3.0 Iad Siúd a raibh tionchar acu ar an Éirí Amach: Réamhrá

3.3 Iad Siúd a Raibh Pleananna Eile Acu: Páirtí an Lucht Oibre

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann

Chuir Larkin leis an Éirí Amach go hindíreach trí aird a dhíriú ar an easpa ceartais shóisialta agus ar chruachás oibrithe sa chóras reatha. Bhí tionchar díreach aige chomh maith i mbunú Arm Cathartha na hÉireann.

Rugadh James (‘Big Jim’) Larkin (1874-1947) i Learpholl do thuismitheoirí Éireannacha. D’oibrigh sé mar eagraí don National Union of Dock Labourers i Learpholl agus ó 1907 go 1909 i mBéal Feirste. Ní raibh brainse Bhéal Feirste eagraithe go maith agus bhí go leor seicteachais ann. D’éirigh le Larkin an t-aontas a athbheochan a bhuí lena chumas eagraíochtúil agus lena óráidíocht. Nuair a rinne na fostóirí iarracht srian a chur le cumhacht an cheardchumainn trí frithdhúnadh a imirt ar an lucht oibre agus fir oibre eile nó ‘blacklegs’ a thabhairt isteach ina n-áit, ghéill ceannaireacht an Cheardchumainn sa Bhreatain. Aistríodh Larkin go Baile Átha Cliath mar a bhunaigh sé an National Union of Dock Labourers (NUDL).

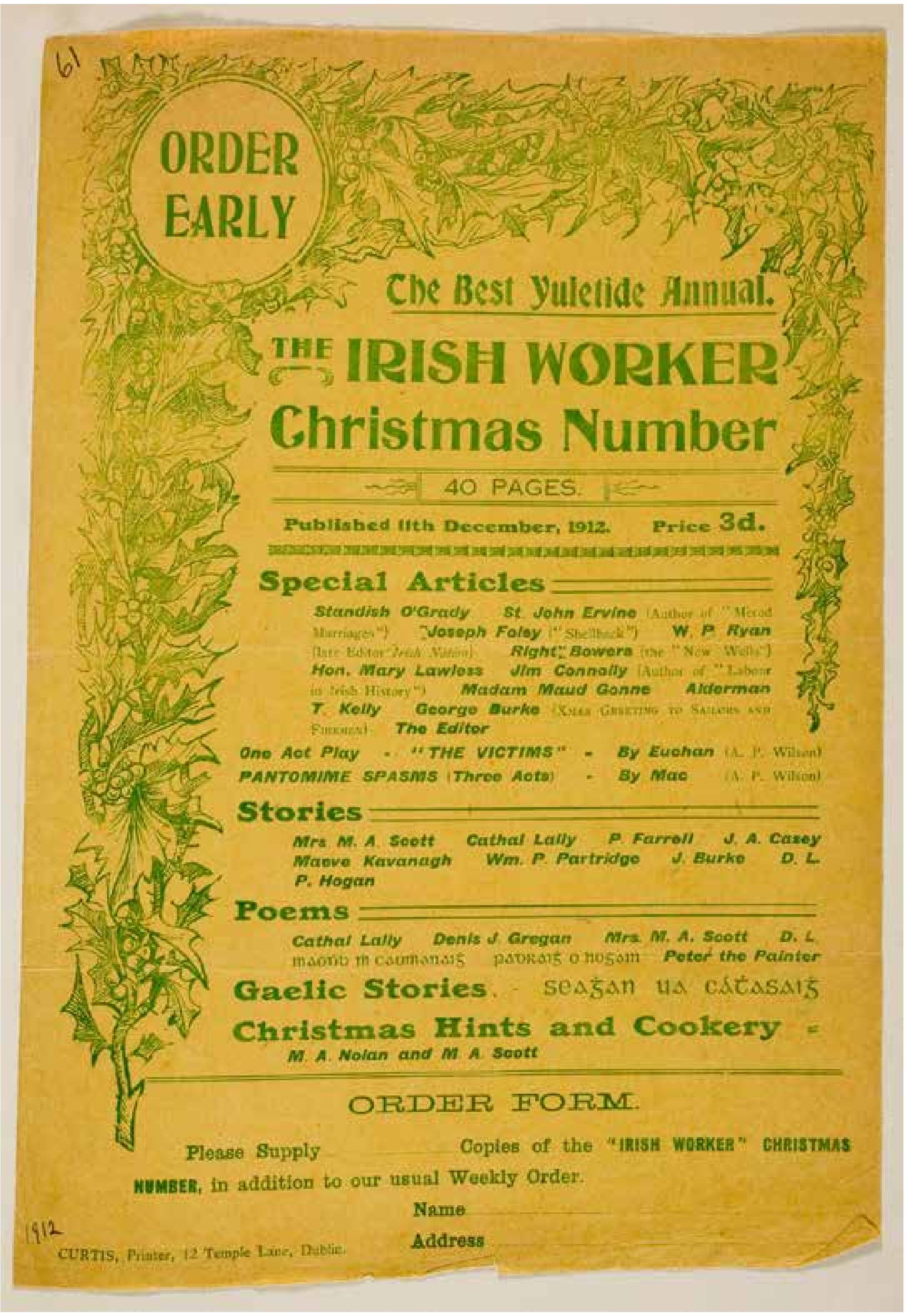
Chuir ceannaireacht an cheardchumainn Larkin ar fionraí de dheasca a chur chuige míliteach i leith chaidreamh oibreachais. Is ansin a bhunaigh sé Ceardchumann Iompair agus Ilsaothair na hÉireann. I mí na Bealtaine 1911 d’fhoilsigh sé an nuachtán ‘the Irish Worker’ ina ndéantaí ionsaithe fíochmhara ar an gcaipitleachas, ar an impiriúlachas, ar na fostóirí agus ar Pháirtí Parlaiminteach na hÉireann, go dtí gur cuireadh cosc air sa deireadh de bharr a sheasaimh in aghaidh cogaí. Toisc an úsáid a bhain sé as stailceanna bhí sé i gcoinbhleacht oscailte leis na fostóirí. Sa bhliain

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann

1913, mar fhreagra ar na héilimh a bhí aige ar chainteanna chun pá agus coinníollacha a phlé, tháinig nach mór ceithre chéad fostóirí le chéile chun an Employers' Federation a bhunú. D'eagraigh an Chónaidhm ansin go gcuirfí frithdhúnadh i bhfeidhm ar na hoibrithe sin nach dtabharfadh geall nach rachfaidís isteach i gceardchumann. Bhí ní ba mhó ná 20,000 oibrí (agus 80,000 eile ag brath orthusan) rannpháirteach. Níor bheag an t-achrann a lean, lena n-áirítear ruathar bataí a thug na póilíní faoi na hoibrithe agus faoin lucht féachana ar Shráid Uí Chonaill. Cuireadh Larkin i bpríosún ar feadh tréimhse.

Ar an 19 Samhain 1913 bhunaigh Larkin agus Séamus Ó Conghaile Arm Cathartha na hÉireann mar fhórsa cosanta na n-oibriththe ar lámh láidir Phóilíní Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath. Bhí thart faoi 350 ball, a raibh a bhformhór díobhsan ina mbaill de cheardchumann éigin. Bhí éide suaithinseach dá chuid féin ag an bhfórsa agus rinne siad a gcuid traenála go hoscailte; bhí roinnt gunnaí faighte faoi rún acu a coimeádadh i gceanncheathrú an ITGWU i Halla na Saoirse, gar do Theach an Chustaim. B'ann don Arm Cathartha i gcónaí ámh fiú tar éis do na hoibrithe géilleadh agus do Larkin imeacht go dtí na Stáit Aontaithe go luath sa bhliain1914. Ba é Ó Conghaile a bhí ina Cheannfort; ina dhiaidh sin bhí Michael Mallin ina Cheann Foirne agus ba é a bhí i gceannas le linn Éirí Amach 1916.

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann

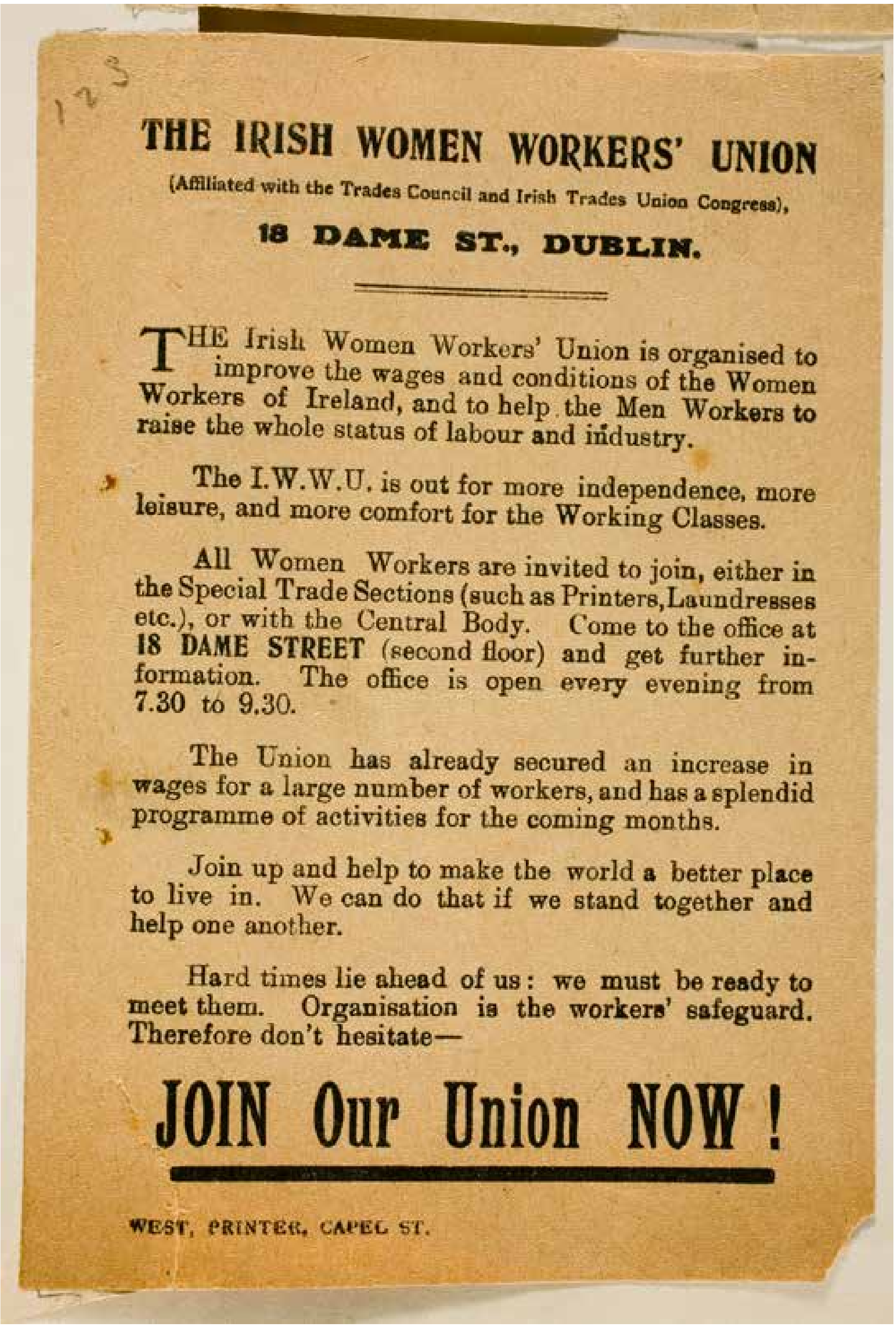


Advertisment for the Irish Worker which Larkin launched in June 1911. The paper lambasted slum landlords, sweat-shop employers, lying journalists and corrupt politicians; the Christmas number was more in a literary vein.

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann

Liberty Hall, Dublin; Larkin and the ITGWU moved to Liberty Hall in 1912. The banner recommends the Irish Worker, 'the only labour paper in Ireland'. (Keogh 202).

3.3.2 | Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann



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THE IRISH WOMEN WORKERS' UNION

(Affiliated with the Trades Council and Irish Trades Union Congress),

18 DAME ST., DUBLIN.

THE Irish Women Workers' Union is organised to improve the wages and conditions of the Women Workers of Ireland, and to help the Men Workers to raise the whole status of labour and industry.

The I.W.W.U. is out for more independence, more leisure, and more comfort for the Working Classes.

All Women Workers are invited to join, either in the Special Trade Sections (such as Printers, Laundresses etc.), or with the Central Body. Come to the office at **18 DAME STREET** (second floor) and get further information. The office is open every evening from 7.30 to 9.30.

The Union has already secured an increase in wages for a large number of workers, and has a splendid programme of activities for the coming months.

Join up and help to make the world a better place to live in. We can do that if we stand together and help one another.

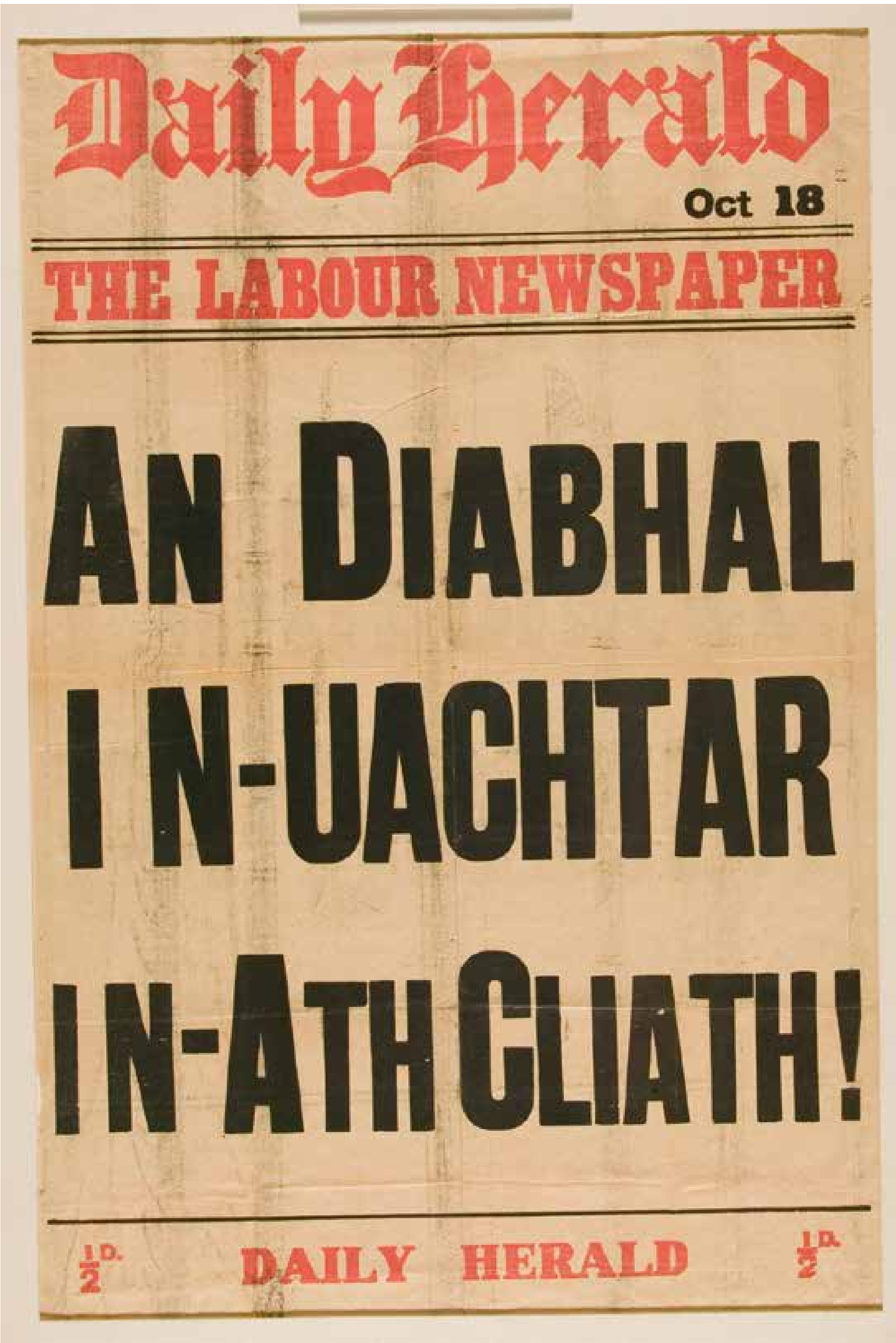
Hard times lie ahead of us: we must be ready to meet them. Organisation is the workers' safeguard. Therefore don't hesitate—

JOIN Our Union NOW!

WEST, PRINTER, CAPEL ST.

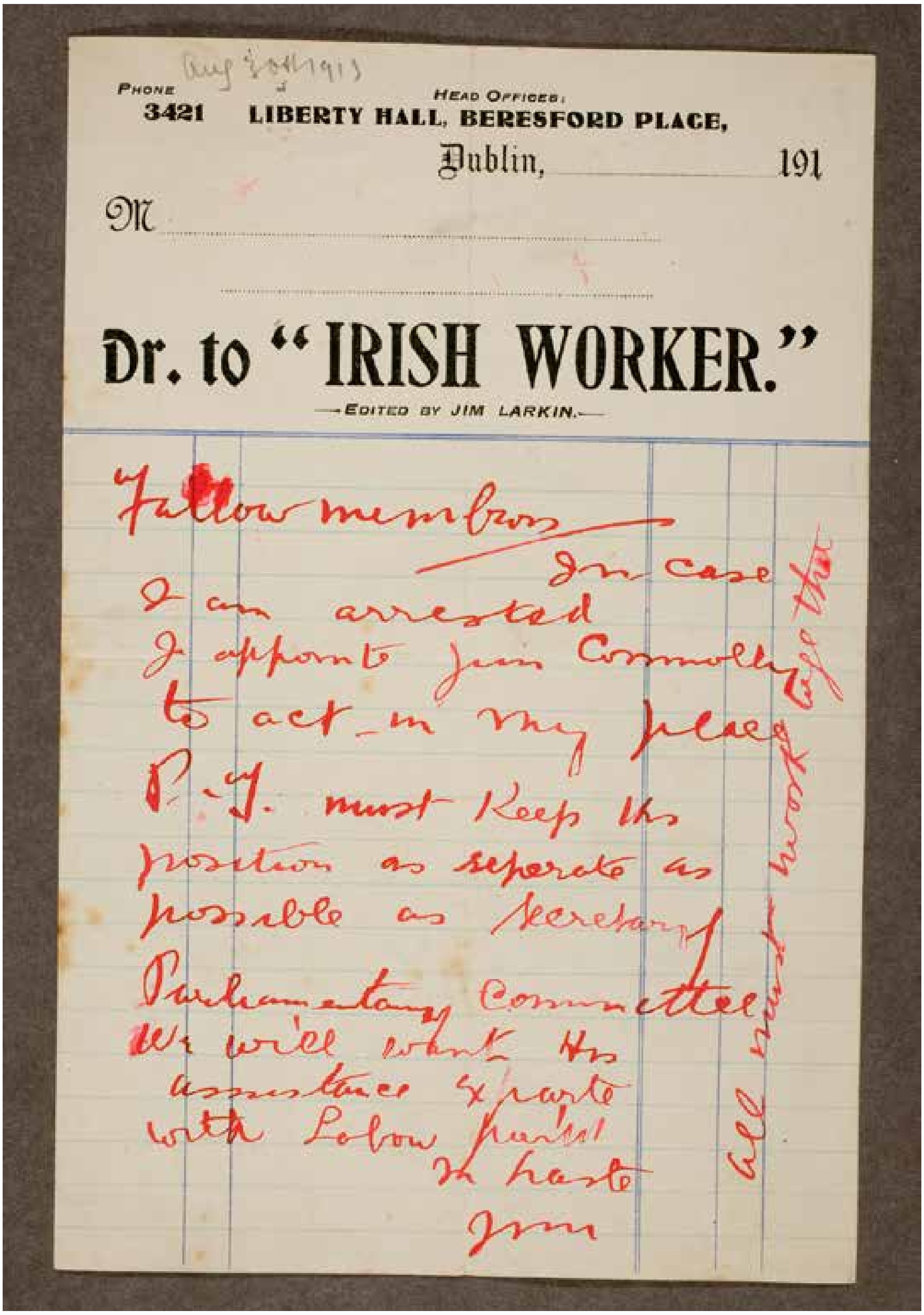
The Irish Women Workers' Union was launched in Sept. 1911 with Larkin as president and his sister Delia as secretary. (LOP 113/123).

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann



Billboard referring to the 1913 lock-out: 'the devil has the upper hand in Dublin'. (Proclamations).

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann



Aug 30th 1913

PHONE 3421

HEAD OFFICES: LIBERTY HALL, BERESFORD PLACE,

Dublin, ... 191

M ....

Dr. to "IRISH WORKER."

—EDITED BY JIM LARKIN.—

Fellow members

In case I am arrested I appoint Jim Connolly to act in my place

P. T. must keep the position as seperate as possible as Secretary Parliamentary Committee

We will want his assistance separate with Labour party

in haste

Jim

all must work together

Letter by Larkin appointing James Connolly in his place if he were to be arrested, 30 Aug. 1913. (Ms. 15,679).

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann

EVENING HERALD

6.30 WHITE

CERTIFIED NET SALES EXCEED THOSE OF ANY OTHER DUBLIN EVENING PAPER.

DUBLIN, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 1913.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

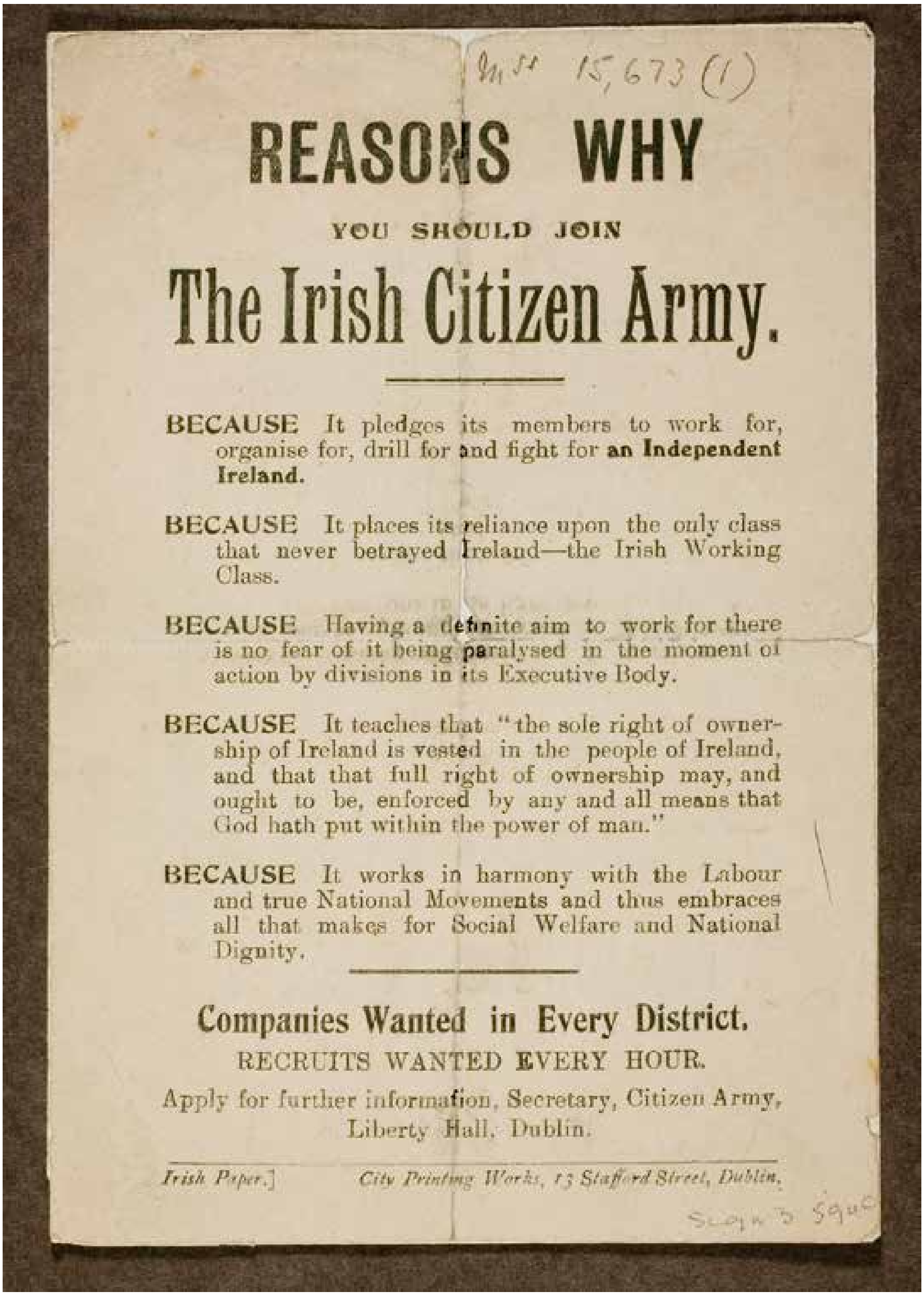
LARKIN TELLS A CROWD OF ENGLISHMEN

That the Great Question in Ireland is Not Home Rule

FARM HANDS STRIKE

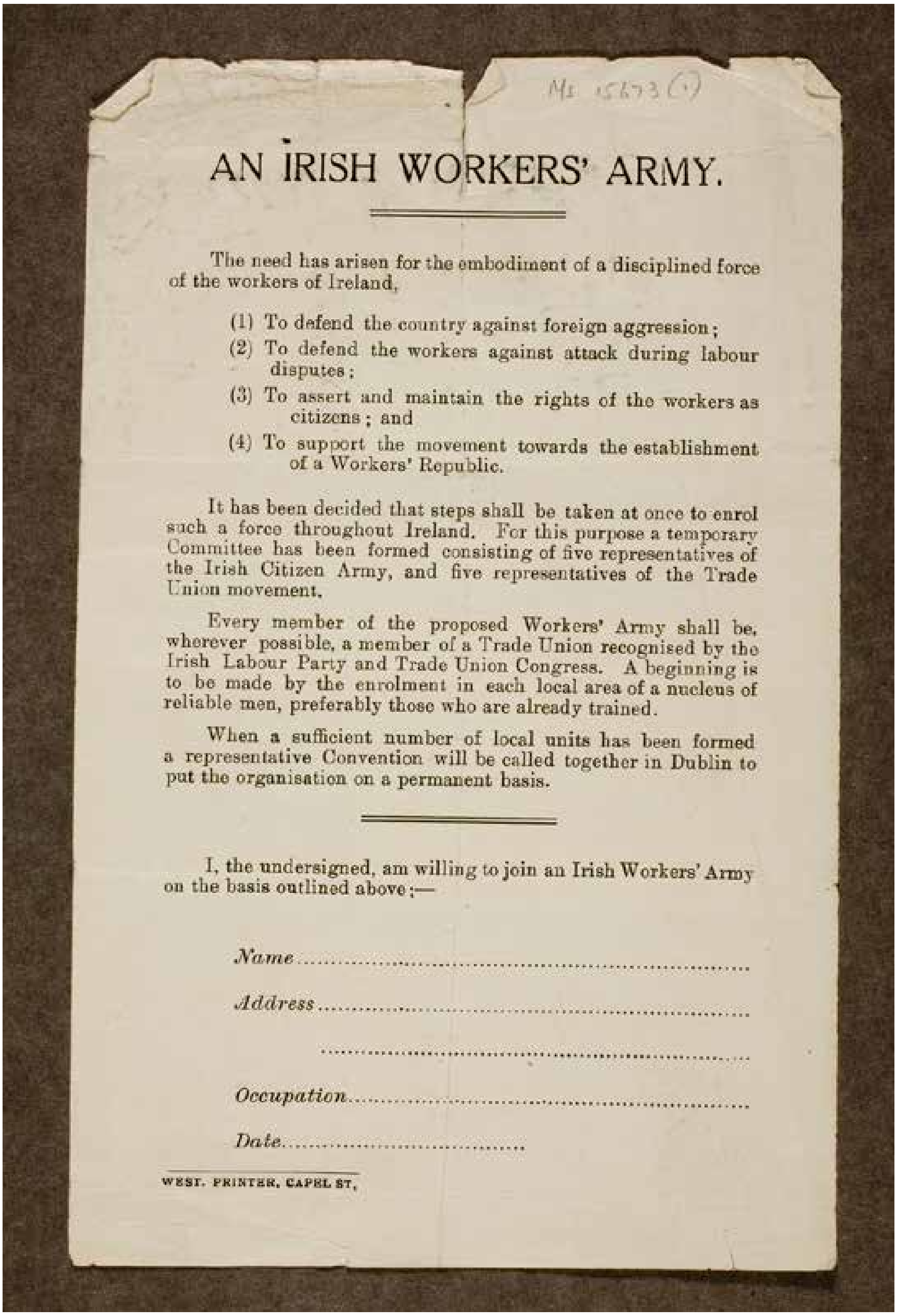
Larkin addressing a crowd in Manchester. (Evening Herald, 15 Sept. 1913).

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann



Advertisement for the Irish Citizen Army. (Ms. 15,673).

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann



AN IRISH WORKERS' ARMY.

The need has arisen for the embodiment of a disciplined force of the workers of Ireland,

(1) To defend the country against foreign aggression;
(2) To defend the workers against attack during labour disputes;
(3) To assert and maintain the rights of the workers as citizens; and
(4) To support the movement towards the establishment of a Workers' Republic.

It has been decided that steps shall be taken at once to enrol such a force throughout Ireland. For this purpose a temporary Committee has been formed consisting of five representatives of the Irish Citizen Army, and five representatives of the Trade Union movement.

Every member of the proposed Workers' Army shall be, wherever possible, a member of a Trade Union recognised by the Irish Labour Party and Trade Union Congress. A beginning is to be made by the enrolment in each local area of a nucleus of reliable men, preferably those who are already trained.

When a sufficient number of local units has been formed a representative Convention will be called together in Dublin to put the organisation on a permanent basis.

I, the undersigned, am willing to join an Irish Workers' Army on the basis outlined above:—

Name..

Address..

....

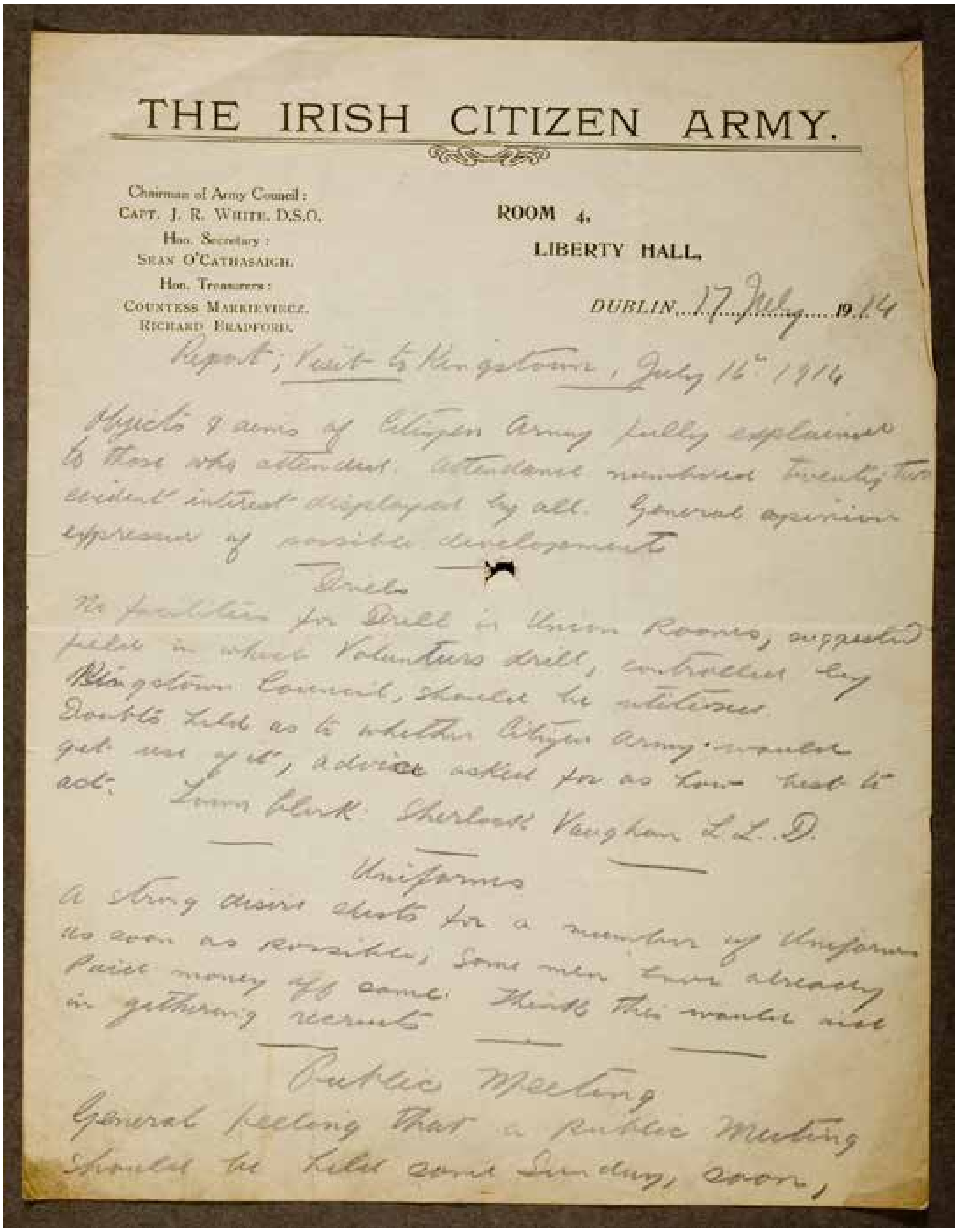
Occupation..

Date.......................................

WEST, PRINTER, CAPEL ST,

Advertisement for the Irish Citizen Army. (Ms. 15,673).

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann



THE IRISH CITIZEN ARMY.

Chairman of Army Council:
CAPT. J. R. WHITE, D.S.O.
Hon. Secretary:
SEAN O'CATHASAIGH.
Hon. Treasurers:
COUNTESS MARKIEVICZ.
RICHARD BRADFORD.

ROOM 4,
LIBERTY HALL,

DUBLIN 17 July 1914

Report; Visit to Kingstown, July 16th 1914

Objects & aims of Citizen Army fully explained to those who attended. Attendance numbered twenty-two evident interest displayed by all. General opinion expressive of possible development

Drills

No facilities for Drill in Union Rooms, suggested field in which Volunteers drill, controlled by Kingstown Council, should be [illegible]. Doubts held as to whether Citizen Army would get use of it, advice asked for as how best to act; [illegible] Sherlock Vaughan L.L.D.

Uniforms

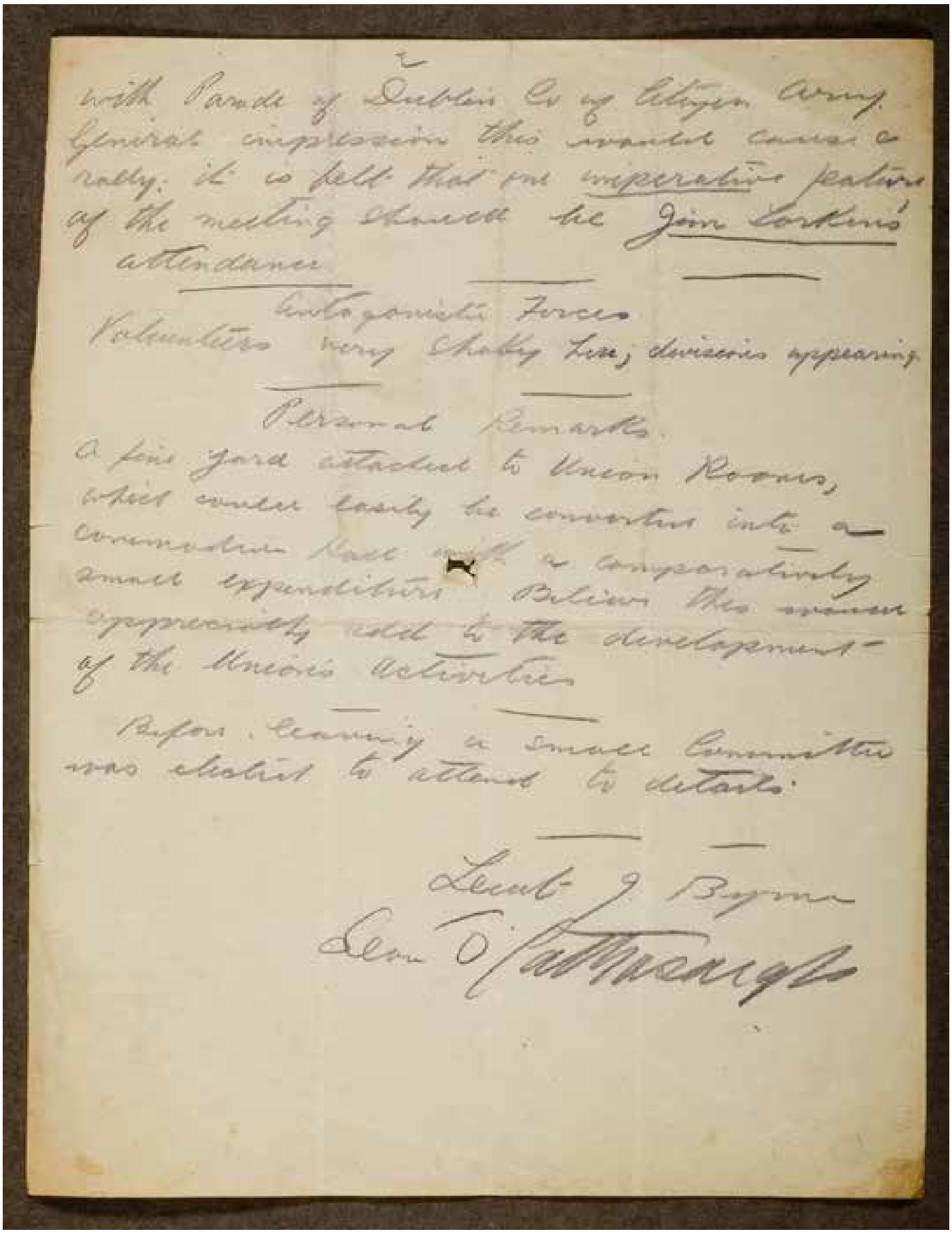
A strong desire exists for a number of Uniforms as soon as possible; some men have already paid money off same. Think this would aid in gathering recruits

Public Meeting

General feeling that a public meeting should be held some Sunday, soon,

Report on a visit by the Irish Citizen Army to Kingstown (Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin). The signatory Sean Ó Cathasaigh was the playwright Sean O'Casey, who was secretary for a period. (Ms. 15,673/2).

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann



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with Parade of Dublin Co of Citizen Army
General impression this would cause a
rally. it is felt that one imperative feature
of the meeting should be Jim Larkin's
attendance

Antagonistic Forces

Volunteers very shabby line, divisions appearing

Personal Remarks

A fine yard attached to Union Rooms,
which could easily be converted into a
Commodious Hall with a comparatively
small expenditure. Believe this would
appreciably add to the development
of the Union's activities

Before leaving a small Committee
was elected to attend to details.

Lieut. J. Byrne
Sean O Cathasaigh

Report on a visit by the Irish Citizen Army to Kingstown (Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin). The signatory Sean Ó Cathasaigh was the playwright Sean O'Casey, who was secretary for a period. (Ms. 15,673/2).

3.3.2 Jim Larkin agus Arm Cathartha na hÉireann

Transcript

The Irish Citizen Army
Objects and aims of Citizen Army fully explained to those attending. Attendance numbered twenty-two. Evident interest displayed by all. General opinion expressive of possible development.

Drill
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A strong desire exists for a number of uniforms as soon as possible. Some men have already paid money off same. Think this would aid in gathering recruits.

Public Meeting
General feeling that a public meeting should be held some Sunday, soon, with parade of Dublin Company of Citizen Army. General impression this would cause a rally. It is felt that one imperative feature of the meeting should be Jim Larkin's attendance.

Antagonistic Forces
Volunteers very shaky here, divisions appearing.

Personal Remarks
A fine yard attached to Union Rooms, which could easily be converted into a commodious hall with a comparatively small expenditure. Believe this would appreciably add to the development of the Union's activities.

Before leaving a small committee was elected to attend to details.

Lieut. J Byrne, Sean Ó Cathasaigh.