

proposed Irish conference. Meanwhile the government points to a slight diminution in the casualties suffered by crown forces in Ireland during the past week as indicative that the peace moves are making some impression on the rank and file of the Irish republican army. Except in the Dublin district where there has been comparative quiet during the past week, there is no appreciable lessening in outrages. Guerilla warfare has not abated throughout the country. There is no indication, however, that the extremists are forcing things with the design of wrecking whatever prospects of peace exist. The Crown casualties for the week following Mr. Lloyd George's invitation for a conference in London totalled forty, which is below the average for the week preceding.

Dublin, July 7th—The Conference between Irish republican leaders begun in Dublin on July 4th, was resumed today. The personnel of the conferees was the same as that of Monday, Mr. DeValera, Mr. Arthur Griffith, founder of the Sinn Fein, and four of the southern unionists Earl Midleton, Sir Maurice Dockrell, Sir Robert Henry Woods and Mr. Andrew Jameson. Mr. DeValera was the first to arrive. He was loudly cheered as well as the other conferees on their arrival by the large crowd which had gathered about the main house where the conference was held. Lord Mayor O'Neill welcomed the delegates who began their deliberations immediately.

NEW YORK, July 8th.

Flour, Blended Clears St. Lawrence Brand  
pr. brl. \$8.60.

Meal, Kilndried per 100 lbs \$1.95

New Season's Pork per brl. \$37.00

Heavy Mess Pork per bbl. \$24.00

Sugar---Crystals maximum per 100 lbs.  
\$4.00

Molasses Sugar 89° test, quotation.  
Cotton, Middling Upland, at Liverpool  
per lb. 7 84-100d.

Exchange, New York and London, 60  
days' sight \$3.66½

Exchange New York and London, sight  
\$3.70½

LONDON, July 8th 1921.

Sugar, Demerara Crystals, per cwt. 43s.  
—49s 6d.

" Muscavado per cwt. 36s. 6 -45s.6.

## Labor

The part the professional labor leader had in advancing the interests of the masses of labor in the past is no concern of a moving world. We want to know what part the professional labor leader is playing now and what value it has for the future. The sentimentalists look at his past through misty eyes and plead to keep him on, while practical men who feel that the professional labor leader has "said his piece," called loudly for "the hook." There is no denying that the professional labor leader eased the

burden of the workers in the midst of the rush to the Goal of Success hidden away in the industrial land of promise opened to settlement by the steam engine and machinery. That was a time of every man for himself; the time of the devil take the hindmost; the time of pre-emption, and the men who put out a protective hand to shield the weak against the strong, or who showed the weak the way to strength, deserve all of the encomiums that can be heaped upon them. But that is all. Because they helped once, they cannot be allowed to hinder now and that is what they are doing. Conditions have changed—changed mightily. The wilderness the steam engine opened for settlement is now thronging with life and is just beginning to bear fruit to the labor that has been expended upon it. The men who got away from the starting line first, when the industrial era was opened for settlement, pre-empted the choice quarter-sections—they became the men with a stake in the country and its natural leaders. They were self-centered, perhaps ignorantly selfish; certainly some of them were, and until a few years ago many of them believed that their interests were opposed to the interests of the masses. The radicals among the labor leaders and the political revolutionists tried to teach the masses to believe the same thing. But the masses were more intelligent than their leaders, or than those their leaders sought to make them hate. They could not be moved to hatred or revolt. They instinctively knew that a greater agent was at work in the world than either their leaders or their "bosses." They waited and bided their time. Then came the turning point. The industrial leaders, the men who mapped and plotted the road to the future—or some of them—saw a light. They saw that they were merely instruments, that there was a limit to purely selfish goals, that the big job, the great glory of accomplishment, lay in the elevation of the mass. They realized this concept of the future from a better understanding of the laws at work in industry and finance. Visions of a great, contented and industrious people rose up before them. They saw the "pelf" they were charged with filching invested in new machinery, new tools of production, and converted into homes, bath-tubs, automobiles, smooth roads, great parks, herds of cattle, fields of wheat—all for the use of the people. They realized that these things would be inevitable fruits of the industrial process, that they were just as certain to come in time as the sunrise tomorrow morning. There was no place for the idea of the "class struggle" in that concept. Here the interest of one was the interest of all. This vision of the future was developed in the minds of the foremost leaders of the industrial organization through a gradual realization of the factors responsible for

developments to date. The labor leaders did not get it, the sentimentalists who look back to the days when the labor leader was a Good Samaritan and not a contender for industrial leadership did not get it—it came to none but the men who have plumbed the secrets of the industrial process, and, though dimly, to the masses. The realization of the vision is threatened by the ambitions of the professional labor leader. His ambitions are still individual, still limited to a desire for power. His vision sees the mass of the workers as the instrument and he would reach his hand out to grasp it—to wield it as a scepter of power. He would be the master and not the agent. Frequently he has a vague purpose to be helpful, an undefined intention to lift up the mass but he doesn't know how he is to do it. He sees the real leaders of industry enjoying the first fruits of the industrial age's harvest and covets them for himself. He seeks domination by using the mass of the workers to force concessions from the real leaders of industry. Every victory of that sort enables him to point to his achievements and do tighten his grip on the workers. The industrial leaders understand his tactics, they know what the professional labor leader is doing even when the labor leader doesn't know himself. The sentimentalists, the men who mistakenly identify the cause of the professional labor leader with the interest of the mass of the workers, are even more dangerous. They interfere as peacemakers, but they invariably hold the hands of the man who fights the people's fight. The men who are responsible for the realization of the vision of the future as it appears from the industrial arena are estopped from making concessions. They may feel that the time is at hand for a wider distribution of the fruits of the common labors, or for a mitigation of the hardships incident to productive labor, but if they make these concessions the professional leader will get the credit and the sentimentalists will have an additional excuse for mushiness. No, the professional labor leader does not belong. His elimination is necessary for the welfare of the mass of workers. With him out of the way, the real leaders of industry can weigh proposals for a general, more immediate, distribution of the fruits of industry on their merits, and consider whether it is better to work hard to have more, or to work less and have less. There is a great deal to be said on all sides of these questions and it is pretty certain that an intelligent public opinion will be able to give a judgement and enforce it, but these questions cannot even be considered as long as the struggle for leadership goes on between the men who made industry what it is today and the men who would wrest its control from them.—*The Exchange*.