

AWFUL LOSSES ON THE SOMME

Frederick Palmer one of the most experienced of the war correspondents on the western front, who has returned to the United States for a rest, says the battle of the Somme—that is, the Allied offensive opened by the battle—will continue for two, perhaps three years. Staff officers told him they had no expectation of breaking the German lines this year. Mr. Palmer praises highly the British "tanks" and the aerial service of the British army. The "tanks," he believes, have saved thousands of lives. Mr. Palmer estimates the total casualties in the Somme campaign to date at 1,500,000, and predicts that next season's operations on this part of the front will be even more sanguinary. Britain alone is prepared to lose a million men, killed, wounded or captured, in continuing the Somme offensive. She will have twice her present gunpower in 1917.

Sir Douglas Haig's official report, issued yesterday afternoon, notes the loss of part of the ground east of the Hill of Warlencourt captured on Tuesday. The enemy counter-attacked in strength and forced back the British along part of the new front. On the north bank of the Ancre General Haig's army continued to make progress despite heavy shelling.

IN MACEDONIA

The advance of the Franco-Serbian army on Monastir continues with what an official dispatch from Paris last night speaks of as "full success." In the bend of the Cerna the Serbs captured some hilltops north of the Iva after a stubborn fight, and repulsed the enemy's counter-attacks. To the west the Allies took by assault the hill upon which stands the Monastery of Yarashok after a struggle that cost the enemy heavy losses. It is confirmed that Allied cavalry have occupied Negotarin, a road centre on the highway between Florina and Monastir, about nine miles from the latter city. On Wednesday 400 additional prisoners were captured.—Globe, Nov. 18.

T. P. O'CONNOR'S LETTER

CHANGES IN PERSONNEL OF IRISH GOVERNMENT

THE FUTURE OF THE ABLE BUT ERRATIC WINSTON CHURCHILL  
Special Cable to the CATHOLIC RECORD  
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London, Nov. 18.—The conference held between John Redmond, John Dillon and Premier Asquith at the end of last week has set all tongues wagging and produced a crop of misleading rumors. It was thought that this interview meant the opening of a new chapter in the settlement of the Home Rule question, as all Irish roads lead nowadays in some way and at some time to Home Rule.

The interview, in consequence of many incidents, is looked upon as a flank movement to increase the impetus of the English as well as the Irish reaching a settlement.

But for the moment the interview had a more modest purpose than the settlement of the Home Rule question. The settlement of the Home Rule question was not even mentioned and for the reason which is a simple one, that all negotiations for Home Rule are quite hopeless in Ireland until a better popular atmosphere has been created.

This can only come with the disappearance of all forms of military rule that have been brought about by the rebellion.

This view has been pressed strongly for weeks on Prime Minister Asquith and is again the chief theme now that the famous interview has come about.

Something has already been accomplished in the substitution of a popular and genial type of Irish soldier like General Mahon instead of Maxwell, with such unhappy memories.

Price, a most unpopular police agent, is also gone, and other things doubtless will be following immediately. For example, the Home Secretary Samuel has announced an entire transformation of the conditions surrounding John McNeill and other prisoners condemned to penal servitude, which will be practically an entire reversal of all English precedents of making a distinction between ordinary and political prisoners.

The Irish members' final demand for a big goal delivery of interned Irishmen in England which, though some may resume the mischievous Sinn Féin agitation, will render them innocuous by the appeasement of Irish feeling.

Thus Ireland is gradually being led back on constitutional lines, first by the removal of the bad atmosphere produced by the executive and by the daily increasing proof that the Irish party alone can safeguard the advance of Irish rights.

What is to be the future of Winston Churchill is one of the questions which even in the midst of the anxieties of the war still occupies a good deal of the conversation of the political dinner tables of London. It occupies, of course, a good deal of his own thought, for there is no man in politics to-day who is more self-centred, more ambitious, more full of the spirit of the daring and adventurous soldier of fortune who wants to carve his way to the leader-

ship of men. Like so many other men of high spirit and of intense energy, he is fitful in his moods. It is an absurd misconception of the infinite permutations and combinations of human character that a man may be at once very nervous and very brave. Bismarck confessed to an Englishman once that he was one of the most nervous of men; and it is known that he was—at least up to his later middle age—so shy that he was often seen to blush like a boy. Similarly Winston Churchill, who is a man of astounding physical bravery and of restless and indefatigable energy, has frequent moods of despondency. There is a new Winston when he is in one of these moods; for he becomes silent, moody, withdraws into himself, even can remain for a long time when company is around him, looking blankly at the floor.

I have described him as self-centred. This is the reason why he is regarded as so unfitted for councils. He talks, when he is in the mood, incessantly. His conversation is not a swift river; it is almost a cataract. It is possibly this huge power of talk, and splendid talk too, that accounts for the manner in which he has so often overborne the opinions of even wiser men; as in the case of the Dardanelles, where undoubtedly, although he did not overbear Jacky Fisher—as the great Admiral is universally called—he did drag the cool-headed and cautious Asquith and even the more stolid Kitchener, into that disastrous enterprise. But like so many great talkers, he is not so good a listener. He is quite polite in society, is respectful to his elders—so long as they are not offering him counsel—to him and whom he thinks incompetent. It is said that Admiral Wilson who was First Sea Lord, was dismissed after a splendid record, with something like abruptness by this terrible young man. But outside official life, Winston remains a simple, pleasant, respectful boy when he is in the company of his elders. But he does not listen.

This had the effect of making him rather ineffective in the Cabinet, I have been told. He would put forward some proposition of daring and original character. It would be torn to pieces by his colleagues; then they would pass on to some other topic—for Cabinets have always so huge a programme that they cannot afford to dally over propositions they do not take to. After a quarter of an hour, Winston fresh as ever, would come forward with his proposition again as if nothing had occurred. The explanation was that he had fallen back on himself; gone into a brown study, and had not heard a word of the conversation in the interval. As I heard it put by a colleague who likes him, Winston has a passion for irrelevance.

Nevertheless it is regarded by many people as a tragedy that such a dynamic force should remain unemployed in times like these. No man in Parliament has such tireless energy; can work such long hours, can apparently with such ease burn a candle at both ends and even a little in the middle. For he is a great social figure. He loves to dine with his friends, and to talk all through dinner; and can sit up with the best of them. But it did not prevent him from getting up, or at least from beginning work, at 7 in the morning when he was in charge of the Admiralty. It was, therefore, the strong wish of many people, including, I believe, Lloyd George—that Winston should be put at the head of the Munitions Department when Lloyd George's transfer to the War Office made that place vacant. Different as they are in upbringing and in character, these two men have always remained good friends. I have never heard anybody else in the world address Lloyd George as "David," except Winston; he is usually addressed, even by his intimates, as "L. G." They have been at variance in opinion at some stages of their career—notably when Winston proposed his big Navy scheme, and Lloyd George as Chancellor of the Exchequer shrank from the heavy taxation which such gigantic expenditure would involve. But this passed away; and when Winston went down, "Lloyd George" was one of the few men who stuck to him.

Why did Winston not get the job? He seemed marked out by his natural gifts for such a position, and he did not conceal his feverish desire to get it. It must be put down to his folly in resigning his office. And yet there was no man in public life who had such tragic warnings against such an act of folly. I was told by Lloyd George of a dramatic scene—it was sometime before the war—when Winston came into his room at 11 Downing street. "This was the room in which my father used to work," remarked Winston as he looked around at the familiar scene. And then he said that his father always loved this house, the reason being that he could take his observations between the two different sets of enemies who he thought were resolved to destroy him. I should explain that No. 10 is the residence of the Prime Minister—then Lord Salisbury—and no friend of Lord Randolph Churchill—while No. 12 is occupied by the Party whips, whom also Lord Randolph reckoned among his enemies. "I suppose," said Lloyd George, "that it was a great grief to him to give up the Chancellorship of the Exchequer?" "He never recovered from it," said Winston; and then went on to say something of the stations of the cross through which his father had gone till he reached

the calvary of insanity and premature death.

But the curious thing—considering what the son did afterwards—was that Winston criticised the conduct of his father severely, thought he had acted with want of tact and with impulsiveness, and that a Minister who is about to retire ought to have made his preparations beforehand so that he might not stand outside the Cabinet without support, and be not naked, alone, deserted, as fallen politicians usually are.

But the lesson was lost on him; and he resigned the Chancellorship of the Duchy of Lancaster—a sinecure—but a well-paid one, especially in the days when Ministers have pooled their salaries, and this job, which used to bring only two thousand a year now brings in four thousand. His rush across to the army and trenches would have been all right if he had stayed there; but he was back again in the House of Commons in a few months; and this did not help him. How different was the conduct of another leading politician of our times. Mr. Herbert Samuel is one of the most capable men in politics, and especially capable as head of a Department; for he is industrious, always knows his case thoroughly, can never be tripped up; in fact, has a typical bureaucratic efficiency—rather of the German than the English type. He had made a great success as a Minister; but when the shuffling of the cards came with the reaction of the Coalition Ministry, he was retained in office but excluded from the Cabinet. It was a gross and an undeserved affront; but Mr. Samuel sat calmly on the Treasury Bench; gave no sign of resentment; and in a few months was in the Cabinet; and now holds the high office of Home Secretary—one of the biggest offices in the Ministry.

To complete the picture of the upheavals in political as well as other reputations, and indeed with all things which come with a great war, you have only to go to a top room in an office not far from the Admiralty to find Lord Fisher there; alone, restless, discontented, severely critical of all his successors are doing and bursting with gigantic projects to which he can now get no one to listen. His friends in the newspapers now and then make a plea for him; ladies of high station carry on campaigns in his favour; the country still believes in him; but he sits there, impotent and outside all serious intervention in the war. When these two strong personalities of Winston and Fisher came into collision with each other, they destroyed each the other and both themselves.

THE CONDITION OF IRELAND

THE ASCENDANCY SPIRIT

The Times, London, England

We continue this week the chief speeches of the Irish debate as reported in the Times.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR (Liverpool, Scotland, Nat.) remarked that the policy announced by the right hon. gentleman was in effect one of coercion and more coercion. Ireland having been offered and been cheated of self-government, was given, as the alternative, two Unionist lawyers as its administrators. Ireland had the chance of liberty at her lips, but on the morrow of the promise of self-government the old Tory regime was restored. It was difficult to believe that anyone outside Bedlam could have pursued such a policy. He declared that there was from the first in the War Office a Curragh Camp spirit, determined to use the military power of the country to discredit and damage the cause of Home Rule.

The idea was not to encourage recruiting amongst the Nationalists, but to prevent it. After asserting that the old Ascendancy Gang in Ireland had got on the top again, and that the Kildare street Club was governing the country, he referred to the old case of Sergeant Sheridan, who was denounced as an agent provocateur, and alleged that today similar agents were at work. Major Price he regarded as a symbol and epitome of Dublin Castle rule. When Mr. John McNeill, the leader of the Irish Volunteers, was in prison awaiting his trial, he was visited by Major Price. John McNeill had pledged himself to the statement that what Major Price did was to suggest to him that he should connect the hon. member for East Mayo and the hon. member for West Bel fast not only with the ideas but with the acts and purposes of the Sinn Féin rebellion. Talk of Prussianism! Did they do anything worse than that? That was what the Chief Secretary called the firm administration of the law, which was to gain the sympathy of the Irish people.

Mr. DUKE.—May I remind my hon. friend of the fact that Major Price has most absolutely denied the whole of this story.

Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR.—When my right hon. friend puts that evidence against the word of John McNeill I tell him that before he is many months in Dublin Castle he will be a sadder and a wiser man in regard to evidence of that description. Was Major Price and the regime of which he was the embodiment consistent with the principles for which the Allies were fighting? Then there was the terrible report of the shooting, and in his opinion the man who ordered the shooting of Mr. Sheehy Skeffington was no more insane than Casement was, though he did not say either was quite sane; he tried to

cover up his crime by every mean and lying device. The British Government could not go into the peace conference with clean hands if the question of Ireland had not been settled. British demands at the conference would be for justice to the small nations. What would Bethmann Hollweg say? He would say, "You demand the liberation of small nations. There is a country called Ireland. You demand recognition of the principle of nationality. Have you liberated Ireland? Have you recognized that principle of nationality in that Ireland of your own only three hours from your shore?" And if the British Government had to say, "No"—he hoped they might have to say—"No"—Bethmann Hollweg would say, "Hypocrite, you see the mote in your brother's eye, but not the beam in your own." His desire to see the Irish question settled for ever was inspired not only by his love for his own countrymen, but equally by his desire that this Empire might go into the peace conference with her own hands clean of all the guilt as regards her own small nations. (Cheers.)

SIR J. SIMON ON MARTIAL LAW

Sir J. SIMON (Essex, Walthamstow, Lib.) thought it was unfortunate that the Chief Secretary should have spoken of the severe and repressive measures in operation in Ireland as a remedy for the condition of that country, and have declared that they should continue until the malady was cured. That was a very ancient and hoary policy in the government of Ireland. (Nationalist cheers.) He did not agree with belittling the outbreak in Ireland. It was plain to him that what had occurred in Easter week made severe measures absolutely necessary. Any Home Ruler or Liberal who did not say that to his Irish friends would be wanting in courage and good sense. But that was a very different thing from coming there months and months after the rising and offering no real answer to the question, "Why do you keep martial law up?" In fact, he did not believe the restrictions put by the Irish Executive upon what might be considered dangerous occurrences depended upon martial law in the least. They depended upon regulations under the Defence of the Realm Act which provided ample security against disorder. In the circumstances he could not think there was any good or solid ground for continuing martial law. He desired, further, to say that nothing that had happened in Ireland in the least affected his firm belief that it was along the lines of Home Rule that contentment could be brought to Ireland. At the same time, he thought it was idle to imagine that so great a constitutional change could be brought about in the midst of a great war except by the methods of negotiation and consent.

RECRUITING IN IRELAND

Mr. ASQUITH.—I will not go back to the various points connected with Irish recruiting to which the hon and learned gentleman has referred. That there were dreadful mistakes and blunders—most regrettable mistakes—in the early stages of the matter he knows well that I am the last person to deny. Unfortunately those cannot now be repaired. The practical suggestions which he made this afternoon, for which I assure him I feel very grateful, as to the steps which can now be taken to fill up with Irishmen the wasted ranks—wasted for the most glorious of all reasons—of the gallant Irish Division will receive the very careful and sympathetic consideration of the Secretary for War. The hon. and learned member and those for whom he speaks have, I know, with us one and the same object in this matter. I am doing him no more than bare justice when I say that no man in the Empire has rendered more constant, more loyal, and more effective service in recruiting for the Army. That is the primary and paramount condition of our success in the war. (Hear, hear.)

In regard to the present administration of Irish government it is, of course, to be remembered that we are dealing with a provisional and, I hope, a transitory situation. Martial law in the commonly accepted sense of the term is not being applied to Ireland. It exists in name; it does not exist in any substantial reality.

IRELAND ALWAYS EXCEPTED

Mr. DEVLIN said he could not congratulate the Prime Minister on the satisfactory character of the role he occupied. In a situation of the most stupendous difficulty he had not a single suggestion to make to solve it. Some months ago the Prime Minister solemnly declared that Dublin Castle was dead and damned, and he proceeded to build it up again in a worse form than before. He had not uttered a word of sympathy with those who had preserved the constitutional movement, nor had he acceded to a single request of the leader of the Irish Party in order to restore that atmosphere which was created by the party's efforts when the war commenced. Instead, they had a spectacle of the most grotesque comedy. They had the spectacle of gentlemen who talked about the rights of small nationalities, standing up and justifying martial law and the abolition of constitutional government. He would never have secured a single recruit if he had not believed that Ireland herself was to be included in the "small nations" on whose behalf the war was being fought.

I am sorry to say that there are a great many battalions that have ceased really to be Irish. The next

plete agreement in Ireland. Had any reform, any measure of liberty, ever been carried in this country by the unanimous consent of all the people? If not, why should they except Ireland from every principle that lay at the solution of all questions? The Nationalist members were the recruiting agents in Ireland, and they succeeded.

SHAMELESS DISCRIMINATION

He mentioned how when he was recruiting he had a great struggle to get any commission for any Irish Nationalist. The responsibility did not rest with the War Office. He felt so deeply this refusal to give commissions to young and well-educated Irish Roman Catholics that he came over specially to see the Prime Minister. With great difficulty he got an interview with him, and the right hon. gentleman treated him with the utmost coldness. (Mr. Asquith shook his head.) He displayed not the least sympathy; gave the usual shrug of his shoulders and the nod of his head—that was all the satisfaction he received. The Prime Minister had one great fault, of too often, like the ostrich, striking his head in the sands. That had been the secret of all the troubles that had taken place. If the right hon. gentleman had had the courage of his convictions he could have settled the hostile machinations in the War Office. The Government had taken things in Ireland out of the hands of the Irish members and handed them over to Lord Lansdowne, Major Price, and the Editor of the Morning Post. Let that triumvirate commence the work of recruiting in Ireland and see what they could make of it. If it were said that men were wanted to win the war and that Ireland could give them, those men could be had for a measure of liberty to Ireland. (Cheers.) Give Ireland Home Rule, and not only would the weary conflict between the two countries be brought to an end—a conflict that had never been so formidable as it was at this juncture, when it should be least formidable—but the Empire would get back the services of a martial race whose soldiers by their bravery and self-sacrifice had enriched the story of the Great War. (Cheers.)

APPALLING ANTI-IRISH SPIRIT IN WAR OFFICE

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE.—I should like to be able to make a good Parliamentary defence to some of the criticisms of the hon and learned gentleman the member for Waterford upon some of the recruiting methods in Ireland. Honestly I cannot do so. I am now referring to what was the most crucial period in the history of recruiting either in this country or in Ireland. That was the first few months. I wish I could give an answer to my hon. friend's criticisms, but some of the stupidities, which sometimes almost look like malignities, which were perpetrated at the beginning of recruiting in Ireland are beyond belief. I do not know who was responsible.

I remember that I was perfectly appalled at the methods adopted to try and induce the Irish people to join the ranks. It really looked as if someone were deliberately discouraging them.

I think I shall be able to prove that that unfortunate period is passed, and passed long ago. But it is very difficult to retrieve and recover lost opportunity of that kind. There were things done which offended Nationalist susceptibilities. It was not altogether confined to Ireland. (Sir E. Carson—"Nor to the Nationalists.") No, I am referring to Ireland as a whole. Of course a great machine had to be improvised for recruiting and raising a gigantic army, and it was not always possible to find the best men for the purpose. At any rate, some of the things which were done undoubtedly account to a very large extent for chilling all the original enthusiasm exhibited in Ireland in favour of recruiting. There was the incident of the flag. That incident was one which, to anyone who belonged to a small nationality, would have seemed to be utterly impossible. I can quite understand the effect it would have in Ireland. It did undoubtedly neutralize to a very great extent the very energetic assistance and powerful appeals made by my hon. and learned friend and those associated with him.

I also know something about commissions for young Irishmen. I think it very unfortunate, because I know how much that counts in a country like Ireland.

THE QUESTION OF DRAFTS

I will now come to what my hon. friend said about certain Irish drafts. I am sure what he complained of has not happened since June.

Since the month of June a real effort has been made to keep up these national characteristics. In stead of drafting Englishmen into Scottish regiments, and Scotsmen into English regiments, our rule is to put Scotsmen into Scottish battalions, Englishmen into English battalions, Welshmen into Welsh battalions, and Irishmen into Irish battalions.

Mr. J. REDMOND.—Will the right hon. gentleman restore to the Leinster Regiment the hundreds of men taken from it before June and put into Highland regiments?

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE.—That involves another question. It involves restoring to English regiments the Englishmen put into Irish regiments. I am sorry to say that there are a great many battalions that have ceased really to be Irish. The next

point raised by my honorable friend was that Irishmen in English regiments and Irish battalions in English divisions should be drafted into the Irish division. He gave the case of the London Scottish and said the London Scottish had been attached to the Gordon Highlanders. As a matter of fact they have been attached to the London division. The London Irish have been depleted in exactly the same way, I am assured, as the London Scottish in that respect.

IRISH REGIMENTS IRISH STILL

Mr. S. GWYNNE (Galway, Nat.).—May we have this quite clear, because it has been stated very often that Irish regiments are now filled up by Englishmen? What is the case with such regiments as the Tyndeside who have never been allowed to rank as Irish regiments at all?

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE.—My hon. friend wants to know whether the Irish regiments in Ireland are filled up with Englishmen? I could not give him the information at the present moment, but I will find out whether any of those regiments are filled up with English drafts.

CAPTAIN W. A. REDMOND, Tyrone, E. Nat., who had his arm in a sling, said:—The battalion of the Dublin Fusiliers to which I have been attached at the front has been almost wiped away on four occasions. On the last occasion they had about 50% casualties and they were filled up by Irishmen, most of them Dublin Fusiliers. That is the point that my hon. friend is trying to make; the Irish regiments at the front are still composed of Irishmen.

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE.—May I be allowed to say how glad I am to see the hon. and gallant gentleman sufficiently recovered to be with us after the great perils he has faced? (Cheers.) You could not attach to the Irish regiment formations which are no longer Irish. Let me give another case. There might be certain cases of urgency, where Irish drafts just arrived in France were put into English, Scottish, or Welsh regiments. That might happen with regard to any nationality. You might find, for instance, a division put into action short, and the Commander-in-Chief has got to fill them up twenty-four hours notice. There is no time to distribute the drafts then, and he takes the draft available without any reference to nationality. My hon. friend, however, may take it from me that the principle which has been laid down and the principle to which we mean to adhere is that nationality shall be respected with regard to drafts.

Mr. REDMOND.—There are two points with which the right hon. gentleman did not deal. One is the desirability of allowing individual transfers and the other is the question of the wounded men from the base not being sent back to their own division, but to English divisions.

Mr. LLOYD GEORGE.—That is a question I made inquiries about, and the only answer I can give is that the War Office regard that as quite inadvisable. If there were real pressure and a division was sent short into action, the Commander-in-Chief might send Irishmen who before they were wounded were in Irish battalions, but apart from that it would be undoubtedly contrary to the principles laid down by the Army Council.

GREAT BRITAIN'S PART

This is really a matter of atmosphere. The atmosphere for recruiting in Ireland is bad, and what I should like men of all parties to do—I am not talking politics now, I am talking war—is not so much to appeal to men in other parties to do their share, but to consider what they can do themselves. It is no use appealing to Ireland to assist; we must appeal to Great Britain to assist. The contribution of Great Britain is the contribution of improving the atmosphere in Ireland. I am not going into the unfortunate story of the negotiations and why they failed. If you apportion the blame or try to apportion it you only create fresh difficulties by doing so, and you enter into unprofitable controversies. What is important is that from the point of view of the war these brave and gallant warlike people who exhibited at the beginning of the war a real desire to help should be brought to that again. The representatives of Ireland are impotent unless Great Britain contributes her part. I do hope that men of all parties in this country and men of all sections in Ireland will consider whether something cannot be done in order to remove a sense of injustice, a sense of distrust, a sense of suspicion and a sense of misunderstanding between two races which make it impossible for them to co-operate for an end which is just as important to one as it is to the other. I believe it can be done (cheers), and before beginning any controversy about recruiting in Ireland I should like to see that considered. (Cheers.) I am making an earnest appeal now not as a member of the Government, but as the Secretary for War and I know how vital it is to the interests of this country that everything that the Empire can do in every corner and quarter of it, should be summoned to our aid in this great struggle. We cannot afford to do without Irish help; let us make it easy for Ireland to assist. I think the British mind is eminently a just one. (An Hon. Member—"No.") Yes, I think a sense of justice is ingrained in the British nation, and if they realize that there is some sense of grievance in the Irish mind which makes it difficult for them to listen to our appeals for assistance, I

believe Britishers will face that difficulty and assist to remove it without any regard to previous predilections, prejudices, or associations.

I beg the men in this country who know how important success in this war is to the British Empire to subordinate everything to the securing of the assistance of this great race for us in this combat. I would appeal also to Ireland to approach Great Britain in the same spirit. There are millions of men in this country who are earnestly anxious to see and who mean to see that justice shall be done to Ireland.

BOURBON POLITICS OF WAR OFFICE

Mr. DILLON asked why, if martial law existed only in name in Ireland, it was not repealed? Its existence would give the impression abroad that there was a serious situation. The educated idealists who were detained in penal servitude were not criminals in the ordinary sense and ought to be treated as political prisoners, as they would be in France and other Continental countries. The Chief Secretary seemed to be under the delusion that if Ireland were given a sufficient dose of martial law peace and good will would be ingenerated, recruits would be obtained, and the people would be enthusiastically in favor of winning the war.

The Sinn Féin movement in its early days was effectively encouraged, and he believed was subsidized by Unionists in Ireland because they regarded it as an efficient weapon with which to strike at the Nationalist Party and the constitutional movement to obtain Home Rule.

He predicted that if the Nationalist Party should disappear after the next General Election we should find ourselves in this country in a worse position than we were ever in before. He complained very bitterly of the attitude of the War Office at the beginning of the war when the member for Waterford and himself explained the measures that should be taken to secure recruits to Lord Kitchener, who, he said, scorned them all.

When they went back to Ireland, for three months General Friend commanding the forces in Ireland, did not speak to them; and he was not allowed to do so until Lord Kitchener was overruled by the Cabinet. Speaking of the small percentage of commissions given to Nationalists, even in the Connaught Rangers and the Munster Fusiliers, Mr. Dillon said there was a deliberate purpose to impress on the Nationalists that they were good food for powder—"the best missile troops," as Colonel Repington was forced unwillingly to admit the other day in The Times.

RECOGNIZE ITS WORTH

The Denver Catholic Register says that one of the students in the ninth grade of the Cathedral Parish School in that city is a young member of the Methodist Episcopal Church who intends to enter the ministry of that body.

"He is one of the fifty to sixty non-Catholics," says the Register, who are enrolled in the school. While his family is Methodist Episcopal, the boy has been educated entirely under Catholic parochial auspices. The ambition he holds is proof of his fidelity to Methodism, but his family is convinced, just like many other Protestant families of Colorado, that the spiritual atmosphere surrounding a parochial school is the best possible place to bring out all that is noble in the young man's make-up."

Good example is a language and an argument which everybody understands.

FATHER FRASER'S CHINESE MISSION

Taichow, China, Dec. 11, 1915.

Dear Readers of CATHOLIC RECORD:—It may be a little surprise to you to learn that it takes \$100 a week to keep my mission going. I am glad when I see that amount contributed in the RECORD, but when it is less I am sad to see my little reserve fund diminished and the catastrophe arriving when I must close my chapels, discharge my catechists and reduce my expenses to the few dollars coming in weekly. I beseech you to make one more supreme effort during 1916 to keep this mission on its feet. You will be surprised to learn what a great deal I am doing with \$100 a week—keeping myself and curate, 80 catechists, 7 chapels, and free schools, 3 churches in different cities with caretakers supporting two big catechumens of men, women and children during their preparation for baptism and building a church every year.

Yours gratefully in Jesus and Mary. J. M. FRASER.

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In memory of a deceased person.....	5 00
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