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## THE BULLDOG BREED

At the Queen's Theatre in Brunswick Street, last week, a drama was performed each night entitled, "The Bull-dog breed." Needless to say the inevitable "Queen's" villain was a German. In my school-days I recollect that the villain of the boy's stories we used to read surreptitiously was nearly always a "frog-eating Frenchman," or a sneaking, treacherous Italian. Occasionally, to relieve the monotony, we had a Spaniard or a Portuguese doing the villain business. But the Englishman *always* wore the halo. The boy of the bull dog breed was "all over" the foreigners in the last chapter, and Mike O'Leary has been merely a feeble imitator of the exploits of the imaginary Englishmen whom Irish school-boys read of at their most impressionable age, thanks to the enterprise of Harmsworth and Co. But time has worked a wonderful change in the French and Italian character and the frog eaters, and Rabbotti's compatriots are now even fit to play monkey for John Bull's chestnuts.

But we must envy these English the superb audacity with which they seek to impress the world with their superiority over the remainder of the human race. In the present war the "English" are defending a line of something under 2 score miles, while the French line is over 500 miles. And yet to read the English Press and its miserable Irish echo, one would think that the whole task of punishing the "Huns" was being performed by the "Boys of the bull-dog breed." It isn't my business to stand up for justice for our French allies, I merely instance the point to show how unsportsmanlike

the English really are, even in this case where they are so overwhelmingly excelled by their allies. And although, at present, they are willing to put Mike O'Leary and Co. in the limelight, and write "patriotic balderdash about the Emerald Isle," etc., you will find, as in the case of the Boer war and many preceding wars, that the "bull pup" takes the biscuit and all the glory.

In view of the character assigned to the German people, by the English Press—and I pass that character here without comment—it may be well to recall Fr. Bernard Vaughan's opinion of his own people, given utterance to a few short years ago, just to show that if the Germans are as decadent as they are presently represented to be, the bull-dog breed itself is not without stain, not impervious to reproach, and not wanting in those peculiar qualities which Charles Dickens so admirably personified in Pecksniff.

Here are the words of the eminent Jesuit taken from a sermon delivered in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Mayfair, in 1907 :—

"We all know how mental deficiency is growing in our midst, and now blindness and nervous diseases, such as locomotor ataxy with general paralysis, are becoming sadly more and more common. *I do not care to enter into the causes in too many cases. I read in a work sent to me this last week that wealthy business men and men of leisure are in the main impure, and that women of the same class hold*



conversations which imply more than I allow myself to express.

... "It seems to some that England, united with France in this present *entente cordiale* embrace, is on a slimy, slippery incline, which must end, if we do not look to our moral standard speedily, where the Bible tells us it will end—in the bottomless pit."

Now, I say, with perfect sincerity, that I do not gloat over those strong words of Fr. Vaughan in describing life in English society. To write them causes me as much sorrow as their utterance probably caused the distinguished preacher. But I publish them as a protest against the campaign of deception which is being carried on in the Press and on platform by the English and their dependents in Ireland. The Germans may be morally as vile as, say, Professor Kettle represents them to be, but I insist that the English are no better. If any man or any woman doubts of the depths of infamy and crime to which the "Boys of the bull-dog breed" can descend, let him or her get access to a file of one of the London Sunday papers for any single year during the past decade, and he or she shall doubt no longer.

Early in the present war the Bishops of Germany issued a pastoral in the course of which they lamented the prevalence of unbelief amongst their countrymen. This pastoral has been cited by Rev. preachers in Ireland as irrefutable evidence of German decadence. But it is more and it is something else. It is evidence of the courage and the independence of the German Episcopacy. It is evidence of the honesty and sincerity of the German character which doesn't need to be stimulated and sustained by appeals to the mythical virtues, and which can hear the truth without developing symptoms of hysteria or demanding the head of those rash enough to proclaim it. It is surely a very negative proof of English sanctity and virtue that the English Episcopacy have not likewise issued a joint pastoral condemnatory of the irreligious life of their people. But we in Ireland, and more particularly the members of the vigilance committees, don't need such evidence—too much of it alas! have we seen during the past few years. The real "Bull-dog breed" has been "filmed" in the columns of the English Sunday Papers and not on the Queen's Theatre stage, and not, may I say it that way, in the picturesque romancing of "that man Kettle."

ED. DALTON.

## NO IRISH CONSCRIPTS.

In my first article on Conscription I stated that the artificial agitation worked up in England by the Northcliffe Yellow Press would provoke violent opposition and that England would present a record example of dissension before the world. The opposition campaign is arrived and grieves the soul of the Tory "Pall Mall Gazette" which deplores the "acrid controversy" aroused by the proposals.

The bulk of the Liberal Press is opposed to the proposals. The "Manchester Guardian," "Daily News," "Daily Chronicle," and "Westminster Gazette," speaks out against it, and the last-mentioned organ warns the Conscriptionists not to neglect working-class opinion, and *the special difficulties of Ireland*. Dr. Clifford, the spokesman of the Non-conformists, has written to the Press against the terrorism exercised by Lord Northcliffe and his domineering press, and warns the Government that many "would resolutely resist" conscription, and the "Government would have to undertake the task of arresting some of its citizens." The Labour and Socialists bodies, unpurchased by the Government, have founded the *Anti Conscription League* and *No Conscription Fellowship*. The object of the latter organisation is to "oppose every effort to introduce compulsory military service into Great Britain. "Should such efforts," they declare, "be successful, they will, whatever the consequences may be, obey their conscientious convictions, rather than the demands of the Government." The "Forward" (Glasgow) and "Labour Leader" warn the Junkers of reprisals on the part of the working classes. The Trade Unions have already begun to move, and the Railway Clerks' Association expresses "its strong and emphatic condemnation" of conscription "and its belief that it should meet with the firm opposition of all Labour, Trade Union, and other democratic institutions."

In Ireland it is unnecessary to state the attitude of genuine Nationalist organisations in the matter. The Irish Volunteers as early as last October pledged themselves to active resistance to any form of compulsory military service for the British army being forced on the people of Ireland. The attitude of other National organisations is quite clear. Our Trade Unions and similar bodies should, however, lose no time in joining in the campaign. The existence of well-organised working-class opposition alone would be sufficient to deter any Government from proceeding with the enactment of so unpopular a measure.



Most significant of all the "Freeman's Journal," and Irish Parliamentary Party have had to declare against conscription.

But strong resolutions and Dillonesque indictments will not prevent it if both English parties determine on putting it into operation. What policy has the Party against that contingency? Will they froth at the mouth against compulsion only until such time as it becomes law, and will they then advise the people to submit? Resolutions and strong speeches are valuable only in proportion to the amount of force behind them. Why should the Party leaders at this crisis set out to reconstruct the poor old U.I.L.? He who expects anything but double-dealing and hesitancy from the Party in this crisis will be disappointed. At best their leading will be timorous. In that matter, as in the question of the drink taxes, the people themselves must make the pace.

That they see the necessity of a determined attitude in the matter is abundantly clear from the numerous expressions of opinion on the question in the Press and at various public boards. A noteworthy article on the matter appeared in a recent issue of the "Frontier Sentinel" (Newry). The "Sentinel" is quite an orthodox Parliamentarian, but Conscription, it holds, would be "an outrageous thing for Ireland," and "the man is deceiving himself who imagines that the Irish people can be dragooned into accepting it. They are not to be driven like sheep into the dipping pond. *This attempted innovation will be resisted by them*". . . Under no circumstances must there be conscription or any talk of it. No matter what arguments may be induced; no matter for what sort of service it is proposed to impress the men; no matter how far off or how near to home it is proposed to station them; no matter how much assurances may be given as to the shortness of the period for which conscription is to last, **THERE MUST BE NONE OF IT FOR IRELAND.**"

The "Sentinel" also is shrewd enough to see the injury the introduction of conscription would do the Party. "The reputation of many of us is," it says, "staked on the assurance that conscription would not be enforced." Messrs. Redmond, Dillon and Devlin please note!

Sir Thomas Esmonde is also taking risks with his reputation. He has told the people of Gorey not to be in a panic as conscription will not be enforced. In this case my advice to the people of Gorey, and of every other place in Ireland, is to trust themselves. It is evident Ireland does not want conscription. Let the people determine to

resist it by every means in their power. Let clergy and people co-operate in an agitation to prevent its enactment. Let our public bodies and organizations speak out their minds. England will not put conscription in force if she believes the people will resist it. Let the people make their attitude clear **AT ONCE.**

## AT BOILING POINT.

Speaking at the opening of the recruiting campaign organised by the local Recruiting Committee, Lieutenant Kettle, replying to an attack which, he said had been made on him by Colonel Moore, of the Governing Body of the Irish National Volunteers, said that the earnestness, and even passion, with which they were pursuing the recruiting appeal had met with a very hearty response in most districts, but it has been charged against him as an offence, and the last to make the charge was Colonel Moore, a colleague of his upon the Governing Body of the Irish National Volunteers. To himself personally Colonel Moore had referred in terms of pointless vulgarity. Well, they all knew that the Moore family had rather a talent for vulgarity, and he (the speaker) left that field uncontested, but he ventured to suggest to this amateur oracle that if he stuck to his last and abandoned political intrigue and pronunciamientos, the formation of a force for home defence in Ireland would go forward much more rapidly. (Cheers). The political future of Ireland was really as safe in the hands of responsible leaders as it was in those of Colonel Moore. (Hear, hear). That and other political questions might well wait over until after the war. As an Irish Nationalist he was well content with the work he had been able to do in organising the strength of Ireland against the foul gospel of the Berlin megalomaniacs. (Applause.) This war for European freedom which had made soldiers of so many civilians found Colonel Moore a retired soldier, and it had left him more retired than ever. (Hear, hear)—"Irish Times," Tuesday, May 13, 1915.

## COLLEGE GREEN "ELECTION."

As I anticipated, Mr. Nugent was victorious in above "election." The whole official machinery from the Sheriff down, was composed of Hibernians; and the personation brigade was worthy of its hire. There will be a day of reckoning, however, and the participants in this ignoble and mean electoral fraud will eat the bread of regret for their misdeeds before they are many days older.



## THE SOLIDARITY OF THE NATION.

After the declaration of the poll, Mr. K. E. Newgent came forward to address the electorate. He was received with prolonged applause from the assembled multitude. He prefaced his remarks with the observation that never in the long united history of Ireland was she so united as at that moment, and to those who had encompassed that end be all credit. He stood before them as a workingman, sprung from peasant parents; in fact, he had come to Dublin years ago as a simple Irish peasant boy, and by his own untiring industry he had succeeded in winning for himself a place in their hearts. For many years he had been loyal to the Irish party and it had profited him well; now Ireland was full of people like himself, and it was to his advantage to be loyal to the party, it would also be to the advantage of thousands of others and in the end to Ireland as a whole. Ireland was nothing more than a collection of people, and what was of advantage to one could be of advantage to all, to the nation, in fact.

He would not make any personal remarks about the defeated candidate. Mr. Barren had fought as clean a fight as anyone could who was allied with an anti-clerical, un-Christian, immoral living faction which sought to uproot religion from our land and plant the infamous doctrine of anti-Christ among our people. All he (Mr. Newgent) wanted was to stand by the Church. He always stood by the Church, and he would defend her from an immoral socialism or from anything that the Irish Party thought she ought to be defended against. He was just after coming back from Paris where he had met all the French Catholics who were fighting for freedom and for the Church. They had enough of this Larkinism, and factionism, and after they got Home Rule they would crush all cranks and sore-heads.

Some of his would-be critics wanted to make capital out of the Insurance Act. Well, all he had to say was that that Act was brought in to help the Church, and now that it was there the Church was in favour of it, although there might have been a little difficulty at first. Anyone against the Act could be well asked, "What used the poor do before the Act?" He didn't know. Down in his own place, Seedy, long ago before there was any Insurance Act, the plight of the labourers was terrible. They used to emigrate something awful and now that was all stopped. In fact, they were all joining the army out of gratitude to the Government that was after giving them the Insurance Act.

The Act was also after providing employment for 200 people in Dublin working under him, administering it. It provided employment for himself, and no man who had the interests of the worker at heart was going to go again any act that gave employment. He said that as a workingman's champion and an anti-factionite. He knew that there would be a day of reckoning for the enemies of the Irish Party and after Home Rule was out, well, the good of the country would not be held up, and all that was against the party, the Larkinites, Sinn Feiners, O'Brienites, Irish-(morya) American Alliance, Carsonites, Co-operative trading maniacs, Socialists, anti-clerics, crank clergy who degraded their high calling, and Irish and Ulster Volunteers, would be dealt with a heavy hand, and in conclusion he called on them all to give three cheers for Mr. Redmond, and remember that now, or at least at no far distant date, would their old island home be "A Nation once again." (Cheers).

## JUSTICE AS USUAL

(In Ireland)

Honours for the adulterer,  
Cheers for the lying knave,  
Place for the shameless drunkard,  
Power and gold for the slave;  
Smiles for all who would barter  
Their souls in the devil's mart—  
But torture and pain for the noble,  
Gaol for the clean of heart.

The mills of God grind slowly,  
But they grind exceeding small,  
Some day the Right shall triumph  
And things accurst shall fall.  
When slaves and knaves and tyrants  
In oblivion's wrap are rolled,  
The name of Seán Mac Diarmada  
Shall shine like burnished gold!

Ómnan na Danban.

## BODENSTOWN PILGRIMAGE.

The annual pilgrimage to the grave of Wolfe Tone in Bodentown will be made on to-day (Sunday) June 20th. A special train will leave Kingsbridge for Sallins at 11.15 a.m., returning from Sallins at 6.30. The fare will be 1s. 9d., and for children 1s.

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