
A Radical Irish Magazine.

by T.J. O'Flaherty

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Many attempts have been made to reach the Irish workers in America with the kind of propaganda that produces the maximum results with the minimum expenditure of energy and they have all been successful. This may sound queer, but it is nevertheless true.

Some people believe that any revolutionary effort that does not present an impatient public with a full-fledged revolution after the 5 o'clock whistle blows is a flat failure. They seem to think that the business of bringing about the downfall of capitalism is subject to the laws that govern the business of exchanging watches for pawn tickets.

If at the end of the year the pawnbroker is nearer being broke than when he started, he is justified in considering the advisability of adding the profession of bootlegging to his other accomplishments.

Not so the revolutionist. Every time he opens his mouth and says something — sensible, of course — in condemnation of the existing robber system and in favor of the establishment of a Communist society, he makes progress and is therefore successful.

If that is clear we shall proceed. In 1908 James Connolly published a socialist paper called *The Harp*. It rendered good service. Harps are no longer as popular as of yore so the next effort to reach the Irish workers through the medium of a paper called *The Irish Worker* was made by Jim Larkin in 1918. After a few issues that paper gave up the ghost, but its spirit still lived until 1921, when the Irish American League published *The Irish People* and continued it as a weekly

for 6 months. The latter was the most ambitious and successful so far made.

It has often been said that the Irish never begin to fight until they are licked and if it can be said of any group it is true of the few comrades in Chicago who decided to bring forth a monthly magazine called *The Irish People* that will tell the Irish workers in America some things they are not told by their bourgeois, superstitious press. It will tell them about the labor movement, what Gompers is doing and not doing, what William Z. Foster is doing and why he is doing it, why Ireland is not free and how to free it, why the United States government does not like Soviet Russia and did not recognize the Irish Republic, why they should not support the Democrat and Republican Parties and why they should support a Labor Party; in fact, it will tell them mostly everything that can be read — in other words — in *The Voice of Labor*, *The Worker*, and *The Labor Herald*.

The editor of *The Irish People* is T.J. O'Flaherty. M.J. Scanlan, of the Amalgamated Street Carmen's Association, is Business Manager. The publishing address is 1615 Addison St., Chicago, Ill. The subscription is \$1.00 a year. Send in a sub.

Among the contributing editors are: William F. Dunne, editor of the *Butte Bulletin*; Michael T. Berry of the Amalgamated Shoe Workers; Donagh Dwyer of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers; and several others with long terms of service in the labor movement to their credit.

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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