

REPORT OF A SPEECH MADE BY Mr. P.J. DUNPHY, Organiser
of the League in Croydon, at a Meeting of the Highgate
Branch, held at the Winchester Hotel, on June 29th 1939.

Mr. DUNPHY began by contrasting spectacular with unspectacular work in the propagation of the objects of the League. Public Meetings were spectacular but generally those who attended such meetings were either ~~XXXXXXXX~~ disciples or the unconvertible. Enlisting the sympathy of the ordinary Englishman in the street, was unspectacular, but it produced concrete results because the success of our cause depended on our being able to influence public opinion in this country.

The Speaker then explained how members could influence public opinion in this country. He said that the average Englishman did not know the position. It should be pointed out to him that he, as a taxpayer was paying for the Junta in "Northern Ireland!" He should be told that dastardly deeds were being done in the Six Counties and that he was responsible for this. It should be pointed out that the horrors of Nazi Germany, which the English so rightly condemn, were commonplace in "Northern Ireland". A.R.P. has been introduced in this country because of the behaviour of the continental dictatorships. Our cause is an exact parallel— for we have a dictatorship in the Six Counties.

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The acts of individuals in this country have made some of us afraid to discuss Partition. Mr. Dunphy asked his audience not to be silenced in this way. Join the English in their sports and pastimes and you will find that you have only to explain our cause to make converts. The speaker went on to emphasise the danger of making our cause a political one in this country. This must not be done. Conservatives are not necessarily hostile: they support Craigavon only through ignorance and it is the duty of members to enlighten them. Mr. Dunphy gave concrete examples of ~~XXXX~~ his own success in this sphere.

Members should point out to Catholic friends that Pius XI has said that it was the bounden duty of Catholics to look for and to eradicate breaches of the moral law. Our cause is based on this. Point out that "Northern Ireland" Ministers boast of their anti-Catholic bigotry. The average Englishman is fair minded and will listen to an appeal to "play the game." The Speaker concluded by reminding his audience that their individual efforts ~~XXX~~ were what counted. Central Office can advise but nothing can be done without the help of the individual members. Propaganda can alter public opinion very rapidly as was seen in the recent Czecho-Slovak episode. It is up to the Members to make our cause a success.
