

ago and was in consequence obliged to cancel a lecture tour there—as likewise the noted English Unitarian divine selected for the President of the Unitarian Conference in Montreal in September 1917, and who was denied his passport by the English Government.)

An Irish Republic

It is in London, through the columns of the English Review, that Eoin MacNeill has projected his gospel of National rights. In the September number of the Review he supplements Major Stuart Stephens' earlier advocacy of an Irish Republic within the Empire. The Major patterned his Irish Republic upon the existing South African Republic. MacNeill affirms:—

"This is a case in which England as well as Ireland ought to take its courage in both hands. . . . The right and the wise thing for England to do is to consent freely, without grudge, if possible with generous cordiality, to the establishment of an Irish Republic unconditionally. That is the proposal I have to make. I make it because I want to see a true and final settlement of the differences between my country and England, because I am convinced that national liberty, unlimited except by that interdependence which I hope for among all civilized nations, is the best thing for Ireland. I hold that it will also be best for England."

This cool statement would be undoubtedly startling to the readers of the Review five years ago. It falls calmly enough now because—as MacNeill says—"The war itself is the death agony of the old political world," and ". . . even now a new wine is fermenting that will not be contained in the old bottles."

MacNeill's scheme of Interdependence which he personally stresses and which seems to have strongly impressed Harrison is introduced by noting how many of the belligerent Powers have "themselves questioned the right of sovereignty. . . . by Imperial States over subject nations. Great Britain and France have echoed the declarations of America and Russia. The doctrine of the rights of nations has been set up against the doctrine of absolute sovereignty. It is not unlikely that the theory of independence may have to give way to a theory of interdependence."

MacNeill replies to the "only two objections of importance" he finds made against the idea of an Irish Republic—(1) that military control of Ireland is necessary to Great Britain's security, and, (2) that the