

Irish Transport Workers, Union,

ROSCREA BRANCH,

(To the Editor "Nenagh Guardian.")

Dear Sir—Will you kindly allow me space in your paper for the following brief particulars of the present Road Workers' Wages' Dispute in Roscrea :—

Up to November last 10 permanent men were employed on the roads in Roscrea. In that month four of those men, who had been working on the roads for years, were placed on the temporary staff. On the 5th January, those four men, together with two permanent carters (with their horses) were discharged. On the 24th Jan. (fair day) those carters were taken on for the day only. As a protest against the non-employment of the other four men the carters were called out. On 2nd Feb the remaining permanent men were asked if lorries were brought from Nenagh for the removal of the mud off the streets would they load them. They replied that they would not. They were promptly dismissed. Those six men were informed that, should they remain at work, their present wages would hold good until 1st March next. When being sent off work they were told that if ever they went back to work for the Council it would have to be at 29s per week.

From those happenings, it has become clear to the road workers of Roscrea that the object of the Council in turning their permanent men into temporary hands and discharging them, and finally discharging their recognised permanent men on a flimsy pretext, is to reduce all their permanent men to the status of casual workers, and, in the event of seeking re-employment, to offer to take them back at the reduced wages of 29s—a reduction of 6s on their wages at time of discharge.

Thanking you in anticipation of the insertion of this statement.—Yours faithfully.

MARTIN CUNNINGHAM,

Branch Secretary.

Streamstown, Roscrea. 5th Feb.

PORTROE BRANCH,

At a specially convened meeting of the above, the following resolution proposed by Mr Jas. Quinn, and seconded by Mr Martin O'Brien, was passed :—That we, the members of this branch I.T. and G.W.U, tender to Mr Ned Ryan, of Youghalarra, one of our most esteemed members, our deepest expression of sympathy in his great loss caused by the death of his young wife.

A Call for Justice.

TO IRISH PRISONERS IN BRITAIN

"This act of justice on the part of the new Government would be appreciated throughout Great Britain by Irishmen and women, who helped so largely in returning Labour members, and in strengthening the position of trades unionism."

This view is put forward in a letter which the Roger Casement S.F. Club, London, has addressed to Mr Ramsay Macdonald calling on the Government to release Irish political prisoners in Great Britain "Who are the victims of previous reactionary Administrations, and of the Six-County Cabinet and of anti-Irish Orangemen."

The amnesty, it proceeds, would prove that the new Ministry has no sympathy with the Cromwellian policy of its predecessors in ruthlessly wrecking vengeance on their political opponents, and in treating men and women whose only offence is love of their native land as common criminals.

The cases are specially mentioned of Joseph Dowling, of the Connaught Rangers (now in prison for eight years), and of Mrs Eady (whose term of two years' imprisonment will expire in six weeks) the internees in Scotland; the victims of the Six-County Government's peculiar ideal of "Law and order," and the six Irish prisoners who "were first illegally arrested and deported to Ireland in flagrant violation of the Habeas Corpus Act.

"If," the letter adds, "you fail to release our prisoners, and so perpetuate the policy of political vengeance inaugurated by your predecessors and vigorously denounced by your own party before entering office, your Administration will not be entitled to receive the slightest assistance from any section of our countrymen and women."

Irish Tourist Trade.

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Irish Tourist Association was held in Cork, Mr J. C. Foley President of the Cork Chamber of Commerce, presided. There was a full attendance of members, representing the hotel, railway, shipping and motor interests.

The chairman said the Association had been re-organised at a tourist conference in Dublin. A circular letter had been sent to the Press inviting co-operation, and the results had been very satisfactory. He was confident that before long every tourist centre in the country would have its branch affiliated with the Association.

The secretary submitted a report on organisation. Branches had been established in Killarney, Limerick, Waterford and other important centres.

House Purchase Scheme.

Thurles Urban Council is preparing a purchase scheme to extend over a term of years for all its house property.

Clare Health Board granted the maximum salary to Dr F. S. Brennan, M.O. Quin, who had had 12 years' service under the Poor Law system.