

May 31, 1939.

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(Scotland)

A Chara,

I thank you for your letter of May 29 and note that Scotland's interests would be served equally as well as London's by a postponement of the next meeting of the National Executive. Manchester has also readily agreed to the suggestion and I have little doubt that Liverpool will likewise favour a postponement. You may take it for certain then that the meeting arranged for next Sunday will not take place until a later date.

My own view is that proceedings at a National Conference, at which subjects such as national finance and national publicity are discussed, must necessarily lack a sense of reality, so long the constituent units are in an unsatisfactory financial position or so long as one or more of these units are unable to contribute towards the expenses of others less favourably circumstanced.

In the nature of things, London should be the best situated financially, but as I have already intimated the

response to our appeal has been exceedingly unsatisfactory. The appeal signed by our Chairman, Vice-Chairman and one of our Hon. Treasurers, was issued at the beginning of May and so far the receipts amount to only about £10. I tell you this as I think it right that we should have an exchange of information on matters of finance in particular, but I would like to repeat that we are making an intensified effort during the coming weeks and we are hopeful that the personal approach will yield good results in a number of cases. Meanwhile, however, the affairs of the National Executive must for us be subordinated to those of the local organisation and other things being equal the same presumably applies in other centres.

I have no information as to the progress made by Manchester or Liverpool, but I feel personally that unless there are matters outstanding which cannot be adequately dealt with by correspondence postponement of the National meeting for three or four weeks should be considered. Mr. Havekin has agreed that my suggestion re payment of the Organiser will meet the case quite satisfactorily for an interim period and when I reply to him tomorrow I shall give him

your view as corresponding closely to my own so far as a further postponement is concerned. It is possible of course that Glasgow may yet have reason to seek an early meeting of the National body, as for instance if it decides to apply for a £100 guarantee similar to those recently extended to Manchester and Liverpool; in which case, rather than hold up any contemplated organisation activities in the Scottish zone, I feel sure that London would raise no objection to a meeting

at an early date, notwithstanding that like yourselves we are at present in straitened financial circumstances. With reference to the Organisers, I should explain that the Manchester and Liverpool Councils have both agreed to fix the rate of remuneration at £3 per week plus expenses, subject to the ratification of the National Executive.

If you have any proposals as to the subjects which should come up for discussion at the next meeting of the National Executive, I will gladly incorporate them in the agenda. ^x I was very disappointed that I was unable to attend the last meeting and if I had known in time I would have supplied you and the other Provincial Hon. Secs with the statement of views I prepared for the discussion. These views are perhaps of little interest at this stage, but in deference to a suggestion made by Mr. ^{you} Moran of Liverpool I am belatedly forwarding you a copy of the statement. ^y As a matter of more immediate and practical interest, you may be glad to have the enclosed copy of a leaflet distributed at a Hurling Match in Mitcham, London, last Monday to the number of 10000. The leaflet may perhaps give you some ideas for local propaganda combined with a membership drive. This is the first time we have tried the experiment of "cashing in" on a fixture organised by another body. I shall let you know the result in due course.

Is mise, le meas mor,