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"WHETHER ON THE SCAFFOLD HIGH "

"It is the moral strength of Belgreatest resources at the command of the Allies in the latthat furnished one of the Herein lies the great lesson of Belgium and the necessary appreciation of Balgium's contribution to progress and to the establishment in the world of justice; and herein lies the lesson of the extraordinary importance of the work that was wrought by our distinguished guest.

It is the lesson of no compromise with brute force."—(From ex-Justice Charles Evans Hughes' address of welcome to Cardinal Mercier.)

In ages yet to come the historian, seeing things in their proper perspective, will recognize, what Justice Hughes here points out, that the triumph of the moral and spiritual force of little Belgium over the all-conquering brute force of arrogant Prussia was one of the greatest achievements of the World War in contributing to progress and to the establishment in the world of justice.

The world will then have learned the limitations of brute force : the folly of pitting it against the moral force of right, against the neverdying principles of truth, or against the situation. the invincible resistance of the principles of justice.

And the historian of that far-off future age will recognize in Ireland's indomitable determination to make no compromise with brute force a contribution to progress and to the establishment of justice in the world, no less heroic, no less important than that of Belgium.

Nor do we have to wait for the impartial and dispassionate judgfor the world's conscience is keenly substantiate it. alive to the fact that in this unequal principles of international justice, old brute force of Might.

imprisoned, weak and dying men, bought up for \$7,030,000. Now it is made to bring about a strike in over imperial might brutally em- the organ of Lloyd George, ployed to break their spirit.

Brute force failed. Spirit tri- the Chronicle's comments : umphed over it.

It not only failed; it failed ignofear in the very midst of his braggart supporting the Government. boasting that he would kill his helpless victims unless they abandoned

They answered quietly that they enough to stir the deeps of emotion in all lovers of freedom and justice. And before that tense and ominous

emotion the bully cowered, fled. This, however, may be attributing too much psychic sensibility to the bully; it may have been sheer physical fear of the muscular form of British organized Labor striding

toward the scene of action. Let us briefly review the news from the front.

On Tuesday, April 13th, " for more than four hours the Commons echoed with questions, interruptions, critithe Irish strike, which J. R. Clynes, Laborite, stated would be continued until the Government released the political prisoners at Mount Joy Jail, Dablin, now starving themselves to

gauntlet to the Irish Labor party informed man in all the British Isles. might be considered as corroborative on their behalf.

and the Sinn Fein leaders, declared that the Cabinet had deliberately that on this continent it is not after correct diagnosis. come to the conclusion that its policy toward Ireland was 'right and justi. fied.'" Then, quoting the ipsissima verba of the erstwhile preacher of the Gospel of Anarchy, he tells us Bonar Law said :

"It is our duty to make it plain is prepared to the utmost to insure that decent living conditions are restored.

All of which, be it remembered, referred to the questions raised as to the Mountjoy hunger strike.

The discussion was animated and no distinction between England and the present English government.

Here are some hints of the spirit of the debate and evidence that there are Britons whose sense of justice is all the result of the abominable oboutraged by Government action:

T. P. O'Connor, Lorde Robert Cecil, Neil McLean, F. C. Ackland and Commander Kenworthy were participants in the debate, which reached a climax when Commander Konworthy, Liberal, shouted: "Why not make Ireland a Republic? It it costs so much n trouble and bloodshed, is it worth

Lord Robert Cecil interrupted ask if Labor favored an Irish Re-

Neil McLean, Labor Whip, for the first time, on behalf of British Labor replied that he did.

During the day's debate Mr. Clynes, pointing out the danger of the Labor disturbances in Ireland spreading to England, urged that the arrested men be either tried or subjected to special treatment. Donald Maclean, Nationalist Liberal member, also supporting Mr. O'Con nor, the Irish Leader, complained that prisoners without trial are being treated as condemned crimin. als, and he advocated the appointment of a committee to investigate each case, as was done after the

agencies helps a good deal.

At the conclusion we are told

Mr. Bonar Law reiterated that there was no possibility of the Government changing its decision, and that any sign of weakness in this matter would only aggravate

Next morning the cables told us condemned the Government policy.

Emphasis is laid by the Daily Mail on the fact that many of the hunger strikers have not been convicted in properly constituted courts of justice, and therefore, should not be allowed to starve.

the assumption that any of the restored to its regular fare. ment of future history; already, hunger strikers were convicted of despite the stupendous problems any crime whatever by any court, confronting every nation, the world's civil or military, is wholly unwar- in the afternoon, is regarded as a sympathy goes out to heroic Ireland, ranted and no attempt is made to complete triumph for the hunger

Though the Times and Mail may struggle are involved the ideals pro- be less than honest in their half- lord mayor and that it was then claimed during the War, fundamental hearted admission of half the truth, only a question of terms. it is to the Chronicle we are indebted and the hope, not yet extinguished, for reflecting the real mind of the that Right may reign in place of the Brute Force Government. The Henry Thomas, general secretary of Societies. Chronicle was until a few years ago the National Union of Railwaymen, The wor During the past week a victory the organ of decent, self-respecting, and labor member of Parliament for was gained that will cheer countless justice · loving British opinion. millions in all parts of the globe. It Starting to expose a gigantic profi-

The cable gives us this much of

Regret over the possible prospect of some of the strikers dying is miniously. The bully whitened with expressed by the Chronicle, which is But the alternative," the news-

paper adds, "that the Government should espitulate to murder before their silly struggle for their stupid the threat of suicide is worse still. If no way can be found, and suicide is persisted in, the Government should make its case absolutely clear would die. But their answer was to the British Isles and America, so loud enough to reach the ears of a that no honest man would be able listening world, and eloquent to entertain an honest doubt as to why the men were imprisoned, or as to the character of their treatment while in jail."

The line of "argument" is Bonar Law's own. They insinuate, they the hunger strikers are guilty of

murder ! And they must make clear to the icans whom they affect to despise after failing to grovel or buy their way into American good opinion,cisms and debate, all the result of they must make clear why the men were imprisoned, and the character of their treatment, if the hunger strikers die!

There is a mentality for you, re-

they are dead that we think we have a right to know why they had been imprisoned.

The venerable Archbishop Walsh lives in Dublin; he is in a position to know whereof he speaks. Can any honest man have an honest doubt that Britain has counted the cost and that the anguished prelate speaks what he knows to be the truth?

When Bonar Law had apparently issued the ultimatum of Brute Force, Archbishop Walsh said:

" As far as I can see, we are face to face with the near prospect of an appalling catastrophe. I have the we commend it to those who can see greatest possible apprehension of the consequences of the present obstinately rigid adherence to the maintenance of present rules. It is appalling to think of what we may stinacy of the Government here in treating men as criminals who, so far from having been convicted of any crime, have never been put on trial or never been told what they are charged with."

The Government treats as criminals "men who so far from having know too well that it is but a battle been convicted of any crime, have in a long war. never been put on trial, nor ever been told what they are charged with."

damnable fact on which the whole question rests.

That is the issue which justifies, enpobles, sanctifies the heroic mora generations they will be regarded as and spiritual resistance of the having risked or laid down their Mountjoy prisoners.

"There must be no compromise with brute force."

Seven hundred years ago the barons of England, led by Cardinal Stephen Langton, wrested from the tyrant John the Great the Charter of English liberties.

Seven hundred years bence the struggle of Ireland, of which the Mountjoy hunger strike is a symbol One must imagine the scene and and a part, will be regarded as a more fill in details from these glimpses; heroic and not less important conthe significant reticence of the news tribution to the establishment of NEGLECTED AND DEPENDENT justice and liberty.

The surrender of the Government England's most worthless and tyran- Dependent Children of Ontario have nical King's consent to sign the Charter at Runnimede; but we must not here yield to the temptation to establish the parallel.

that the Times and the Daily Mail to accept the stipulation that they 897; in 1918 the number was 1,017. return to prison after recovery. Not Therefore the War made, apparently, much attention is paid to Bonar little difference in the number of Law's face saving denial; there is no those children whose parents were doubt that the release of the prison- unable or unwilling to care for them. ers was unconditional.

Let us turn for a moment to our old enemy the cable which must Roman Catholic. There is here some homage at have felt shocked for a while at the least paid to truth and decency. But news it carried, though it was soon

Dublin, April 14.-The release of strikers and their ally, the general strike. It became known early that Viscount French had summoned the

Note this from the same despatch Derby, is regarded as having had some share in the decision for the England in support of the Irish

this afternoon, indorsing the action of the hunger strikers.

Yes, we think we were right in suspecting that the bully's backdown was due to physical fear.

"There is much speculation hours after Mr. Bonar Law's uncompromising speech in the House of Commons," the cable informs us.

But this special despatch to the Service might well set such speculation at rest :

London, April 15th.-I understand that increasing pressure from the nounced pro-Dublin sentiment in Ulster, is chiefly responsible for the Lloyd George flop. Suggestions for a general railway strike throughout visit to Dublin of James Thomas, the General Secretary of the National

Union of Railwaymen. Ulster disapproval is the most unkindest cut of all for Bonar Law who preached sedition and anarchy for the sake of Ulster.

And we can assure The Chronicle evidence that physical fear is the

president, to cause representations to be made to the British Government for the immediate trial of Irish citizens arrested and locked up located in Toronto, with no jurisdic-because of their fight "in behalf of tion outside the city; and one, also in freedom and independence "was introduced today by Representative Tague, Damocrat, Massachusetts.

The resolution sets forth that a considerable number of Irishmen had been arrested as political offenders, but they were entitled to arraignment and trial, "pending arraign-ment to be afforded that treatment ment and trial, which the principles of the law of nations accord to those arrested for political crimes as distinguished from felonies." For the hunger strikers suffering,

and lovers of liberty thrilled in anguished but understanding sym-To the hunger strikers triumphant goes out universal congratulation

dying, the hearts of lovers of Ireland

and acclaim. But though a glorious victory, we

Henceforth, however, others who may be called on to show the same That is the naked, damning and high courage and indomitable spirit will realize more fully and more keenly than ever that in the hearts and memories of all succeeding lives for a sacred cause no less truly than if they fell on the field of battle.

Whether on the scaffold high or on hattlefield we die Sure what matter when for Ireland

dear we fall." May the knowledge that all Irish hearts understand this sentiment sustain all Irishmen in the motherland in their firm resolve to make no compromise with brute force.

The reports for 1916 and 1917 of has many points of resemblance to the Superintendent, Neglected and recently been issued.

The number of children made wards of Children's Aid Societies in 1916 was 894, and in 1917 1,035. In The prisoners emphatically refused | 1912 the number made wards was Of the 1,035 children made wards in 1917, 866 were Protestant and 169

In 1917 the number of illegitimate children made wards was 204. Of these 173 were Protestant and 31 Roman Catholic. These were not the prisoners, announced at 5 o'clock by any means all the illegitimate children who were born in Ontario during that year, but were those who came within the purview of Children's Aid Societies.

Societies in Ontario, and 47 of these the benefit of counsel from both sides the question. It is there; and the Societies have Agents who give all The visit to Dublin of James their time to the service of the

The work of these Children's Aid Societies is of interest to all good citizens in that parents, who are release of the men. It was said found by a regularly established care of their children, are divested of Catholics in some places are movement in Scotland. Therefore, a was the victory of a few unarmed, teering scandal it was promptly that an attempt was to have been court of law, to be unfit to have the Mr. Thomas made a speech from a ship thereafter is vested in a of the Children's Aid Societies, Scotland seem to be in place. window of the labor executive offices Children's Aid Society. It then there are places where these becomes the duty of the Children's Societies are looked upon as excluswith apparently good foundation, table. that practically all of the children find better homes than they had with ment's sudden change of policy two their own parents or natural believe, accomplish much good; and twenty years ago, and that its proguardians. That is; the homes are in any case can do no harm. said to be not only better in regard The suggestion is that every parish to material welfare but better in the priest in Ontario, or at least every detriment to the community.

who will be a benefit and not a satisfaction, procure a copy of the This work is also of special inter. Act and familiarise himself with its ists of Scotland have been giving this summer. That with the thirty. est to Catholics in that a number of provisions. He will then be enabled a great deal of attention to Gaelic. nine articles still holding their place strous and dastardly untruth that the unexpected spectacle of a pro Catholic children are each year made either personally or through comwards of the Children's Aid Societies. petent parishioners to safeguard the The number in 1917 was 169 and legally guaranteed religious rights of tion; and, curiously enough, it has ject of Confession should be disgoing back over four years the Catholic children who come within worked back from there to the cussed at all is, as Lord Dundreary. Catholic children made wards re- the purview of the Act; and to co-Isles, and to America—ohyes, t It is stated that the total number of citizens in a work eminently calcul. famous "Gaelic Clause" it has now women—why not turn the whole children made wards of Children's ated to advance the general welfare begun to operate in earnest. Aid Societies in Ontario since the of the community. There is no organization of the work up to the reason to think that this legislation less teaching of Gaelic in certain interesting. present is 12,394. Dividing that by was intended by its authors and pro- districts of Highland Scotland; but six would give us an appreximate moters to infringe in any way on the it was, so to speak, entirely volunnumber of 2,065 Catholic children rights of Catholics. Indeed one of tary: that is, it depended on local much abused name of Science is that If any doubt remains of the who have been made wards of the the most zealous moving spirits in trustees of school sections; and on of positively determining by means of motive for the "flop," this news Children's Aid Societies of Ontario, the matter was a staunch and uncom-Bonar Law, according to that ment if you will; but with our whole from Washington which through and there is no doubt that on the promising Catholic. But it often turning up. It had no official recog-Boner Law, according to the ment if you will; but with our whole admiring propagandist Carl. W. soul we refuse to believe that it is propagangies Oars. W. soul we refuse to believe that it is diploment of the solicities were problem of selection in regard to throwing down the the mentality of a single honest and the press agencies by a few hours, by the intervention of the Societies tered in the spirit in which they which local school authorities were problem of selection in regard to

The law is definite and fair in is therefore all the more important directing that Protestant children that Catholics should be closely in movement had touched the schools shall be placed in Protestant homes touch, where not actively identified, of Gaelic speaking districts in tion requesting the Secretary of and Roman Catholic children shall with the work of the Children's Aid the Highlands, and had done a State, with the approval of the be placed in Roman Catholic homes. Societies. Only thus can amend good deal to improve and extend Of the sixty two Children's Aid ments, if necessary, to the Act itself, Societies in Ontario one is Catholic, or correction of abuses in its adminlocated in Toronto, with no jurisdic-Toronto, is limited to dealing with Pro- the fact that there is a Catholic testant children. The other sixty official under the Act to whom Cath-Societies deal with both Catholic and olics desirous of information may Protestant children, and there appears reasonably address themselvesto be a most unfortunate misunder- William O'Connor, 65 Tranby Ave., standing on the part of many Catholics | Toronto. in that they think these Societies are Protestant. In a few Societies throughout the Province, Catholics are in some of the chief offices; in a few other Societies Catholics take a little interest in this work, but in with the Catholic children. It can be easily understood that in the cases of child neglect on the part of Cath-

> of the Catholic side of the case as he | in hitting them. will those of the non-Catholic side. It can be acknowledged and understood that a man with ordinary religious convictions is usually a member of the Catholic Church or of a non-Catholic Church, and in private life, believing as he does, he wishes that as many as possible be given the same privilegs which he enjoys. With the public official, who is charged with the administration of a law which enters into such intimate | Canada, taught it will be; there is no | the sentiments of the Scot, and the relations with people's religious feelings and differences as does the Children's Protection Act, the case is different. The ideal official for this work is one who has an intelligent had better first inquire into the why? knowledge and sympathetic underchance to develop into an honest, Probably there are not many, either the sorrows of the people. Catholic or Protestant, who have all

affected.

make which if acted upon will, we as a subject of study up to, say, ideal.

opportunities given to the children parish priest where the Children's Globe from the Cross Atlantic News to grow into decent, honest citizens Aid Society is not functioning to his Neglected and Dependent Children's

istration be secured.

It may also be useful to mention

GABLIC IN NOVA SCOTIA

BY THE OBSERVER

there are mistakes made in dealing of Gaelic in St. Francis Xavier's Uni- schools. versity, at Antigonish, has been freely discussed.

One foresees at once that this is a when the Gaelic Clause was proposed olic parents these parents are not question that will not be readily dis- and debated in the House of Comgood Catholics, and it is often diffi. posed of in the negative; and that mons when the Education Act was cult to decide in which religious any public man who unwisely hesi- being epassel, the claims of Gaelic category the children should be tates is likely to be lost. There were put, not as a mere subject of placed. There is a similar difficulty seems to be no reason why a negaliterary interest, but put on the when one parent is Catholic and one tive should be even seriously con- ground that the man who knows two is Protestant. When these difficult- sidered; and it probably will not be languages is better equipped than ies arise and no Catholic is taking an seriously considered; and public men the man who knows only one, and interest in the work, it is rather too are not fond of pretending that they that, for Scotsmen, the most natural much to expect that a non-Catholic are immovable objects and of letting and the most useful, second language will as carefully guard the interests an irresistible force try experiments to learn, was Gaelic.

The Scot is pretty nearly an irre- fested, of course. Many Scots saw sistible force when he makes up his little good in reviving Gaelic; and mind that things shall be thus or so. there were not wanting some who That is the way he has made such a thought they saw ruin to English in broad, deep and permanent mark on that revival. But the apathy and every country where he has settled; the opposition are pretty well gone and he has settled in most countries, now; and Gaelic is coming rapidly and with advantage to the State and into its natural and rightful place; to society in all cases.

to be taught in the Public schools of and one in which the traditions and need to speculate as to whether it peculiar things which differentiate will or will not be done, for done it one race from another and constiwill be.

And why not? Well, perhaps we natural expression.

"The principle of nationalities" standing of the submerged and de- has been much discussed within the relicts of humanity, and a great zeal past few years; and even those who that every child be given a fair do not like it much, are beginning to see that it has nine times as many God-fearing citizen. Accompanying lives as a cat, and has several of this he should have an intelligent them to live yet. The revival of knowledge and sympathetic under- nationality in the Balkans and in standing of the differences in religion | Poland is so perfectly natural as to which divide the people, and a de- surprise no one; for there, as in Iretermination that justice shall be land, it has been nursed in sad and done in accordance with the law. bruised hearts and has fed deep on

But the revival of nationality in these qualifications and who would Scotland has surprised many, especbe willing to take service in a Child ially those who had never studied ren's Aid Society as a life work, there- the marvelous preservative of nationfore when they are dealing with dif. ality in Walss.

Gaelic revival, which reached its Catholics should accept member- highest point of progress, up to the because the work affects Catholic evidences of it. We have no doubt children and because it is a work that the present Gaelic movement in of Christian charity and civic virtue. Nova Scotia is due in large part to the guardianship, and the guardian actively interested in the work few words about that movement in

astonishing situation, considering grees in revival has not been rapid until an even later date. It is not so if not progressive. It is now sugastonishing as the figures concerning gested, apparently seriously, that it Welsh in Walse, but it is astonishing would be but keeping abreast of

all the same. During the past dezen years or so, sors." At least, the subject is to be the leading scholars and education- discussed at the Lambeth Conference, The movement was at first noticed as the official compendium of Anglicommon schools, where, under the used to say, "one of those things no

There has always been more or result could not fail to be at least

But, long before 1918, the Gaelic th: teaching of the ancient language.

The Gaelic ravival began amongst college men, professors and professional men; notably clergymen. By means of Gaelic literary associations, and such associations as the London Invernessiire Association, the leading men of Scotland were gradually drawn into the movement; and it is a curious fact that Scotsmen resident in London did much of the work by which Gaelic has been made a live issue in the educational field. The first steps to revive Gaelic There has always been a good deal as a subject of general education and of interest taken in Canada, in the no; of mere literary and historical most districts they take none. All Scottish Gaelic language, and a new interest, were taken in that part of the Agents of the Children's Aid stirring of such interest has recently the educational field which is dealt Societies, who have the active man- become noticeable in Nova Scotia, with by the High schools, colleges agement of the work and deal with where a large number of Scottish and universities. The movement the children, are non Catholic, and residents are now petitioning the achieved in that direction some in the districts where Catholics take | Government to give Gaelic a place in | notable successes, and has slowly no interest in this work naturally the Public schools, and where a Chair | worked its way back to the common

As the movement went on, the front was widened; and in 1918,

Apathy and opposition were maninot as superseding or displacing If the Scot decides that Gaelic is English; but as a second language. tute what we call nationality, find

NOTES AND COMMENTS

THE DEATH is announced of Most Rev. John Baptist Crozier, "Arch. bishop of Armagh" and " Primate of all Ireland" in the "Church of Ireland." Gladstone's Disestablishment bill of 1869 made of this "Church of Ireland" an empty shell, but the curious anomaly of a "Primate" without a flock still survives.

SINCE THE Methodist Episcopal church of the United States has lifted the ban from dancing, cardplaying and theatre-going, a little of its superfluous energy might now with advantage be directed against divorce. Dancing, card-playing and There are 62 Children's Aid ferences in religion they should have However, to account for it is not theatre going are evils only in their abuse; divorce on the other hand, at least as understood and practiced the American Republic, is an unmitiship in a Children's Aid Society, both present, in 1918 is one of the living gated evil, which is eating like a canker worm into the very heart of civilization and threatens the destruction of the family itself, While, as we have already said, the progress made in the similar Here surely is a field of action for the Methodist Church and for every. other organization whose professed mission is the welfare of the race. By the census returns, it appears | Hitherto the Catholic Church has in that nearly a quarter of a million this cause stood alone. Her face is, Aid Society to place their wards in ively Protestant institutions and persons in Scotland speak Gaelic, and set like adamant against everything. good foster homes as soon as they suspected of proselytizing activities. that about twenty thousand cannot that assails the sanctity of the home. can be found, and the claim is made This is most unfortunate and regret-speak English. That is rather an and in this matter of divorce she will welcome the co operation of all We have a practical suggestion to that Gaelic was very much neglected whose sympathies are with that high

> THE ANGLICAN Church is nothing the times to have "women confes-

THE LATEST claim made in the tastes and special traits of any