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## WITH THE TRANSPORT WORKERS.

### COUNTRY BRANCH EVENTS.

#### Killucan.

A smashed monocle—that's all. But the event is symptomatic of the times. Some of the farmers here tried to back out of the recent 40s. settlement. At the newly-summoned conference, Organiser O'Brien notified that any reneger of the treaty would be cribbed, cabined, and confined by Labour to a maximum of 25 acres. Hence the wide-opened left eye of the farmers' chief spokesman, an ex-Colonel, who had his right one on his broad acres, and the consequent smash of his monocle. So all the would-be backers-out hacked in again.

#### Navan.

Racecourse men (J. McCormack up) romped home easy winners over the new course, now being prepared by them, with 7s. 6d. more in hand, making present allowances 47s. 6d. for 50 hours.

#### Newbridge.

The umpire's decision favours the Curragh stable lads, the award of the arbitrators being 47s. 6d. outdoor, 23s. 9d. indoor, and £3 per winner. All the 230 lads concerned are weighing in at the war chest scales.

#### Co. Galway Roadworkers.

The new County settlement is: Labourers 40s., gangers 48s. to 55s., enginemen 60s., firemen 42s. 6d. weekly, carters 12s. 6d. daily; hours, 9 to 5 October to February, 8 to 6 March to September; regular employment, no broken time. "Not so dusty for a start." Organiser O'Brien thinks. Nor so dusty for the men, to whom oil-skins are also to be provided free.

#### Dunmanway.

Legal gent, here so obtuse to the law, which he's supposed to expound, and to the dictates of humanity that he fails to pay the A.W.B. minimum wage. He is being enlightened on both points.

#### Ballyhea.

"Afternoon tea for agricultural labourers." How the farmers would have scoffed at the idea a few short years ago! Warm mashes for the cattle were all right, but surely the cup that cheers was never intended for such unaristocratic palates. But time changes things—even tea things and the tables whereon they lie. Here is the settlement got from the farmers by Organiser McGrath at the conference in Ballyhea: 30s. with two meals and afternoon tea, 27s. with three meals, 43s. 6d. outdoor, 6s. extra per week for casuals, indoor work to be provided the men in broken weather. The last item is also noteworthy. The settlement covers about 130 men.

#### Galway.

Lightning strikes a speciality. The most recent one resulted in these terms for motor drivers and mechanics: 1st class mechanics (motor) 85s., (cycle) 77s.; 2nd class, 62s. 6d. and 57s. 6d., for 48 hours; drivers, heavy lorries and commercial vans, 70s.; private and hackney, 60s.; indoor, 35s.; travelling allowance of 2s. 6d. per meal, and allowance for lodging if away over night.

#### Castlejordan.

Small branch this in Offaly (Anglicé King's County), but chock-full of vim. Driving a wedge between the local Farmers' Union and that in Rhode, which is bitterly anti-Transport, the Branch claimed for its agricultural members the adjoining Co. Meath rate, 37s. 6d., and won a 35s. outdoor and 20s. indoor wage, perquisites to stand. Branch President Whelehan and Secretary Hickey represent Labour on the local Council.

#### Gorey.

In his wonted placid style of narrating big doings, Organiser O'Donoghue records another brace of town settlements in his area. Previously on 32s. 6d., all the Gorey town workers now have 40s., country carters 1s. per journey additional to wage, 50 hours and 1½ overtime.

#### Bagenalstown.

He admits to another town settlement here, the new conditions being: Labourers 40s. (5s. increase), tradesmen 7s. 6d. increase, boys 18 to 21 years 5s. increase, younger boys 2s. 6d., 30s. and bonus to town workers assisting at harvest, a 50-hour week for all, and back pay from June 27. Gasworkers got advances ranging from 6s. upwards.

#### Kildorrery.

"Labour in supreme command here," the branch secretary writes while chronicling another win over an ancient enemy.

#### Westport.

Though gorged with profits accruing from their far-flung enterprises, the Gristing firm here is meanly trying to dodge the miserable 1s. per hour rate awarded for Sunday stable work. They have got the usual.

#### Cavan.

A 20 per cent. advance on present wages (30s. to 36s.), 50 hours and a weekly half-holiday are the broad features of the all-town settlement for general workers negotiated by Secretary MacDermott and Organiser O'Donnell. And the men are chanting: "By Mac and O, etc."

#### Balbriggan.

Following Organiser Miss Hoyne's visit, arrangements were made to secure that the "arrears" girls in the hosiery victory parted with the coin or with their jobs. Deedes Templars' employees advanced by another 5s. all round. Casual coal workers seek improvements on present rates.

#### Kenmare.

A knighted agriculturist here has been carpeted for working his man 6 hours more weekly than the maximum 54, and payment of arrears has been claimed.

#### Monaghan.

Taking P. O'Donnell's counsel, general labourers decided to carry on until more favourable times with recent 5s. increase, which established a town rate of 45s. U.D.O. men got

7s. 6d. increase, previous conditions being scavengers 40s., carters 45s., 50-hour week, 1½ overtime.

#### Bray.

Last farm dispute in Enniskerry area fixed up at 5s. advance with perquisites. Town vaumen and porters claim increases on January settlement.

#### Co. Wicklow Farms.

As O.B.U. organisation intensifies, the farm labourers are being more and more cared for. Killinure branch demands the 40s. outdoor rate sought for in Avoca and other centres. In Aughrim district Organiser Heron has settled some cases at 35s.

#### Best Roadmen's Rate.

This is boasted by Bandon branch, with the 50s. wage just obtained from the R.D. Council.

#### Newry.

Rates in mis-named Carsonia for roadmen and farm labourers are appallingly low, and apparently will remain so until the O.B.U. gets a firmer footing in Ulster. Newry branch is out on an uplift movement and is to test the new R.D. councillors with a demand for 20s. on present rates. Shop assistants' claims are also before the employers.

#### Clones.

Organiser O'Donnell settled some jobs at 8s. increases and is attending to others.

#### Ballyhaise.

The men at the Agricultural Station turned down the 35s. and 54-hours offer and struck. A conference between a department official and Organiser Houston has been arranged with a view to settlement.

#### Lucan.

The woollen mill proprietors' refusal to grant an increase had the inevitable result, and the business is completely at a standstill owing to Saturday's strike of I.T. & G.W.U. men in the job.

#### Meath Council Men.

The 40s. for roadmen and 60s. for gangers have now been established as flat rates all over the county, and a 50-hour week with a 1 o'clock Saturday stop brought into operation. At next meeting the Council will consider the demand for 24s. daily for carters and 10s. for casuals.

#### Rathcoole.

Sagart paper mill employees are meeting to decide on offer.

#### Leix Farms.

As anticipated, the Farmers' Association's last offer has been rejected by the men all over the county and reconsideration demanded.

#### Tralee.

Inadequate offer resulted in a strike of hotel workers, who resumed after a day's stoppage on guarantee of immediate arbitration.

#### Graig.

The suggested conference with Employers' Federation will, it is hoped, eventuate in an increase on the 38s. offer to town workers.

#### Carlow.

Secretary O'Tuathail negotiated increases running from 2s. 6d. to 5s. for hosiery factory employees.

#### Castlebar.

With a couple of exceptions, the Balla stoppages have now been disposed of.

#### Edenderry.

Peat works men are considering offer of 40s. for 50 hours.

#### Athy.

Builders' labourers won 5s. increase.

#### Nobber.

Pit men in Kilmainhamwood have struck to secure reinstatement of dismissed comrade.

#### Mountmellick.

The stoppage of 30 members called for a similar object here still proceeds and will be waged with all the more vigour now that the employer has refused arbitration. Bakers have struck for increases in all firms.

#### Kilmallock.

The Kilmallock branch of the Union has had a decided acquisition to its ranks within the past few weeks. The town tenants, realising the futility of local organisation, and alive to the demonstrated power of the O.B.U. in the town, decided to join the I.T. & G.W.U. in a body. As a result a new section of some 50 to 60 members has grown up and already has done big things for its members. The capitalist house-property monopolist is entirely non-plussed by the new departure.

The roadworkers of the County met to-day in the Limerick district office and decided to seek new rates from date. Roadmen 45s. to 50s., carters 16s., half holiday for all. A substantial increase is anticipated from the new Council, which meets July 31.

The creamery workers are again pressing forward through the Junction Creamery Conference Board. The steadily climbing price of butter will mean more kudos for the Bolschies.

### "WHAT ABOUT THE ARMY?"

"And what about the army? We have really now got to a stage when we must face facts. What about the army? If it is only a question of disorder the army, I am sure, will obey you; but if it is really a question of civil war, then, soldiers are citizens like the rest of us. It has never been otherwise in any country at any time. If it is civil war, whether it is right or wrong, the army will be divided, and you will destroy, therefore, such as it is upon which we depend for the defence of the country."—Mr. Bonar Law, House of Commons, March 19, 1914.

### IRISH CITIZEN ARMY.

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The Camp School aims at forming personal links between the active spirits. That is of more importance than the "school" side of the camp. For the latter we have made attractive arrangements. Among other fixtures, Cathal O'Shannon will give a week-end course of lectures on "Government and the State."

As the Labour College cannot emulate the extent of the arrangements made at Frongoch by the British Government, accommodation at the camp is limited, and early application is needed to secure a place. Leaflets giving full particulars have been widely circulated, but copies will be sent free on request.

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