

the summer campaign not result favorably for us, he saw no alternative whatever except the introduction into these countries of the Continental system of conscription. He appealed to the young men to come quickly, and to the women to make a special appeal to make it easy for the men to go. They would not win the war on statistics carefully compiled in the studios of party politicians. He himself thought the person who tried to weigh the blood and honor of Ulster against the rest of Ireland was a traitor and a fore-sworn traitor to the cause of Ireland. He wanted to see orange and green united on the field on which their bayonets had flashed and taken tribute—the field of the Allies and people of Europe.

IRELAND'S POSITION IN THE GREAT CONFLICT.

Speaking at a representative meeting of the United Irish League in Claremorris on March 25, Mr. John Dillon, M.P., said in the course of an eloquent speech: The Home Rule Act had received the King's signature, and is enrolled on the Statute Book of the Realm, and had it not been for the outbreak of the war the Irish Parliament would now be sitting in Dublin, and an Irish Government would be installed in power. But for the moment the war had overshadowed everything, and the ordinary work of politics must cease until the issue of this war is decided. Some people are foolish enough to say that Ireland had no interest in this war, and ought to remain neutral. It was impossible to imagine greater ignorance or folly than that which causes people to express such views. As a matter of fact there is no country in the world to-day more vitally interested in the result of this war than Ireland. Neutrality to us, said Mr. Dillon, is impossible. We must be for Great Britain or against her. He could understand the position of those in Ireland and in America who can never consent to forget the past, and whose whole politics consisted in the passion of revenge and the consuming desire to pay England back for all the injury she had inflicted upon Ireland. That was a logical position, though, to his mind, a stupid, narrow-minded, and un-Christian philosophy, and bound to end in ruin and disaster for this country. But those men who formed the overwhelming majority of the Irish race, not only here in Ireland, but in the United States of America and throughout the world, who have for thirty-five years supported the policy of the Irish Parliamentary Party, were bound by every consideration of honor, as well as of self-interest, to stand in with England in this hour of her desperate danger, and once they were convinced that Ireland was bound to take sides in this struggle he never had any doubt that Ireland would take a man's part and would be heard of in the forefront of battle. That was all he proposed to say as to the war, except this, that he desired once more to warn them against the false reports which had been constantly spread amongst the people for the purpose of creating panic and discontent. They all remembered the conscription scare and the sources from which it sprang. He told them at the time that it was false, and spread for a malignant purpose. They saw that his statement had been vindicated. There would be no conscription. No one would be forced to join the Army who did not choose to do so; but those who did choose to join should be honored by their countrymen, for they would be doing their duty by Ireland and fighting for her right. Dealing with the political situation, Mr. Dillon said that the call for a revival of the National forces was not in the least degree a measure of provocation or aggression against any section of Irishmen. The land question was not settled yet, and, above all, it was not settled in the province of Connaught. That year for the first time the Congested Districts Board had got its machinery thoroughly organised, and any proposal to tie up or stop the work of the Board under any pretext would be nothing short of an outrage.

Lampware is going to be very dear buying. Hadn't you better make a selection from Smith and Laing's stock, Invercargill, before they go up in price?

People We Hear About

Like his father and uncle, the late King Leopold, the King of the Belgians is a man of great stature. He is taller than the late King by half an inch.

Lady Nelson, whose horse, 'Ally Sloper,' won the Grand National this year, is a Catholic and an Irish-woman. The wife of Sir William Nelson, Bart, Lady Nelson is by birth a Westmeath woman. Like most of her countrywomen, especially in that part of Ireland, she has all the national fondness for horses.

Said to have been the oldest priest in the world, the Right Rev. Abbot Don Anacleto Salazar, C.R.L., died on March 18 at Onate, Spain. He was within four months of completing his 104th year. Abbot Salazar, who was born in July, 1811, was ordained in 1835, thus having spent eighty years in the priesthood. On his 100th birthday Don Salazar was raised to the abbatial dignity, and on that day he sang Pontifical High Mass.

A Manchester newspaper says that it was on a subject connected with soldiering that Hilaire Belloc made his first hit in Parliament. The House was discussing artillery training, and Belloc began to tell how the French artilleryman is taught to ride. 'While he was talking there could be seen and felt that lamb-like and teachable mood which comes over the House of Commons when a man is . . . not arguing, so to speak, but telling them.' As Belloc himself served as an artillery conscript in the French Army, he was quite able to 'tell them.' That indeed is the chief charm of his writing or speaking on military subjects—you feel that the man is talking of something he knows all about.

The London *Sketch* has a pleasant story to tell of Cardinal Bourne: General French's brief record of Cardinal Bourne's visit to France may be supplemented by the account of an officer who met the prelate near the British lines. The Cardinal was for going into the danger zone: the officer into whose care the Cardinal had been committed was against it. 'The shells are dropping all along that road,' the military man explained, 'and if we went on, the car would stand a very good chance of being hit and your Eminence of being killed.' 'I would not object to making a paragraph in the history of the war,' said the smiling Cardinal, still anxious to go forward. 'But what about me?' asked the other, with a laugh. 'If I neglected my duty and led you into danger I shouldn't deserve even a footnote.'

The outstanding figure among those who have kept the world informed of the events leading up to the war and are now depicting its background with Continental diplomacy, is the distinguished Dublin man, Dr. Emile J. Dillon, for over a quarter of a century special foreign correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*. The late Mr. W. T. Stead believed Dr. Dillon to be the greatest living journalist. He is a wonderful linguist. At the age of eight he was a student of Hebrew. He is probably the only living journalist who has written leading articles in papers of England, Russia, France, and Germany. He has graduated at three European Universities, and has studied at seven. In St. Petersburg which was mainly Dr. Dillon's headquarters for some years prior to the war, he was the only private individual able to receive an uncensored British newspaper.

The news of the death of Daniel Harrington, proprietor of the *Kerry Sentinel*, Tralee, will be received with deep regret by a wide circle of friends. The sad event occurred on April 5, after a very brief illness. The late Mr. Harrington, who was a native of Castletownbere, was a brother of the late Timothy Harrington, M.P., a former Lord Mayor of Dublin, and the late Edward Harrington, who had been a member of Parliament for many years. An able journalist and an uncompromising Nationalist, in his conduct of the *Kerry Sentinel*, he maintained the traditions of the esteemed founder of that journal, the late Mr. T. Harrington.

W. F. SHORT

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