

IRISH KEEN TO HEAR PLUNKETT ON U. S. OPINION

By William H. Bradley
Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.
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Dublin, March 15.—The banquet given in Dublin to Sir Horace Plunkett, while mainly a tribute to his personal popularity, was chiefly important as evidence of the intense interest taken in Ireland in American opinion on the Irish question. Every Irish politician, unionist as well as nationalist, talks as if America held the key to the whole situation. Yet we have only the vaguest ideas as to what American opinion is and the return of Sir Horace from the United States is welcomed as affording us an opportunity of learning the true condition of American feeling.

Briefly put Sir Horace's report is that America agrees with him. At the banquet he told the audience of Lord Kitchener's belief that the entrance of America into the war would end it and of his own conviction that the Irish trouble was an important factor in delaying America's active participation in the war. But, as he said, the splendid loyalty to America of the Irish-Americans saved the situation. His report is that America does not want Ireland to be an independent republic and that many Americans believe they are as much concerned with the military safety of the British empire as are the British themselves. Yet if America had to choose between the present bill of the government and an Irish republic she would, he said, prefer the republic.

CONDEMNNS HOME RULE BILL

Americans, declared Sir Horace, want Ireland to have the largest possible measure of self-government, but they also desire that the Ulster minority shall have security from any possible, even if improbable, oppression. He condemned the government's home rule bill, root and branch, and put forward dominion home rule as the true solution of the problem. The chief difficulty is that at the moment the Sinn Feiners, who are in the majority at the elections, condemn the Plunkett plan and insist that nothing but complete separation will satisfy them, while the Ulster men, though willing to accept and work the scheme put forward by the government, denounce Sir Horace Plunkett's ideas regarding such protection as wholly illusory.

In so far as the moderate Sinn Feiners might be willing to compromise on the Plunkett lines, the Northeast men would be antagonistic. So long as the present government remains in power nothing will be done in the way of a settlement which would displace the followers of Sir Edward Carson. A new government unequal to producing a plan of its own might agree to the establishment of a fully elected constituent assembly of Irishmen who would thresh out their own constitution. But any such assembly elected at present would have a majority of Sinn Feiners, if they chose to enter it at all, and the Ulster men would probably hold aloof. Even after the constituent assembly had threshed out its plan, say two years hence, it would have to be submitted to the commons and the house of lords and take its chance of being passed into law. Nevertheless, though the prospect is so gloomy that few Irishmen are willing to look at the present bill as offering any chance for the better, the only constitutionalists left are followers of Sir Horace Plunkett.

OPPOSED BY VOTERS

It is an interesting commentary on the banquet to Sir Horace that not a single man present at it could be elected to parliament, either against the Sinn Feiners in the south and west or against the Unionists in the north. The Dominion league organization is composed of distinguished men, but it has no rank and file among the voters. The only part of Ireland seriously considering the home rule bill is Belfast and its neighborhood, and the only provisions of the bill which make it even tolerable to the ordinary Belfast Unionists are the parts which the Dominion leaguers declare to be fatal.

Children's Library
London, March 15.—(U. P.)—Craydon, to have a children's library, with a librarian who will hold story hours and simple talks about choice of books for the children.

SCHEME TO STEAL WILHELM NIPPED

(Copyright, 1920, by Universal Service.)
The Hague, March 15.—Despite semi-official Dutch assurances that neither the ex-kaiser nor the former German crown prince "ad anything to do with the German militaristic governments the facts which have just come to light point strongly to a well organized effort on the part of the junkers to spirit Friedrich Wilhelm away from his retreat on the Isle of Wierengen with the view to putting him on the throne of a restored German monarchy.

PLANNED PRINCE'S ESCAPE

A Zeppelin airship and a hydroplane of mysterious ownership and purpose which have been at Amsterdam for some days, made sudden signs of getting ready to depart late Saturday. The Dutch government's secret agents, who were closely watching the aircraft, and their crews immediately reported this, and a few minutes later a Dutch officer, with a small squad of soldiers, arrived on the scene and forbade any move on the part of the Zeppelin and aircraft. Guards were stationed to see that the order was obeyed. It is understood from a well informed source that The Netherlands government feared the aircraft were to make an attempt to carry off the ex-crown prince.

It was further learned today that Baron von Zebellitz, a well known German militarist and junker, arrived here suddenly last night from Berlin on a mission to the former crown prince. It is not definitely known whether the baron actually went to Wierengen or was prevented from so doing by the Dutch authorities.

RESTORE WILHELM

These facts are not taken here as contradicting the government's denials of participation by the Hohenzollerns in the Berlin coup, but merely as tending to prove that the Kapp regime was aiming to get Friedrich Wilhelm back to Germany.

The belief is general here that the most loyal kaiserites have given up all hopes of restoring the ex-kaiser on the throne. Strong military detachments were ordered to Amerongen last night and the Fentick castle, where the former emperor makes his home, resembles an armed camp, every conceivable approach swarming with armed guards.

Dispatches from Wierengen say the ex-crown prince is greatly excited over the news from Berlin, and is continually inquiring as to the latest information regarding happenings in Germany.

Germans for Physical Training

Berlin, March 1 (By Mail).—(U. P.)—A resolution introduced in the Prussian diet proposed an extension of physical training in the schools. In this connection, local papers point out some military authorities are anxious to promote physical training with the sole purpose of building a strong race for the next war.

ITALY IS ASTRIDE TWO COURSES AND MUST SOON DECIDE

One of Alternatives Is Wise Reforms Which Will Give Labor Share in Farms, Says Leader.

By Edgar Ansel Mowrer
Special Cable to The Journal and The Chicago Daily News.
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Rome, March 15.—In the opinion of Filippino Turati, leader of the conservative, non-Bolshevistic wing of the Italian socialist party, Italy must choose one or the other of two widely different courses before the country can return to a period of productiveness. One of these courses is the introduction of wise reforms, giving labor a share in farm lands and industry and taxing the rich to pay for the war. The alternative, according to Turati, is violence leading possibly to revolution and then to a terrible reaction with a government by some army general that might possibly lead to a restoration of the temporal power of the pope. Turati expressed these views to me today when I asked him to explain the epidemic of strikes, riots and uprisings.

REVOLT IS AHEAD

"One reason," he said, "is the backward production, but chiefly it is the spirit of revolt with which the war and the legend of the Russian revolution have filled the hot headed among the workers. Thus the uprisings at Sestri Ponente, near Genoa, where the workers attempted to take over the shops, and the disturbances at the cotton mills near Turin, which are now being run by the workers, may be attributed to such causes. These incidents may lead to recognition of the principle of joint control by the workers and owners. Inevitably the peasants and laborers are demanding more and more. This helps to account for the strikes and the invasion of the large farm properties in Sicily and Venetia.

The trouble is that these movements are being used for political purposes by irresponsible dreamers, who believe that the laborers are now mature for complete control and do not realize that the overthrow of capitalism today would mean a void. Italian workers have small political and economic experience and would not be able to replace one system by another."

CONDITIONS IMPROVED

"Are not the conditions of workers everywhere greatly improved?" I asked.

"Generally, they are," was the reply, "but not everywhere. While in Romagna the farm laborers enjoy great prosperity, in Lombardy, which is my country, proprietors, rather than pay what they consider excessive demands, prefer to abandon raising crops and take up cattle raising or adopt methods requiring little labor, and thus production is diminished. The situation is aggravated by the emigration of the best of the classes. It is necessary to say that our conditions in Lombardy are frightful and it is no consolation to know that they are equally bad elsewhere."

"In your program for Socialistic action you suggest a number of reforms intended to aid the country in settling down, but you seem skeptical as to the possibility of carrying them through."

ADJUSTMENT NEEDED

Sig. Turati grew stern. "Understand me," he said, "the country needs to reach a new adjustment, but it can choose between the way of violence, which will almost certainly call down a reaction with bloodshed and turmoil, or it can take the way of intelligence, establish equitable laws, force the rich and the profiteers to pay the cost of the war and undertake a vast program of legislative reform. I favor the latter way, but it needs a strong hand. Now, in Italy we do not have a strong government. Premier Nitti came into power with the intention of pacifying the country, yet has not been able to settle the Fiume affair, which has harmed us immeasurably. He perhaps intended to tax the rich, yet he has not dared to do it. The chamber of deputies, skeptical and flaccid, seems unable to accomplish anything constructive."

TRAINED FOR VIOLENCE

"Three million men were demobilized after being trained in violence and idleness. They do not want to work and are not able to think calmly. The coun-

try, especially in the south, is backward. It could produce twice as much as it does. Wise provisions could almost double the production within five or ten years. Meanwhile the production is insufficient, especially because no one wants to be frugal. The government, therefore, is providing for a temporary emigration on a large scale, sending bodies of laborers to France and Belgium to aid in the work of reconstruction, and also to South America. This will act as a safety valve and should ease conditions somewhat, but it is only temporary. The entire system should be reformed."

Ship Reported Lost With Bullion Cargo

By Julius B. Wood
Yokohama, Japan, March 15.—The Pacific Mail Steamship company's 5600 ton steamship Ecuador, carrying several million dollars in bullion to China, is reported missing. A party of Chicago and Cleveland tourists arrived here Tuesday after a rough voyage across the Pacific.



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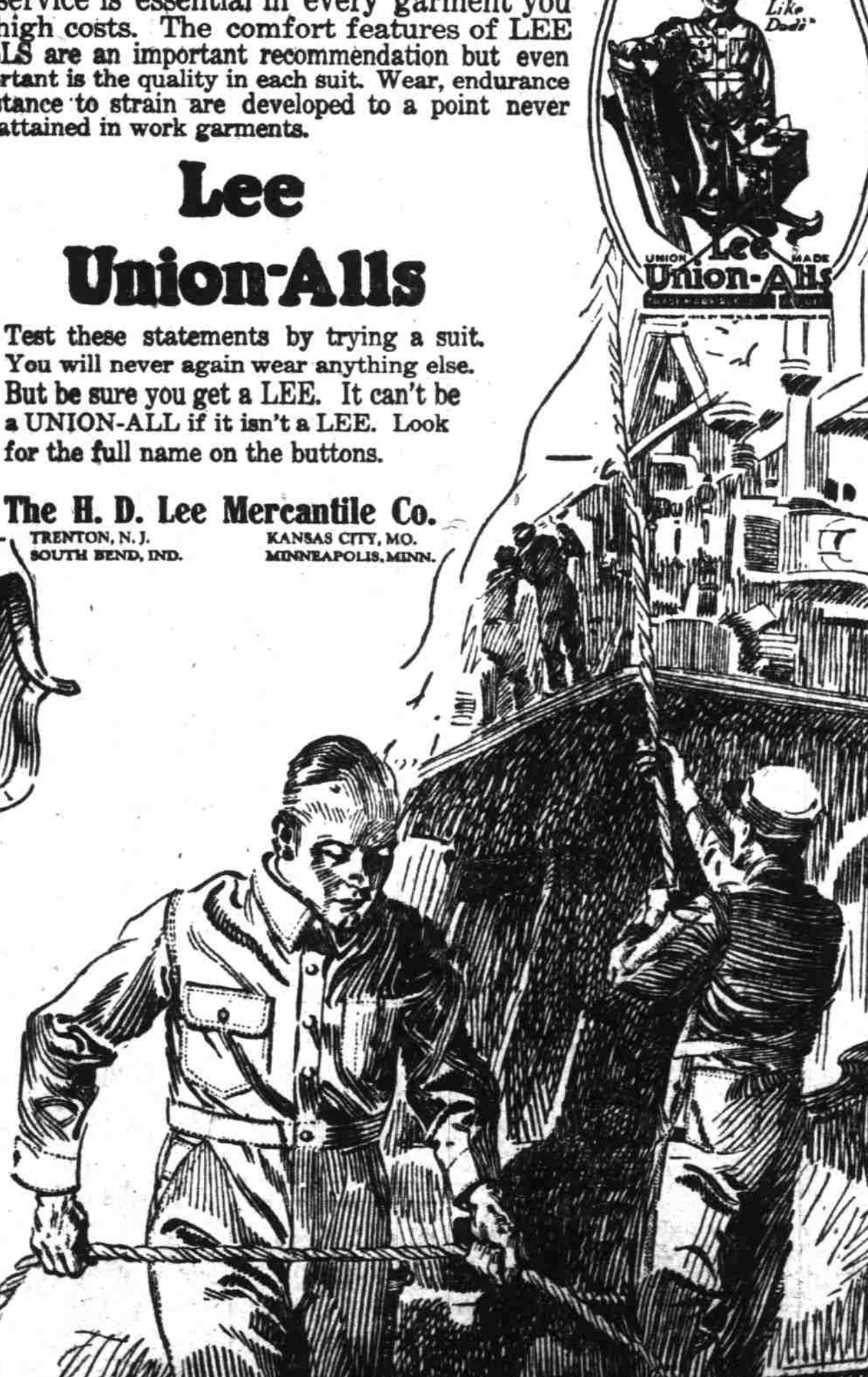
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