

THE IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1915.

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NOTES

Those who read sensational paragraphs in the newspapers about German propaganda in Ireland and so forth will do well to follow closely the history of the Crossmaglen Conspiracy. They will see there the uses to which Dublin Castle can turn a subservient Press and subservient departments. The government of Ireland is a continuity, and its tradition remains unbroken.

One of the greatest crimes of that government has been the studied and sedulous poisoning and degradation of the minds of Protestants in Ireland, especially in the North-east. The historian of the Crossmaglen Conspiracy quotes some striking examples of how this process was carried on some thirty years ago. Under Gladstone and Forster, Liberal Ministers of no less eminence and respectability than Asquith and Birrell, we see how the Tory Press in Ireland is used as the privy channel for bloodpoisoning its readers. Do Irish Unionists ever reflect on their degradation under this system? What have they gained by it in reputation or otherwise? What can they hope to gain by it? Their prejudices are played upon to make them the tools for the degradation and impoverishment of their country.

Irreconcilable hatred between Irish parties is the chief specific for the domination of Ireland and incidentally of Ireland's resources. The Disestablishment gave a special opportunity of extending the field of operations among the Presbyterians and other Protestant dissenters. The opportunity was not lost. The Belfast "Northern Whig," once friendly to Catholics, has long surpassed the "Newletter" as an exponent of sectarian rancour—in the name of Christianity. The exact gain to the declining Presbyterian population, to whom the appeal of hatred is chiefly addressed, need not invite estimate. The achievement is

at all events a triumph for Imperial statesmanship, whose obedient tool the "Northern Whig" had already become at the time of the Crossmaglen Conspiracy.

It is a further triumph for Imperialism when the Irish Parliamentary Party and its organs can be pressed into the service to supply munitions of war against Nationalist Ireland. The irreconcilable "Whig" informs us that the munitions thus kindly supplied are being stored up for the ruin of that Party and the defeat of its policy. In due time the columns of the "Freeman's Journal," the "Irish News," and other such papers, and the speeches of gentlemen like Mr. Thomas O'Donnell, M.P., who has nearly boxed the compass of Irish politics, will be brought home to roost. Every Nationalist who differs from these organs and exponents of the Sharp Curve is declared by them to be pro-German. In their present factious condition of mind, they can only think of Irishmen as partisans of British Imperialism or of German Imperialism. This is a folly which will have to be paid for, like most follies.

Extremes meet, and the British Jingo and the British Socialist are finding common ground in the demand for "national service." It is true that Lord Selborne says that Capital must not be sacrificed, but when the British millions have tasted the blood of "national service," they are not likely to confine the obligation to their own lives and labours. The Socialist National Defence Committee has the logic of the Compulsionists on its side, and will not lose sight of the argument in future. Mr. Birrell is quite safe in predicting that this war of the Empires will have some unexpected consequences. That is the very reason why we Irish people, who have neither power nor responsibility for setting the world right, should devote ourselves with single-minded purpose to our own concerns.

There are only two parties in Irish politics, the Nationalists and the Provincialists. The political issue in Ireland

is between "Ireland a province" and "Ireland a nation." The test of political action in Ireland is, shall we act as a nation, using freely the recognised powers of a nation, or shall we act as something less than a colony or a dominion of an Empire, doing what we are required to do by an authority which is not ours.

The present state of the Law in Ireland has received a beautiful illustration. Under the new dispensation, with Home Rule on the Statute Book, the procedure is to send a man to jail and to inform him officially, when he has fulfilled the term of his imprisonment, of the nature of the offence for which he has been punished. Just before his release, Ernest Blythe was presented with a document signed by General Friend who states that the order banishing Mr. Blythe from Ireland "was made in consequence of there being reason to suspect that, as an organiser of the Irish Volunteers, you were, by your propaganda, prejudicing the recruitment of Irishmen for his Majesty's forces, in contravention of No. 27 of the Defence of the Realm (Consolidation) Regulations, 1914."

So we experience the continuity of Lord Cowper and Chief Secretary Forster, under whom, by a special statute for the benefit of Ireland, any Irishman whom the Castle could "reasonably suspect" could be locked up with no more ado. Mark well that the General does not say that he personally has "reason to suspect," nor does he say who has reason to suspect. It may be the Czar, or Viviani, or Garibaldi, or The O'Mahony, or Sir Matthew Nathan, or the Dalai Lama to whose mind the suspicion appears reasonable. In any case, it cannot matter much to Ernest Blythe, since he is first locked up for three months and then told why.

General Friend is probably aware by this time that, whoever may have reason to suspect Ernest Blythe, there are millions of people who have reason to know that certain other persons, not Irish

Volunteers nor organisers of Irish Volunteers, who, "by their propaganda," have very seriously prejudiced the recruitment of Irishmen for his Majesty's Forces. We may sympathise with General Friend, who is doubtless a gallant soldier anxious to do a soldier's duty for his own country, when we find that the exigencies of the Continuity compel him to become a political tool for the persecution of Irishmen whose offence is that they too have a country whose service has first claim on them.

The new order goes on to tell Mr. Blythe that "should your conduct at any time in future give grounds for suspicion that you are again endeavouring"—but hitherto, as the order itself bears witness, there was no more than "reason to suspect," now there is a definite charge of previous endeavouring—"to prejudice recruiting or the public safety, the original Order will become effective, and, if necessary, be enforced summarily by powers recently given."

The powers recently given are contained in a brand-new regulation, adopted in view of what has happened in Ireland, by the English Privy Council, sitting in Buckingham Palace, where, with a knowledge that war was imminent, the gentleman who has since been chosen a Cabinet Minister and Attorney-General for England, threatened Mr. Redmond with the consequences if the Liberal Government should abide by its pledges to Ireland. The date of the Privy Council meeting was Sept. 24th. There is a Privy Council in Ireland, with some eminent Home Rulers as members, but since Home Rule went on the Statute Book the English Privy Council saves them the trouble of making regulations for the defence of this realm. Under this new measure of Home Rule, "if any person remains in or enters into any area in contravention of an order under this regulation, he may be removed therefrom by the direction of the competent naval or military authority."

This is the only answer so far made public to the unpublished resolution of the Irish Party in condemnation of the banishment orders. The ordering of Irishmen into banishment aroused a certain degree of indignation. Now any competent authority who is told that any competent policeman has any competent reason to suspect any man of "prejudicing recruiting or the public safety" has been empowered by the English Privy Council, Buckingham Palace, to remove the obnoxious person from the "area" called Ireland. We are now in Year Two of the New Era.

According to our Imperialist Press of all varieties, there are now three political

divisions of the Irish people,—the Unionists who are confident as to the prospects of the Home Rule Act, the Home Rulers who are confident as to the prospects of the Home Rule Act, and the Pro-Germans. In the recent Dublin election, the first and second of these two classes were represented by less than one-fourth of the votes recorded.

In "The Irish Book Lover," the editor writes: "I am sincerely sorry to learn that my friend Herbert Pim, better known in literary circles as 'A. Newman,' the author of that powerful novel 'The Pessimist,' has been sentenced to imprisonment under the Defence of the Realm Act for refusing to expatriate himself. Mr. Pim, a charming man and an excellent specimen of the fine flower of learning, was brought up a Quaker but embraced the Catholic faith, and owes his conversion to Nationalism to his reading the 'Speeches from the Dock,' which induces the saddening reflection that no matter what changes take place or what circumstances prevail in Ireland, the prison cell is still considered the fitting place for one who loves her and would serve her according to his lights."

Herbert Pim has been released from prison on the expiration of the term of his sentence. The Government of Ireland, as administered by the English Privy Council sitting in Buckingham Palace, where the Home Rule Act was signed and where other things have happened, has mended its hand and notified to Herbert Pim and his fellow-prisoners that "the fitting place for one who loves Ireland and would serve her according to his lights," and not according to the borrowed lights of Mr. T. P. O'Connor, is outside of Ireland, and that in future if they do not consent to go out they will be dragged out.

There is a tacit understanding which is now openly acted on in many quarters to regard the Irish Nation as a thing of the past. The platform champions of small nationalities are the spokesmen of this doctrine. Their choice of language shows that they wish to see the Irish Nation, the Scottish Nation and the Welsh Nation wiped out, and to replace them by what they call a British Nation, meaning in fact the English Nation. I note the appearance of this British Nation by name in a recent address by a prelate of the Church of Ireland. If the prelate belongs to the British Nation, why does he belong to the Church of Ireland? It is a plan of denationalisation by homeopathic doses. The Viceroy tells us that Ireland is a daughter of the British Empire, and we have Lord Mayor Gallagher's Nation and Mr. T. M. Healy's Country, of which Ireland is

what Lord Justice Molony calls a geographical unit and what the English Privy Council calls an area. Not that there is much fear of the Irish Nation being got rid of so easily. The bare proposal to bleed us of eight or nine millions of extra taxation is an effective antidote to all the homeopathic doses of the anti-national virus. If the new taxes fall most heavily on the people who are readiest to denationalise themselves, they may be the less unjust; but those who stand true to the Irish Nation must stand for "the rights and liberties common to all the people of Ireland," including even Irishmen who for the time being use the servile cant of the denationalised. If the British Government proposed to levy a tax on the West Britons in Ireland, it would be the duty of Irishmen to oppose that tax.

EOIN MAC NEILL

Cumann na mBan

The past few weeks have seen a considerable development in the work of Cumann na mBan. Six first aid squads have been organised by the joint energy and capacity of Miss Plunkett and Captain O Conaill. One of the squads is attached to each battalion of the Dublin Regiments of Oghlaigh na hEireann, and the manoeuvres carried out a few Sundays ago gave an opportunity for the acquiring of practical experience by the squads. They profited in full, and were lucky enough to have three casualties to deal with. These were attended to by Inghinidhe na hEireann Branch squad, somewhat to the envy of the less fortunate 1st aiders, under the direction of An Dochtuair O hAodha and An Dochtuair O Ceallaigh, and the wounded have since recovered. An afternoon 1st aid class under the direction of Miss Plunkett starts on Thursday, 6mhadh Deireadh Foghmhair for those who find it most convenient to attend during the daytime. Those wishing to do so will please inform the Runaidhe, Cumann na mBan, Sraid Dasuinn, Ath Cliath, at once. The course will consist of ten lectures, supplemented by five night lectures, conducted by a doctor, who will be capable of giving certificates to those passing the examination to be held at the end.

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A MILITARY CAUSERIE

ON KEEPING ONE'S HEAD—MACBETH AS MILITARIST—ETC.

Some of my readers may take exception to some of the doctrines I preached last week. "Better leave Ireland as she is," they may say, "than put her under the heel of a military caste." Well, friend pacifist, I agree with you in a kind of way, because I see what you are driving at. You think of militarism in its hardness and brutality; of lame cobblers sabred by swaggering junkers; of perpetual cavalcades of jingling horsemen disturbing the quiet of our streets. You picture your son, now so quiet and law-abiding, come striding into your peaceful household, spreading his putted legs out before the fire, and flinging his bayonet down with a crash among the tea things. But you are mistaken. This is not the militarism I preach—though it may come about. These little incidentals may be a nuisance or a spice to life, whichever you choose, but they are the incidentals of militarism at peace. We are at war.

Let us realise this. We are at war. We have abundant proofs of this, which I needn't mention. The enemy has struck at us, and is striking at us, and we have not yet hit back. But, as in all defensive warfare, we should be learning our trade during the period of our inactivity. Our army was raised during war time, and has never known peace. Two years of warfare should have hardened us—made us old campaigners in fact. Have they done so? I am afraid not, and I can assign but one reason for it. We have been at war without knowing it, and, as I said last week, we have not been thinking militarily. Let us now begin to appreciate our position, and endeavour to cultivate at least one of the characteristics of the seasoned warrior: the capability of keeping cool.

Let me digress for a moment. You have probably heard of an eminent Scottish nobleman, Macbeth by name, who by murder and other arts obtained the crown of Scotland many years ago. He was a promising militarist at the beginning; ruled the land with the edge of the sword, destroyed castles and towns that resisted him; etc., etc. Then along comes the defeated side with overwhelming forces. Macbeth prepares to fight, when lo! some unfortunate prophecies begin to come true. He gives up all hope; abuses his staff; boxes his orderly's ears; and at last in despair abandons his fine position, takes the offensive, and is completely defeated. A sad story.

Poor Macbeth, you see, was really no

militarist; only a stabber in the back. But his malady is pretty common; he is like the chess-player who gives up all hope when he loses his queen; the man who can't play a losing game; the man who can't face odds.

Volunteer officers, I have watched you in manoeuvres, and I fear that many of you die like him. Some of you, when you think the task assigned to you is too hard for you are inclined not to do your best to accomplish it. Some of you lose all power of action when faced with the necessity for a sudden decision. Some of you lose your heads completely when anything unexpected crops up. All of you think too slowly. Isn't that so? And we have already been two years campaigning.

Moreover, our campaigning has been of the sort that should cultivate this faculty above all. Coolness and Decision—what a shool we have in which to practice them. You all know the occasion on which you will require them most; you all know how imminent it may be. You will require them in the field too. The lives of hundreds of men may depend on your possession or lack of these faculties. I gave you Macbeth's instance as an extreme case, but don't regard it as a farcical one. That kind of thing has happened over and over again in military history.

And how to acquire these qualities? Principally one should learn from the past. Read plenty of military books, whether official or not. We have already given accounts in these pages of a couple of dozen battles, most of which will contain some illustrations of this subject. The Battle of Boylen is probably the best example. Read this again, and go on reading about battles whenever you get the chance.

And then, in manoeuvres, keep it before your mind that, whatever happens, you must keep your head. Then the worse positions you get into the better for you, for this requires practice. Remember that it is infinitely better to do something, however bad, than to sit still in despair and do nothing. You can always learn from your mistakes by afterwards inquiring from the umpire, or in some other way.

On our last manoeuvres there were too many officers to whom I wanted to shout "Do something! For Heaven's sake, get a move on!"

E. O'D.

On Leaving Gaol.

Gen. Friend's Letter to Mr. Blythe.

Headquarters, Irish Command,
Parkgate, Dublin,
1st, October, 1915.

TO MR. ERNEST BLYTHE, OF
MAGHERAGALL, LISBURN, CO.
ANTRIM.

WHEREAS an Order under No. 14 of the Defence of the Realm (Consolidation) Regulations, 1914, was made by me on 10th July, 1915, directing you to leave and cease to reside in or enter Ireland (for non-compliance with which Order you have been convicted and imprisoned).

AND WHEREAS the said Order was made by me in consequence of there being reason to suspect that, as an organiser of the Irish Volunteers, you were, by your propaganda, prejudicing the recruitment of Irishmen for his Majesty's Forces, in contravention of No. 27 of the Defence of the Realm (Consolidation) Regulations, 1914.

NOW, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN YOU that action under the said Order is suspended from the date of your release, subject to the condition that should your conduct at any time in future give grounds for suspicion that you are again endeavouring to prejudice recruiting or the public safety, the original Order will become effective, and, if necessary, be enforced summarily by powers recently given.

Signed at Dublin this 1st day of October, 1915.

L. B. FRIEND,
Major-General,

Commanding Troops in Ireland,
Competent Military Authority in
Ireland.

Headquarters, Irish Command,
Parkgate, Dublin.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the end of Regulation 14 the following paragraph shall be inserted:—

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All communications re Advertisements
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made payable to the Manager, IRISH VOLUNTEER.

The Irish Volunteer

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1915.

Headquarters Bulletin

Tionól do bí ag Comhairle Shóda Féinne
fáil ina nDúnport O. Céadóim, an bád
lá ve'n mí ro, agus an Ceann Cata Comár
Mac Donnada ina cataoirleadh oíche.

Do leas an Buidéan Ceannuir a lán
tuairisí of comair an éirinnighe. Do
bí oíche rin tuairisí an éirinnighe, Oileanna,
Armála, Bpourtighe, 7 Feapa. Do léis an
Cirtóir tuairisí an éirinnighe an éirinnighe.

Tug an Lear-Ceann Cata Seán Mac
Siobáin, Riarda an Bpourtighe, cunnar
ar gluaireacht na hoibre i mDún Cúalann,
i nDúnport, i nDúnleacht, i gCúalann
Dóilín, i Léim an Bpóilín, i nDún Bóinne,
agus i n-áiceannas eile i gCúalann agus
i Muig Life, agus ar an obair atá ré do

cup cum cinn i nDún Fáilge 7 i gConnac
Muigeo.

Tug Seámar O Concobair cunnar ar
an bád do bí i nDúnport O. Donn-
nais, an bád lá, ar a n-áiceannas o n-
lán bailte i gConnac do nDúnport áran
agus Seámar féin ina teachtair ann o'n
gComhairle Shóda. Do bíotar an trásta
le rgeatáir Seámar.

Fíoch cunnar o timchíob agus o máin-
teoirib atá ag obair i gConnacairb Con-
caige, Cille Connis, Cille Dara, áda
Clat, na Míre, Lughard, an Cadáin, agus
na Fáilte.

Do hainmnigeadh pointe oiriseac.

Dúnport na Féinne,
áda Clat, 6 O. Fós, 1915.

[TRANSLATION.]

The Central Executive of the Irish
Volunteers met at Headquarters on Wed-
nesday evening, 6th inst., Commandant
Thomas MacDonagh in the chair.

The General Staff submitted several
reports. Among these were reports on
Organisation, Training, Armament, Re-
cruiting, and Communications.

The Treasurer submitted a financial
statement.

Vice-Commandant John Fitzgibbon,
Director of Recruiting, handed in a re-
port on the progress of his work in Bray,
Dalkey, Tallaght, Clondalkin, Leixlip,
Dunboyne, and other places in Cuala and
Moy Liffey, as well as work projected in
Offaly and in Mayo.

Mr. Seamus O'Connor reported on the
County Conference at Cashel which he
had attended as the representative of the
Executive on Sunday, the 3rd inst., and
at which there were delegates from a
large number of towns in Co. Tipperary.
His report on the ripeness of Tip-
perary for organising was regarded as
highly satisfactory.

Accounts of the activities of organisers
and instructors were received from Cos.
Cork, Kilkenny, Kildare, Dublin, Meath,
Louth, Cavan, and Galway.

Some appointments were made.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 6th Oct., 1915.

ainmnighe.

sluaš áda clat.

An Céad Cat.

Comlaect C.

An Lear-Captaon Uad. Proinnriar O
Fatais cum beir ina Captaon.

An Lear-Captaon foc. Seámar O Bpá-
vair cum beir ina Lear-Captaon Uad.

An Ceann Roinne Seorah Mag Aongura
cum beir ina Lear-Captaon foc.

Míre,

póaraic mac piaraís,

Ceann Cata,

Riarda an Bpourtighe.

Dúnport na Féinne,
áda Clat, 6 O. Fós, 1915.

[TRANSLATION.]

APPOINTMENTS, DUBLIN BRIGADE.

1ST BATTALION.
C. Coy.

1st Lieut. Proinnriar O Fathaigh to be
Captain.

2nd Lieut. Seamus O Bradaigh to be
1st Lieut.

Section Commander Seosamh Mag
Aonghusa to be 2nd Lieut.

P. H. PEARSE,
Commandant,
Director of Organisation.

Headquarters, 2 Dawson Street,
Dublin, 6th Oct., 1915.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

GLUAISEACHT NA HOIBRE.

Do rinneadh obair maic lae eile O. Donn-
nais, an bád lá. Dáit do bí i gCairle na
Muman agus Seámar O Concobair ina
teachtair ann o'n gComhairle Shóda, do bí
teachtair ann freisin o Ror Cne, o
Cúan Meala o Fíoch áru, o Dúrlara
eile, o nDúnport áran, o'n Ceannair
Mór, o'n mDúnport, o Dáile na Míre,
o Dúil-Catam, agus o bailte móra na
lao. Do bí rriparat maic in na teac-
tairib agus fonn oirise oíche. Do ceapad
a lán comairib cum leapa na cáire agus
do hainmnigeadh ar an mBuidéan Ceannuir tim-
chíob do cup go vici an ceannar. Dén-
fear rin. Do rinne Fianna Cille Connis
obair maic lae an Domnac céadna, agus
do caitead an Domnac go maic i gConn-
tae Concaige freisin.

AN COMHÓDÁIL.

Tionólaí an Dara Comhódaí Bliad-
táil o'Fiannaib Fáil i ndáiríre na
Mairiúeadh an 31ad lá ve'n mí ro.
Táir ar ag fáil le éirinnighead mór. Tá
ré ve ceas ag gac aon Comlaect teac-
tair do cup uairi cum na Comhódaí, áda
na congeallata do comhódaí. Ar na
congeallataib atá: (1) an violaróad
páirce oíche; (2) tuairisí ar obair na
Comlaecta i n-áiceannas do cup rícead;
agus (3) ainm an teachtair do cup i n-áda
do'n áru-Riardaí na 18ad lá. Ir
féirir gac fíoch agus eplar i n-áiceannas
na Comhódaí o'fagaí o'n áru-Riardaí áda
rriparat cúige i n-am.

COUNTY CONFERENCES.

The Director of Recruiting has origi-
nated what promises to be a very useful
series of county conferences of Volun-
teers. The successful conference of Co.
Louth Volunteers at Dundalk was briefly
noted last week. An organising instructor
supplied by the General Staff is now
co-operating with the local men, and the
result will doubtless be a much-needed
improvement in cohesion among the
various units and a general advance in
sound and sustained training. At the
last meeting of the Executive Mr. Seamus
O'Connor handed in a report on a similar

conference of Co. Tipperary Volunteers at Cashel which he attended on behalf of the Executive on Sunday, 3rd inst. The meeting was representative of Volunteer Companies and groups in Cashel, New Inn, Ballinahinch, Dualla, Roscrea, Fethard, Clonmel, Clerihan, Carrick-on-Suir, Tipperary, Ballagh, Thurles, Templemore, Newport, Mullinahone, Bansha, and Ballystarsna. In many of these places the Companies have not been active since the Expulsion of the Nominees, but there is now a general wish to resume training, and the public opinion of the county is ripe for a forward move. Headquarters will co-operate with the local men by sending an organising instructor.

FURTHER CONFERENCES.

The Director of Recruiting has now arranged for county conferences in Offaly and Mayo, from which similar good results may be expected. In districts in which the local workers feel that the time is ripe they should promote such conferences themselves without waiting for the initiative of the Director of Recruiting. Headquarters will always be glad to send a representative if application is made in time. Conference, organisation, training schemes: these are sound lines of progress, and will lead to permanent results. A conference of representative Volunteers from various quarters in a county will usually give a much better and a much more lasting fillip to Volunteer work than any public meeting, however enthusiastic.

PROGRESS.

The whole district north, west, and south of Dublin, including the marsh lands of Meath and Kildare, is rapidly organising itself on very sound lines. There is hardly a town or large village in the area which has not its groups of Volunteers. The chief obstacle to progress is lack of competent instructors, but this is an obstacle which must not be allowed to baulk us. Headquarters and the Dublin Brigade Staff are lending what help they can. In the meantime the local units must keep at work, learning to march, to scout, and to shoot: all of which can be done quite well in the absence of a skilled instructor. The really important things in our programme are happily things which earnest men can teach themselves.

OUTPOSTS.

The Director of Organisation found an active Company of Irish Volunteers in London last week. The difficulties of Irish Volunteering in London under war conditions may be imagined, but this hardy group is able to keep up training in all the essentials. The Bootle (Liverpool) Company also reports with renewed zest. It is very encouraging to have faithful little bands in such distant outposts. One of the most useful things that Volunteers

in foreign centres can do, perhaps the most useful thing of all, is to organise the Irish Volunteers' Auxiliary. There are many hundred Irishmen and Irishwomen in every large centre in England and Scotland who would gladly give the Irish Volunteers the moral and material support involved in joining the Auxiliary. Friends on the spot would approach them and organise their support.

THE DEFENCE OF IRELAND FUND.

Efforts on behalf of the Defence of Ireland Fund must not cease with this week. Rather this week should be regarded as the starting-point of a systematic effort to reach the pocket of everyone who says that he is with the Irish Volunteers but that, for one reason or another, he cannot train. Let all such people at least help others to train.

THE CONVENTION.

Companies will note that October 18th is the last date for receiving notices of motion for the Agenda of the Convention, and also the last date for receiving the names of delegates. Affiliations and reports should also be sent in without delay, as only duly affiliated corps which have been following a genuine course of Volunteer training will be entitled to representation.

Irish Volunteer Convention

The second Irish Volunteer Convention will be held in the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, on Sunday, 31st October, at 11 a.m. All Corps desiring representation should see that their affiliation fees are fully paid up, and that the General Secretary has received detailed reports on their strength, training, etc. Any affiliated Corps is at liberty to send forward motions which it is desired to submit to the Convention, but only motions which are received by the General Secretary by the 18th October will be in time to appear on the agenda. The names of the representatives of the various Corps should also be notified to Headquarters by the 18th October.

The Secretaries of all Corps are particularly requested to attend to their affiliations and reports without delay, as it is most important that the Convention should be thoroughly representative of the Irish Volunteer movement.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We have received a communication in regard to the Volunteers in Blackrock, County Dublin. Will the writer please send his name and address to the Director of Recruiting, 2 Dawson Street?

Lectures for Section Commanders

II. TACTICS.

Some Section Commanders may be of the opinion that Tactics is something altogether beyond them. They cannot make a greater mistake. Naturally we are not talking of Tactics in wide sense—the manoeuvring of combined forces of all arms. That's the business of the higher command—if the higher command is equal to it. But whatever about the higher command, see to it that your lower command is equal to its part. If every section fights its hardest and fights intelligently the whole force will require a lot of beating.

There are innumerable minor activities in war that come directly into the sphere of the Section leader. Take one very important matter—and one that doesn't get all the attention it deserves amongst the Volunteers—the service of Outposts. The Section may be detailed to find one or two sentry groups and a picket: just have a look what this means for the Section Commander. Where will he place the sentries so as to see without being seen? Where will he post the groups so as to be concealed and protected and yet within call of the sentry? Hardest of all: where will he station the picket? At an equal distance from all the groups there may be no position whatever suitable, or it may be too close to the sentry line or too far back, or the best position may be close to one group and far away from the other. How will you weigh these matters so as to get the best results all round? Remember your responsibility is very great: if your solitary picket is rushed it may mean a general disaster. On the march it will often happen that you'll have similar questions to answer. And remember you must get into the habit of making up your mind quickly. Napoleon was once discussing a tactical point with a staff officer, and the latter suggested that the necessary change of disposition to meet the case discussed could be effected in a minute. "A minute would be too late," said the Emperor, "for in that time the cavalry would be on you and you'd be cut to pieces." The Emperor was right: charging cavalry will easily cover a quarter of a mile in a minute.

The best way to learn to make up your mind quickly and correctly, is by careful observation at manoeuvres on any situation. There your men won't be shot down out of hand if you make mistakes, and you can ponder over the situation later and discuss it and try whether such and such a different course of action would not have been better. In this way you'll gradually work yourself into a sound, business-like system.

Remember that in Ireland especially where the country is so broken and intersected, situations would be always turning up where you'd be out of touch with any superior, and will have to act on your own. Moreover, the decision you make will often be of vital importance. Suppose your side are falling back and your section is strongly posted in a patch of close ground, and well able to hold out. If your fellows resist determinedly you may easily gain time for the others on your flanks to rally and come on again. At the very worst you can make their retreat secure. If your side is attacking it is quite possible that you may be in a position to seize a locality that you can hold for a time at all events. Make a dash for it, and possibly you may be the means of enabling the entire line to advance.

So constantly study ground—enough ground to cover your dozen or so riflemen, whether it's a hedge or a fold of ground or a garden wall, or a clump of trees, or some large rocks. Don't be ambitious until you're sure you can really get good results from your section in a fight. And practice the manoeuvring of your men in different formations, extending line, single file, etc. By having a good eye for ground and having your fellows handy to your control you'll almost always be able to do the right thing in the right way. At the very worst you'd do a fairly correct thing, fairly well. That is a great deal. Wellington said the man who won in war was the man who made fewest mistakes. And Wellington was essentially a general who did fairly correct things fairly well.

GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING.

The next meeting of the General Council of the Irish Volunteers will be held at Headquarters on Sunday next, 17th October, at 12 noon. Members of the Council are particularly requested to note time of meeting.

SPORTS AT RATHFARNHAM.

E. Coy. of the 4th Batt., Dublin Brigade, is holding sports under G.A.A. rules in the grounds of St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham, on Sunday next, 17th Oct. A very interesting series of events has been arranged, embracing drill competitions, rifle shooting, tug-o'-war, running, jumping, weight throwing, hurdle racing, and a three miles cross-country run. It is expected that there will be a large turn out of Volunteers, athletes and the general public. Events commence at 12 noon. Admission 3d.

Your chance to secure one of my famous Cycles, all prices reduced. Repairs to Cycles, Motors, Small Cars, etc., at D. T. O'Sullivan's Cycle and Motor Cycle Garage, Cook Street, Cork.

The Censor & Herbert Pim

We have received the following from Mr. Pim just as we go to press: "I was released with amazing suddenness at 11.30 on Thursday, 7th inst., just as the thought of dry bread and suet pudding was becoming, with the approach of dinner, the one important idea of my mind.

"The release was so sudden that I arrived home and surprised my people a week sooner than they expected to see me. But a peculiar situation has arisen.

"What I believe has happened is that the friendly Government have released 'A Newman' and have left Herbert Pim in jail. The censor has prohibited the publication of Mr. Pim's release; so he must be in jail. I feel rather dazed and bewildered and merry; so it is possible that I am merely my num-de-plume.

"When my sentence expires next Thursday, 14th inst., I expect to read that Mr. Pim, having completed his sentence, has been duly liberated. In an interview with the Press Association I assured them that I had wrote no application whatever for a reduction of sentence.

"Readers of the VOLUNTEER, who know the ways of the Friendly Government, may be able to solve the problem.

"At any rate, I shall see that a proper watch is kept on the jail door on Thursday to report whether my double is released on that day.

"Speaking as a liberated nom-de-plume, I may convey the best of news about McCullough. He is fit and in good heart, and has a fine beard, which I pleaded with him to retain. He gets special exercise every morning in the open air, and his extra month, which, from the Garrison standpoint, he richly deserves, will soon be over.

"He declared he would be lonely when I left, so perhaps that is why the Friendly Government has liberated only a nom-de-plume. Whoever I am, I was awful sorry to leave him behind.

"A. NEWMAN."

POSITION VACANT.

The Director of Communications invites applications from Volunteers in Dublin for a position now available. The position is an outdoor one involving frequent use of a bicycle. Further particulars on written application to Headquarters.

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Belfast Irish Volunteer Meeting

Clonard Street was the venue on Tuesday evening, 5th inst., of a largely attended and enthusiastic meeting organised by the Belfast Company of the Irish Volunteers. The speakers arrived in a brake shortly before nine o'clock, and by that time the spacious thoroughfare was thronged with friends of the national cause. The audience included a remarkably large force of police, together with official note-takers and other governmental appendages; but, however, as there was a strong guard of Irish Volunteers present, they contented themselves with listening to the fearless vindication of Irish Volunteerism given by the speakers. The meeting marked the inauguration of the Defence of Ireland Fund collection in Belfast, and also signalled the release of one of the four Irish "aliens," Mr. Ernest Blythe, from his gracious Majesty's jail in Crumlin Road.

Mr. Thomas Wilson, who presided, said at the outset that he wished to apologise for the unavoidable absence of their Chairman, Mr. Dennis McCullough, and Mr. Herbert Pim, for as they were honoured guests of his Majesty King George the Fifth, therefore they must hold themselves in patience until the time specified by his Majesty had been spent. But though these men were absent from their midst, the work on which they were engaged still went on—(applause)—and in furtherance of that work that meeting had been convened so that they might publicly inaugurate a collection for the Defence of Ireland Fund.

Mr. Samuel Heron, Secretary of the Irish Volunteer Committee in Belfast, proposed the following resolution: "That we, the Nationalists of Belfast, rejoice that the Irish Volunteer movement is progressing and gathering strength in this city. That we pledge ourselves to do all in our power to aid its further progress, and that we take this opportunity of thanking the friendly British Government for their recent actions and policy, which have so powerfully assisted our cause." In recommending the resolution to the meeting the speaker said that a misunderstanding had arisen as to the nature of that meeting. It had got abroad that it was a protest meeting. It was nothing of the kind. As Irish Volunteers it was not their function to protest. They were going to press forward the movement to its ultimate success and victory (applause). It was in the power of no man to prevent its ultimate success, but it was in the power of every man to make the day come sooner (applause).

In seconding the resolution, Giolla Cuipig Ma Heron said Dennis McCullough, Ernest Blythe, Herbert Pim and

Liam Mellowes and other Volunteers in jail formed more effective recruiting agents for the Irish Volunteers than a thousand men at liberty. But if the Government intended to pursue their policy of coercion it was up to every Irishman to stand in with the Irish Volunteers and get a rifle.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and passed unanimously amid cheers.

LIVERPOOL IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

The Liverpool Volunteers have come under the notice of the friendly Government. On our return from the O'Donovan Rossa funeral in Dublin, to which 40 men of B. Company travelled, we found that Greenwich Park had been seized by the Government. This meant that the only available field for open order drill in Liverpool was gone. However, this did not trouble us, as we continued our programme in the hall and occasional route marches. Even route marches are carried out under serious difficulties in Liverpool, as all the roads round here are held by the military. Everything went on all right until last week, when we received notice to get out of our hall, and as we held no lease of the premises, we had no alternative but to accept same. Not satisfied with forcing the landlord to evict us, the authorities raided the hall during the week in the hope of finding rifles no doubt. All they found was a few dozen sticks which the Volunteers used for drilling purposes. Immediately on receiving notice we set about getting a new hall. This was not easy in Liverpool. We searched far and near, and at last discovered one. The new hall is at 1A Ardsley Street (off Wellington Street), Scotland Road, Liverpool. We go into it on Tuesday, 12th October, and we appeal to all Liverpool Irishmen who read this report to come along on that night and swell the ranks of the Volunteers. Now B. Company has something to boast of, after being evicted from one hall to go straight into a new one without losing one drill night.

The officers and men of B. Company take this opportunity to thank the ladies of Cumann na mBan for the manner in which they have supported them both financially and otherwise, and also for their decision to hold their meetings weekly in our new hall. It is indeed encouraging to see such a good fighting spirit exist in the Irishwomen in the Liverpool Cumann na mBan. New recruits will be enrolled at above address on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 8.30 o'clock p.m. sharp. Cumann na mBan meet on Friday night at 8 o'clock. New recruits are welcome.

CAPTAIN P. O. DRAIGHNEAIN.
LIEUT. S. NICHEDHA, Hon. Sec.

Seachtain na Samna.

Lá Samna—(Día Lúin), Cuinnitú, ápur an ádhomáir.
Día Maire—Órádas, An Mhairicir.
Día Ceardain—Cúimhceort, An Mhairicir.
Día Saclaín—Céitíde, ápur an ádhomáir.

TO ALL LIVERPOOL IRISHMEN. EVICTED BUT UNDAUNTED IRISH VOLUNTEERS. "B," COMPANY, LIVERPOOL.

The above Company have been evicted from their old hall at 78 Duke Street, Liverpool, by the friendly British Government. The Company will drill at their New Hall in future at 1A Ardsley Street (off Wellington Street), Scotland Road.

The first drill at the New Hall will be on Tuesday, 12th October, commencing at 8.30 sharp.

Programme for week in future will be—
Monday at 8, N.C.O.'s Class.
Tuesday at 8.30, Semaphore Class and Company Drill.

Wednesday, Target Practice and Lecture.
Thursday at 8.30, Ambulance Class.
Friday, Cumann na mBan will meet at our rooms at 8.30 o'clock.

New recruits will be enrolled on any of the above nights.

We appeal to all Irishmen in Liverpool to join the Irish Volunteers and drill for Ireland alone.

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Haversacks, 1/-, 1/6, and 2/6.
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