

The Week in Ireland.

Directory United Irish League.

Dublin, September 27th, 1902.

A NATIONAL DEFENCE FUND.—The eighth meeting of the National Directory was held in the United Irish League offices, 39 Upper O'Connell street, Dublin, on 23rd September.

Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., Chairman, presided.

Members of the Directory were present. Mr. William O'Brien, M.P., proposed the following two resolutions:

1. "The National Directory returns its thanks for the unanimity, enthusiasm, and irreproachable good sense with which the country has responded to its appeal of the 27th June last for renewed energy in the work of the organization. The consequence has been that the United Irish League has now attained to an unsurpassed degree of power and discipline in the country. This work of crimeless combination on the part of the people has been met with by an outburst of furious coercion directed against the rights of free speech and of a free Press in the interest of a secret counter organization of the landlords, with the result that seventeen of the counties and chief towns of Ireland are now deprived of the most elementary constitutional rights. The Directory feels with satisfaction the calm and resolute attitude with which this iniquitous conspiracy between Dublin Castle and the Landowners' Convention has been confronted by the Irish race, and looks forward with- out anxiety to the continuance of the illegalities and barbarities of the coercion regime, relying for the certainty of ultimate victory (1) upon the continued and incontestable freedom of the country from agrarian crime; (2) upon the fact that the United Irish League relies for its efficiency wholly upon the weapons of outspoken public opinion and freedom of combination for common action, which are the admitted rights of Trade Union combinations in their conflicts with capital; and (3) that the Chief Secretary has publicly confessed that the Government cannot settle the question which he owns to be the most urgently pressing for settlement in Ireland, and declared that it must be settled by the parties interested, and, consequently has deprived himself in the eyes of all lovers of constitutional freedom of any justification for exercising a system of merciless coercion against the tenants' organization, which alone has displayed either the willingness or the capacity to settle the question, and in the interest of a landlord counter organization, which has set its face against every project of settlement, and has notoriously flouted his own advice as to the proposed Land Conference."

2. "The National Directory, having regard to the fact that the Landowners' organization has appealed to its members for a fund of £100,000 wherewith to crush the people's combination and to carry out its diabolical projects for the extermination of our race, and, in pursuance of this design, has instituted costly proceedings in Chancery for the ruin of the people's leaders; and, having regard to the fact that the landlords' allied and brother-conspirators in Dublin Castle have made it one of the principal objects of their coercion proceedings to heap up crushing expenses upon the United Irish League by instituting a general campaign for the destruction of the Irish National Press and for the prosecution with special virulence of the members of Parliament and organizers who distinguish themselves by effective action in the movement; and that, in consequence, the ordinary funds of the United Irish League will be quite unequal to the extraordinary demands upon them, while the necessities for large and immediate expenditure are weekly increasing; hereby declare that the time is come to appeal to the Irish people to take immediate steps to raise a National Defence Fund of sufficient extent to enable the National Directory to combat the powerful financial resources at the disposal of our enemies; that the branches of the United Irish League be requested, at the earliest possible moment, to institute parochial collections with that object; and that all subscriptions be forwarded to this office on account of the National Defence Fund, or to any of the National Trustees, Messrs. Dr. O'Donnell, Lord Bishop of Raphoe, Alderman Stephen O'Mara, and Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., (in

whose names the fund will be invested), or to Mr. Alfred Webb, 39 Upper O'Connell street, Dublin."

Mr. Michael Davitt seconded the resolutions, which were carried unanimously.

Mr. John Dillon, M.P., proposed:—"That we hereby express our grateful acknowledgment of the valuable moral and other support extended to our movement by the auxiliary branches of the National Organization in Great Britain, the United States of America, the various States of the Australian Commonwealth, and the Dominion of Canada, in the crisis which an unscrupulous use of irresponsible power in the form of coercion has forced upon Ireland, and we call with confidence upon all the friends and supporters of the justice of our cause—National self-government for our country and the land for the people—to sustain our efforts to achieve these rights and blessings for the Fatherland of the Celtic race."

This resolution was seconded by Mr. Richard M'Ghee and adopted unanimously.

Rev. James Clancy, C.C., West Clare, proposed:—"The newspapers attacked under the Coercion Act are entitled to the thanks and the special support of all Nationalists and of all who value a free Press, because their sole offence is the free expression of Irish popular opinion and the maintenance of their own rights and the constitutional rights of the people, and we call in a particular manner on our County Councils, District Councils, and other representative bodies to give practical effect to this resolution."

This resolution was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Thomas Higgins, Co. C., North Galway, proposed:—

"Remembering how courthouses and other buildings, erected and maintained by public money, were, while the landlord faction exercised irresponsible power, freely used for the detriment and defame of the Irish people, for the extortion of exorbitant rents, and for political, partisan, and class purposes, we cordially approve the action of those County and District Councils and Poor Law Boards, which have already determined to use those public buildings for lawful purposes affecting the people's welfare, and to maintain no buildings but such as they may so use. Their determination is so manifestly just and legal—so clearly the only course consistent with the maintenance of their rights—that we look with confidence for its general adoption by all local representative bodies."

It was seconded by Mr. Thomas Harrington, North Kilkenny, and adopted unanimously.

Mr. P. A. Meehan, Chairman of Queen's County Council, proposed:—

"We respectfully tender our thanks to the members of this Directory, members of Parliament, and other gentlemen who have undergone, or are now undergoing, imprisonment under the Coercion Act, and also those who have already been sentenced by Dublin Castle but have not yet been subjected to the fraudulent formality of trial by the Removable Magistrates of the Coercionist headquarters."

Rev. James Brennan, C.C., South Kilkenny, seconded the proposition, which was adopted unanimously.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Michael Davitt, seconded by Mr. A. J. Kettle, and passed unanimously:—

"We hereby place on record our deep regret for the death of Mr. Patrick Crampsey, of Derry, representative of the Nationalists of that city on this Directory; and we tender our respectful sympathy to his family and to the Derry Executive of the United Irish League."

MUZZLING THE PRESS.—In the Northern Police Court, this city, on September 21, the first batch of prosecutions under the recently resurrected Crimes Act in Dublin, which had been adjourned from the 15th inst., was heard. The presiding magistrate was Mr. D. Mahony, and the defendants were Messrs. Timothy M'Carthy, Acting Editor; Stephen Holland, publisher; and Thomas O'Dwyer, manager of the "Irish People" newspaper. The defendants were charged on a joint summons, signed by Mr. Mahony, and brought at the suit of Superintendent Lanktree, of the Dublin Detective Force, and on three separate counts, with having between the 1st of July last and the 8th of September, published certain

matter in "The Irish People" in the county borough of Dublin, being a proclaimed district, and unlawfully used intimidation towards certain persons unknown, namely, the occupiers of grazing lands and evicted farms in Ireland. The defendants were further charged with having incited certain persons, whose names are unknown, to unlawfully use intimidation towards the occupiers of grazing lands and evicted farms. On a third count they were charged with having incited certain persons, whose names are unknown, not to take, use or occupy grazing lands or evicted farms.

Mr. Chambers, K.C., (instructed by Sir Patrick Coll, Chief Crown Solicitor), appeared for the prosecution. Mr. Bodkin, K.C., and Mr. George M'Sweeney (instructed by Mr. Valentine Kilbride, solicitor) appeared for the defendants.

At mid-day there were few in the vicinity of the courts beyond the usual crowd to be seen there each morning, and the Northern Court was practically deserted almost up to the hour fixed for the hearing of the charges. As on last Monday, the pressmen were accommodated with seats in the dock, the defendants occupying seats in the Press box. A crowd began to collect outside the building shortly before one o'clock, but the precautions taken by the police to prevent overcrowding prevented the greater number from obtaining admission. At a quarter to one o'clock Messrs. Joseph Devlin, M.P.; Swift M'Neill, M.P.; J. P. Nannetti, M.P.; Denis Kilbride, and David Sheehy arrived, and were followed shortly after by the defendants' counsel and solicitor, and the solicitor instructing on behalf of the Crown. Five minutes before the case was called the defendants appeared, and from this forward the court filled quickly notwithstanding the precautions adopted by the police. Mr. Wm. O'Brien, M.P., occupied a seat at the table near the defendants' counsel, as did Mr. John Dillon, M.P., and Mr. Davitt, while Mr. Nannetti sat in the dock immediately behind the reporters.

The defendants answered when their names were called, and entered the Press box.

When the case was called, Mr. Bodkin said he had a preliminary application to make to his worship which he would make with the leave of the court. I move on the affidavit of one of the defendants, Mr. M'Carthy, who says:—"I, Timothy M'Carthy, of 51 North Great George's street, in the city of Dublin, one of the defendants herein, make oath and say as follows:—I have been advised by counsel to procure the attendance of the following persons for the purpose of being summoned as witnesses on the hearing of the case therein, viz.:—The Right Hon. Arthur Hugh Smith Barry, otherwise known as Baron Barrymore, of Fota Island, Queenstown, in the County of Cork; Lord Clonbrock, K.P., of Clonbrock, Ahascragh, in the County of Galway; Captain Walter Shawe-Taylor, of Castle Taylor, Ardahan, in the County of Galway; Lieutenant Colonel William Hutchinson Poe, of Heywood, Ballina, D.L.; Lord Ardilaun, of St. Anne's, Clontarf, in the city of Dublin, D.L.; Right Hon. George Wyndham, Chief Secretary for Ireland, Dublin Castle; Wm. Irwin, Esq., D.L., R.I.C., of Ennistymon, in the County of Clare; Daniel Mahony (laughter), ex-constable, of Partry, in the County of Mayo; and Sergeant John M'Cabe, R.I.C., of Berrisoleigh."

After an able argument by Mr. Bodkin, K.C., and the reply upon behalf of the Crown, the magistrate would not accede to the application for the issue of summonses, and the case was proceeded with. Mr. Bodkin made an able and, from a legal point of view, a brilliant defence. He was followed by Mr. G. M'Sweeney, B.L. At the conclusion of their speeches, the Crown, seeing that their summons was wrongly drafted, made an attempt to have it amended, which was resisted by the defendants' counsel. The magistrate adjourned the decision on the whole case till Monday, 29th inst.

On September 21st, Mr. Carden, D.L., R.I.C., called at the Town and County Club, Sligo, and informed Mr. B. M'Ternan, T.C., former manager of the suppressed "Sligo Champion," and present manager of the "Sligo Nationalist," that he had a warrant for his arrest on the old charge of conspiring with Mr. P. A. M'Hugh and Mr. J. George Quilty for alleged intimidation. Mr. M'Ternan was then escorted to the Albert Police Station, where he was detained for the night. At the proceedings on the previous Thursday, in the absence of Mr. M'Ternan and Mr. Quilty, the charges against these defendants was dismissed.

On September the 22nd, in the courthouse, Longford, before Mr. William Jones (Boyle) and Mr. R. L. Brown (Strokestown), Removables, Mr. J. P. Farrell, M.P., was prosecuted under the Coercion Act in re-

spect of certain publications in the paper the "Longford Leader."

The summons, which was signed by Mr. William Jones—"The King at the prosecution of D. J. Hurst, R.I.C., against James Patrick Farrell, M.P."—set forth that a complaint had been made that the defendant, by the publication of certain matter in the "Longford Leader" between the 15th July and 9th September, in Longford, being a proclaimed district under the Criminal Law and Procedure Act, 1887, unlawfully and without legal authority did use intimidation towards one William Martin in consequence of the said William Martin having done certain acts which he had a legal right to do, namely, having taken legal proceedings to recover, and by such legal proceedings recovered, possession of certain lands and premises occupied by Patrick Hughes; and, furthermore, it was charged that defendant incited certain persons whose names are unknown "unlawfully to use intimidation towards William Martin, and further use intimidation towards Patrick M. O'Reilly" and other persons "names unknown" who had used, occupied, or taken farms of land from which tenants had been evicted; and further, that the defendant did unlawfully use intimidation towards persons, "names unknown," to wit, persons who had not heretofore become members of the United Irish League, with a view to cause "said persons unknown" to become members of the said United Irish League.

After hearing the Crown evidence, on the application of defendant's solicitor the case was adjourned till the 10th of October.

On the 21st of September a Crimes Act Court was held in Roscrea by Messrs. Ulick Bourke and A. E. Heard, resident magistrates. Mr. Preston, D.L., was the complainant against Messrs. Carroll, Nagle, Rodolphus Meagher, Joseph Gantley, James Fogarty, Thomas Searson, James Murnane, Andrew Holohan, of Roscrea, and Daniel Powell, editor, and Margaret Powell, proprietress of the "Midland Tribune," Birr, who were charged with intimidating William J. Menton, solicitor, because he evicted Thomas M. Ryan from a business house in Roscrea, and refused to relet it to him.

Mr. Fetherstonhaugh, K.C., prosecuted, and Mr. Muldoon, B.L., defended.

On proof of the proclamation by the Dublin "Gazette," Mr. Muldoon objected, as it was not printed and published by the King's authority, as required by statute but the court overruled.

After the evidence of Mr. Menton, solicitor, Sergeant Boylan, and other members of the R.I.C., Mr. Muldoon spoke upon behalf of the defendants. The usual adjournment took place to allow the Removables to consider their sentences, which they announced as follows:—Mr. Daniel Powell, editor of the "Midland Tribune," was sentenced to two months' imprisonment without hard labor, and at the expiration of the sentence to give bail, himself in £50 and two sureties in £25 each, to be of good behavior for twelve months, or in default an additional two months. Messrs. Carroll and Nagle were sentenced to six weeks without hard labor; Rodolphus Meagher, two months without hard labor; Joseph Gantley, two months' hard labor; Thomas and Andrew Holohan, six weeks' hard labor; James Murnane, five weeks without hard labor. The charges against James Fogarty, Michael Bergin, and Margaret Powell were dismissed.

POLICE AND PEOPLE.—On Sept. 23rd, several conflicts between the police and people occurred as Mr. Powell and his co-defendants were being removed from here to Clonmel Jail, where they are to serve the terms of their imprisonment. On the way to the railway station the prisoners and their police escort were followed by a large crowd of people. The police attempted several times to keep the crowd back, and frequent encounters occurred, in which some constables and civilians received injuries. On arriving at the station the police endeavored to exclude the crowd, and this led to a scene of great excitement. There was an amount of pushing and shoving, and blows were exchanged. The police failed to keep the people out of the station, and the armed escort having taken up a position in a waiting room pending the arrival of the train for Clonmel, a treble line of constables confined the greater portion of the crowd to one end of the platform. Later, however, as the prisoners and escort were boarding the train, the crowd broke through the cordon, and here again blows were exchanged, and a scene of much confusion followed. The situation looked critical for a time, and the excitement was very great. A number of arrests were made by the police.

LEAVING FOR AMERICA.—A Queenstown correspondent writes:—The numbers leaving Queenstown for America by the various Transatlantic liners which have called during the present autumn are altogether unusual. Unfortunately for the country, the numbers mark a big increase of emigration. Between the Cunard, White Star, and American steamers calling at Queenstown on Sunday week and Sunday last, inclusive, possibly as many as 1,800 souls were taken from Queenstown to America. It is quite possible that those figures constitute a record for the season. Without going in detail through the lists, it would be impossible to tell right off how many of the 1,800 come under the head of emigrants and tourists respectively; but it may be assumed that the big majority came under the head of emigrants. There is no getting rid of the fact that America is the one country to which the eligible young people of the rural population of Ireland turn with longing eyes, and their demeanor here in Queenstown is one of gladness in the extreme. The Majestic, leaving here on Saturday, carried over 530 steerage from Queenstown, and the Celtic on Saturday will take nearly as many. Numbers of persons are being shut out on some ships for want of accommodation, so great is the demand.

PROSECUTION OF MEMBERS.—On Sept. 24th in Nisi Prius Court, Dublin, before Mr. Justice Wright, sitting as vacation judge, the case stood in the list (Crown side) of ex-parte County Inspector Talbot against Wm. H. K. Redmond, who did not attend.

The Solicitor-General (instructed by Sir Patrick Coll, Chief Crown Solicitor) said:—This is an application to compel Mr. Wm. H. K. Redmond, one of the members of Parliament for one of the divisions of Clare, to find sufficient sureties for his good behavior. The application is founded upon two affidavits, one by the County Inspector of Wexford, County Inspector Gilbert Joseph Talbot. After the affidavits had been read and commented upon by the Solicitor-General.

Mr. Justice Wright, addressing Mr. W. G. Gibson, who appeared with the Solicitor-General for the Crown, said:—"The order of the Court is that Mr. W. H. K. Redmond do within fourteen days from the service of the order enter into recognizances, himself in £100 and two sureties in £50 each—that was stated already—and to be of good behavior for the period—I find the general term to be two years, and there is no reason why that general time should not be followed in this order. And in default of his entering into said recognizance for such time, that he be committed to prison for six months."

The Coercion Act proceedings against Mr. Reddy, M.P., were concluded on the 26th September at Ballymore, County Galway. Police-sergeant Noonan, who gave evidence as to a speech of the defendant, admitted in cross-examination that Messrs. Nealey and Satchwell, the graziers referred to in the evidence, were popular in the district.

Mr. Reddy submitted that there was no act of intimidation proved against him, and said he would stand by the speech he made on the occasion.

The Removables held that the charge in the two summonses had been proved, and sentenced Mr. Reddy to two concurrent periods of two months' imprisonment without hard labor.

Mr. Reddy lodged an appeal to Quarter Sessions. Recently at Claremorris Mr. John O'Donnell, M.P., was arrested as he stepped from the Dublin train on to the Claremorris platform on a warrant issued at Birr. The police hustled Mr. O'Donnell into a waiting-room amid great excitement. Mr. Conor O'Kelly, M.P., claimed as a magistrate the right to enter the room, and was admitted.

Mr. William O'Brien's entrance was opposed. He declared the waiting-room was public, and forced his way in amidst cheers.

A few minutes later the crowd carried the place by storm, and, filling the room, shook hands with Mr. O'Donnell. A little later Mr. John O'Donnell walked out, followed by his friends cheering loudly.

Father Denis O'Hara and a number of priests were present.

Mr. O'Donnell, who was virtually rescued, was afterwards re-taken and conveyed to Birr Jail.

Mr. John Roche, M.P., for East Galway, was arrested at Woodford on a warrant for failing to attend at Mounthelaw Petty Sessions on a summons issued for language alleged to have been made use of by him at a meeting at Caltra. Mr. Roche was brought into Galway by a mid-day train under a large escort of armed police, and conveyed from the station to the county jail on a side car.

C.P.R. ANNUAL REPORT

On Wednesday, 1st October, at the general offices of the Company, the twenty-first annual meeting of the shareholders of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was held. The most important feature, as far as the public is interested, of the meeting was the address of Sir Thomas G. Shaughnessy, the President, in moving the adoption of the report on the affairs of the company for the fiscal year ended June 30th, 1902. That part of the President's remarks which deals with a fast Atlantic service affects one of the most important questions before the public to-day. There is no doubt possible left in the minds of the people as to the intentions of the great Canadian Railway Company in this connection. The cable has flashed backward and forward various reports, opinions and surmises regarding the intentions of the Company. Some of these have been confirmed, in interviews, by the President, and some of them have been left unconfirmed. But the report of the annual meeting now before us leaves us in a state of certainty that sooner or later the C. P. R. will establish rapid connection between Canada and Great Britain. We take the following extracts from Sir Thomas G. Shaughnessy's address:—

"When the subject of an improved Atlantic service between Great Britain and Canada was receiving consideration in London, your directors thought it wise to submit to the Canadian Government, on behalf of the Company, a proposition to provide what they believe to be the best and most practicable service under existing conditions."

"The Company offered, subject to certain traffic arrangements, to establish a weekly service of twenty knot steamships between Liverpool and a St. Lawrence port during the winter months, for a subsidy of £265,000 sterling per annum during the first ten years, with a graduated reduction in the amount of subsidy during each of the two following periods of five years, the ships to be most modern in every respect and to be built specially for the route. In addition to this, the Company signified its willingness to furnish a fleet of modern freight steamers of 10,000 tons capacity each, sailing at a speed of about twelve or thirteen knots per hour, serving Canadian ports."

"Up to the present time your directors have no information as to the policy likely to be adopted by the Government. It is evident, however, that whatever may be the outcome of the negotiations for the fast mail service, the rapid growth of your export tonnage and the necessity for being in a position to meet the rates of any of your competitors, make it imperative that your Company be so situated on the Atlantic that it can quote through rates of freight and give through bills of lading without being compelled to negotiate for space and rates with independent steamship lines. To that end there will be submitted for your approval a resolution authorizing the directors to make arrangements for the character or control of vessels, if an when, in their opinion, they are required for the protection of the Company's freight interests on the Atlantic Ocean. It is not expected, of course, that these freight vessels, when provided, will receive any Government subsidy, and, therefore, there will be no restrictions to prevent your Company from running them between such ports as may, best suit the purposes of the Company."

"The rapid and pronounced increase in the volume of traffic leaving little opportunity to provide the additional facilities required for handling it economically, caused a perceptible increase in the ratio of working expenses for the year. Expenditures are being made as rapidly as possible to meet present and future requirements."

From this we are at liberty to conclude that no matter what the outcome of all the present negotiations concerning a fast Atlantic service may be, one thing is certain, that the Dominion will have the rapid transportation facilities furnished by the Canadian Pacific Company. This, in itself, is an evidence of the successful operations of that gigantic Company, as well as of the future certainty of an all-Canadian line of Trans-Atlantic vessels of the most modern class. To our mind there is a vast deal of encouragement for Canada behind these few, but pointed remarks of the President. It is not for us to enter more fully into the consideration of the Company's affairs, as set forth in the annual report, but we feel a great satisfaction in being able to point out to our readers that the future has a very bright coloring, as traced by one so eminently capable of speaking with practical effect as Sir Thomas G. Shaughnessy."