Omuduman Butcher's place. To-day's news also gives a small official account of the sinking of an English transport in the Aegean Sea - sunk by shell fire from a submarine - on Sept. 19th. The date shows that this occurred in

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Nov. 6! - the dim and distant future we shall, or our posterity shall, know when, how, and what numbers of English ships have been sunk during this war. However our newspapers and public men may lie to mislead us, however strenuously they work to create false impressions, there is no denying, whatever the outcome of the Great War, that the Germans are excelling in organisation, in thoroughness, in self-sacrifice, in efficiency and that the English are "excelling" in muddle, in stupidity, in blundering, in lying boasts, in hypocrisy. Some of themselves say their Press agencies are now the laughing stock of the world for colossal lies. These things are as plain as day and yet we find some Irishmen clinging on pathetically to that Gigantic Idol of Falsehood, adoring it, worshipping it and advising their countrymen to shed their blood to maintain and uphold it.

Sámain an yáid. Dia Domnag. Spáid Bpíse, 3-10 p.m.

Nish has fallen into the hands of the Bulgarians. This marks for the present the end of Serbia as a sovereign state. Of course the Serbian nation will live: a nation cannot be destroyed. Their present state seems like a judgment on the Serbs for being the immediate cause of the great war. In the south of Serbia the French and English - or their vassal troops - are fighting the

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Nov. 7:- Bulgarians-both sides record victories; & claim them.

The latest about Kitchener is that he has gone to the Balkans. There is still much mystery about his actions. The "Daily Mail" and its brother papers, "The Times", etc. in defiance of the official statement, says he is not to return to the War Office. The official statement says his absence is temporary - then, later, they announce he has gone to the Near East. The thing is very fishy: showing that faction and muddle reign at the centre of English naval and military authority. A London paper, "The Globe," has been suppressed. Defying the censor presumably.

Looking at the map, the fall of Nish shows that it is of the utmost importance to the Central Powers, as the pressmen of the Allies indeed admitted until recently. What hopes there are of the Allies being able to save Serbia and prevent the Bucharest-Bagdad railway line being held by the Central Powers must be very much shaken now.

The fall of Nish makes the way to the East open for Germany-Austria. England will be threatened in Egypt, at the Suez Canal, in Persia - and Russia in the Caucasus. A new complexion will be given to the Gallipoli operations. Greece and Rumania, to save

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Nov. 7:- themselves will either join the Germans, etc. or else remain strictly neutral. All these things are commonplaces now. They have been written up again and again by the pressmen and writers of the Allies, as the inevitable result of the fall of Nish, in the endeavour to hurry the governments of England, France and Russia to aid Serbia. What they feared has happened - Nish has fallen sooner probably than they expected. What's going to be the result? There must be jubilation in Berlin, Vienna, Sofia, and Constantinople. Why, success must be intoxicating them in those places. Is the old British Empire doomed?

Do more lang e jeyime. B'fied, sup zail DE e go foye mid e. Samsan B&D. Dialuain. Beannzpaize. 3.10p.m. The weather, which last week was cold and frosty, for the past two days has been very mild for this time of the year.

The latest official news regarding Kitchener is that he has not resigned Secretaryship of War, but is gone to the "Near East", for some unknown purpose. It is in connection with rumours regarding him that the "Globe" has been suppressed.

Some English papers having been making a "peace" regarding emigration of young men from Ireland and some parts of England for fear of conscription, Mr. John B. Redmond last week wrote to the papers, showing by

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Nov. 8:- giving emigration statistics of last year and this year that the "scare" was based on falsehood. He spoke for "Great Britain" as well as Ireland. Since his letter appeared the "Irish Independent" seems to have taken a malicious pleasure in proving his contention false as regards Ireland. Its correspondents all over the country have been sending it particulars regarding numbers of young men going to America from country districts and it went as far as to give what some young man said - "We will join the Clan na Gael and fight for the Germans." The truth of the "Independent" information was forthcoming on Saturday. Some 650 young Irishmen, who had booked passages to the States were to sail in a Cunard Boat from Liverpool on Saturday. They were only part of a much larger number going by other boats and lines. An English mob gathered round the 650 and hurled insults at them. The crew on board the ship threatened to strike if the Irishmen were allowed go. The Cunard Co. Directors promptly replied refusing to let the Irishmen sail and cancelled the bookings. It is stated the passage money was handed back and the intending emigrants dispersed - many, if not all, returning to Ireland. They were harangued in Liverpool by recruiting sergeants, but, the

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Nov. 8:- papers regretfully state not one of the men would join the English Army. The "Independent" practically hints to the Government to take steps to prevent young Irishmen of military age leaving the country - a new policy for an English Government in Ireland, which has been doing its best to root the Irish race out of Ireland. I haven't much sympathy with young men running away from Ireland at present: they show cowardice to run away and not remain to fight conscription, if it comes but the action of the English mob is equally despicable. Why does the English braves go fight their own battles? John S. R. has once again been proved a liar. There's no hope for him.

I attended a meeting of the Manchester Masters' War Committee yesterday. A miscellaneous gathering. Many usual "old fogies". But, the Nationalist spirit apparent was remarkable. It appears Captain Roberts has been going round to the bands in Cork to get them to assist recruiting. They gave him no definite answer. This representative at yesterday's meeting considered it a slur on them, as a slur to have the rumour round the city that they would go recruiting. One of them said the men of his band had stated they would burn their instruments rather than do England's dirty work! Very remarkable I consider in this New Era, considering how the politicians have fiddled those bands. But Roberts I suppose will bribe them again.

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Nov. 8:- and bribe high. Many of these bands had reservoirs in them when the war broke out and many of these reservoirs - Munster Finches - are probably prisoners of war in Germany. Also, many of these men are casual labourers and the prospect of a big money reward must be tempting. So, the expressions of this representation at yesterday's Committee were all the more remarkable. The Committee decides that no band that went recruiting would be allowed take part in the procession to honour the Fenian dead. "Old fogies" were at the meeting, but "old fogies" with the old Fenian spirit deep down in their hearts. That spirit does get live mind you and 'tis wonderful that it does. Further, in this very town of Bantony, there is money in a bank which belonged to the Fenian organisation and the Volunteers men here are, I believe, to get it now as carrying on the Fenian work. Can anything be more striking than that - to think that after all those years, the funds collected by the Fenians should be there yet to be given to the young men of a new generation to purchase arms in defence of Ireland's rights and liberties. A great instance of the continuity of the Nationalist spirit in Ireland.

The Bulgarians and Germans, coming from south east and north west have joined forces in Serbia, north of Nish. There

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Nov. 8:- was those day's fighting around Nish, which was entered by the Bulgars on Friday. Not much booty, nor many prisoners were taken there: preparations for the fall having been made apparently. But at another town, which the Germans took, it is stated 300 guns were captured. The Austrians have broken through the main lines of the Montenegrins on the western frontier of Serbia. The main resistance of the Serbians must by now be broken. The country is, technically, conquered. If the Serbian leaders do not capitulate - to save this country - there may yet be mountain fighting. On the south of course the French-English forces will try to push north against the Bulgarians, but there seems little hope of their saving Serbia now.

German submarines are busy in the Mediterranean.

The United States has sent a very strong Note to England on its piracy on the seas. It complains of interference with American ships and cargoes destined for neutral ports in good faith.

The English have captured American ships on the nearest suspicion. The States cannot submit to such manifest injustice or permit the rights of its citizens to be so seriously impaired by England. It denounces as illegal and unjustifiable any attempt to interfere with its rights at sea. The British "blockade" (of Germany) is, according to the Note,

Nov. 8:- ineffective, illegal, and indefensible; while the English Prize Courts are impeached in their practices. The failure of the British to note increased prices in estimating exports from the State is commented on. (I have noticed this already I think in the "rowing" of certain papers over the enormous increase - apparently in prices, not quantities, in English imports. ~~Quantities, not prices, are taken as basis~~ of comparison with other years - an entirely false tool). The English have broken their own agreements regarding search in port. "Unwarlike and inquisitorial" is a phrase used. "America" can no longer permit the validity of the alleged blockade to remain unchallenged. "In law, in practice, or in effect" the British "blockade" cannot stand a test. It is "ineffective, illegal, and indefensible". "Jurisdiction is asserted in violation of the law of nations." And much more strong language. All of which is quite true, but what is the U.S. going to do to enforce the law and the right? Who will punish the English pirates?

Samuel on 9th. Old Man. Oponoskraz. 11 p.m. In his public utterance is Mr. John B. Redmond at all capable of speaking truth? I ask this, because in a statement of his in to-day's papers, speaking of the migration caused by fear of conscription, which migration he the other day denied was taking place at all, he says "it is a

Nov. 9:- purely West of Ireland affair". The 50 or 60 young men who fled from Banting district and were expected back there yesterday prove the falsehood of that statement. I have no sympathy with their going, but Mr. B. might at least speak truth regarding them. Samuel on 10th 10.10.15. The Curzon: Spangbidge 11.30 am.

I have much to note but little time to note it. Regarding emigrants, the Government are making, or have made arrangements to issue passports. But the Cunard Co., and other English steamship companies have gone one better - they will refuse to book men of military age for America. The Cunard Co. was built up on Irish emigration from the days of "Black '47", but it has been met with contemptuous regarding Irish interests. Of course Mr. John B. R. will approve of its action.

"Sinn Féiners Raid for arms" - The "Independent" on Monday had a small paragraph dealing with the action of some unknown men in a motor car who called to a house in G. Dublin, where rifles belonging to the National Volunteers were supposed to be stored. The rifles were not there and the men drove away. Yesterday, and this morning in country editions, obviously inspired parts with big headings as above, have appeared in the "Constitution".

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Nov. 10:-"Echo", "Examiner", and no doubt in other papers, the wording is exactly the same in all of these, showing they were all sent out from the same source. "Criminals" and such like terms are used. It is a plain, patent attempt to slander the O'Glois as plain as to be ludicrous.

There was a great debate in the English Lords on Monday. No Sir Finian in Ireland could say half as much against the English Government and the English naval and military authorities as was said by "my Lords" Horebarn, Courtney, etc. and remain at liberty. It was rank "sedition" and "pro-Germanism" as known in Ireland. The Government was charged with incompetence, muddling, suppression and "cooking" of news, with bad faith, with diplomatic failures, with hypocrisy. It was openly suggested that peace ought to be made and that the English should withdraw from Gallipoli. The German and Allied armies on the west front were pronounced "unconquered and unconquerable": the German fleet was intact: there was an air of defeat about the discussion, a fear of worse disasters than any hitherto suffered. A remarkable debate, proving once more many contentions of Irish Nationalists regarding

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Nov. 10:-England, but for which Irish Nationalists are liable to prosecution under the R. of the R. acts. The Lords, being English, are quite safe, however.

Attended the funeral of poor Pat Ahern, Secretary of the Cork Corps, yesterday. A frail body was his but a strong spirit. God give him rest.

Recruits are trooping in to the Cork corps of the O'Glois. Over a hundred have joined within the past few weeks. The English, however, are getting recruits also. Some 60 of them paraded the streets here yesterday. Poor fools!

There was a remarkable article recently in an English weekly called "Ideas" about Germany's intentions regarding Ireland.

The article was a better written one than many of those that have appeared and bore the stamp of having been written by a man who knew some of the facts. He declared that in the mind of the German Government the Freedom of the Seas for which they are fighting is bound up with the freedom of Ireland. This, I believe, was Roger Casement's contention for years. The Germans, so the writer stated, would wish to see a Republic set up in Ireland. There were intentions of aiding Irishmen to establish a republic, but they had to be given over for a time. But, he

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Nov. 10:- says, "the Tenton" ^{don't} not easily diverted from his purpose and there is need for England to be careful. Samson an ^{old} Disardain. Beannapraige. 4.25 p.m. Hurrah! for Edward Thomas O'Dwyer, Bishop of Limerick! Ois D's Beannsicá. He has a letter, published in to-day's "Examiner" of all places, in connection with the insults of the Liverpool mob towards the foolish intending Irish emigrants. 'Tis a letter! The clearest, plainest, truest statement of an Irish Nationalist's feelings yet published from any Irish ecclesiastic. He defends the ^{would-be} poor emigrants on account of their ignorance. He slashes the "Party" because they joined the English mob in decrying those foolish men down. He says that emigrants naturally do not want to fight England's war. The present war is not Ireland's, but England's. And what has England done that Irishmen should fight for her. He speaks of J.P.O. Connor's "New Brigade", of the English slavers; of "the simulacrum of Home Rule." all splendid, strong and true. No Sinn Féinist could have put it better. For saying far less Irish laymen have been imprisoned or ordered out of Ireland, and have suffered every insult from the New Garrison crowd. God bless you, Bishop of Limerick.

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Nov. 11:- 10.50 p.m. It has been a day of continuous heavy rain. I have just come in here, having gone to the Town Hall after my class, to a meeting of the re-organized Fianna Fáil of the town. The number present was not very large, but material good. Meeting was over when I arrived. I only called casually as I knew Thomas MacSwiney and Peadar Hannracháin were present. I addressed the first meeting of Óglais here. They were getting along pretty well, I believe, till the Redmondite rumpus came. This was a strong all for Ireland centre: when John B.R. got control - apparently of the Óglais, the boys here fell away. There is a good Irish district around and this ought to be a very good centre.

German submarines are very active in the Mediterranean. A big Italian liner has been ^{there} sunk by a submarine ~~there~~ flying the Austrian flag. Several transports too have been sunk or shelled and a British small cruiser has run ashore. Disaster after disaster seems to dog the English these times. accidents, collisions, shipwrecks are taking toll of their ships. Nothing they do seems to thrive with them. They and their allies are now bribing Greece with loans, to get its keep in the war in the Balkans. But three-fourths at least of Serbia are in German-Austrian-Bulgarian hands. The road of iron to Constantinople ^{from Berlin} is open. There are rumours of peace on all sides.

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Nov. 11:- America is going to ignore the English "blockade" of Germany in the future. Premier Asquith wants a ^{further} ~~another~~ four hundred million pounds vote of credit from the English Commons to carry on the war till February, bringing the total sums advanced up to £1,662,000,000. The vote was to have been moved yesterday in the English Commons, but even that was bungled. An error occurred, so that Asquith had to move his vote of credit to-day instead of yesterday.

Lord Lieutenant Wimbourne's second appeal is now being sent out. I did not get this second one yet. Some of the very worst bungling is done in connection with these appeals. The blind, the lame, the halt, the aged are getting them: very young children are receiving envelopes addressed to themselves: priests and Christian brothers: letters are coming to parents for sons dead in France; to wives for husbands dead for years; to mothers for sons long since left the country. And a man wrote to the "Independent" saying his wife got two appeals to her to enlist, the envelope addressed to Mr. Kathleen —! All of which shows that business methods are not the strong point of the Central Recruiting Bureau for Ireland. The opposition to recruiting for the English Army is rising high in Ireland. There are accounts now of active opposition of crowds

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Nov. 11:- Here and there, one in Cappaz Macaigue Ruir the other night, another in Sullin. The priests too I believe are now somewhat stronger against this traffic in Irishmen's bodies and souls; perhaps due to the appalling immorality which is well-known but little spoken of, whenever there are garrisons of English soldiers.

Yes the tide of Irish nationalist feeling, the old unchanging feeling, is rising high. It may not express itself often in positive action but it is there strong and defiant. The Irish nation is often very weak in positive action for its own welfare: it is very strong in resistance to being taken from its old principles.

Saman an Baid:- Dia Saorain. Spaid Bpide 12 noon. With all my fine brave talk at times there's a cowardly, nervous streak in my nature! That must be overcome. Last evening one of the fiercest storms for many years swept over the country. I was to go by the 4.15 p.m. train to Drimoleague. Well prepared for the weather I started out. 'Twas blowing a hurricane from the north-east, with a downpour of wet snow. I had thoughts of remaining at home. Had I done so it would have been all right and I would have congratulated myself as being a wise man, for 'twas certain I would have no class in Drimoleague. But, I went in the train. All well and good — if fairly bold ^{and wet} to Bandon. Beyond Bandon, branches of trees began striking the train. Ratty goating sounds at times. Then a ratter sound. The train came

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Nov. 13:- to a stop: something had fallen across the track or the engine was not equal to the gale. after a time we moved off again slowly. By the time we reached Ballinacorney station the train was nearly an hour late. I knew I was on a rumper - no-deep as far as going to teach a class was concerned. Hesitated: got out of compartment where I was alone: into another where people were: hesitated again: finally got out and went to the village, setting up at a comfortable hotel, where I was indeed in comfort; but mildly angry with myself, firstly for being a fool to leave Cork at all and secondly for being a creature of impulse and a nervous coward for not sticking the journey to its end though an unnecessary journey to me. Sent a telegram to my little wife from Ballinacorney to say I was safe and sound. The gale was certainly the fiercest I ever experienced, but a brave man would go on, without imagining any discomforts that seemed very likely, such as having to stay in that train all night miles away from anywhere. As a matter of fact, the train was very late in Brimolacorney; and also as a matter of fact, where I expected on the line, a tree did blow down on the engine of a goods train, causing it to remain where it was for some hours. But, I looked to my comfort before my duty - a bad sign! To go to Brim. was my duty: to stay in Ballinacorney my comfort. You're a weakling, Liam de Ruata, and I expect better of you.

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Sampson an. 15.50. Dia luam. Deannraige. 3.30 p.m. All accounts of the great storm put it down as being exceptional, with a record of many accidents, falling trees, train stoppages, floods, wrecks, though not as great in magnitude as might have been supposed. Later day was calm, though soft: yesterday and to-day frosty, sharp, cold.

I hear the Bishop of Kimerick's letter has had a very good effect around the country. People generally are very pleased that one man in authority at least has spoken out, voicing very general feelings. The mob that hustles and sneers and spat at the poor foolish emigrants at Liverpool was chiefly composed of men of military age. Comment on the "Irish" Party's silence is strong.

The factions still pull and haul in England. Churchill has gone out of the cabinet. A "war committee" or Council of five politicians has been formed. Kitchener is supposed to be going to interview the King of Greece. Mr. To threaten would be more correct apparently, for the threats are being made. If Greece, a "small nationality", in the exercise of her rights as a sovereign independent state, takes Germany's side, or even remains neutral much longer, if in fact, she does not join "us", well then, she had better look out. "We"ll squelch her. "The Cork Examiner" would clear her ships from the Mediterranean! And the English fleet will bombard her coasts. Meantime, however, the toll of.

Nov. 15! - 'allie' ships to German submarines in that sea is growing. So Greece seems in a tight corner - between the two groups of fighting powers.

A clear declaration of Lord Derby, for the English official Press Bureau, explaining a recent statement of Asquith's newspaper, Thursday or Friday, to the effect that conscription of unmarried men is certainly to be enforced after November 30, unless there is an extraordinary rush of recruits during the next fortnight. Everyone now seems to think conscription certain, though the English papers still state the rush of recruits is exceedingly large. There is some doubt about the situation in Ireland - some thinking it will not be applied here. What grounds there are for so thinking I cannot see, unless it is assumed the English Government does not wish for trouble here. I am not so sure myself - they are any way afraid of trouble here. It may suit their book. But certainly I think they may try to disarm Ireland first and no whisper of disarming has yet come. But some kind of trouble is ahead anyhow - due to heavy burdens of taxation and deception on Home Rule business. I have no reason to think, even if a disarming order came or conscription itself came, that any group of men in Ireland have any definite plans of how to meet them, beyond the

Nov. 15! - one of every man or small group of men doing the best for himself or themselves in resistance. We seem to lack constructive genius in this nation: we are splendid in resistance. A strong England, though it cannot crush out the spirit of Irish nationality, can despise us. The only hope for Irish freedom seems in a weakened England.

Saturday, 11.6.15. Dis Muzp. Spaid b'p'de 11.30 a.m. Fine, hard, frosty weather has set in again. Last night at Bantoy was a glorious moonlit night. As I went to sleep I saw a picture of the moonbeams gleaming on the waters of Bantoy Bay before my eyes and I thanked God for beauty and the appreciation of beauty which is in the human soul.

Interesting things in this morning's "Examiner" - my sole source of information so far. Of actual war news there is little - the Germans are clearing Serbia: contradictory accounts of the fighting between Bulgarians and French-English-Serbians in the south of the country. The Germans appear to be pulling back from around Riga.

But, debates in the English Commons yesterday contain much of interest. There is Winston Churchill's speech on his retirement from the English Cabinet. Churchill can speak well indeed and plainly bold - though not always too truthfully. His statement yesterday is, however, the first authentic account from a

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Nov. 16: man in a position to know, of certain war operations and aspects and is remarkably clear. He was on his defence - as he has been fiercely assailed - so he told things as quith wished hushed up. The expedition to Antwerp - that was one thing explained. The naval defeats - not explained but he showed how the whole inner government authorities were responsible. His differences with Lord Fisher, Kitchener, etc. he also partly explains. The Dardanelles - there he entered into the matter pretty fully, showing the idea was big - to take Constantinople -; showing the possibilities of success, by surprise; delays in sending soldiers (Lord K. responsible); conclusively proving as I think that the Turks and the Germans have fairly and squarely won there. Disconcerting to the English to find, he states, that a country like Bulgaria, and probably Greece, looking at the war situation impartially, have come to the conclusion that England's enemies will win the Great War. He holds out no hope of victories but thinks the war will be won by the Allies without their winning in military actions! How? By England conserving her soldiers: apparently not sending them in any large numbers to be killed. The French and Russians can go and get killed but "we are the reserve forces of the Allies". So says Churchill. A nice doctrine for the French and Russians.

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1914.

Nov. 16: Germany cannot stand the strain in men - so he thinks. When the Germans, French, Russians have slaughtered each other by millions, when they have all depleted forces; then the valiant English, carefully kept behind, can come up and finish the war. That's the inevitable logic of Churchill's speech and tallies remarkably with a speech of Lloyd George's I noted some time ago. This idea explains why the "subject races" of England - Irish and Indians, Thushas, etc. - are thrown into the firing line so lavishly. It is very clever - as long as England can get the dupes to do her work - and it is good policy, for England, of its morality the less said the better, lest one take fire.

Then there was the debate on the four hundred million vote of credit. Strong talk of peace terms: pessimism regarding result of war: an "noble nationalist" humbug J. P. O'Connor answering some English members that Ireland would not agree to peace till Germany be crushed! "It is difficult to keep one's patience and temper at this kind of thing. Sir Edward Carson outed very plainly on some things - contradicted flatly a recent statement of that murderer - Foreign Secretary Sir Ed. Grey regarding help for Serbia. Carson says he left the Cabinet because, in opposition to its own plighted words of promise, the Cabinet had decided when he left not to send aid to Serbia. It had changed its mind since under pressure from France. Good Sir Edward! That's the whole record of England, to break pledges. There's a stone in Lincoln's

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Nov. 16:- recording such, just one of many. They broke their pledge to herbia though the existence of this Empire may have depended on keeping it. And poor Redmond and some of his followers believe they will keep it to unimportant Ireland!

"Poor" Redmond indeed - There's a letter from John Dillon regarding the recent emigration rush and conscription. After his lordship of Limerick's castigation John picks up a little courage to show some small indignation at the treatment meted out to the poor emigrants. But 'tis all the fault of the wiches "factionists"! If the country had only taken the advice of the I. P. P. there would be no rush, and so on with some drivel. But, here's the point - Dillon writes as if he, not Redmond, were leader of the I. P. P. and there are many rumours that things are tending that way. Redmond is to be overthrown: Dillon to take his place. The sooner 'tis done the better. Redmond by holding his tongue, and lying glibly when occasion arose, could keep some hold on his followers. Dillon can't hold his tongue and is not a man to hold a following either. So the renegade party may split up sooner than anyone thinks - the inevitable result of having departed from Irish Nationalist principles.

Samsday, 20.11.15. Oia Coudaom. Spaid Bridge. 11.30 a.m. Again the weather has changed. After a night of frost, the sky is now dark and overcast: that kind of darkness and half light accompanying

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Nov. 17:- easterly wind which looks like a portent of terrors. One can easily imagine wonderful, mysterious, terrible things to come at such times, in such a state of atmosphere and half light.

Now, with a Great War going on, such conditions no doubt produce disturbances in people's minds. And apropos of that, is it not curious that these are waves of thought - pleasant or distressing - which seem to break in many minds at the same time. As a simple instance - I was awakened some time this morning while it was yet dark by the noise of something falling as I imagined. My sleep was somewhat disturbed then for a time. Mentioning this to two friends since they declared their sleep last night was also rather disturbed. What is the secret of such occurrences? Of course, the war conditions under which we live produce many like disturbances in minds. But, apart altogether from war conditions, many minds seem developing similar thoughts at the same time. In big things, such as say, a wave of patriotic enthusiasm, the thing is very apparent. But, what I consider curious, is that in petty things, similarities in mind condition also occur. (As I write the sun has come out).

No big war news to-day. The allies are threatening Greece with dire penalties if it does not join them. That "small rationality" is in grave danger of destruction from the "champions".

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Nov. 17: easterly wind which looks like a portent of terrors. One can easily imagine wonderful, mysterious, terrible things to come at such times, in such a state of atmosphere and half-light.

Now, with a Great War going on, such conditions no doubt produce disturbances in people's minds. And apropos of that, is it not curious that there are waves of thought - pleasant or distressing - which seem to break in many minds at the same time. As a simple instance - I was awakened some time this morning while it was yet dark by the noise of something falling as I imagined. My sleep was somewhat disturbed then for a time. Mentioning this to two friends since they declared their sleep last night was also rather disturbed. What is the secret of such occurrences? Of course, the war conditions under which we live produce many like disturbances in minds. But apart altogether from war conditions, many minds seem developing similar thoughts at the same time. In big things, such as say, a wave of patriotic enthusiasm, the thing is very apparent. But, what I consider curious, is that in petty things, similarities in mind condition also occur. (As I write the sun has come out).

No big war news to-day. The Ullies are threatening Greece with dire penalties if it does not join them. That "small rationality" is in grave danger of destruction from the "champions".

191.

1915.

Nov. 14:- Questioned about conscription in the English *boomans*, Prime Minister Asquith hedged, referring to his previous declaration on the subject. It cannot be carried without consent of Parliament he says. Debates in the English Lords bring to light a nice state of affairs at the British Army Headquarters in France—"ladies" visiting Headquarters; gambling all night, and other such like "attractions". Quite "religious and civilized" of course!

A Bill to "regularise" Volunteers has passed the English Lords. It was to apply only to England and Wales at first proposed, but by amendments inserted, it now applies to the "British Islands". Baron's title may be expected to "regularise" themselves, become part of the armed forces of the English. Will the Red Vols.? If they do, it will perhaps make it easier for the Government to proclaim the *Ugals* "illegal" and take action accordingly.

The present strength of the Royal Irish Constabulary is 190 Inspectors and 9,865, Head and other constables: of the Dublin police 1,158—Total 11,213. 579 of all ranks in both forces have joined the army. "It is not desirable to reduce these forces as they are engaged in military work in Ireland."

5 Samian An 1840. Diapason:- Vannapuzze. 4.15 pm. Poor Greece!

The threats from the "Champions of small nationalities" are growing more ominous. Demobilisation of the Grecian army is now demanded.

1915.

198.

Nov. 18. That, or—the small nation will get a whipping. Such are the ways of "Champions", particularly when they are being beaten by their "match". The Bulgarians are winning in southern Serbia, threatening *Novatis*, in Macedonia: if it is not already taken by them. The French English forces are slow. Serbia is conquered. So is history making these days.

A Fr. Power, Cork College, lecturing at the Catholic Young Men's Society on Irish ballads, speaking of Davis's "Fortenay", pointed out the choice offered to Banfield's men after, *himrich*—enlistment in the English army or emigration. They choose emigration. His remarks were greeted by applause. He further pointed out that the Irish Brigade fought for France against England. His lecture is reported—just a little of it—in the "Cork Examiner." It seems to have been very good. The old spirit is very much alive in Ireland yet, thank God.

Samian an 1940. Dia 11-dome. Dronaahaz. 10.5 p.m.

The Volunteer Bill has only passed the Lords. It must come back to the Commons again, where there may be a debate on it. It was stated by the *Serv. Apophemian* in the Lords that it was not intended to bring in the White or Red Vols. in Ireland, only the Old Fugies Vols.—Irish Vol. Training Corps or something like that they call themselves. They are

1915.

Nov. 19:- quite insignificant, composed chiefly of old men. But Mr. J.E.R. wants his Vote, recognised by the English Govt. so when the Bill comes to the Commons he, or some of his men, may have something to say on it.

General Munro, sent to the Dardanelles to report, has recommended that the English force be withdrawn from Sullipoli. The War Cabinet did not wish to act on his report, so Kitchener, among other things (bullying Greece for instance) is to report also about withdrawal.

These things have come out in debates in the House. This evident, I think, that the losses in ships in the Dardanelles must have been far greater than what we know of.

What we know of would hardly justify talk of withdrawal either of ^{army} ~~men~~ or navy. 'Tis likely the army may be withdrawn but not the navy the ships may be kept at bombardment for some time.

Greek ships in English ports have been seized, stopped, or "detained" - a union action seeing England is not nominally at war with Greece. Rather like robbery on the high seas. But, Greece is to be, is being threatened with division pains and penalties, unless she takes "Our" side. Regularly or illegally "we" must force her against Germany-Austria-Bulgaria-Turkey.

The "Evening Echo" records that a man ^{in the town} named Charles Macdonald was arrested at Malton to-day under the D. of the R. Act. Charge not stated, but he is an Irish-American it appears; three weeks in prison.

1915.

Nov. 19: An English illustrated paper calls Bishop O'Driscoll a liar and a traitor, on account of his recent letter. An Irish Cross Solicitor, bearing a Catholic name, follows suit, without naming him. The American Corporation has denounced the

Summit on 22nd:- Dialnam, Beannapaise. 3.20 p.m. Saturday was Language Flag Day in Cork, so I was busy all day in the routine work of the day. It exceeded all my expectations. Over ten thousand of the little flags were sold. Yesterday, the day was continued on a smaller scale. Altogether we have realised some £55 I think. The money is primarily intended for the Corpus Bonois of the Gaelic League. As has now been noticed by many others there is a revival in the language movement and this accounts somewhat for the success of these "Flag Days".

Yesterday was Martyrs' Day in Dublin. It appears to have been a big success. Next Sunday it will be celebrated in Cork. There is promise of a large number of Gionna Paul. My own estimate is that they should a thousand of them marching. That will be an eye-opener for some people.

What's coming over the "Cork Examiner": 'Tis allowing a correspondence debate in its columns over recruiting and the Bishop of Limerick's letter. One letter to-day is what is usually considered "strong"; that is, 'tis

1915.

The "Champions of small nationalities" have declared "an economic and commercial blockade" of Greece. No, there is no declaration of war, but Greece must join "us". Greece has a large coast line, you see and is thus very vulnerable from the sea. "We" can starve it out. Oh! dear no, "we" are not as the "Huns";

It is stated that Greece believes Germany has won the war already. In its endeavour to protect itself it does not wish to take the beaten side and get punished for its pains. But, the champions, though they cannot beat Germany, can injure the little nation. Hence, their threats, blockade, etc. What noble champions!

I see the English stopped a Dutch ship that has gold on board and threatened its captain - or owner - with pains and penalties on the plea that some of the gold may get to Germany. Valiant English! They show Red Cross flags on their transports in the Mediterranean, so that of course if the Germany submarines attack them, this pseudo agency can shout piously "Humanitarianism". The hypocrites!

202.

Saiman an 24. Da Cendroin, Groiceo nabandan. 11.15pm

The war news of those days centres round Greece. Which side is that country to take? Or, is it to remain neutral? 'Tis admitted its government and people wish to remain neutral. But the Allies won't let it. It ~~must~~ ^{must} take their side. They have violated its neutrality; therefore it ^{must} come with them. The English now officially declare they have not blockaded its coasts nor stopped its ships. It is all somewhat puzzling to us and there are so many reports and counter reports: so much writing and counter writing that no one seems to know how the matter really stands. It is admitted also that Greece believes Germany has already won the war, but the Allies need its help to escape disaster, so matters what the Greeks themselves think, it ~~must not~~ ^{must} be allowed act on its own inclinations. "Between the devil and the deep sea" - that phrase is now attributed to King Constantine of Greece as summing up the situation of his country, and thus the matter is supposed to stand at present.

Interesting correspondence is still going on in the "Cork
Examiner," on conscription, recruiting, ~~status~~ ^{status} of the Irish
Party and so on. A Mr. John O'Mahony, M.P. - ^{one time} a strong
Redmondite - has a straight letter to-day, criticizing Devlin.

1915.

201.

Nov. 22 - a good nationalist letter replying to the "Daily Sketch" attack upon his Lordship of Limerick. The only conclusion to come to about the "Grecians" is that it feels how the cat jumps and acts accordingly. Its policy is of course purely commercial. It takes whatever side pays best for the time being - or takes as many sides as it can at the one time.

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1915.

202.

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Interesting correspondence is still going on in the "Cork Grecian," on conscription, recruiting, attitude of the Irish Party and so on. A Mr. John Mahony, M.P. ^{one time} - a strong Redmondite - has a straight letter to-day, containing Dublin

203.

1915.

Nov. 24. Nelson, Redmond, and the Party are recruiting and Conscription. The "Examiner" is forced to append a short note of defence of the to this letter. Another writer talks of Christian forgiveness & desires to point a moral of why Irishmen should forgive and forget England's wrongdoing. He ought preach to Englishmen to forgive Germany! Another W. of the R. case - in Ireland this time. A 3 months sentence on very flimsy evidence - a soldier home from the Flannery battlefields witness for defence and a good one too. His evidence not believed apparently against the evidence of a band master of a military band. Heckling and interruptions at recruiting meetings are becoming frequent now. Byrne, recently elected M.P. in Dublin, asked a question in Parliament about Conscription ~~and~~ how many men obtained "voluntarily" were expected so that conscription would not be necessary and did the Premier know that conscription would be resisted by armed or drilled forces in Ireland. Acquittal of course would not answer the first part and "deprecates the threat contained in the last part" of the question (Hear, hear). A Mr. Ronald MacNeill (an Orangeman) asked if the Volunteer Bill was to apply to Ireland. Acquittal now proposed to answer that now. Would answer if question is asked again. Public boards around Ireland getting to speak out on recruiting question. No more men can be spared from Ireland

204.

1915.

Saturday an 25th 1915. Droghda. Bessborough 3 p.m. This is a glorious day, after a night of frost: one of those invigorating, bracing days that one feels glad to be alive: clear air, so that everything shows distinctly: calm sea: sunlight glistering on the water: ^{near} mountains standing out boldly: distant ones in a bluish haze. It is so tempting outside aside that it calls me forth.

11 p.m. I went forth with the intention of mounting a hill overlooking the bay, but meeting the Secretary of the local Technical Committee, spent as much time talking about various matters that I had no time to carry out my intention. The night is glorious as the day, but cold.

Serbia is in the last throes of conquest between the Germans, Austrians and Bulgarians. The allies from Salonika so far do not appear to be doing much. Greece has been presented with a "Note", of which it is said the reception was favorable as it was milder than Greece expected. It appears it only wants the Greek Government ask to intern the Serbian soldiers that may cross the border and not to harass the allies.

Is it worth noting that Mr. John B. Redmond, like many others, has been "at the front" in France and has come back? His visit was well written up and advertised. Particular stress laid on the fact that Mr. Redmond worked with other

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Nov. 25: Irishmen! Did he expect to find them eating each other? Is it a marvel now, seeing they have been fighting together for England since the days of Napoleon? Of course we can see the moral - no, we never mention this, certainly not. 'Tis this - if only all Ireland can be got to love dear old England, to be loyal; to fight John Bull's battles; to become Imperialists we shall have peace, perfect peace, and "unity" in silly Ireland! A marvellous new discovery. What fools our forefathers were in the "spacious days of Bess" not to have thought of this. Had those mistaken men only foreseen this religious and national, we should all be happy English children now - a united nation. What a pity John B. was not living then to counsel those little O'Neills and O'Donnells that Spain was the enemy, not dear old England, who let us have a "parliament of our own" in those days. Or, what a pity John B. was not there to advise us that Cromwell was only building up "our" Empire when he massacred some foolish people at Drogheda. He, representing the English democracy of those times was surely our friend. Alas! we were sadly disappointed then, when, had we only turned our heads, we could have become a great nation of free people. Or, in '98 what a pity John B.

1915

206.

Nov. 25 - was not living to recruit against the "boerian monsters" and denounce Wolfe Tone and other foolish men. We had "our old parliament in College Green" - old and rotten - at that time, and had we all been true Imperialists we would never have rebelled against dear old England. Ah! John, John, you're a great man for England. But seven hundred years of Irish history cannot easily be wiped out. And judged by the records of the past of Ireland do you know what you look very, much like? A traitor, a Diarmuid MacMurrough, a Castlebragh, a Judas. Out with you, John. Your doom is sealed in Ireland. We are not all apostates yet.

Saturday an 26th - Dia h-Aoine. Dománach. 6.30 pm. It is announced to-day definitely that Greece has accepted the allies' demands, but 'tis not going to take part in the war.

Mr. Henry Ford, head of the Ford Motor Co., an Irish-American millionaire - he hails from Kilbriann district, I believe - is organising a "peace delegation" from America to come to Europe and has chartered a ship for the purpose. The English and pro-English are using every term of contempt and ridicule towards him because of this and other

205

1915

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1915

206

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Nov. 26: things. The other things include a statement attributed to him that he would "tie a tin can to the tail of the Anglo-French Financial Commission (which went to the States) and chase it back to Europe!" This has caused the ire of the "Daily Mail" and other English newspapers and they are organizing a boycott of Ford's Motor cars. 'Tis the Germans want peace, they declare - and Ford is a pro-German. There is a Papal Conistory in Rome. Cardinal Hartmann, of Cologne, has arrived in Rome for it. He has a letter from the Kaiser to the Pope, it is said. Cardinal Mercier of Belgium is, or was to be, there also, in company with Card. Hartmann. There are various rumors of peace in their regard also - so, soon we shall see again that the Pope himself is pro-German, because he desires peace in the world. It is stated Germany has offered peace terms, "impudent terms," as one pro-English put it, to Serbia, which were rejected. Of course say one English and pro-English. Oh! the wicked "Huns," to think of offering peace terms to anyone; to Serbia particularly. That "We" have left to its fate and that is practically, wipes out. The Pope may desire peace: every true Christian heart may seek for peace, but no - John Redmond has said it: the pro-English forces of Ireland has said it - there must be no peace with the "wicked Huns" that dared to fight "our" Empire, and knows

Nov. 26: - freedom of the seas!

A new order by General Friend appears to-day. In his ardent desire, by order I suppose of the "friendly government" of England, to safeguard the rights and liberties of this small nationality of Ireland, he prohibits the importation into Ireland of all kinds of arms and ammunition, except without special permit from himself and except some sporting guns. The arms prohibition enacted a week or so after the Irish Volunteers were started was of course the law of the land: the D. of the R. Acts were also the law of the land; but they were being defied, pretty openly; so openly that a question was asked recently in the English Commons regarding a consignment of arms sent to Dublin addressed to some M.P. or other; hence friends wrote, I suppose further, just to intimate to us, that "vigorous measures" are in contemplation. 'Tisn't good for Ireland in Ireland to have arms and ammunition. They are welcome to them in Gallipoli or Flanders; but in Ireland - oh! no.

Saniam an Aqola. Talnam, Beaunepaise. 7.20 p.m. How can I write of yesterday's celebration of the Manchester Martyrs Anniversary in Cork and do anything like adequate justice to it? Had I time I could devote pages of this journal to it. 'Twas stupendous: 'twas astounding; 'twas marvellous! We all knew 'twould be good in the number of Fianna Fáil there: we had expectations of big things. But, not the

209.

1915.

Nov. 29. - not sanguine of us would have dreamt in his wildest dreams that 'twould be anything like what it was, as a procession, demonstration and gathering. Its very overwhelming success seems to some of us a danger! A danger in that it may attract the dishonest, the insincere, the notoriety-hunters to our standard. I am endeavouring to write a report of it for "Nationality" or the "Irish Volunteer" - if they be alive by next week, as the police are again making enquiries of newspapers regarding this circulation - but words seem really inadequate to convey the full impression of what all that demonstration meant. Remember "the one bright spot" speech. Remember all, but one, of Ireland's parliamentary representatives have pledged belief to the British Empire. Remember the Defence of the Realm acts. Remember the bribery and intimidation. Remember the ubiquitous police, spies, soldiers. Remember the whole daily press of Ireland is pro "English". Remember the miles of speeches that have been made, the appeals, exhortations, threats, rhetoric. Remember every dead wall of the country is covered with placards calling on Irishmen to identify Ireland with England, giving quotations from Cardinal Ruge, John Redmond, Joe Devlin and many others. Remember the lies, the slanders, the sneers, the ridicule, the opprobrious terms, the vile names, the base, low insinuations that have been made against "Sinn Féin".

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1915.

Nov. 29. Remembering all those things, nothing that I can possibly write can be exaggerative of yesterday's proceedings in Rebel Cork. Rebel Cork - ay, truly Rebel Cork was more. I could not have written of it while it was taking place. It really grew and grew and grew on my mind; the impressions higher and higher till now I am able to contemplate it in better perspective and know and feel more truly what it all was and what it all means. (11 p.m.). I have seen large demonstrations in Cork. None to equal yesterday's in numbers, with perhaps the welcome to O'Donovan Rossa in 1903. In ordinary times these demonstrations are not of huge significance. But the present are not ordinary times. They are very extraordinary. To be an Irish Nationalist of the old tradition to day, is to be guilty of an offence against "the Realm". Yet tens of thousands in the streets of Cork yesterday openly declared themselves "Realm" indifferents.

But, to the narrative. Cork Battalion, O'Leary, paraded at 8.30. About 150. To 9 o'clock Mass, Cathedral. Beguine Mass for Allen, Larkin and O'Brien. Most of the boys received Holy Communion - an edifying sight, which about really called down Heaven's blessing on our work. Next parade 11, at Glencast. Sections and companies coming and going, creating country work from railway stations, etc. About 1.30 we got on the move. From the ranks it was not easy to see numbers marching. Estimates exaggerated

1915.

211.

Nov. 29-1200 and 2000 for O'laiz. The streets were pretty well filled with people - mostly very sympathetic. But from the platform near National Monument, Grand Parade, what a scene! Then then the immensity of the throng grew upon me, a throng wholly of one mind as far as could be gathered. I now know I took it as a matter of course, but when I reflect 'tis then the marvel appears. Were I asked were that multitudes of human beings that packed the Parade from end to end composed of Irish Nationalists, I would answer as I believe truthfully, 99 out of every hundred whole in the very clear sense of being for Ireland and hating the British Empire.

Sean MacDiarmida was orator of the day. He was accompanied by Herbert Pin, who came from Waterford, where he appears to have had a great reception too. They were both at Shearn's St. on Saturday night. On Sat night, Barrett, Hon Sec. Demonstration Committee, asked me to draft the resolutions for the meeting. I drafted two - the principal one pledging the mass meeting to the principles of Fenianism, the second endorsing the letter of Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer. Other commending the language and industrial movements were also drafted and submitted to the meeting. Barrett also asked me to propose a second vote of thanks to orator.

1915.

212.

Nov. 29:- An old man named O'Shea was chairman. Peadar O'Hanrahan spoke in Irish. Sean MacDiarmida and Pin spoke - the "felons" convicted under the Realms Acts - and they had a reception a King might envy. Such are the "curious" ways of Irishmen that those whom the English Government put in jail as criminals, with hard labour, we honour. I proposed vote of thanks, saying very little, but that little in Irish and English. Back to Shearn's St. with Pin - march having gone previously - and a guard of honour, at the head of the crowd of young men who had remained to the end. Then home.

It was a Flag day for the Volunteers too. Cumas na mBan sold the flags, my little wife doing a big share in that and other activities of the Cumas during the day. Flag day. I should think it was. Those who had no flags were the exception. And the women reported the general feeling was excellent. Quite plain what the flags were for. It was made very plain by a letter from "Recut-Col." O'Donoghue of the Red Vols. in "Beho" and "Examiner" of Friday and Saturday. He "warned" the public that the flags collection was not for Mr. Redmond and the Nat Vols. Good. I hope he's satisfied with the result. Cumas na mBan and the O'laiz have reason to be well satisfied. Every flag was

Nov. 29th sold and some £80 realized. (Nearly 12 o'clock now and as 'twas 4 this morning when I got to bed my chronicle must end for to day).

Nov. 30. Spáco bpižde. 1.50 p.m. Oia Máipz. In the evening there was a Concert in City Hall. Just standing room - a large number turned away. The success of the day was repeated here, in numbers, in money taken, in enthusiasm. Rato a beld in Spianón till 4 in the morning. And so ended a remarkable day.

The reports in the papers - amusing reading in the "Cork Examine," particularly a speech of the above-named "Kient-Coli" to the Red Vols. who, some 80 strong, went to 12 o'clock Mass, but did not come in procession, as "Kient-Coli" and his friends were not in charge of it!! Ah! they would like to be. The "Constitution" was absolutely ridiculous - "the proceedings ended in pandemonium" - says the voracious organ!!!!

Drumbálaz. 10.15 p.m. Wrote a report of Guntz's meeting and sent it this evening to Poin mac Naill for insertion in the "Volunteer".

The campaign in Serbia is over. The German official report published yesterday states that the ^{first} object of the campaign, connection with Constantinople, has been achieved. They praise the bravery of the Serbians - one half of whose army are killed or wounded. The remainder are scattered, fleeing in bands across the mountains to Albania. Some 500 guns were captured. accounts from

Nov. 30:- Salonika show the Serbians generally to be in a sad plight, and the winter is severe there. It is stated, however, that the Germans are treating the civilian population well. All Serbia is now in Austro-German-Bulgarian hands. Monastir has been evacuated by the Serbians and probably occupied by the Bulgarians. The French-English forces are either doing nothing or have been forced to fall back. And poor Serbia went on fighting, relying on them!

The ^{supremacy} situation with Greece is very curious. Difficult to say how this to end.

Russia is raising forces on the Rumanian frontier, in Bessarabia. The Central powers are doing likewise opposite them, on the Danube, near Rustchuk. The British were advancing on Baghdad, but have been forced back by the Turks. Though we hear little of submarine activity now, it appears those craft are still active. Kitchener is back again in London.

Are the English really "fit for Home Rule?" They certainly can't agree among themselves. There was to be a Peace Meeting in London last night. The platform was stormed and the promoters, including some M. Ps. were ejected by khaki and mufti-clad men. How it happened in Ireland, what domestic we would have on the innate incapacity of Irishmen for self-government, on the "light-headedness" of the Irish (or Celtic) character, and such padding.

Winbourne's appeals are going around again. I got another

1915.

Μινα Νόδας αν Δαυλά. Οπισθεν να τανδαν 11.10 a.m.

It really looks this morning very like as if the Great War were over - for a time anyhow. It is probably only the winter cessation of hostilities. It is reported that the Pope is endeavouring to procure a Christmas truce. Better success ought attend his efforts this year than last. The Russians would not consent last year. Their pride has been humbled somewhat since I dare say. Serbia is completely conquered, though the flying remnants of its army may probably carry on a guerilla warfare from the Albanian and Montenegrin mountains. Monastir has been evacuated but the Bulgarians it is said have not yet entered it - none not known in all the despatches. The French English or Greek territory are idle: helpless: probably, if truth came out, hopeless. They are suffering severe winter weather according to the despatches. What Greece is ultimately going to do is yet uncertain; but an English press correspondent from Athens has a startling rumour regarding Rumania, namely that it is to join the Central Powers. This would not be so very surprising, as there are pieces of Bessarabia it would probably like to have from Russia, and, considering the course of the Russian and Balkan campaigns Rumania, like others, must by this time be convinced that the Central Powers are going to win the war. "Nothing succeeds

Dec. 2nd - like success" apparently. Putting down the result of the eighteen months of the Great War; the hard cold facts remain, despite all the rhetoric, all the lies which we have to wade through in our daily "news", that in every particular, except actual warship supremacy at sea, Germany and her allies have won tremendous victories. There can be no denying the victories won. The one boast of England, I should think, is that it still has command of most of the sea. Even that, however, is being shaken. I have notes before that the impression latterly given is that the submarine warfare is "off". Yet, in the return of English ships lost during November, what do we find? 35 sailing vessels; 53 steamships - net tonnage 66,049; lives lost 652. These were sunk by German warships, by submarines, or by mines. And it is quite plain that this is not the complete total. Now, where did the German warships sink, as is stated, 20 steamships? If we considered the impression created by our "news" a true one, there is not a German warship on any sea, anywhere. There are all bottled up in the Kiel Canal. Though I take nearly all the "news" with considerable scepticism, it comes as a surprise to me to learn 20 English ships were sunk during November by German warships.

"Drastic regulations regarding emigration." No one can leave Ireland in future without a passport and an assurance that

Dec. 2¹:- will satisfy Lord Wimbourne. In fact the regulation comes to this - no man of military age will be allowed to leave Ireland. It suits English policy to banish "the Celts" from Ireland hitherto. It suits their policy now - wanting men and food - to keep "the Celts" in Ireland now. Well, I can't say I'm sorry. It suits Irish policy too to keep "the Celts" in Ireland. The proper place for Irishmen is Ireland. Of course, what the English Government wants is to take those Irishmen later to Flanders or Gallipoli or anywhere where the fight for "the Empire" is being waged. 'Tis not to keep "the Celts" in Ireland permanently it drafts is regulation.

Signs are not wanting that conscription is coming sooner or later.

A Patrick O'Connell of Roscommon was on Tuesday sentenced to a month's imprisonment for having got a number of young men together to pledge themselves to resist conscription. That is, he did exactly what Carson and his men did regarding Home Rule. Theoretically, in English law, I believe it is allowable to say if such an act of Parliament be passed, we will fight against it. The supposition is supposed to save one. That was the argument anyhow when Carson threatened war and got guns to resist Home Rule. But of course any Irish Nationalist knows, or should know, laws hold good in Ireland only for the pro-English. They are twisted any way to crush Irish Nationality. We know

Dec. 2¹:- this well. Yet there are Irishmen who really pretend there is law and justice in Ireland as in free countries. For ordinary crime there is undoubtedly some semblance of law. For anything touching the relations of England and Ireland, touching politics, land, relations of employers and employees there is simply the Tom Lardip - the strong hand: one law for the rich and powerful, another for the poor and weak. The Assizes are being held at present. There is a wonderful diminution of crime of all sorts throughout the country. Yet, there are about 100 men and women who are, or have been, in jail for the "crime" of Irish Nationality. Though not before the Assizes, there are many crimes of immorality, due almost entirely to English soldier influences. The state of morality in Cork was brought before the Police Court there yesterday. It appears the A.O.H. chaplains are taking up the matter; reaching out parties at night to hunt the young men and young girls from their haunts. The police court case was simply against a jarvey for not wearing his driver's badge, but it brought out some facts regarding immoral conduct. The men in the case were civilians apparently; the girls ages were 16 or 17. This was a civilian case, but to everyone's knowledge in Cork, 999 of every 1000 of those cases are soldiers' ones. The thing is a shame and a scandal. We all know it. Be we pro-English or not we know that immorality is rampant among soldiers and that the

Dec. 2:- girls they seduce are quite young. The U. O. H. are on the track. Good. But what can one think when one knows that the chief men of that same U. O. H. are, and have been, glorifying the British army; holding up the khaki-clad fellows as heroes, noble men, fighting for "King and country", for religion and civilization? What can one think of the priest who denounced "Irish Freedom", and prevents it being taken in to the Cork Free Library because it publishes the War Office official statistics of immorality in the British army? What is one to think of an Redmond and his men who glorify the whole English army - "brave fellows, noble fellows" they call the men of that army? 'Tis all very disgusting indeed.

Mí na Nodlag an bá. Dialluam. Beannpaize. 3.20 pm. A wild evening, with a strong westerly or south westerly wind that disturbs the waters of Bantry Bay. It is very comfortable indeed here in shelter beside a warm fire. Conducive to dreams and visions and thought. I love peace and quiet in truth; dreams and visions much: but in the mind troubled world of to-day visions of the immediate future are clouded. Peace and quiet; a book beside a fire while the winter storm rages outside; a cheerful smoke; thoughts of great and good things - ah! these are hard at any time in

Dec. 6:- Ireland for the man who feels the degradation of his's state: almost impossible now for long in the ^{rapid} ~~un~~changing of the world to-day. To where are we leading or drifting in Ireland? Goth alone knows. Death and persecution; banishment and imprisonment; fighting and imprisonment seem any day near. More Defence of the Realm acts - one in Limerick, one in Cork. Limerick - the man spoke at a Manchester Martyrs celebration; in Cork, a few words that may "prejudice recruiting". Lieutenant T. M. Kettle, M.P., Professor of the National University of Ireland, a well-known Redmondite spoke at a recruiting meeting there yesterday. Judging by report in "Cork Constitution" his address consisted wholly in denunciation of "him Finnis" or imaginary "Pro-Germans." His address was one string of lies and foolishness. He adduced no arguments what was why Irishmen should join the English army. "The Germans who had no friends elsewhere" he declared "had come in Cork." When the "humanita" was sunk, the "Pro-G's" in Cork "cheered for the Double Eagle" - whatever that is! And so on and so on in an astounding farraige of lying imagination. Of course it suits the "Cork Constitution" to publish this is an endeavour to get the British Government to persecute and imprison the alleged "Pro-Germans." As a matter of fact that recruiting meeting was violently interrupted by remarks from the crowd and in the

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Dec. 6:- and the majority broke away and came to the National Monument where they held a meeting of their own and were addressed, I heard, by one of the Pianna Park boys. I heard all this yesterday evening - being in the Spunam, Lincoln St. at a Glast given by us to collectors of the language and Cumann na nGael Flag Days and to children of a children's Irish class we have established under Tip O'Connell. A very pleasant fraction this concert was for the 200 or so young people present. Other of the O'Connell men were in various parts of the county organising or drilling. And this "MT" kettle should bound us down! Is it not awful when one considers it. He knows, as well as any, that to say what he said is to lead to imprisonment and prosecution, perhaps even death, for men whose only crime is love for Ireland. Poor poor Ireland.

"It is a time to test men's souls" - said John B. Redmond once - the truest thing he ever said. A time of testing indeed, not alone in public but in private life. Sean O'Sullivan, commandant of the Cork Corps of the O'Connell has been dismissed from his employment by Sean O'Connell. I feel utterly indignant at this action. The real cause is that O'Connell is a poor business man - the other often tried, vainly, to put a check on his extravagance. This led to unpleasantness and O'Connell is headstrong and subject to fits of pique. Also many O'Connell used call to Sean O'S. during business

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Dec. 6:- hours on O'Connell business. O.C. himself was one of us; he had every help from Doelitzscepti; his business really thrives on the goodwill of the Irish-Delaware element in Cork. Yet he tries to prevent the O'Connell visitors calling to S.O.S. I lent him £40 when my prospects under the Tech. Ctee. were shaky with intention of partnership. I have no confidence in his business as conducted by himself and intended for some time past to withdraw the money. I attached no conditions to the loan. If I get my money back now I consider I shall be lucky. Yet, I shall do my best not to harm Sean O'Connell - shall take the money in any way he can give it. But, his conduct regarding Sean O'S. is inexcusable, particularly when he knows the difficulties attending O'Connell is getting or holding position with the venom that "the authorities" have against them.

J. L. Fawcett is back in Cork! Heard he intended coming back. Heard he was in Dublin. Then, on Friday, saw his name on the paper as having been present at a school of music Committee meeting. Have not seen him. Left a note for him to attend Tip O'Connell meeting Sat. night. He did not turn up. Other have met him and, I believe, he was in Shearwater St. Cannot understand his coming or going. What's his idea? O'Connell have no confidence in him now. He has given reason for this, to my mind. Why did he go to America? Why has he come back now, unknown

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Dec. 6. to those with whom he worked? I got into a little "bad odour" on account of having been friendly with him; yet I have had no communication with him since he left Ireland and have not met him since he came back. I recognise the work he has done; that was all. I have never been blind to many things I much dislike in his character. He is extra vain and his vanity can be played upon. But, perhaps unfortunately, as to faults of character in anyone, I have a habit of thinking and saying in effect - which of us is perfect; we all have our faults? This attitude as a rule I find mortally offends some people who look upon it as a weakness in your own character if you look leniently upon weaknesses in certain other people's characters. And probably they look upon it as an insult to themselves as well, as it suggests that, too, may have faults!

M 6.30 p.m. The history of Ireland, past and present, is like an old-world story, or Greek tragedy, where an inexorable fate marks out inevitable things and against which neither men nor gods can prevail. This upon reading criticism in the "Irish Independent" regarding retrenchment in Irish financial affairs by the British Government. "Economy" is the present cry of the English Government; particularly economy for people of small incomes. Naturally, one knew, Ireland would be especially marked out for government economy. Fate, destiny, whatever it is, makes an Irish Nationalist feel such would

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Dec. 6:- be the case - the traditional path of British Government in Ireland, and of course the more the New Garrison protected "loyalty", the greater the number of Irishmen who shed their blood for England, the more ruthless would the English Government be in Ireland. For some reason, the "Independent" began denouncing Under-Secretary Nathan (he was perhaps chiefly responsible for the D. of the R. act prosecutions) because Nathan advised the ruthless policy in Irish financial affairs. A Retrenchment Committee was set up in England - a special one to enquire into Irish financial administration. Boland of the I.R.P. was one of its members. On Friday's two announced Boland had withdrawn. Then came a letter from John B.R. The I.R.P. could accept no responsibility for any findings of the Retrenchment Committee. Saturday and to-day's two announced the Committee suddenly collapsed - reasons not yet given. The "Independent" looks Nathan just as an Irish Nationalist might. £300 is to be taken away from the Royal Irish Academy. All the grants to Irish Colleges - Colaiste na Múnaigh among the number - are to be stopped. And so on - except of course that law and justice in the form of the police forces will be kept up as usual. Nathan has said though if any economies be made they will be for the benefit of the British Treasury NOT for the benefit of Irish taxpayers. No more now that Ireland apparently will not gain by the war, England will.

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Dec. 6:- Little munition work has been given to Ireland and so on.
 K. Oh! it is all so inevitable that there is little for an Irish Nationalist
 to say about it. Did any Irishman really and truly, in his soul,
 expect anything else, any other result, whether Irishmen proved their
 "loyalty" to England or not? I doubt it. All the terrible tragedy
 of Irishmen being slaughtered in England's interests is based on
 a gigantic lie. Mark this well, the ruthless policy in Irish
 public finance is adopted at a time when it suits English
 policy to proclaim Ireland "loyal" and when actually thousands
 of Irishmen have died for England, and hundreds of thousands
 are working in England's interests in Ireland. But, we shall
 go some here that the injustice practiced is due to the fact that
 Ireland is disloyal and deserves punishment, financial and
 otherwise. 'Tis all so like the Greek tragedy, or the old-
 world story - fate, destiny, inexorable, inhuman; a fate fore-
 seen by Irish Nationalists, yet so inevitable. A foolish
 Ireland: the same blood-sucking England. ^(11 pm) It is well-
 known Ireland has been robbed of over three hundred million
 pounds at least in over-taxation. This has been acknowledged
 by English Statesmen themselves - when out of office. It is
 well-known Ireland is being robbed now. It is well-
 known there is financial jugglery by the English

Dec. 6:- Treasury and that the accounts of Ireland's income and expenditure are
 "cooked" in the interests of England. Yet, these are Irishmen who willingly
 accept the English connection and tell us we live under the best of all possible
 governments when we are under the English Government. 'Tis all like a
 nightmare: but no, a nightmare is unreal, this is real. 'Tis a fate, a
 horribly tragic, inevitable fate. Boivin more than seems to think in this
 strain too. In this week's "Volunteer" referring to the case of the
 dismissal of a National Teacher because he was an Irish Volunteer, he
 says we are so accustomed to encroachments on personal and public liberty in
 Ireland that we seldom protest against "small" tyrannies. 'Tis true, for the
 protests seem so useless. One policeman in Ireland can intimidate a
 parish. Why? Because we know the whole force of English government will
 back up that policeman; that protest will have no effect, British law will
 take its inevitable course, for the policeman, against the people. As it
 ever was, so 'tis to-day. RAW in Ireland is a sham and a humbug.
 Much legal palaver, at times. No justice. The "Independent" Cashes
 Nathan. Swanks Nathan to be cashed... But what odds? Another of
 the same ilk will take his place, and the "Independent" will still be
 loyal, still be pro-English. So will the New Garrison be too.

The English have been badly beaten from Bagdad - a retreat of
 close on a hundred miles with some 5000 casualties acknowledged.
 Much peace talk - in England 'tis supposed to be Germany is suing for

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Dec. 6:- peace. In Germany, if we believe a writer in the "Daily Mail," England is talking of peace. Mr. Forde has started on his peace mission from America - ridiculed and abused and, no doubt, calumniated, by the English and pro-English press. He may have the highest and purest motives. No matter; "we'll" spit at him. He talks of peace. That's enough. But also, he's not pro-English. If he were, he'd be an angel in "our" eyes. What a world! A world where lust, injustice, tyranny, falsehood, hypocrisy, cant, murder stalk rampant. How long, oh! how long?

Mí na Doolaz an Yaó. Oia Múpe. Opm'á haz. 6.55 pm.

Disturbances were renewed last night at a recruiting meeting in Cork, Lieut. Kettle being a chief object of hissing and hooting. As far as I can gather the disturbance is spontaneous. Famine Fál men being there no doubt, but not chiefly prominent. Kettle again~~er~~ launched out into a tirade of abuse of Eoin Finnick. Some young man was allowed speak from the recruiting wagonette, being given a guarantee that the D. of the R. act would not be invoked against him. He was but a poor speaker I heard, but still when he came down the crowd raised him on their shoulders and again came to the National Monument, where they were harangued by a University student. (Query - what's the game that the police take no action? Argument for Conscription

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Dec. 7:- in Ireland perhaps). It was rumoured to-day that ~~the~~ a force of soldiers would be at next recruiting meeting, to-night or to-morrow. Lively times anticipates. Lively times in other places too apparently. News now leaking out. A question in Parliament by Ginnell about magisterial action against drilling of I.V. in Ballaghaderreen on account of Lieut. Mike O'Heary, V.C. being hosted there. Birrell backs magistrates, of course. Ginnell says I.V. were not there, but on a route march. The "Daily Mail" notices this question. What's the game?

Mí na Doolaz an Yaó. Oia Ceudaom. Oioicead na Canndan. 7.30 pm.

Is the Great War or what is upsetting men's minds?

I see old friendships breaking, minor differences of opinion being magnified, little bickerings assuming large proportions, annoyances breaking out in almost unexpected places. Met Seán O'Guill yesterday. Fairly and squarely, as I think, disagreed with him over his dismissal of Seán O'Sullivan. That seemed all right: we agreed to differ, though no doubt he resented my taking O'Sullivan's part. Left a note for him saying I would like to get some of my money lent him. (This was not altogether connected with dismissal of S.O.S.). Had a note from him this morning to say I can have it all back if I want it - a rather turbulent note to my mind. Foolish man Seán O'Guill! No necessity, a capra, for taking up a

De. Dec. 8' - high horse attitude. We may as well be agreeable to each other. I hate "falling out" with people and can't understand why people should "fall out". We can all agree to differ or be "civil and distant" if the reasons warrant it as in the case of J. M. Buckley and myself.

M. na nOglaz an qad. Diapason. Candan. 10.35 am. A wet, wild day, such another day as makes it pleasant to be beside a fire. I wrote of my relations with Sean O'Cuill last night I see. Well, I wrote in good humour. Now, here's another. Calling in to the Industrial Association offices yesterday morning for Colaplan's Munster letter, Mr. J. B. Fawcett was there, as I half anticipated he would be. An ordinary greeting as if we had parted by yesterday. He looked most serious, solemn, melancholy, or stern. Not a laugh or smile could I draw from him. He seemed in a very hopeless mood. His information was scanty during our conversation and not particularly interesting. He is very bitter against James MacSwiney and Tomás Curtin. I frankly condemn his leaving Ireland. Otherwise we had no cause of disagreement. His side of the case for leaving as he put it to me is - He got the military order to leave Cork; there was no case against him; the authorities would not state a case; he was for disobeying the order and taking the consequences; James MacSwiney and others came to him and said 'bros the decision of Volunteer headquarters

Dec. 9' - that he should obey the order to leave Cork. He then left; for as he could not do his work, any work, from the place he went (King College) or from any place outside Cork (this is far-fetched); the offer was made to him to go to America and he went. Not sorry for going: it has been an education to him. Oglaz headquarters (?) spurred by T. MacS. wrote to Clan na nGaedhach men that he was not leaving Ireland with their wishes. (This I know to be true and I think it was somewhat unfair and malicious). His "mission" in the States was a fair success, but he got no money for the I. D. A. Irish-Americans disgusted with Irish manufacturers. Irish divided in States as at home. Educates Irish all pro-German. Un-educated pro-English. Germans in States not a ^{strong} political force and not altogether united or energetic. Irish energetic in German cause. Rakin active. But, Irish Americans have got only twenty thousand dollars (?) or so for the Oglaz. (Not sure if that is the sum he names, but whatever it was, I made a mental note at the time that he minimises it, as I happened to know since Oglaz's conversation). And they are not willing. Fr. Amers. or Imas. will not help Ireland very materially unless Ireland declares openly on German side of war, and, naturally, that may mean bloodshed in Ireland. Casement's trying to get an Irish Brigade from prisoners of war in Germany a fiasco, a laughing-stock, buffoonery and known in America as such. Casement accredits representative of Clan na nGaedhach at the court of Berlin. America generally pro-

D Dec. 9:- German, chiefly owing to English interference with commerce the sea. As regards himself, he was waiting to see what action authorities would take. Knew that Cork O'Leary had turned against him; saw resolution in hall, Shamus St. condemning his action in leaving Ireland; if the authorities took no action of course MacS. and Curtin can spread the rumour, as they had spread others, that in coming back he made some bargain with the military authorities. Emphatically declared he had made none. He had no communication, good, bad, or indifferent, with the authorities. (This is not strictly accurate I believe, as he told others he let the military authority of Cork district know he was coming back and that he was at his disposal, but I presume when speaking to me he meant communications with them in sense of bargaining). He hated the suspense we hoped the authorities would take action.

That is practically all of importance I think, except that he said he brought some little money for O'Leary at headquarters. I give his own case and his views and I still hold to the opinion he should not have left Ireland. But, I would not have tried to injure his prospects in the States as Tenenue apparently did. We parted just ordinary. I feel he has formed a poor opinion of me too. I can't help that. Fawcett did good work for the I.R.A., the Gaelic League, the Volunteers, but his temperament is not in tune with mine and he has also done many things I utterly disliked. (I find I'm

Dec. 9:- getting quite a critic of men and my mental make up is anything but critical).

T.M. Kettle on Monday night denounces the Bishop of Limerick along with the lion Feinidhe. According to "Independent" yesterday voices in the crowd shouted to him they were not "pro-Germans" but they were anti-English. He then said he was the same till the war broke out! "The authorities" seem to be taking no notice, or rather no action. What's the game I again ask myself? Went "Maurishes" Healy was to have addressed the meeting last night. Cleve moved. Kettle was a strong Hibernian and particularly disliked by the O'Brienites. Healy was a strong O'Brienite and do. by the Redmondites. Very clever move to bring one of these after the other to see if opposition to Kettle was merely party political.

Much talk of peace again - of course in the British and pro-British press 'tis the Germans are talking of peace so they know they are beaten. "We" 'll have no peace. "Our" set back at Baghdad though was a very severe one: very nasty for "us." And the railway from Berlin to Constantinople is now open, as 'twould be so easy to take Baghdad at the next effort. There is danger threatening the Suez Canal and Egypt too. And something is wrong in India also - what we cannot say. The Germans are "interguing" in Persia, "bribing" and "corrupting". Very sad, seeing

D Dec. 9:- that "we" (the English Government) have given the Persian Government some millions, out of pure good feeling, to help it to restore order! (A bribe you would say! Oh! dear no — a gift or a loan — *ni dóic lóine*).

Mi na Doolan an 10ú. Dia 4-úine. Spaid b'uidé. 1 pm. "The chief secretary told Mr. Linnell in Parliament yesterday that the evidence that the Irish Volunteers have endeavoured to foment disloyalty in Ireland was voluminous. 'Much of it' he added 'must be known to the hon. member from the utterances of the leaders of the organisation, from the articles and letters in its official organ, and from the reports of proceedings against its officers and organisers, to which the hon. member has himself at various times made reference.' This, a small paragraph in the "Irish Independent" of to-day, December 10th, 1915.

II What's the game? Martial law proclamation; imprisonment; disarmament; conscription; part of the fooling of the Irish people over Home Rule? For twelve months it suited our enemy's policy to pretend all Ireland was "loyal" to England. Now, it suits their book to notice the map "Dead" "disloyal" element in Ireland. We shall soon see the game I expect. I say map is 'cáid disloyal because there can be no loyalty or disloyalty where there is no duty or obligation to be obeyed or broken and there is no obligation on Irishmen, in my conscience, to England or England's King, Government, or Constitution. As an Irish Nationalist I deny disloyalty ^{or loyalty} to England — I ^{am} ~~know~~ no more.

Dec. 10:- loyal or disloyal to that country or its ruler and government there I am to Patagonia. I simply have no obligation towards it. *Sin t'áin agur b'áin an réil.* My loyalty or disloyalty are to the Irish Nation and to it alone. Before 90th, I, as an Irish Nationalist and as an Irish Volunteer, declare that my only fealty and loyalty is to Ireland and that I am quite clear in conscience that I owe none whatever to King George of England, his successors, his government, his representatives in Ireland or his government's representatives in Ireland, high or low, and I am convinced that anything I, as an Irish Nationalist can do to help in overthrowing British government, power, influence, civilization in Ireland is a sacred duty and a noble work, ~~and~~ meriting God's blessing and, ~~will be~~ if done with a pure heart for love of Ireland, will be towards the eternal salvation of my soul.

10.50 pm. D'omá la. after Bagdad - Southern Siberia. The English and French have been driven back towards Salomika by the Bulgars. "Strategic movements to the west" they are termed but there is a tone of anxiety or alarm in the despatches. Can the allies do anything anywhere?

Mi na Doolan an 11ú. Dia Sáidáin. Spaid b'uidé. 12.20 pm. "He hoped there was no Sinn Féiners there that night — (cheer) — because they were a d — side (?) worse than the Germans — it was all underground work with them. The

[Dec. 11:- Germans were not traitors, they were fighting for their country, but these d — Irishmen — well, bad luck to them. He was sorry to use such strong language in the presence of ladies, but he could not say less. They were traitors to this country, and traitors were always the cause of Ireland's misfortunes." Thus Rient. Mike O'Leary, V.C. from Killebarry, at a recruiting meeting in Cork last night as reported in to-day's "Cork Constitution". Sweet language indeed. Not Mike I suppose but strong spirits were speaking.

The English Volunteer Bill, that at one time seemed passed in Parliament, is not now likely to pass at all as regards Ireland. Carson opposes as it would "recognise" the "Nationalist Volunteers" — Redmond's "section" and the Irish Free "section". The "Cork Constitution" is perhaps
1 over Irish Feinists. It would like the British Government to take action against "that body" the Irish Volunteers.

3.30 p.m. Back the English and French are being pushed towards Salonika. The fighting is on the borders of Greece now. An English-French force is in danger of being cut off. Whether the Bulgarians will enter Greek territory after the others remains to be seen. Did they do so there seems no doubt but they would smother the force there; but of course there would be hypocritical blushing regarding this violation of Greek neutrality." What the Greeks themselves are about to do, if anything, is yet doubtful. 'Twill be interesting to

Dec. 11:- watch went there, even the little we are given to know. The English are also, ^{yet} running from Baghdad before the Turks.

This is the "Munster" Flag Day" in Cork. I must say the flags are pretty generally worn, though not I should say, more than "the Gaelic League day", certainly not as on the Volunteers Day, but of course there was an exceptional number of people on the streets that day.

To-day is supposed to mark the end of the best of voluntary recruiting in England. Recruiting it appears was slow enough until the last few days. Now it appears there is a tremendous rush, such a one as it is said will prevent conscription. The same conditions do not apply in Ireland — the scheme does not act here.

The German chancellor has made a long statement in the Reichstag. Peace proposals must come from the allies, though the German people were wishful for peace, as they have always been. England is the chief enemy; England the hypocritical. He charges ^{the} English navy vessel with the murder of a submarine crew. English admiralty denies: saying the matter is under investigation by the U.S. Govt. The chancellor states things are as well as can be expected in Belgium and Poland. The Flemish language is being encouraged in Belgium. Warsaw University is working and so is a Higher Technical School there. England is responsible for the war and England is continuing it, he maintains. But there is an achilles heel in the British Empire, which is threatened. (The

J. Dec. 11: - means the Irish Canal, I suspect. But a more vulnerable place, near the heart is Ireland).

mt. 1915. 120143-
Meadon ~~on~~ ^{at} Baile, Osluim, Beannraige. 4 pm.

The "authorities" and Fianna Fáil are coming to close quarters evidently. How near the crisis is I cannot say but signs of it are not wanting. I have noted how "sedition" or "disloyalty" is being written up in the English press. I don't get the "London Times", but there was an article, two columns long, in it last week - Tuesday, I think - from its Dublin correspondent, giving very fully, and I think fairly, a summary of the situation as between the different bodies of Volunteers: mentioning the Sinn Féinists, Boy Scouts, Cumann na mBan, Gaelic League, etc. This writing up all follows or goes along with Birrell's answer to Sinnell, which I have no doubt was meant to call attention to what the English press and government would call "the gravity of the situation in Ireland." That "situation" must be attracting some attention in other countries as, from Rome, the English press agencies, comes an account of an "interview" with Cardinal Bourne of England there, where he speaks of Home Rule being accomplished and of England and Ireland being like two sisters who had a quarrel but when attacked

Dec. 13: - from outside, writes. also in the despatches published to day, of the English flight before the Bulgars from Serbia, the War office, contrary to its usual practice, praises the Munster and Dublin Fusiliers and Connaught Rangers, going so far as to say it was those regiments saved the English force from disaster. But the evidence of the crisis is in an order of Major General Friend, C.B. Commander of the English army in Ireland, dated December 10th. Mr. Keegan, gunseller, Dublin publishes it in the "Independent" with a letter of his own pointing out its effects upon the gunsmiths and gunsmiths of Ireland. The order is to the effect that he, Friend, prohibits the manufacture, sale, transfer or disposal of all kinds whatsoever of arms, ammunition, etc. - shot guns and every possible thing in the way of arms and ammunition is included; except without a very special permit from himself or through a District Inspector of police. The "Cork Examiner" has a paragraph from the London "Times", (again their Dublin correspondent is speaking) to say that the order is meant for the Sinn Féiners and Irish Volunteers. ^{this is the "Independent" not the "Examiner"} ^{which is merely vague} "It is understood," says the "Independent" "that the authorities have information of serious things going on behind the scenes," - whatever that means. There is nothing "behind the scenes". It is publicly known that arms and ammunition are in the hands of the Volunteers - Carson's, Redmond's,

Dec. 13:- Parnapaik, and Citizens army. This is "illegal" indeed and has been "illegal" all the time, but the circumstances that led to its being so are well known. The attempts of the British Government to interfere with the arming of the Irish Volunteers - by Proclamation against importation soon after their being founded and by the Fourth turn out - are historical events. One would imagine Friends order is really unnecessary: the power exists already, if not by ordinary "law" then under the Defence of the Realm Acts, to disarm the Volunteers. It certainly exists, but, owing perhaps to "policy", the Government has not dared to act wholesale. The only way to take Friends proclamation then is as a warning that the Government intend acting. As I have said, all the signs now seem to lead to this conclusion, that they are going to grapple with this "question" of armed Irishmen at last. The test is coming. Pray God we may stand that test firmly, though indeed I am not without misgivings in many ways, chiefly on the score of definite plans at headquarters. They may of course have everything cut and dry there: I am not "in the know": but I have doubts, based on general information and watching of affairs for years, as well as some knowledge of history. What I fear most is a repetition of '98: there are some remarkable resemblances between things then and now, though there are also very important differences. One of the great differences lies

Dec. 13:- the settlement of the land question. There is now a total absence of agrarian "crime" - as the British government dub land disturbances in Ireland. Ordinary crime, as known in all communities, has decreased wonderfully in Ireland since the war started, so many of the habitual offenders having joined the English Army. ^{though there is much immorality where there are English garrisons - the English Army.} Any fight in Ireland now between the Volunteers and the English Government forces must be a pure, true fight for Irish freedom and Nationality: all other things, things that perhaps loomed large in the past are minor things now. Whatever the lies that may be told to twist the story - Home Rule, "pro-Germanism", over-taxation etc. - the central fact is very, very clear - the Irish Volunteers and an ever-increasing number of the Irish people want Ireland free; the English Government oppose that. That is the cardinal fact. Anything else is only contributory, or only confuses the real issue. 'Tis a bad time for the English - their forces in Greece as being savaged by the Bulgarians, they are on the run before the Turks in Mesopotamia, they are idle in France, they are disturbed and distracted in their councils, their credit is low: perhaps, in the mercy of God, Ireland's hour is coming for freedom, though indeed, in many ways, we are ill prepared for a struggle. But, God is stronger than men and He can free Ireland. A very large number of priests are enthusiastically with the Oglais in the struggle.

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Dec. 13:- Unbelievable Oia, I myself feel braced by God's grace for whatever befalls. So does my dear little wife. Strengthened by the Holy Communion yesterday morning at a Mass that was offered for the soul of poor Pat Aherne. I have trust in the Almighty to bring us both through and to set Ireland free. Every day I say a prayer for its freedom.

I heard Fawcett had an interview with the military commands in Lucanstown, as a result of which he is a free man. It may be all right, but I don't care for these "interviews".

Mina Novlag an 14.12. Oia Maize. Spärbirge. 11.45 a.m. It is not in the public interest to disclose the steps being taken to counteract the efforts of the Irish Volunteers to promote "disloyalty" and interfere with recruiting in Ireland. This is the substance of a reply of Binnell's to Guinness in the English Parliament as reported in to-day's "Cork Constitution".

What are the steps being taken? There are no evidences of steps beyond those that are public property, so far as the others? Probably. The reply is the stereotyped one of ministers dodging awkward war questions.

I have said above the test is coming - a test of strength between the Irish Volunteers and the English Government, either in arms or by resistance to that government's attempts at disarming. In arms in large or small bodies scattered through the country: in resistance,

Dec. 14:- where every individual will have to defend himself. If the Volunteers win, then a clear road for Irish freedom: if the Government win, well there will be a very "disaffected" Ireland indeed, a turbulent, lawless Ireland to be dealt with. I am writing so calmly and Ireland is apparently so quiet that there are Irishmen who would I suppose ask in wonder, do I, for one, really think we are rearing on insurrection, a "rebellion", a war in Ireland? Does it not look proportionate, ridiculous, absurd? Nominally, Ireland was never so closely united with England. Nominally, the English Government was never so lenient in Ireland. Practically all the elected representatives of the Irish people are enthusiastically for England. The whole daily press of Ireland is pro-English. Recruiting is supposed to be proceeding briskly. The country has no great grievance - Home Rule is in the Statute Book, signed by the King; the farmers are in possession of their lands, for the most part; there are no legal disabilities now on the Catholic population; we have a National University; nominal encouragement has been given to the Irish language and to "Irish ideas"; prices are good; the economic situation is almost normal and is not distressful; extra taxation and withdrawal of grants for educational purposes can be easily secured on war economy grounds; a great deal of the patronage of the country is in the hands of the supposed "popular party";

Dec. 14:- grievances regarding grass lands, of employes against employers, of little munition work given to Ireland and so on are all very minor matters. In view of all this, does it not seem ridiculous for any Irish Nationalist to state that we are near a crisis, a conflict, an insurrection, a trial of armed strength between a large section of the Irish people and the English Government? Nominally indeed it does seem absurd. Actually, however, it seems to me to be the fact, judging from the signs of the times. By the establishment of the Irish Volunteers Irishmen asserted the right to arm in defence of the Nation, independent of the English Government, in defiance of that government, against that Government or any section of the English people who threatened to interfere with the rights and liberties of the Irish Nation. That right to arm was attacked; is being attacked; will be more drastically attacked, I believe, in the near future. If the Irish Volunteers are true to their declarations and their principles they must and will resist the attack and the resistance will be by force, by the use of the arms which they possess. If the Redoubtable Volunteers were true to the principle of the right of Irishmen to arm for Ireland they too should join the resistance - but they probably will not be true to it. Every attempt to take our arms from us of the Oglah vice, I am certain, be resisted by force and this will undoubtedly be the signal, the beginning of an insurrection, the end of which no war can see. Let me record

Dec. 14:- again for my own clarity of vision how it came about we have none.

There has always been in Ireland a number of Irish nationalists who believed that it would be necessary to fight for Irish freedom. Some were active, positive, in thinking this and are certainly justified by all the facts of Irish and universal history. Many had a sort of feeling, not definite indeed, but still existent, that a fight would be necessary, or almost so. The spirit of the past, '98, '03, '48, '67 and hard League days was present in many.

But arms acts after arms acts had made it a "crime" for Irishmen to have arms for a national purpose. The so-called constitutional movement held the field, supported by the arms of the people. But by bit the demands for Irish freedom were whittled down. The belief in an Irish Republic to be achieved by armed force was scouted as the dream of madmen. "Concessions," not freedom, became the policy. And then the great "concession" of a subordinate Parliament was the shame. After the abandonment of many Irish nationalist principles and after cutting down the idea of what Irish freedom meant, by a series of circumstances, Home Rule was about being carried. The old English Garrison took alarm. Up in the north, the Orangemen began to form a Volunteer force - first to resist Home Rule for all Ireland being carried, then to resist it at least being carried for "Ulster." They were laughed at, derided, sneered at, but, backed by the English Tories, went on. They secured arms and ammunition. Of course this was

D Dec. 14: "illegal": it was "rebellion," "disloyalty," "treason", as these words are used in Ireland. To arm for the purpose of resisting an English Parliament was the very thing for which Irish Nationalists had suffered imprisonment or death. In the "Ulster" men's case it was really treason as they acknowledge the legal and moral right of the English Government to rule Ireland. Of course the Government could have taken steps to prevent the arming or to disarm the Orangemen. But, equally of course, they did not. This arming - if it did not go too far - suited the English Government. But, another of course, the golden opportunity appeared to Irish Nationalists to assert a right denied them, to follow the Orangemen's example. If the English Government allows the Orangemen to arm, or if it did not disarm them, it could not, in the then circumstances, prevent Irish Nationalists arming also. This line of argument struck many minds at the same time in 1913 - minds that always believed in Unionist principles and minds that believed Ireland could be free, in the limited sense, by parliamentary means. How far the Orangemen were in earnest; whether in the last extremity they really meant to fight or whether their action was really only a demonstration of protest, I don't know. I do think that many Irishmen considered the counter arming as only a protest, never seriously meant. But I do know that to those whose faith is that of real Irish nationalism the opportunity seemed a golden one

Dec. 14: of preparation for the great fight for Irish liberty, for the complete independence of Ireland. Of course the English Government "struck" - it prohibited the importation of arms into Ireland almost as soon as the Irish Volunteers were established. That had no effect. Then the South business, which it mismanaged very badly. Then the Bachelors Walk murders. So, despite its own laws, a certain small measure of liberty to obtain, here, and hold arms had to be allowed; or rather, ^{then} not allowed but the Government was not in a position, in the circumstances in 1914, to take drastic ^{action} against the whole Irish people. Thus, the O'Glas have arms. To the use to which they were to be put. The Orangemen proclaiming "loyalty" were no danger to the Government - if it did not come too much to Redmond and there was no fear of that. Irish Nationalists with arms were naturally dangerous on account of fundamental principles. The task was to wheedle them to use their arms to England's interest. Redmond was given the task. He was no doubt a willing tool. It seemed for a time as if he would succeed. At this moment to know he has not succeeded with a very large number. Hence the English are dangerous. Hence, action has become necessary. The Irish Volunteers must be disarmed or English interests in Ireland will be jeopardised. So, I conclude, very fairly as it seems to me, that, notwithstanding the peace of the country, we are now a crisis and trial of strength. The English Government has, as I know, that the real trial, though it is not the apparent one, is free

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Dec. 14:- Ireland's independence. It is not Home Rule, not conscription, not the right to bear arms that will be fought for in this struggle, but whether Ireland is to be free from English rule or not. This issue may not be clear even to many Irishmen, but it is the real issue. Is it the Irish Nation or the English Government which is to rule Ireland? All other things are minor issues—"disloyalty", "sedition", "pro-Germanism" are only catch cries. The Irish Nation ruling Ireland means a total negation of England's right to interfere in any way with the government of this country. Home Rule acknowledges the English right here. The fight of the Oglars, however words may now or in the future obscure it, is for an absolute denial of that right and for the assertion of the Irish Nation to do as it pleases in Ireland: to separate from England and the British Empire if it likes; to establish a Republic if it likes; to have control of Ireland in every particular. That's the issue of the fight, however the fog of words may cloud it. And, stoppe
 30 Dec 14 O.K., 'tis a glorious fight, however it end. If I have
 time, I shall try to ~~sum~~ sum up the forces on each side as far
 as I know them, later.

Mí na Nodlao an 15^o. 10 p.m. Ois Ceudaoin. Opoicead na
 Bannan.

Nothing new or startling in the Irish situation, nor do I expect any this side Christmas. What may happen after, who knows? after all nothing may happen. The war news is

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Dec. 18:- almost monotonous now: a record of allies failures. It is stated and denied, denied and re-states that the Bulgarians and Germans are hunting the French and English into Salonika, after then into Greek territory and that the Greek army is withdrawing with the intention of letting the others fight it out. There are rumours of preparation for a German "push" in France and of a threat on the Suez Canal. The Turks are hammering away at the English below Bagdad at Kut-el-amara.

I have received notice of withdrawal of Departmental grants for Irish as from 28th Feb. next. This will most seriously affect all the Irish colleges as well as Irish classes under Technical Committee. A fight will be made I believe, but 'tis all so inevitable, that I am not very hopeful that the grants will remain. Of course, this is the quite natural return to expect from declarations of "loyalty," by Redmond and Dillon; declarations that Ireland was only too willing to bear its share in the war. "Cut the Irish grants as the most useless part of expenditure" the English Treasury of course said. But, other things besides Irish will be hit. It all depends now on how the country will take the matter. This cutting down of grants for education can be used very effectively as an argument by Sinn Féinists, as it indeed bears out our whole contention: the more "loyal" Ireland is to England the worse the treatment it will get.

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D
Dec. 15! - a superficial person may argue this absurd, but the fact remains on sound argument. To the statesman sitting in London Ireland is a small affair; educational grants are very petty things; Irish language grants absurd expenditure. If Ireland be loyal to England, then of course there will be no trouble in cutting down those petty expenses, those absurd items. Of course if there were trouble, well a liberal statesman does not want this absurd trouble at a time when very big issues are at stake. But, further if Ireland be loyal to England, then of course anything that's for England's good must be submitted to; anything English statesmen propose, no matter how it hits the Irish people, is the perfection of wisdom and must be accepted. Ireland is such a petty concern altogether you see. England is so big. There are more people in London alone than in all Ireland: hence London alone is of more importance than all Ireland. London must be attended to, even if all Ireland were to perish. So, indeed, the more loyal Ireland is, to England, the more it must be prepared to sacrifice for England. But, if Ireland be disloyal? Oh! well that's all right too. Gives us (in England) the excuse that will tell with stupid people, as to why we do nasty things. In this connection, Canon Cokerus, Banting, suggested that perhaps it was owing to the Gaelic League not being "loyal"

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Dec. 15! - that the attack was made on ^{grants} ~~peace~~ for Irish. That may be so of course, but "loyal" or not, Ireland will be hit hard, and other things besides Irish are being hit at. While England rules Ireland the story will be this: Ireland must suffer for her "dear sister". The financial and general economic treatment of Ireland is on the same level as all the war economy. Mr. Prime Minister acquiesced most emphatically stated in the English Commons yesterday that he was taking his salary and meant to continue taking it (£5000 a year I believe as cabinet ministers). Certainly: but John Jones, junior clerk in the Red Tape office, salary £60 a year, is dismissed. War economy you see. So, five million pounds a day is spent on "OUR" army, most of it in the factories of England, for munitions, equipment and the like, but £2,500 a year is stopped from the Irish Colleges - a matter of life or death for them. Oh! what a world it is and what a glorious people the English are in it!

I promised myself to run up the forces in Ireland. The night is for advances now, so, le cugnain Dé, I may do so to-morrow.

Mí na Moolag an Ibaí. Daydaoin. Gpoiceao na Danndán 11.30 am. General Sir Douglas Haig is replacing Sir John French as Commander in Chief of the English Forces in Flanders. Changes have also been made in the Irish army and other changes are to take place in the English army. Haig was the leader, or one of them, if I remember rightly in the "Curragh revolt" against Home Rule, in March 1914. He is now, of course, the champion of the

Dec. 16:- "Small Nationalities"; who is to free Belgium and crush Russia
"militarism!!" *De Voic from E.* Casting humbug. I suppose John
Redmond will deliver a eulogistic oration regarding his great ability.

There have been rumours of recent air raids on London. No
word has appeared in the papers concerning them, but some questions in the
British Parliament yesterday would indicate that there was truth in the
rumours. In the absence of news we are only left conjecturing. A
quite natural conjecture, or deduction, is that if the air raids were
failures there would be crowing in the English press and in an official report.
Therefore, 'tis also natural to assume the raids were successful.

Now, to my summing up of the forces for and against Ireland's
independence:- The population of Ireland at present is somewhat over
four millions; a little more than half females. The number of grown
persons or may put at something more than two millions, but, owing to
emigration (which, by the way, despite restrictions, etc. was higher last month
than in Nov. 1914), there is an abnormal proportion of old and infirm
people in the country. A very rough calculation of the whole
population labels $\frac{3}{4}$ as nationalists or Home Rulers and the $\frac{1}{4}$ as "Unionist".
Of grown up people we may probably put down one million as really
nationalist in positive belief or in sympathy; that is nationalist in
the sense of wishing for complete Irish independence, if it can be
achieved. There are very varying ideas of course among the people

Dec. 16:- with such a faith, many holding Irish independence as desirable
but as impossible of achievement. The Old English Garrison and the
New Garrison people must certainly, I think, number at present, half the
grown up people of the country - a Redmondite would probably estimate
the pro-English as 3 and a half millions of the population. Well, the
effective manhood of the country is about 400,000. Of that number
I would say some 200,000 are certainly anti-English in active
thought and 200,000 more are neither anti nor pro-English perhaps.
Were there an insurrection, my estimate of fighting men for Ireland
would be 20 to 30 thousand: circumstances may carry the number to
50,000 or reduce it to 10,000. There must certainly be 10,000 or
15,000 men with arms of some kind supplied through the Volunteers.
By circumstances I mean there would be a number who, through fear
or prudence or other motives would not or could not "rise"; there may be
many who, in self defence, against the reactions of the pro-English, would
have to join. If I were asked a year ago if what is called "the
sentiment of the country" would form a force fighting for Irish liberty, my
answer would be doubtful. Now, I have no doubt. The "sentiment
of the country" would be with such a force just as much as it was in
'98 or at any other time. For, if there were no other motive, the Irish
people would clearly see the truth that, even if the number were only a
thousand, that thousand had gone out to fight for Ireland with good motive.

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Dec. 16:- The more forebore the hope of success in fact the more it would appeal to "the sentiment of the country" and the more it would stir to love for Ireland. I am speaking with reference to Ireland only. What the effect in America and other countries would be - did any news go abroad - I may attempt to discuss some other time. The overwhelming sympathy for women of Ireland would, I believe, be with a Irish fighting force of that I am quite certain and it would count for much. Let me put the probable number of fighting men for Ireland at 20,000. (This will to say, perhaps, I am always rather inclined to underestimate than overestimate: my attitude being "hope for the best, expect the best, but prepare for the worst"). 20,000: that surely is not an over estimate for all Ireland, considering how things have been shaping for the past six months or so. Of course I am only estimating as an ordinary individual. I have no special means of knowing exactly how things are. Mr. Wm. O'Brien's paper, for instance, thinks an overwhelming majority of Irish people are on England's side in the war. I don't think so at all. I even doubt if there is a majority of grown up people in the country - men and women - on England's side. But, there is no doubt there is a large number, on England's side. To analyse that number will be a future task with me.

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M na noolaz an 1800. Da Sáráipín. Spáibpáide. 12.45 p.m.

Christmas is approaching and there are signs of it all around. I have holidays till January 3rd. Things seem so normal that I now and again wonder if I am really judging things aright in thinking we are approaching a crisis in Irish history. Reading the newspapers: going about on business bent: engaging in the superficial work and in the pleasures of life around one would not believe there is any seriousness whatever in one's nation's affairs. Food is plentiful enough; prices are high, but money is abundant. There does not appear to be more than the usual winter stores for the poor. The war "news" flags; it is dull and far away. The call for recruits goes on and is being answered in some fashion. The deep currents of thought that undoubtedly flow through some of the most active minds in the nation are not showing in any very striking action. That the Government wishes to get rid of the O'Leary is certain, but what presents is striking hard? Fear? Policy? To realize how things are serious, remember there are armed men in the country; men with strong and firm resolutions; remember the recent order of General Friend; remember the "Times" article - these and a hundred other things are real and tangible and mean "business". I have noted I think that all letters going out of Ireland are opened and censored. This information has appeared in the papers. I learn to-day, that all

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Dec. 18th - inland letters are also being opened! That seems such a huge task as to appear incredible, but it appears true. It was done to the letters of business houses yesterday. Now I remember there was a note in this morning's "Examiner" regarding delays in letters - a warning note. I took it to refer to usual Christmas delays. I see now it referred to this new departure. The English are apparently learning from German "thoroughness". To open all letters going through the post is a big job indeed. It is hardly likely that this order applies in England. The city post office in Ireland recently have closed at an earlier hour than heretofore: "economy" the excuse. In reality this must have been to give more time for "censuring" all letters. These things are real. They can have only one meaning - the Government's endeavour to cope with "sedition" in Ireland. And in this view, the "sedition" must be very serious indeed to warrant this post office action. Conn mac NEILL, in the "Herald", continues in the same calm strain, expounding Binnell's plots and his endeavours to make a case for the suppression of the Volunteers. But, we know it all, Conn. Irish Nationalists know it all. You are doing good and well to expose those things; you are giving the country truth and wisdom. But what then? What are we all to do when the Government strikes? You are meeting its cunning well, Conn. You are meeting it calmly, bravely and so indeed are the Volunteers, and all of us, I think. But, what are we to do

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Dec. 18th - when force will be the determining factor? Shall we wait for the blow; wait till Sean Buidhe is ready; wait till he feels he can smash us by force? We waited till too late, in '98, in '48, in '64. Are we again to wait till too late? That the English Government will seek to crush the Irish Volunteers I suppose all Ireland knows. Are we of the Volunteers to wait till the Government is quite ready to strike?

Mt na Nodlag on 19th. Da Domnaig. Spáid bríde. 4.45 pm.

According to latest news, Greece has intimated that it will withdraw its troops from Salonika region and let the Central Powers and the Allies fight it out between them in that district. A very wise resolution, if true. Very sensible people in Greece apparently.

Tuesday next Mr. Aquith is announced to make a statement in the English House regarding Lord Derby's recruiting scheme and its results. Meantime, without waiting for that statement, by Royal Proclamation, four groups are called up under the scheme, boys and men, single, aged 19 to 23. The essence of the Derby scheme is that unmarried men be called up first. If these have not joined under the "Voluntary" system in numbers large enough to satisfy the authorities, there is to be conscription for them, before the married men are called upon. If Parliament does not agree to conscription, the married men who have joined under the Derby scheme will be released.

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Dec. 19:- from their pledges. From some statements of Derby himself it would appear as if the enlistments of the unmarried men were not satisfactory to him at least and that conscription will be necessary. Asquith's statement on Tuesday will probably settle the matter. The "Irish" P. Party are specially summoned to attend parliament on that day. The pressure of Irish opinion will force them to vote against conscription, should there be voting. I am of opinion conscription will be carried in the present English Parliament if a case is shown for it and if it is to apply only to certain numbers of persons. For the people of England, particularly the working classes, will take it is another matter. The British Empire was never, during its whole history, in a shakier condition and that notwithstanding that it is apparently showing an united front to its enemies. England's prestige is low to day; its credit is low; its military power is ineffective; its leaders are hopelessly divided; its state affairs are very muddled. Still, it has enormous resources and its fleet is strong. There is muddle in France too. Things are now coming out about war contracts there that would shame a Board of Guardians in the most remote corner of Ireland. In fact, did such things occur in Ireland we would have long homilies as to our unfitness for self government.

I have learned that it is not a post office staff but a military

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Dec. 19:- staff which is engaged in opening all the letters in Ireland. The letters are then sealed with a slip on which is printed "opened by censor." What do they expect to find? Evidence of "sedition" and "pro-hermanism". I don't think they will succeed at all to their satisfaction.

Now, to analysing the forces against Irish freedom. There are probably fifty or sixty thousand regular soldiers in training in the various camps, barracks, and military stations in Ireland. These are mostly men of the new armies being trained or very old reserve men, unfit for the fighting line. A certain number are Irishmen. There are nine thousand or ten thousand police of all ages, scattered in isolated barracks chiefly in small numbers. As they are now they are negligible as a fighting force. Three or four thousand of them massed together at one point would be formidable enough. There is a certain number, not large, of coastguards. There are Carson's Volunteers - as such now not of formidable fighting strength I imagine, but as part of the regular army, fifty or sixty thousand strong perhaps. Redmond's Volunteers, four or five thousand let us say, are a doubtful factor in the crisis. Some would take one side, I believe, some the other. There is a large army - not armed however at present - of police pensioners and other pensioners of all sorts, government officials,

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Dec 19:- lawyers, castle backs, garrison contractors, members of parliament and their friends and so on who, though not actual fighters, would give their sympathy and support to the English and thwart the efforts of an Irish army of freedom. The Jews across Ireland are mined or wired (the new way of dealing with submarines) or are patrolled by English warships. There is a large army in England, within half a days journey, or less, of the Irish coast. Every means of communication within Ireland or out of Ireland and every ^{great} means of expression of public opinion (except or weekly and monthly papers) are controlled by the English or pro-English. As I go on in thought I see ^{more} clearly that, in the last analysis, the real issue would rest with the fighting forces - the O'Glas as an Irish army and the regular or whittled up English army. Of course there would be martial law and all the rest of it, but I have clearly intimated that I believe the sympathy of the bulk of the people would be with the Irish army fighting for Ireland's freedom. There is always wild talk of English capabilities of starving Ireland out and all that. We may dismiss it all and concentrate on the two fighting forces. The English force would be 1. larger in numbers; 2. better equipped; 3. probably better officered; 4. have the advantages of regularised existence and nominal law; 5. direction from a well-organised centre; 6. have control of means of communication; 7. have

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Dec 19:- almost unlimited supplies of men, money, food, materials.

1. Numbers. To crush an Irish force of say 20,000 men, scattered throughout the country, however badly armed and equipped, would certainly require ten times, twenty thousand - 200,000 men. For, garrisons, camps, barracks, towns would have to be held; railways, bridges, cable stations, etc. guarded; martial law would have to be enforced. That 200,000 could be spared, at the present time, I doubt; certainly not 200,000 well trained troops, even though the supply of men be almost unlimited. Gurkhas and others may be sent here, but our climate would settle them. And there may be trouble with the Irish soldiers in the English army. 20,000 men would indeed make a very good bid for success of Irish liberty. They may not succeed but they would very likely create such a situation that success would ultimately attend the Irish nation.
2. Equipment. In this the English force would be immensely superior. They have artillery: the Volunteers have none. They have cavalry: there are no mounted Volunteers. They have the means of good clothing, campaign necessities, tinned wine, cooking utensils, engines of various kinds; stores; aeroplanes; modern rifles and plenty of ammunition. At least, I assume they would have all these things in abundance for an Irish campaign, however they may have been lacking in them for the Flanders campaign.

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my na noolaz an naid. Dialuain. Spaid byzide. 3. officers. The present English officers are not experienced ones as a rule, I should think. If those we see around Cork are ~~any~~ characteristic of the type, they are very young. Still there are some older men still left and they have the advantage - young and old - of continuous training, day by day, with nothing else to occupy their attention. The Volunteers officers have undoubtedly been progressing and improving and in intelligence would be more than a match I would say for the others.

4. The regularised existence and the legal force behind the regular army would give them some weight in the despatch of business and would appeal to certain people. When closely looked at, however, this cannot count for so very much now, as the Volunteers for over two years have been part of Irish life. 5. Direction from a well organised centre. This is a real advantage. All that we call Dublin Castle is highly organised and there would be little fear of its orders not being obeyed by the military command. Regular soldiers too are more disciplined than Volunteers and may be counted on to act more quickly on higher command. There may be some friction indeed

but the main object - to crush Ireland - would never be lost sight of and this would lead to definiteness. On the other hand the Volunteers cannot be so well disciplined, so easily amenable to orders from any Dublin centre, and we may also expect that the Government will strike at that centre so as to disorganise and the whole force and their efforts will probably

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Dec. 20:- be attended with some success. Then, we must allow for inevitable jealousies, bickering, etc. There may be expected on both sides, but in the nature of things they would be fiercer and fraught with grave consequences on the one side.

6. Control of means of communication. Grappling close to this question, of course it would be a first duty of an Irish army to render means of communication useless to the enemy if they could not control those means themselves. So that this should not count for so much as it seems to now while the enemy are in actual control.

7. I have written: almost unlimited supplies of men, money, food, materials. Studying the matter at closer quarters I am inclined to modify the expression to large supplies. The number of men the English Government could throw into Ireland would depend on its needs elsewhere. 'Tis easy to say they have a million or so in training in England. For a month or two they may be able to send half a million to Ireland but even that is doubtful and if certain tactics were adopted the campaign would not be finished in that time. After all the coast of France is nearer to England than Ireland is; the need of beating the Germans more pressing; yet for months and months while the Germans were pushing west the English Army was hardly more than 300,000 I suppose in the fighting regions there.

The areas to be guarded in order to save the British Empire are so many and so large that an army of two or three millions is not so great for England. They must keep from 3/4 to 1 million men in France; they must guard India; the Suez Canal and Egypt; they have apparently determined to stick on

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Dec. 20:- at Gallipoli and Salonika; they need reinforcements in Mesopotamia so, the supply of men is not unlimited. Money too is not at all as plentiful with them as it was. Their credit is low; their expenses enormous. While their ships range the seas they are sure of food and materials. The only point I can see here would be the effect in the United States of a Irish rising, did the news reach the States. The opinion in the States against supplying the English with arms and ammunition would grow stronger ~~and if~~ they are good for anything the Irish in the States would be able to do something in this regard. I may record the opinion now which I hold as regards Irish American help or any other keep - Casements Irish Brigade for instance. I would pin no great faith to any such help for the positive fighting in Ireland. The utmost I would expect would be the influencing of public opinion in other countries - always assuming news of an Irish rising got abroad. More than ever before, should a conflict take place, its result would depend on Irishmen in Ireland, not on any aid from abroad. I believe this is a general feeling too. So far as I know there is not the faintest idea in the minds of those who would fight to day for Irish independence of desiring where any outside force whatever to land in Ireland and set our country free. It has been hinted now and again by the English and pro English that "Sinn Féiners" expect a German flotilla land in Ireland. This is absolutely untrue; a deliberate lie.

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Dec. 20:- I know no Volunteer or Irish Nationalist who has even the shadow of an idea of any such thing happening or likely to happen, or influencing the course of events in Ireland. The present feeling is a real self reliance one. That a rising in Ireland would have important results on the course of the Great War is probable; that Germany would make the most of it, to her own interests, is beyond doubt, but these are not the things in the minds of Irish Nationalists or Volunteers. The one burning desire with them is Irish independence.

Now, calmly and soberly, sitting here comfortably beside a fire, with knowledge of how peaceful Ireland is, do I really and truly think there is a serious probability of a rising in Ireland? I do.

But it depends more on the action of the British Government in Ireland than on the Volunteers. And the signs of the times are that the Government is contemplating serious action. I have

seen it stated somewhere that the Government forced a premature rebellion in '98; premature risings in '48 and in '67. I don't agree ^{and in the other times} in that. In '98 the fault was that the rebellion or rising was deferred till too late. The United Irishmen should have struck in '96 or '97; the Fenians in '65. There is the very same danger to-day. The O'Glas apparently will wait till the Government strikes and the Government will not strike till it is fairly sure of its ground. That the Government is contemplating striking is evident: when and how is

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Dec. 20: will strike is not so evident. That there will be a "rising" when it strikes is beyond doubt. Do I really think there is a chance of such a "rising" of any "rising" being successful? I do and the more so after analysing the forces for and against. But I fancy I know only too well the conditions necessary for success and I am not at all sure those conditions will come about. Everything is in the hands of God and it may be His will this time that Ireland should be free.

A word as to my own position. I am, in a sense, merely a chronicler of events. I have no particular inside knowledge of affairs. There may be many things behind the scenes, which if I knew of them, would modify my opinions. It is daring enough for me to record opinions even in this book as it may reach the "enemy's" hands. But the writing helps to clear my own mind and, if the book should survive so long, it should be of interest to any one fifty years hence as a record of some things in Ireland and in the world during the Great War.

Thurs. 11.10. Diarmids, 3 p.m. The English forces have been withdrawing from Salsburgh. The opinion now is that they have been transferred from two places on the peninsula to "another sphere". Some forces are still supposed to be at the extreme end of the peninsula, but the action taken indicates withdrawal from that theatre of operations. It is said the news of withdrawal was in Paris last Friday. We were allowed to know of it yesterday. The losses there are admitted to have been about 200,000. Very large numbers of Irish were killed or wounded at Santa Bay. So, all the brave words of Churchill and Kitchener and others regarding tremendous possibilities of victories in that region were so much wind. All the lies that were told have gone for naught. British prestige suffers a

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Dec. 21: - smashing blow by withdrawal, a blow to rebound through the "bear bait" and the "fox bait": to Greece, India and Egypt anyhow, with telling results. The Turks are jubilant no doubt. They certainly have proved to be wonderful fighters. Berlin, Vienna, and Sofia are no doubt baffled. They have good cause for rejoicing at this blow to the rotten old British Empire. Old Leon Guille must have a scene today.

Asquith is not to give the Derby scheme recruiting figures to day: they are not ready (this). Lloyd George made a long statement yesterday regarding progress of munition work. Very straight, plain talk on the whole, with some nice verbal adroitness to keep up Leon Guille's heart. He makes some most interesting admissions - failures on the allied side, bungling with the English. The words "Too late" has dogged the footsteps of the allies, he says. He wonders if it is too late now. His speech is taken as being in part an attack on Kitchener and the government. He thanks John B.H. for Ireland's help in supplying munitions. His words blow sky high many lies of the English and pro-English press; lies of the German press and the allies' strength. But, the English fleet remains. That is the one last hope of England.

By 10 votes to 9 Kitchener's Committee yesterday refused to appoint a recruiting Committee. Strong words spoken about John B. Redmond. "Instead of voting for recruiting they should endorse the Bishop of Lincoln's letter" - thus the chairman. I regard this committee's decision because it is typical of the present situation. The voting too is typical of the whole country: 10 of every 14 persons undoubtedly anti-English; openly so now. The Bishop's letter undermined the language of our public men. The soul of Ireland is saved. Buideney to Do.

Re Wet and over a hundred others in South Africa have been released from prison. Are they any more "loyal" now to the British Empire?

Have received some "Opines by General" letters. Usual bungling in that direction. A friend yesterday morning received a recent "Gaelic American" - an unrepentant letter.

Still a year's work!

