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## Ireland's Future

PADRAIC COLUM FORESEES PROSPERITY.

The aims and aspirations of the Ireland grown up since the formation of the Irish Free State were outlined and explained by Padraic Colum, well known Irish poet, when he addressed the People's Forum in the Church of the Messiah last night. The experiment the Irish people are making to sever themselves from England and start to create an individual culture and still, is looked upon with a great deal of disfavor in England and other parts of the world, the speaker said, but the Irish Nationalists

were convinced today after four years of bitter trial that they had adopted the only way in which Ireland could attain to the fruits of her heritage and make her contribution to the culture of the world.

"It has been questioned whether or not the Irish people were wise in severing themselves from England at a time when it is the avowed intention of most civilized countries to work towards international unity and the establishment of only one state on earth," he said. "Ireland has been charged with retarding any progress that might have been made by making herself another unit which must finally be included in the ideal organization."

"To this I can only say that when the time comes for the formation of this great state the foundation must

rest on the recombination of all national characteristics. The traits of every unit entering the state must be preserved and moulded to suit a new conception of what characteristics should be.

### Ireland's Viewpoint

"The Irish people firmly believe their inherited traits are as great and valuable as those of any other people in the world. They believe that Ireland will be able to contribute immensely to the final culture. They are convinced that the nationalism of their country must be preserved if the greatest good is to be obtained from Ireland's potentialities.

"They believed it would have been a distinct loss to the world if the Irish people had gradually merged with the Anglo-Saxons and finally lost their identity. That is why they fought to separate themselves from the influence of British culture. Not because British culture was not good but because Irish culture was also good and needed room for development."

Despite the warnings that had been sounded by people opposed to the formation of the Irish Free State and the alleged evidence produced to prove it would be a failure, the Irish people preferred to believe in their own destiny rather than in the evidence put before them by outsiders.

Although for a year after the treaty permitting the Irish to conduct their own affairs was signed the country was almost a shambles and the scene of bitter civil strife, a lot had been accomplished up to the present, the speaker declared.

For a long time it seemed as though the people could never agree upon any constructive policy. The atmosphere, seemed hopeless and the deaths of Arthur Griffith and Michael Collins in quick succession appeared irreparable. The government of the country fell into the hands of a group of young and inexperienced men, and for a time they were unable to proceed towards the goal they had set for their country.

With the accession of Cosgrave to the Presidency things took a great turn for the better. Since then much had been done in the way of distinctive educational measures, the formation of a political system that was the most democratic in the world and the beginning of an economic order that would, it was hoped, make Ireland into a prosperous state.

The contribution made to the Irish Free State by Cosgrave was one of the greatest so far, Mr. Colum believed. Previous to the election of

Cosgrave the Irish people had idealized the man at the head of the Government. They believed implicitly in the ability of Griffith and Collins, but gave no thought to the Government as a whole.

But Cosgrave changed all this. Little by little he retired his own personality from the public gaze and substituted the Governmental machinery in its stead. To-day the Irish had ceased to follow the man and were following the national ideal.

Realizing that the industry of the Irish Free State was 75 per cent agricultural, leaders in the Government determined to model their country upon the lines chosen by the most prosperous agricultural country in the world, Denmark, he said. Energetic measures adopted to further the Danish system of agriculture were already producing great results, he continued, and it was almost certain that in a comparatively short time Ireland would be looked upon as one of the ideal farming countries.

In an effort to reduce the cost of manufacturing, the Irish Government had turned its energies towards finding a coal substitute so that the national industries would not be forced to shoulder the costs of importing fuel from across the channel. A project which included the damming of the River Shannon for electrical power was already under way, the speaker stated, and sponsors of the scheme were very optimistic as to the result. It was expected that large industrial centres would spring up in the south of Ireland before very long, if the power scheme worked out well.

### National Culture

With the idea of creating a distinctively Irish culture, the educational revolution had been begun and was already well under way, he stated. Every child attending school in the Irish Free State was compelled to learn the Irish language. Educators did not aim at supplanting the English language in Ireland, but they saw that if Irish tradition and what measure of culture the country already had, was to be preserved, the national language would have to be spoken fluently by everyone.

One of the greatest causes for alarm in the Irish political situation of to-day was the fact that there was no official opposition to the Government, he continued. The real opposition refused to take any part in the conduct of national affairs, because to do so they would be forced to take an oath of allegiance to the King of England and this the Republicans were averse to doing. Therefore there was no Republican body to oppose the Nationalists who were in power.

The attitude of the Republicans was somewhat incorrect, he stated, as they did not seem to realize that the oath required of them was not one of allegiance but one of faith. The oath as it existed obligated those to whom it was taken as much as those who took it. The speaker feared, however, that the situation could not be improved except by the abolition of the oath altogether.

### International

#### Express Stalls

IN MIDDLE OF CHINESE BATTLEFIELD—PASSENGERS SHELTER UNDER CARS.

PEKING.—(Canadian Press)—Several Britishers and a score of United States citizens, passengers on the International train which left Peking for Tien-Tsin, Friday, were caught in the midst of a battle between the troops of Feng Yu Hsing and Chang Tso Lin, near Yangtsun, north of Tien Tsin, Friday night.

The train also carried 50 Italian marines, on their way to the coast after doing guard duty in the capital. The passengers, including some women and children, are reported to have lain between the tracks under the stopped train to escape the Chinese shells.

During the night the train was sent back to Lang Fang. A truck load of provisions has arrived there and it is presumed the passengers are comfortable, although temporarily out of communication with Peking. It is not known whether the train will return to the capital in an attempt to get through to Tien-Tsin.

A battle was raging furiously at 7 o'clock Saturday morning between Tien-Tsin and Peking, a few miles to the north of the coast.

#### Bursting Shells

The train was caught between the opposing forces when an armoured train from Peking, following in its wake, landed 1,000 troops with artillery and opened fire on the Mukdenites.

The passengers had alighted from the stalled train with the intention of walking the remainder of the distance to Tien-Tsin when the firing began. They raced back to the train and took refuge under the coaches from the bursting shells.

Major-General W. D. Connor, the American commandant in Tien-Tsin, is reported to be trying to get a relief train to convey the passengers to their destination.

The foreign legations here are protesting energetically to Peking, pointing out that the protocol of 1901 gives the foreigners the specific right to

occupy Yangtsun as vantage points in keeping communication with the sea open.

Lang Fang to which the train was withdrawn, is outside the present battle zone. It is reported that there were no casualties among the Americans or other foreigners.

### On the Air To-Day

WFO ATLANTIC CITY.  
Wave Length 299.5 Meters—Kilocycles 1000.

(Eastern Standard Time.)  
Thursday, Dec. 17, 1925.

6.30 p.m.—"Billy" Recap, Dean of Sports Writers, Weekly Review of Sporting Events.

6.45 p.m.—15-minute Organ Recital (Request Selections). Arthur Scott Brook, City Organist.

7.00 p.m.—Hotel Ambassador Dinner Music.

8.00 p.m.—World Wonder Excursions. Alfred James P. McClure, D. D.

8.15 p.m.—Concert under auspices of the Atlantic City Board of Education in the Auditorium of the Atlantic City High School, by Richmond's Little Symphony. Louis Zide, First Violin; Frank Chickering, First Violin; Ralph Arkalian, Viola; Harry Pierce, Cello; Harry Moskowitz, Flute; Raymond Sachse, Pianist.

11.00 p.m.—Dance Orchestra.

CNRM (411 Metres), MONTREAL, QUE.

Thursday, Dec. 17, 1925.

8.30 p.m. (E.S.T.)—

Studio Programme.

1. "O Canada."

2. Selection—"Selection from Italy" (Langley)—Markowski Trio.

3. Intermezzo—"Moonlight and Roses" (Lemare)—Markowski Trio.

4. Recitation—(a) "Aren't Men Funny?" (b) "Bon Jour! Marie"—Miss Dorothy Dalton (Gold Medalist, London Academy.)

5. Entracte—"Celebrated Minuet" (Faderewski)—Markowski Trio.

6. Violin Solo—"Reverie" (Vieuxtemps)—G. R. Markowski.

7. Characteristic—"Sous Bois" (Staub)—Markowski Trio.

8. Address by Prof. W. H. Atherton, Ph.D., D.L., D.Litt., D.C.L., University of Montreal, on "Historical Montreal."

9. Selection—"The Rose" (Myddleton)—Markowski Trio.

10. (a) La Bourgeoise—(b) A Woman's "If"—Miss Dorothy Dalton (Gold Medalist, London Academy.)

11. Popular Numbers—Selected—Markowski Trio.

12. Cello Solo—"Petite Rose" (Markowski)—Lucien Labelle.

13. Pianoforte Solo—Selected—Oscar O'Brien.

14. Grand Opera—"Lohengrin" (Wagner)—Markowski Trio.

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### Bavarian Court Upholds the View

SOCIALISTS CAUSED GERMAN COLLAPSE

(Associated Press Despatch)

MUNICH, Bavaria, Germany, Dec. 9.—Paul Cossmann, editor of the South German Monthly Review, has won his "stab-in-the-back" slander suit against Martin Gruber, editor of the Munich Post, a Socialist paper. The verdict in effect upholds a statement some months ago in Herr Cossmann's paper that Socialist propaganda in Germany caused the collapse of the German army in the great war.

Cossmann sued when the Munich Post characterized this assertion as a falsification, and termed him, as the editor, a "concocter of political poison." The verdict directs Gruber to pay a fine of 8,000 marks, with the alternative of thirty days' imprisonment. He is also assessed the costs of the action.

The case attracted wide attention. Among the military and naval authorities called to the stand were Admiral von Trotski, former chief of the Admiralty; vice-admiral von Levetsow, Captain Hinzmann, of the Admiralty staff, and General Groener, Ludenites.

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Men's Special all Wool Aberdeen Knit | Boys' All Wool Wrist Gloves—Leather Heavy Gloves, Dome fastener . \$1.15 | bound . . . . .60c.

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