

May 21, 1939.

A. Havekin Esq.

A Chara,

I thank you for your letter of May 26 and am glad to note your ready agreement to a postponement of the National Executive meeting. Liverpool and Glasgow are also in favour, the former on the ground that it will afford a welcome breathing space, while Mr. ^{Carey} ~~Exsey~~ of Glasgow has replied as follows.

"Recent events in Glasgow have made it impossible for us to even try to make headway. Our local appeal is held up and at the moment we could allow only one delegate to travel. Therefore, any postponement, longer if possible, will have our approval and with regard to the remuneration of the Organisers I think we could agree to any emergency decision reached by yourselves on this point."

It seems to me then that unless there are urgent and important matters which cannot be satisfactorily with by correspondence the postponement of the National Executive meeting for, say, four weeks may meet with general approval. I feel personally that the proceedings at a National meeting would lack a sense of reality, so long as the constituent units

are in an unhealthy financial position, or so long as the less favourably circumstanced units cannot look to the Central Funds for assistance. The position so ~~far~~^{far} as we are concerned, however, is that an Appeal launched at the beginning of May has brought in from non-members only about £12 and you will appreciate therefore our reason for favouring concentration for the time being on local problems, particularly as our office outgoings (including £2 per week or rather two guineas per week for rent) are fairly substantial.

We hope to be in a much better position by the end of the month after the ^{approach} personal/method has been tried on a number of sympathisers and other devices adopted to raise finance. For instance we made the experiment this week of "cashing in" on a G.A.A. Hurling Championship Match at Mitcham, when Mr. Barry-Walsh organised the distribution of 10000 copies of the accompanying leaflet, which contains as you will note an Application for Membership Form. We are awaiting the result of the experiment with great interest and not a little anxiety.

I note your request for a supply of membership cards as soon as they are available. I was not aware of any decision to transfer the responsibility for the provision of membership cards from the Regional Committees to the National Executive, though I agree that it would be a logical move once the adoption of a uniform card had been agreed upon. I understand from Mr. Long, however, that ~~my~~ ^{my} impression that

the changes in the Constitution approved by the National Executive are subject to ratification by the Regional Committees is correct, in which case the ~~xxxxxx~~ preparation of a membership card for the country as a whole could not be undertaken just yet, as London has still to approve the changes in question. As there ~~apparently~~ appears to be a difference of opinion as to the exact powers of the Executive, I would be very glad to have your opinion.

I would also be glad to have your opinion of the revised definition of the Organisation's aims, because frankly I do not like it personally and I know that Mr. Fitzgerald shares my dislike. I have not yet had an opportunity to consult Mr. Long as to the point re Regional and National Finance mentioned in your letter of ^{May 23,} ~~the next few~~ days, but shall consult him in the course of the next few days.

I am forwarding herewith a cheque for M £12 as an initial advance towards the salary for the Organiser for the Manchester Zone.

Mise, le meas,

Hon. Sec.

The Provisional National
Executive.

Please overlook the low standard of typing. Our typist is at present away on leave.