## The Catholic Record

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SPRING

March is the month when the influence of Spring begins to be felt even by the least observant, though according to Dan Chaucer, it is not till the "Showers Sweet" of April come that men and women long to go on pilgrimage." But the "roar ing moon of daffodil and crocus" is the real harbinger of Spring, the WEEKLY IRISH REVIEW

And lady-smocks all silver white, And cuckoo buds of yellow hue Do paint the meadows with delight.'

It is the time when the singing of birds begins to swell into something like a chorus as the days lengthen, and though Winter may raid us again with lapsing bitterness, there are sure to be bursts of sunny gladness that reach our hearts. Then, with one foot on the threshold of the vernal year, we learn afresh how great and constant is the power of Nature over the spirit of man.

There are people who would have us believe that it is the poets and the artists who have tutored men and women into a love of Nature. They suggest that, by means of acute artistic perceptions, they lay claim to her as a monopoly. It is only by specialisation that she can be known, has already been proclaimed. and the poet and the painter are the specialists. The artist particularly is often sure that one must understand how to look at a lovely scene even of six counties of Ulster-five to appreciate it properly.

We should be sorry to undervalue dence and have shown us how they see the natural world with delight. But their helpfulness to us is not that they have revealed something we did not see, but that they have expressed for us more clearly something which we did see perhaps dimly, and feel perhaps vaguely. Like Byron, we have known what it is to-

" Mingle with the Universe and feel What I can ne'er express yet cannot all conceal.

The poet expresses for us a larger part of this understanding of the world about us, and so we are grateful to him, but he is an interpreter of what we already felt rather than of Orange insurgents into opposition on originator of the sentiment of natural beauty.

Our contention is that the influence of Nature on the spirit of man is far more widespread and potent Northeast (who have developed a than we are inclined to believe. By most bitter hatred of and opposition Nature we mean our scenic and to the Orange capitalist oligarchy) atmospheric surroundings, and the Britishism and real Irish nationalism life of animal and man which those surroundings frame - mountain. plain, and sea, brooks and rivers in all their changeful aspects, woods, copses, and orchards, and the beautiful shapely trees that stand alone, cornlands, meadows and chequered allotments, heaths and wastes, fertile fields, the pageant of the earth's colouring, the fleeting visits of Parliaments will be the Ulster one. flowers, the quality of the air and its accompanying dissolving views which we summarise as weather, the fascinating round of the seasons, the mystery and majesty of the other worlds that we see afar across the dark abysses of infinite space, the wonderfal gradations of life through the with the exception of a little clique animal orders, lurking reptiles, insects of the land, water, and air, the loveliness and melody of birds, the pathetic familiarity of animals that are on their way to domesticity or Edward Carson dancing a war dance have arrived there, and all the with delight or of pretended delight follies, humors, passions, powers heroisms, and hopes of man. What wonder that our glimpses of this vast changeful panorama, matter ever acted on by force and permeated bp progressive forms of spirit, move us strangely, even when we do not definitely think about our surround-

The poet and the artist survey the great field of Nature, or some parts have again pressed him to come out of it, with conscious admiration, and and clinch the work of the delegathe philosopher studies it to find out the reason of things, but to the multitude of ordinary people who are not consciously observant, or of set purpose thoughtful, Nature brings her mescages that are received as if by instinct, and those messages colour our lives far more than we realise.

one confined indoors what a difference divides the bright day from the dull day. It is as though a weight were lifted off the heart. The change is dramatic and cannot be diere garded. It is just the same with the coming of Spring. One may question whether any soul is so inert as to fail to make some kind of response to the gentle potency of the fruitful sun.

"When daisies pied and violets blue, IRELAND SEEN THROUGH IRISH EYES

> Copyright 1920 by Seumas MacManus HOME RULE-MADE IN ENGLAND

The only people interested in the Irish Home Rule Bill are the English the cause of much smiling rather than much comment. When a large body of the Irish people were clam-oring for Home Rule—as a step toward other things—it was almost impossible to drag and force it from the English people. Now that Ireland has moved a long way onward, and ceased to worry about Home Rule the English have begun think out methods of forcing Home Rule upon the Irish people. If it be forced upon them they will use it as would any other instrument which comes to their hands for the purpose of strengthening the power of the Republican Government that

AND DEVELOPED IN IRELAND

If a separate Parliament be forced upon the Nationalists of Ulster-or years will probably not pass and ten years certainly not, until by the con accession of new-made the debt we owe to poets and artists Orange Nationalists to their ranks who have taken us into their confi. obtained control of the Ulster Par-liament. This is a certainty. At the present time and for years past there is and has been a slow but steady flow of the thinking portion of the Orange community into the ranks of the Irish Nationalists. Under a Home Rule Parliament in Ulster this flow would be multiplied tenfold-for three reasons. In the first place after they have

got their own Parliament and con-

sequently have their eyes turned from Britain and turned inward national thinking and national feeling is as certain to come to them as the dawning of the next day's sun. In the second place the political strife and schisms which must as a matter of course develop in the ranks of the mere powerful party —lining them up with their Nationalist friends. In the third and chief place the rapid growth of a Labor party among the Orange working men of Belfast and the will develop anti-Orangeism, antilongst these Orange laboring men. Consequently if Home Rule should now be forced upon Ireland, in the shape of two separate Parliaments and if by some unlikely accident the Irish Republic were for a time side tracked it is the safest prophecy under the sun that within ten years (probably much less) the most emphatically national and the most rabidly anti British of the two

ULSTER DELEGATION HOME BUT CARSON WON'T COME

The Uister delegation of Protestant ministers returned from America is in Belfast again and is comforting the Belfast people with the assurance that America, far from being in favor of Irish National claims is of powerless men who want to win the Irish vote solidly against Ireland getting anything. And Belfaet is drawing a big breath of relief over for we suspect that he is too astute to think that his brother demagogues would treat political matters with any more truth than himself. His friends and followers had moved Heaven and earth to try to induce Sir Edward to come to America him-self instead of sending the ministerial delegation. But he, wiser than his friends and followers, absolutely refused. Now that they believe what the delegation has told them, it is said that Sir Edward's followers tion. But Sir Edward just as firmly

Sir Edward Carson is far and away the sanest man of his party-a thing which can not often be said of a demagogicleader. In fact he is so sane that it is a matter of common knowledge amongst his English Unionist friends -his biggest backers-that hardly any of his political enemies despise Perhaps we feel her power most his howling Ulster following more

spontaneously when we are made than he himself does. It is well sensitive by physical weakness. To Edward's Ulster followers provide him with some of his best jokes. Amongst others he tells with gusto how two County Antrim Orangemen discussed their great Leader. Orangeman number one wondered whether King George or Sir Edward was the greater. But number two immediately laid the question to rest when he snswered: "Why, man, King George hasn't got spunk enough to speak up agin the Pope. While the Pope, I'm towl is trimblin' in his skin for feared of Sir Edward."

PERSONAL NOTES ON EMINENT IRISHMEN

St. Patrick's Church in Belfast has been presented with a remarkably beautiful Irish cross by the famous artist, Sir John Lavery, R. A., who was there baptized, and who, a short time before, painted and presented to the side chapel of the Church, his beautiful "Madonna of the Lake." The Irish oak from which the cross people. It is creating mighty little is made, formed part of the roof of interest in Ireland and seems to be built over five hundred years ago.
On the base of the cross is a Gaelic inscription taken from one of Dr. Douglas Hyde's religious sons of Connaught. Translated it reads In the name of Jesus Christ, Who was crucified for us alive." Some of the symbols and details upon the cross were got from a very ancient Home Rule the English have begun to do the worrying, and are trying to think and the worrying and are trying to think are trying to

This Mr. Bigger by the way-a man oted for activities in Irish antiquarian matters, is a nephew of the fam ous Joe Bigger, Parnell's rough and ready lieutenant, a man who, in his day, troubled the English Parliament by his presence more than would (in Mr. Gladstone's words) "a charging troop of American red Indians."
Once Joe held the English ministers in all-night sittings for a monthreading to them from Government blue books from midnight till breakfast time in the morning-just to chasten them. And another time for the same purpose he held the house for seven hours and forty-six minutes while he expatiated upon the benefits to mankind of the potato.

Mr. George Russell, who is known to the whole literary world as poet and mystic under the pen-name of A. E., has come to hold more or less the position of a consultant on the subject of Irish politics. Though attached to no definite political party, not even to the following of Sir Horace Plunkett, he is much in touch with all not merely as journalist. who is willing to be all things to all men, but as a philosophic patriot who looks deeply into the heart of things, and who has a sort of prophetic instinct which gives him hope for an inspiration.

This is much to his credit after his experiences as a member of Lloyd George's famous trap, the Trinity College Convention. In session for long months, Mr. Russell put his whole heart and mind into the task of softening the obdurate Ulstermen and he being himself an Ulsterman there were some who hoped he would work the miracle, but at the critical moment, when it was at length discovered that the English prime minister was to dictate to the Condignity and honor.

When the shadow of conscription Labor Party and press of Great Britain and the world. No journalist or foreign correspondent of importance passes through Dublin without visiting A. E., who is to be found at his editorial headquarters in Plunkett House, Merrion Square, the paper which he edits being a co operative agricultural weekly, the Irish Homestead, which circulates widely among the farmsteads of the four provinces. The office is a fine old room at the top of a Georgian mansion with wide stair. cases, and 18th century decoration in the classical style. A. E's office is a painted chamber, semi-circular in form, with frescoes of symbolical figures adorning its walls-visions which, in his poetical moods, he sees and paints. There he sits among the welcome news. It has set Sir piles of papers and books, with clouds of tobacco smoke, rising towards the ceiling. When you disturb him he is either inditing an article on the bacon trade-or an exquisite and illusive poem, or a letter to a daily newspaper on the political situation.

IRISH DRAMA AND IRISH LETTERS

The Abbey theatre recently produced a new play, The Player Queen, by Yeats. Lenne Robinson, the Abbey Manager, was much congratulated on the production, though the play is one which, while interesting with traces of genius, reflects but little credit on the distinguished author. Lenne Robinson undoubtedly made the hit of last season with his own play, The Lost Leader, a bit of very sensational melodrama, in which Parnell comes to life again. Several plays by clever, young and promising Seumas O'Kelly, who died recently, have been repeatedly staged. His

brought out till a year after his lamented death, deals with the land ancestors of the time of Gratton and urchase, and is extremely interesting. Two posthumous volumes of union with England. The bandful stories from his pen are having a big sale. The Leprochaun of Kilymeen, to democracy, agree with the Union-published by the new Dublin published by the new Dublished by the new Dublin published by the new Dublished by the new Dub lishing firm of Martin Lester, is a delightful piece of humorous writing, and in these sad, stern times what is more welcome than humor. The Talbot Press has issued The Golden Barque, his other volume, which has received most favourable criticisms. but none more entertaining than that in The London Times in which Seumas O'Kelly and Seumas Mac-Manus were mixed up and spoken of as one and the same person, the Times' critic being unable to assimilate more than one Seumas at a sitting.

SEUMAS MACMANUS Of Donegal.

IRELAND SINCE THE LARNE GUN-RUNNING

A CHAPTER OF CONTEMPORARY HISTORY

Lecture delivered in St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Ottawa, on March 16, by Rev. John J. O'Gorn

One of the greatest Englishmen of the nineteenth century has told us : Truth is never enforced except at the sacrifice of its propounders. At east they expose their inherent imperfections, if they incur no other penalty; for nothing would be done at all, if a man waited till he could do it so well, that no one could find fault with it." This is my only defence for accepting the invitation of the parish priest of St. Patrick's, Rev. Father Whelan, to tell you the truth about the Ireland of today.

PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF IRELAND

Claiming no qualification for the task save honesty of purpose and such sympathy and insight as may result from Irish blood, and from that personal knowledge of the land, language and people of Ireland which has come from long study and oft repeated visits, I will endeavour, this St. Patrick's eve, to sketch Ire land's political history since the Orange gun running at Larne, in April 1914. I hold no brief for any party in Ireland. I am neither a Unionist, Nationalist, nor Sinn Feiner. I am a Canadian. Canada is my nation and, under the King, I owe and own allegiance to none other. The ties which bind me, and most other Canadians of Irish blood, to Ireland, are profound but they are not political. Ireland I look upon as a sister nation quite as capable as Canada of managing her own affairs.

FIRST PRINCIPLES ASSUMED Three assumptions, as regards the

Irish question, and only three, underlie this historical sketch. As I wish to be frank with you, I will tell you them in advance. My first assumption is: "Ireland is an island." Geography bears witness to that It sounds a truism, but in any big question it is always the truisms that are denied. It follows that, since Ireland is an island, Ulster, no matter how you delineate it, is part of Ireland. My second assumption is: "Ireland is inhabited by the Irish people." The history of the last nineteen centuries bears witness for it has all the greatness and to that fact. There have been immisadness of a tragedy—began in 1912, loomed in the spring of 1918, he did to that fact. There have been immisadness of a tragedy—begangreat service in enlightening the grants, of course, but if not in a few two years before the War. trishmen. The 100,000 Irish Pro-testant volunteers of 1782 knew no A position as an autonomous nation save the Irish race, though their promised Ireland by the very moder Scotland or England. That the through the British Parliament. ity (and apart from Belfast Protestants are in a minority even in Ulster) | tional parliament, the future preposterous idea. The fact evolve that there is in Ireland, as there has been in every other subject nation in history, a minority planted there by the conqueror, enjoying political to be their death blow in Ireland by ascendancy and opposed to the attendance and opposed to the reintroduction into Irish history national aspirations, does not chapse of the old, old method of physical the fact that this minority in Ireland nation. Mythird and last assumption is this: "The Irish people, like every other civilized nation, has the right of national self-determination." That is a truth of international ethics, a truth in defence of which the World Therefore, Ire-War was fought. Therefore, Ireland's abstract right to self-determination is unanswerable. How Ire land can and how Ireland should exercise this right of national selfdetermination are problems, not for us, but for the Irish people to decide. We may think their decision wise or unwise, but we cannot deny that the decision be theirs. For liberty is nothing else than the

power to choose. PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

Three different decisions are proposed by three parties in Ireland, and a fourth is in some danger of being imposed by the prime minister of Great Britain; these are unionism, home rule, republicanism, and

ancestors of the time of Gratton and Wolfe Tone, want this legislative only by bayonets, machine guns, tanks and aeroplanes. It is a denial of the principle of national liberty. The second proposal is: "Home Rule." Realizing the economic and other advantages that would accrue to Ireland had she, relative to the Empire, the political position of Canada or Australia, four-fifths of the Irish people during the past two generations worked for Home Rule. They were then willing to accept a meagre measure of Home Rule as a start, but today nothing less than Dominion Home Rule would be considered. The third proposal is: "An Irish Republic." There is nothing sinful or inherently wrong in this. The loyal and Imperlalist Ottawa Journal wrote a month ago: "Any man whose ideal is the independence of Canada has an ideal noble enough to warrant allegiance and call for respect if he avows it."
(Editorial of Feb. 18.) What is a noble ideal in Canada cannot be an ignoble ideal in Ireland. Both in Canada and in Ireland, it may, as I believe, not be the best practical for our generation-and this policy generation can speak only for itself. But others may hold a different view, and these Irish or Canadian repub licans have as much right to their political views as Mr. Ross and I have to ours. In the General Election held after the War was won, Ire land, as a protest against the denial of her national claims, elected 78 Republicans out of a parliamentary representation of 105 That action curring when the victorious British Empire was at the zenith of its military power, was the greatest moral defeat the Empire has received since the American declaration of Independence. That the majority of the Irish people consider a Republic preferable to the present Union with its inevitable martial law, may be reasonably concluded. What proportion of the people of Ireland would consider the hypothetical possibility of an Irish Republic preferable to the practical reality of Dominion Home Rule, if they were actually offered the latter, is a question for which there is not sufficient data to answer correctly. The fourth policy—"partition"—is advo-cated by no party in Ireland. The majority even of the Protestants of Ireland abhor it. It is proposed by that political opportunist who after the world fought five years for principles is now ready to throw these principles to the winds and for political advantages keep the Turk in Europe and establish a Protestant Ghetto in North East Ireland. How these four policies, unionism, home rule, republicanism and partition, and a greater question than any of them, the World-War, have affected the political history of Ireland since 1914, is a drama in comparison with which the plays of Sophocles and Shakespeare are minor masterpieces. For it is no mere Oedipus Rex or Hamlet who is torn by conflicting

duties and passions, but the oldest

self-conscious nation of Northern

Europe.

The opening act of this tragedyrears, at least in a few generations, year struggle of the Irish nation the immigrants invariably became against its English invaders seemed country save Ireland, and no race within the British Empire seemed remote ancestors hailed chiefly from ate Home Rule Bill that was passing national unity of Ireland should be was felt by all that if a united disrupted to please a religious minor. Ireland obtained even this meagre amount of autonomy under a naitself. It was at this moment that constitutional agita-tion and British parliamentary prestige received what soon proved force. For on September 28, 1912. is Irish and hence part of the Iris 1 215,000 Ulstermen over sixteen years of age signed a Solemn League and Covenant to refuse to recognize the authority of a Home Rule Parliament. The Orangemen began to arm against the British Parliament. A year later, in September 1913, the Central Authority of the Provisional Government of Ulster was formed, with the Ulster Volunteer Force as its army. This revolutionary body had 16 Earls, Marquises and Viscounts on its Personnel Board and was supported in its preparations for civil war by the Tory Party of England, who feared if democracy went northward across the Boyne, it might advance eastward across the Irish Sea. The possibility of actual civil war was not considered to be real, as the officer class of the

PRO-GERMAN CONSPIRATORS

Things had come to a pretty pass. The English junkers, to protect their ascendancy in England, helped to organize ascendancy class in Ireland for civil war, and induced the aristocratic officer class to connive in their armed defiance of Parliament and of democracy. The Cecils and Somersets of England saw that their cause was identical with that of the Lansdowne's, Londonderry's and Abercorne's of Ireland. That the world know how impotent the British Parliament was, even after those democratic Irish had got the House of Lords' Veto abolished, the ascendancy class of England and of Ulster, with the connivance of the British Army and Navy, seized the roads and telegraph wires, held up the customs officials and the police, and landed at Larne, Bangor and Donaghadee, 35,000 German rifles and 21 million rounds of ammuni-This occurred on April 24. 1914. The officer in charge of this unprecedented outrage " against the British Parliament, was Major Crawford, who publicly stated: If they were put out of the Union . . . he would infinitely prefer to change his allegiance right over to the Emperor of Germany.

INFLUENCE ON WAR DECISION No wonder then, as Ambassador Ireland. Gerard assures us, that the preparations for civil war in Ireland were a contributory factor in deciding the Kaiser to start the War. Meanwhile, the success with which the Orangemen had armed against the British Parliament had electrifled the rest of Ireland. All through the nineteenth century, Ireland, though nominally united on an equal footing to England, was treated as a conquered country, the inhabitants of which might not have either militia or arms. Carson's Volunteers had however won for one corner and one party in Ireland, this primary right of a citizen—the right to bear arms in defence of his country.

LOGIC OF THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS Hence almost spontaneously, under the guidance of a group of Irish Irelanders headed by Eoin MacNeill,

one of the cofounders of the Gaelic

November 1913, the Irish Volunteers.

The English Government which had

allowed the Orangemen to arm now

forbade the importation of arms into

Ireland. The Irish Volunteers

smuggled some arms in and began

Carson's, a sectarian organization. It is only the enemies of Ireland who are sectarian. Irish national movements are always organized on a non-sectarian basis. Ireland has religious liberty. She has not nolit. ical liberty. Hence she organizes on a broad national basis. The on a broad national but a new Volunteer movement put a new spirit into Ireland. "We are about to attempt impossible things," said Patrick Pearse prophetically, "for we british army and navy conniving at know that it is only the impossible it as in the North, troops were called things that are worth doing." The out, who, though they failed to get to fight the Orangemen. They were or-ganized for the defence of Ireland from and largely inoffensive crowd of civinternal or external aggression. "It ilians at Bachelor's Walk, Dublin, is the duty and dignity of Christian wounding several and killing one manhood to bear arms," wrote woman and two men. The Dublin Joseph Plunkett, "as he who has City Council denounced the action of the power to found a family must have in himself the power to defend week later Europe was at war. a family." Ireland was naked of defence. The British Army in Ireland was not an army of defer but an army of occupation, and was so described in official documents. It is in Ireland not to defend the against invaders, nation defend the Government against the nation," said Professor Tom Kettle, the Irish and international who died on the Western Front. "Ireland needs 100,000 Volunteers to met him in the Middle Island defend her, lest the Germans should of Aran in 1904, when he was invade her," wrote the G. O. C. of perfecting his knowledge of Irish and the Irish Volunteers, Col. Moore, on I beginning mine. He told me that February 1914: and speaking enemies nearer home, he added: men, who indeed have shown a of independence which ought to emulate. It is the English Tories who are our enemies, not the Orangemen whom they are using for their own purpose." Eoin MacNeill. the guiding spirit of the Irish Volunteers, and a clear-headed Ulsterman, said bluntly and prophet-If we are to be ruled by force it must not be by latent force The onlooking world must see right into the performance." The world is still looking on at the sorry spectacle of British martial law in Ireland.

PROPHETIC ?

The Irish Volunteers were delighted that the Ulster Volunteers had rendered the British Parliament impotent north of the Boyne. "There were brave doings in Ulster this week past," wrote the Irish Volunteer of May 2, with reference to the British Army being semi-aristocratic. Larne gun-running, adding the pracwas honeycombed with Ulster tical reflection: "What a pity of it was honeycombed with Ulster tical reflection: "What a pity of it treason to Parliament. This fact to think that the young manhood of was made known to the world and Ulster is being trained as soldiers Seumas O'Kelly, who died recently, have been repeatedly staged. His "The Bribe" is an old favourite, "The Parnellite" was a decided hit and "Meadowsweet," which was not and "Meadowsweet," which was not of the Prouphold the Act of Union that a

century ago stunk in the nostrils of the Brotherhood may in time change back to their old opinions."

THE OLDER NATIONALISM AND SINN FEIN

John Redmond, who had relied through his life on the honesty of the British Parliament in seeking legislative liberty for Ireland, and who had looked askance at both the Ulster and the Irish Volunteers, now joined the latter with the intention of directing them along constitutional lines. The Irish Volunteers were consequently, on the eve of war, under a Board that was half Nationalist and half Sinn Fein. The Nationalist Party needs no description. If it failed to lead Ireland into the Land of Promise, it brought her to a greater degree of prosperity than the nation had ever experienced in all her history. The Sinn Fein movement is much less understood. It is necessary to distinguish the Sinn Fein movement or ideal from the Sinn Fein political party. a republican party in Ireland which has received and accepted the name of Sinn Fein. It did not exist in 1914 except as the disorganized and discredited remnant of Fenianism. Griffith's political Sinn Fein party, whose doctrine was that the Act of Union was illegal, was likewise at that time nearly negligible. But the Sinn Fein movement had transformed

WHAT SINN FEIN REALLY MEANS

Sinn Fein does not mean "Ourselves Alone" nor does it denote "selfishness" or insularity. It means "Ourselves" and connotes national self-reliance and self-respect, with due dependence on the Creator. In its broadest sense it is the doctrine of true nationalism. It was was preached by the prophet Isaiah, the over 700 years before Christ when he told that small nation, Judah, not to depend upon or ally itself with the great Empire of Assyria, or the great Empire of Egypt. "In quiet and in confidence shall be your strength. Under God they were to trust themselves. In Ireland, Sinn Fein meant that an Irishman should learn or speak his own language, play his own games, cultivate his own music, take pride in his own history, support his own industries and have confidence in himself and his own nation. It eague, the mere Irish founded in now meant that he should also defend his own country. In politics it necessarily opposed anglicisation and anti-national imperialism, but, according to the necessities of the day, it could as easily support Dominion Home Rule as Republicanism. to drill. It is a mistake to suppose Far from being insular it wished to that the Irish Volunteers were, like restore to Ireland her continental Far from being insular it wished to trade and affiliations. That witty but heterodox Irishman Bernard Shaw, has truly said that the English of Sinn Fein is John Bull. The movement was and is undenominational.

AT LARNE AND AT HOWTH

The first result of the revolutionary Orange gun-running at Larne, was the Irish gun running at Howth on July 26, 1914. Instead of the Volunteers were not organized the guns from the Volunteers shot the soldiers as a "savage crime." A

AN INTERVIEW WITH EOIN MACNEILL

Exactly one week after England entered the War I was in Dublin and had an hour's interview with Eoin MacNeill, the founder of the Irish Volunteers. He discussed, in the Irish language, very frankly, both ation. I had known him since I of about the middle of July he was confidentially informed through an Aus-Let there be no abuse of Ulster- trian source that the German Kaiser had determined on war. Redmond was on the eve of going to the Buck-ingham Palace Conference. Professor MacNeill said "I immediately asked my informant: Does John Red. mond know this? and was told that he did." The conference, as is well known, failed, as Carson would not agree to any concessions, demanding Nationalist majority should be excluded from the Home Rule area.

On the question of Ireland's part in the War, Eoin MacNeill wa wise frank with me. He said: "All Ireland agreed with John Redmond's offer made on the eve of war. 'I say to the Government that they may withdraw every one of their troops from Ireland, and if it is allowed to us in comradeship with our brothers in the North, we will ourselves defend the coast of Ireland.' On the other hand," Professor MacNeill added, "I went to London and told John Redmond not to promise a single Irish soldier for foreign serv ice till Ireland first actually got Home Rule, otherwise Ireland would be cheated. At this," he said, "John Redmond indignantly answered: Do

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