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THE ANTI-PARTITION OF IRELAND LEAGUE,

358, First Avenue House,

High Holborn, W.C.1

July 31st 1939

Mr. T. Moran.



A Chara,

I was very glad to have had the opportunity recently to exchange news and views with you and have frequently intended since to follow up our discussions with a letter. For my failure to do so I offer the (convenient) excuse that I was awaiting the outcome of my appeal to the A.O.H. As you can see from the accompanying copy of a letter I re-received during the week from John D. Magent, the Convention "after some discussion" deferred a decision on the matter, a course, which I imagine, was influenced in no small measure by Messrs. Dillon and Coburn, whose views on the Government's Anti-Partition campaign and inferentially on the activities of our Organisation are doubtless known to you.

You probably feel, like we do here, that last week's occurrences in London have immeasurably added to the League's immediate problems. A public already difficult enough to convince of the justice of our Cause (willing though it may be to make every sacrifice to prevent the Partition of Poland) is not likely to be sympathetic after Euston and Victoria, but provided there are no further incidents of the kind our turn will come soon and we must be ready to make the most of it.

One of the steps we should take, then, in my opinion is to issue a carefully prepared statement of the League's policy and programme as suggested by you. The obstacle to carrying out this suggestion up to now is that to ensure adequate publicity particularly in the Catholic Press in Britain we should probably have to book advertising space - at least such is the view held here - and the National Executive has unfortunately no funds for the purpose at its disposal. I think, too, that you will agree that experience to date in the different Regions indicates that earlier hopes of building up a National Executive account through the formation of branches are nowhere near realisation and that a continuance of external financial assistance is essential. I am glad therefore to be able to inform you that an opportunity of reviewing the whole position in conjunction with Dublin will be presented by visits to the Capital this week of Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Barry-Walsh, both of whom are spending a short holiday across.

Mr. Havekin of Manchester was ill for four or five weeks and was able to resume correspondence only in mid-July. He informed me

that their appeal for funds, in connection with which some 2000 circulars were sent out, produced only £25, so that our experience appears to have been uniformly disappointing in this respect. In London we obtained from the public a mere £30, or roughly the same as from the members of our Council who to their credit responded generously even to a second appeal. Glasgow is still silent on their experience and I am afraid that the explanation is not undue modesty.

Manchester put forward a good suggestion this week, as you will note from the attached extract from letter I received on Thursday, but the incidents of the previous day completely destroyed any prospects of good accruing from the proposal and I feel that on this particular matter we had better postpone action for the time being.

I would like to refer you to the article in the News Review of July 19 by Frank Pakenham secured through our office; to the Anti-Partition letters published in News Review of July 26th and written by members of our branches and to the article "When England is a Tyrant" which appears in the current issue of The Catholic Worker and was written by the Hon. Secretary of our Stamford Hill Branch.

With best wishes,

Is mise le meas,

Hon. Sec. Prov. National Exec.
Anti-Partition of Ireland League.