

1917 Diary of Sir Horace Curzon Plunkett (1854–1932)

Transcribed, annotated and indexed by Kate Targett. December 2012

NOTES

‘There was nothing wrong with my head, but only with my handwriting, which has often caused difficulties.’

Horace Plunkett, *Irish Homestead*, 30 July 1910

Conventions

In order to reflect the manuscript as completely and accurately as possible and to retain its original ‘flavour’, Plunkett’s spelling, punctuation, capitalisation and amendments have been reproduced unless otherwise indicated. The conventions adopted for transcription are outlined below.

1) Common titles (usually with an underscored superscript in the original) have been standardised with full stops: Archbp. (Archbishop), Bp. (Bishop), Capt./Capt’n., Col., Fr. (Father), Gen./Gen’l, Gov./Gov’r (Governor), Hon. (Honourable), Jr., Ld., Mr., Mrs., Mgr. (Monsignor), Dr., Prof./Prof’r., Rev’d.

2) Unclear words for which there is a ‘best guess’ are preceded by a query (e.g. ?battle) in transcription; alternative transcriptions are expressed as ?bond/band.

3) Illegible letters are represented, as nearly as possible, by hyphens (e.g. b----t)

4) Any query (?) that does not *immediately* precede a word appears in the original manuscript unless otherwise indicated.

5) Punctuation (or lack of)

- Commas have been inserted only to reduce ambiguity. ‘Best guess’ additions appear as [,].
- Apostrophes have been inserted in:
 - surnames beginning with O (e.g. O’Hara)
 - negative contractions (e.g. can’t, don’t, won’t, didn’t)
 - possessives, to clarify context (e.g. Adams’ house; Adam’s house). However, Plunkett commonly indicates the plural of surnames ending in ‘s’ by an apostrophe (e.g. Yeats’).
- Initials preceding names reflect the original as nearly as possible (e.g. TP Gill, T.P. Gill, T P Gill, T. P. Gill).
- Plunkett’s symbols for ‘about’, ‘therefore’ and the ‘long (double) s’ have been expanded.

6) Text in parentheses () is Plunkett’s; text in brackets [] is editorial.

7) Capitalisation, particularly of the letter C and common nouns, is inconsistent and has been retained if unambiguous.

8) Words crossed out in the original are usually reproduced in the transcript, as their frequency or content may indicate Plunkett’s thinking at the time.

9) Cd (could), wd (would), wh: (which) and Plunkett’s symbol for ‘about’ and ‘therefore’ have been expanded; the ‘long f’ (J) has been expanded to ‘ss’.

10) Approximate monetary equivalents were derived and adapted from Lawrence H. Officer and Samuel H. Williamson, “Five Ways to Compute the Relative Value of a UK Pound Amount, 1830 to Present”, and Samuel H. Williamson, “Seven Ways to Compute the Relative Value of a U.S. Dollar Amount, 1774 to Present”, www.measuringworth.com, 2011. The index used was the Gross Domestic Product Deflator, a measure of average prices covering a ‘bundle’ of all goods and services produced in an economy (making it broader than just the consumer goods in the Retail Price Index). Figures

rounded to the nearest £ or \$. See website for alternative and more detailed measures of relative worth.

Although great care has been taken to ensure accuracy, some misinterpretations will inevitably have occurred in transcription. For clarification, readers are advised to consult microfilm copies of the diaries available in several libraries.

Correspondence

The diaries are associated with, and cross-referenced to, an alphabetical indexed collection of nearly 4000 items of correspondence donated to the Plunkett Foundation in the years following Sir Horace's death.

- Letters with an identifiable date are noted beside the diary entry for the corresponding day. Letters attributable to only a particular year or month are indicated at the beginning of the relevant section.
- Letters sent by Plunkett appear in Roman type, alphabetically by addressee (e.g. To Balfour, Arthur); letters received by Plunkett appear in italics, alphabetically by sender (e.g. *Fr Balfour, Arthur*).
- Letters between correspondents other than Plunkett appear in parenthesis and are filed with the letters of the first-named correspondent: (*Fr Balfour, Arthur to House, E.M.*).
- If, for some reason, a letter between two correspondents is filed with neither recipient nor sender, the file location is indicated: (*Fr Anderson, R.A. [BAL]*).

For additional holdings, see <http://www.nra.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra/searches/> (National Register of Archives) and Archives in 'Plunkett, Sir Horace Curzon (1854–1932)', Bull, P., *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* (Oxford University Press) 2006.

Abbreviations

1) Frequently occurring abbreviations and contractions:

Names

Æ	George William Russell	JGB	John George Butcher
AJB	Arthur James Balfour	KW	Karl Walter
EVL	Ernest V. Longworth	Lady B	Lady Elizabeth (Betty) Balfour
F / Fs	Fingall / Fingalls	LI.G.	David Lloyd George
GBS	George Bernard Shaw	RAA	Robert Andrew Anderson
GH	Gerald Heard	SHB	Samuel Henry Butcher
GWB	Gerald William Balfour		

Organisations

AAOS	American Agricultural Organisation Society	IH	<i>Irish Homestead</i>
AOS	Agricultural Organisation Society	IS	<i>Irish Statesman</i>
AOS & SHL	Allotments Organisations Society and Small Holders Ltd.	IIA	Irish Industries Association
BB Co	Berthon Boat Company	IRA	Irish Reconstruction Ass'n./ Irish Republican Army (depending on context)
CDB	Congested Districts Board	IUA	Irish Unionist Alliance
CWS	Co-operative Wholesale Society	K St Club/K.S.C.	Kildare Street Club
DATI	Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction	NAOS	National Agricultural Organization Society
FO	Foreign Office	NFU	National Farmers Union
H of C	House of Commons	RDS	Royal Dublin Society
HPF	Horace Plunkett Foundation	RIC	Royal Irish Constabulary
IAOS	Irish Agricultural Organisation Society	TCD	Trinity College, Dublin
IAWS	Irish Agricultural Wholesale Society	UAOS	Ulster Agricultural Organisation Society
ICAS	Irish Co-operative Agency Society	UI	United Irishwomen
IDL	Irish Dominion League	UP	Union Pacific
		Wyo Dev Co	Wyoming Development
		WO	War Office

General

&c	etcetera (etc.)	Gt	Great
a/c a/cs	account/s	HR	Home Rule
ADC	aide-de-camp	Inst/Inst:/Inst'n	Instruction
agricl / agric'l	agricultural	I.Q.	Irish Question
ag / agric're	agriculture	legisl'n	legislation
Amer'n	American	Ltd.	Limited
ass'n / assoc'n	association	moted	motored
ass't	assistant	MP	Member of Parliament
betw'n	between	Mov't	movement
bd	board	Nat / Nat'l	National
CC (by context)	Catholic curate	Nat's	Nationalists
	Cricket Club	o'c	o'clock
	County Councillor	Parl / Parl't	Parliament
Ch: Sec	Chief Secretary	parl'y	parliamentary
coll / coll:	college	PP	parish priest
co / co.	company or county	Powder R	Powder River
com'n/comm'n	commission	Pres't	President
Conv'n/Conv'tn	Convention	Prot	Protestant
coop/coop:	co-operative	Qn	Question
coop'n	co-operation	RC	Roman Catholic
ct'e/c'tee/c'tte/ com'tee	committee	Rel'n / Rel'ns	Relation/s
DD	Doctor of Divinity	RR	Railroad
dep't	department	R'y	Railway
Do / do	ditto	Sec / Sec'y	Secretary
ed'n / educ'n	education	Soc'y	Society
Eng'd	England	SS	steamship
Ex / Exs	Excellency/ Excellencies (usu. Lord Lieutenant)	TD	Teachtaí Delai (representatives in lower house of Dail)
exhib'n	exhibition	Tech/Tech:/Tec'l	technical
gen'l	general		
gov't	government		

N.B. The apostrophe in a contraction usually indicates that in Plunkett's handwriting the word ended with underscored superscript letters (e.g. Parl^x is transcribed as Parl'y).

2) Less frequent or ambiguous contractions are expanded in brackets for clarity and easier reading (e.g. rec[eive]d, originally handwritten "rec^d"). If the same usage occurs in close proximity, the expanded version is generally not repeated.

1917

Events:

- 8-15 Mar – Revolution in Russia; Tsar Nicholas II abdicates
- 2 Apr – America enters WWI
- Jul – All remaining prisoners from 1916 Rising released
- 10 Jul – Sinn Féin candidate Eamon de Valera elected MP for East Clare
- 25 Jul – *Elected chairman of Irish Convention* (concludes 5 Apr 1918)

Publications:

- ‘A Defence of the Convention’ (Dublin) 13 pp.; Dundalk speech reprinted in *The Irish Home Rule Convention*, G.W. Russell (A.E.), Sir Horace Plunkett and John Quinn, (Macmillan, New York) 183 pp.
- Address to IAOS Annual General Meeting, *IH*, XXIV:52 (29 Dec 1917), pp. 952, 955-6; reprinted in *IAOS Annual Report*, pp. 48-51

Government:

- Prime Minister*: David Lloyd George (Liberal/Conservative coalition)
- Chief Secretary*: Henry Edward Duke
- Lord Lieutenant*: Viscount Wimborne

Approximate monetary equivalents (2010): £1= £58 ; \$1 = \$12

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To Montgomery, (Chas.) Hubert, (cable; SPR.8) <i>Fr Esmond, F.J.</i> <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i> <i>Fr Mitchell, Susan, date approx. (3)</i> <i>Fr Moore, Col. Maurice</i> <i>Fr Rolleston, T.W. (post-25 Jul)</i> <i>Fr Walter, K. (GREY.F/2/1)</i> <i>Fr Wells, Catherine</i> <i>Fr Wells, H.G. (yr uncertain)</i>	No date; date uncertain	
	1 Jan, Mon	Again opened the year at Battle Creek Sanitarium. McCarthy of Wisconsin was with me – left today – interesting me greatly in his views on International and agric’l organisation (in U.S.A.) questions. I am still under morphia – heroin – 1/12 of a grain a night to combat a horrible state of nervousness caused by the drugging and to allay the pain of X-ray dermatitis. The local sores are nearly healed over but the healed portions are covered with a thick intensely sensitive scab. I have been here 10 days & fear I may have to do “a month hard”.
	2 Jan, Tue	Struggling with the sores & the effect of the morphia.
	3 Jan, Wed	[No entry]
	4 Jan, Thu	Sent Arthur Balfour copy of my letter of Dec. 27 to Col. House.
	5 Jan, Fri	Night nursing & Veronal (Fry & Company[]) then morphia. Found it absolutely necessary to have a ?single 1/8 dose of morphia to allay the maddening nervous irritability.
	6 Jan, Sat	Another night of nursing. Same procedure.

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To Leslie, Shane	7 Jan, Sun	Took about 1/16th of morphia with the Veronal. Shall I hope drop it altogether tonight.
<i>Fr Walter, Karl</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl to</i> <i>Lippmann, Walter</i> (8 Jan) (To Marburg, Theodore fr Riaño, Juan) To Walter, Karl (11 Jan) To Macartney Filgate, W.	8 Jan, Mon – 13 Jan, Sat	[No entry]
[Dr. James H. Sequeira X-rayed HP 26 Jun 1916.]	14 Jan, Sun	No progress – rather the reverse. They have had to drug me to combat insomnia and the local sores are slightly recrudescant. It gets harder & harder to extend charity to thank Sequeira.
<i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	15 Jan, Mon	[No entry]
<i>Fr Marburg, Theodore</i>	16 Jan, Tue	[No entry]
<i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	17 Jan, Wed	Wired Walter to come & confer as his correspondence shows that some action may be needed to inform Arthur Balfour of real state of American feeling.
	18 Jan, Thu	[No entry]
	19 Jan, Fri	Walter arrived & we began to discuss a publicity campaign in U.S.A. or rather in Middle West. Unhappily I am having a very bad attack of insomnia owing to giving up the morphia after the habit had been acquired.
<i>(Fr Marburg, Theodore</i> <i>to Grey of Fallodon)</i>	20 Jan, Sat	[No entry]
	21 Jan, Sun	Robert Carey arrived to talk over Wyoming Development Co. affairs prior to a meeting of the Co in New York.
	22 Jan, Mon	Carey left. I am very bad with insomnia & a slight recrudescence of the local sores. Wrote to Col. House with great difficulty urging him to get Wilson to reply to Arthur Balfour's note.
	23 Jan, Tue	Walter left. All the time he was here I was in pain & I fear wasted his time. After his departure an excellent & enthusiastic Michigan "co-operator" called and nearly exhausted me. I had to have morphia again at night. The doctors begin to fear a recrudescence of the burnings.
	24 Jan, Wed	Today I was moved into the hospital in great pain. The choice lies betw'n a period of bed treatment of the sores, a skin grafting <u>with</u> colostomy & ditto without. In the middle of the day I had to be given 1/8 gr[ain] morphine which was only partially successful in allaying raging pain.
	25 Jan, Thu	Bed, pain & morphia again. Suffered horribly from ulcers in the rectum.

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<i>Fr Campbell, Rev. Edward</i>	26 Jan, Fri	Ditto. Dr. Harris & Dr. Riley both agreed that my relapse is probably only an accidental infection through the small rehealed sores & that it will probably pass off in a few days. They are strongly against colostomy. Dr. Kellogg still in favor of it.
	27 Jan., Sat	Walter came back to me having done Chicago & Madison in the interval. He will stay a few days & we shall then recast plans in accordance with my condition.
To Leslie, Shane	28 Jan, Sun	Jim Byrne came from New York to spend a few hours with me. Godkin, Ralph Wortley & he had agreed that I ought not to be operated on <u>here</u> & the kind hearted fellow came to urge me to go to the Mayo brothers or to Johns Hopkins if I had to have an operation.
	29 Jan, Mon	A new affliction. Broke out with dermatitis (very like eczema) in back, arms & legs. Horrible itching, apparently the result of excessive protein in milk diet!
	30 Jan, Tue	Dermatitis worse. Other things better.
To Henry Blair (WALT.41)	31 Jan, Wed	Walter left. He took with him a letter of introd[uctio]n to Henry Blair to whom I suggested a Middle Western pro ally publicity scheme – to operate in & be financed by the Middle West, the British Gov't furnishing only news. The Dairy Commissioner of the State of Michigan called on me. Conrad Young arrived for a two days business talk.
	1 Feb, Thu	The news came that the Germans had announced their intention to sink all vessels attempting to get to the countries of the Allies. This, I think, must mean an immediate break of diplomatic relations betw'n Germany & the U.S. Then the end of the war will be in sight, for I assume that a state of war would follow the diplomatic rupture. Dermatitis very bad but, I think, running its course.
	2 Feb, Fri	No decision at Washington but indications are that President Wilson will at last <u>act</u> .
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i> [<i>sui generis</i> – unique; a one-off] [Ambassador James W. Gerard]	3 Feb, Sat	Dr. Kellogg got some <u>ambrine</u> the new remedy for burns and put it on my still raw X ray burns. It is a mixture of paraffin & resin. Only that X-ray burns seem to be <u>sui generis</u> I should expect results. Wilson recalled his ambassador from Berlin & decided to give Bernstorff his passport.
	4 Feb, Sun	Went out for a short walk in the wintriest weather & it did me good.
To House, E.M.	5 Feb, Mon	[No entry]
	6 Feb, Tue	Left the Hospital & came to Sanitarium. Hope to get off in 10 days but am extremely doubtful. The ulcers won't heal. There are only two small ones left but they are accompanied by indurations which prevent the trophic nerves working.
	7 Feb, Wed	[No entry]
To Marburg, Theodore (by sec'y)	8 Feb, Thu	Gave up morphia again & had miserable night.

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<i>Fr Lucy, Daniel (POWE)</i>		
[<i>more suo</i> – in his usual manner]	9 Feb, Fri	Walter arrived from Chicago where <u>more suo</u> his public spirited millionaire friend who was going to put up part of the necessary funds & get the rest for the propaganda work and had changed his mind & preferred to wait “until equilibrium is restored”. So I decided to send him to New York. Another miserable day & night.
	10 Feb, Sat	Still in the morphia reaction. It is a great comfort to have such a companion as Walter with me.
	11 Feb, Sun	Was so miserable all day from another sleepless night that I felt I was wasting Walter’s time. But I have the great consolation that bringing him to do my work has just made the whole difference between a possibly useful & a probably useless journey to America which has doubtless retarded my cure.
	12 Feb, Mon	Got 3 short sleeps last night about 3½ hours in all & feel a bit better. Despatched Walter to New York to see if he can get our publicity plan for the Middle West financed there.
	13 Feb, Tue	Had a long talk with Dr. Case which greatly depressed me. He does not believe the “indurations” (the deep tissue destruction peculiar to X ray burns) will yield to any treatment but will have to be excised & healthy tissue transplanted from elsewhere. This would necessitate temporary colostomy and 8 to 10 weeks in hospital. Dr. Riley fears such a drastic course in my case and advises me to give natural healing, with the absorption of the indurations, a further chance. But the intolerable itching and aching with the consequent insomnia is very wearing & if I am in the end driven to the operation I shall be in still worse condition to stand it. And all this, at the time of my life for useful work! If I cursed Sequeira I surely might be forgiven.
	14 Feb, Wed	[No entry]
	15 Feb, Thu	Dr. Riley had a consultation with Drs. Case & Harris. Case is strongly for the operation as the sole way out of my trouble. Harris & Riley are against it. But all three agreed that natural remedies should be further tried & that if I have the operation it can be done in London or Dublin. Slept fairly with help of bromide.
	16 Feb, Fri – 19 Feb, Mon	[No entry]
<i>Fr Lubin, David</i>	20 Feb, Tue	Gradually improving. Last night slept in all 5 hours. Daily telegraphic communication with Walter in New York.
(To Norman, Harry F. fr Congested Districts Bd, J.R. O’Brien)	21 Feb, Wed	Gave an hour’s “talk” in Parlor on Irish Rebellion 1916. Was not fit for it quite but made good impression I think. Wanted to correct very general impression that British had treated this Rebellion with same brutality as /98 rebellion. Also the impression that the Irish Question was settled!
To Campbell, Rev. Edward	22 Feb, Thu	[No entry]
	23 Feb, Fri	[No entry]
	24 Feb, Sat	Something very like “Flu” brought me to bed for the day. In the evening Walter turned up full of interesting news from New York

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		which he will discuss tomorrow.
	25 Feb, Sun	Dr. Riley kept me in bed all day again & I could do no work with Walter. But we lazily discussed future plans & they will mature in my mind.
To Lubin, David (fr sec'y)	26 Feb, Mon	[No entry]
	27 Feb, Tue	Today's news is surely an "overt act". The Germans have sunk the Cunarder Laconia without warning & 3 (at least) American lives have been lost. The evening papers say Congress will give Wilson the powers he seeks. Will they & if they do will he use them? Very few mails have gone to Europe & many of my letters must have gone down with the Laconia.
	28 Feb, Wed	[No entry]
<i>Fr Balfour, A.J.</i>	1 Mar, Thu	[No entry]
	2 Mar, Fri	Still suffering badly from insomnia, no longer due to nerves shattered by morphia but to local irritation which is very severe. Walter is with me & I am trying to do some work but can't. Its a miserable existence but the doctors seem hopeful that the trouble will disappear in time.
	3 Mar, Sat	[No entry]
	4 Mar, Sun	[No entry]
	5 Mar, Mon	Congress came to its end at noon yesterday. Twelve filibusters all from mid western or western states except Senator O'Gorman from N.Y. talked out the defence measures & left Wilson powerless to defend American rights at sea!
	6 Mar, Tue	Left Battle Creek at noon for Chicago, Madison, Kansas City & Omaha just to try my wings. It may be that if I resume active life sleep will come back to me. I am to go back to Battle Creek before I go East & let them see how my ailment is after taking this liberty. In the train I had a bad time of it, the 4 hours sitting & the stifling atmosphere starting a violent pinching & itching. At night it became clear that the healed surface had broken down again & I went to bed in great pain. Saw one of Eddie's plays "King Argimenes" at a little Theatre close to my Hotel. I was in too great pain to judge of it but I thought it wierd [<i>sic</i>] & quaint & altogether original. The audience, well-to-do people did not seem to take it in.
	7 Mar, Wed	A young doctor was found for me by Walter. He was honest enough to tell me that it was a case for a Dermatologist of whom there were 3 of repute in Chicago. I went to the one with an English or Irish name, Ormsby, & he had had much experience with similar cases. He feared that I should never get quite well without surgery, told me I must have a morphia injection to get sleep. So I had it & feel nearly put back. During the day I called with Walter on S. Insull, a multimillionaire & presented my propagandist scheme for the Middle West. I asked him to get it financed & he said he would

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		try. I agreed to write a memorandum for him if he would give me confidential clerical assistance. This was arranged.
<i>Fr Kershaw, L.J.</i>	8 Mar, Thu	Up early to dictate, after preparation, a long memorandum for Insull or other backers of the Western propagandist scheme. Got it down I think fairly well. But it rather aggravated my physical trouble which is still very acute. Stuart Walker manager of “The Portmanteau Theatre” which is bringing out Eddie’s plays called on me. His enthusiasm over Eddie’s genius gave me pleasure. I only wish Eddie had a character which was worthy of his native gifts. Saw his “Gods of the Mountain[”] but was in too great discomfort to study it. Its dramatic quality is surely very rare.
	9 Mar, Fri	McCarthy of Wisconsin came & spent the day with me. In the evening I went into the Presbyterian Hospital on Dr. Ormsby’s advice. The pain was very great & it is impossible to get proper treatment in a Hotel. The “Hospital” seems to be more a huge “nursing home” in old country parlance. Lessing Rosenthal a wealthy influential public spirited Jew lawyer, a friend of Jim Byrne’s & McCarthy’s called on me. I think he will help me to get money for Mac.
	10 Mar, Sat	A day of pain relieved by call from McCarthy & Walter.
	11 Mar, Sun	Today Mrs. Walter arrived & I liked her much. She is just the kind of girl I should have expected him to marry were it not that people so seldom marry their likes.
	12 Mar, Mon	[No entry]
	13 Mar, Tue	Cabled Anderson: Came here seventh, had another relapse, doing well under specialist in Presbyterian Hospital. Walter here will Cable shortly. This did not tell all. The doctors here think colostomy & skin grafting is the only cure for my trouble. I fear they can demonstrate that this is so.
	14 Mar, Wed	More consultations – all leading to a grave operation as the lesser evil.
	15 Mar, Thu	Dr. Bevan, specialist in plastic surgery & of high reputation in the profession joined in the multitude of counsellors. It was decided that I should not have colostomy or skin grafting but simply have the diseased tissue cut out. I have had so many opinions to the effect that no surgery in the pants is safe without colostomy that I really don’t know what to think about it. Tomorrow was proposed for the operation but I pleaded for another 24 hours to prepare.
	16 Mar, Fri	Writing many letters before getting laid up for an uncertain period.
	17 Mar, Sat	Celebrated St. Paddy by a radical operation. Dr. Bevan cut under the entire affected area right up to the external sphincter muscle. He dissected away all the diseased tissue which was as hard as leather & certainly never would have been absorbed. Of course I was very sick after the ether but they allowed me all the morphia necessary to modify the pain. Now I have to wait a few days to see whether he and Savini of New York are right as to ability to the possibility of keeping the wound aseptic when the bowels

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		move. All my other advisors have insisted that colostomy was essential.
	18 Mar, Sun	Pain & malaise of course. But avoiding food & occasional morphia kept it within bearable bounds. I am wonderfully well considering what I have gone through. I have a very nice nurse & the doctors are most kind. 7 of them visited me today!
	19 Mar, Mon – 27 Mar, Tue	[No entry]
	28 Mar, Wed	I have passed the danger point as regards infection of the wound most of which has closed up. What remains open can be washed out daily after bowel movement. I have now only the malaise of lying in bed – digestion troubles &c.
	29 Mar, Thu	All the stitches taken out but three new ones where the wound gapes a bit. Very painful but all going well.
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	30 Mar, Fri	Much pain – & morphia!
<i>Fr Wade, E. Harper</i>	31 Mar, Sat	Less pain & morphia. Dean Eugene Davenport of Agric'l Col[lege] of University of Illinois called on me & told me he was going to Washington to urge a proper regard for food production in the war mobilisation arrangements. I promised to write Col. House to get the matter attended to by this Administration.
	1 Apr, Sun	The cure is sticking a bit. The new stitches hurt badly. I wrote House on the mobilisation of agriculture a letter I hope he will send to Wilson as I think it gives the latter a good lead in a matter badly neglected in England.
[This paragraph probably misattributed to Tuesday.]	2 Apr, Mon	Letter from House today “You can never know how happy I am that you are again in touch with world affairs. . . . I believe you will be entirely satisfied with what the President will have to say to Congress next week. (He delivers his message tonight. [Plunkett’s insertion]) The occasion will be historic & I wish you could be there.” He then tells me that “places were reserved for you at the Inaugural on the President’s Stand at the Capitol and the White House”. During the day Walter saw an A[ssociated].P[ress]. journalist just back from Mexico who said that both Carranza & Villa were in the friendliest relations with the Germans & that probably they would unite in a German officered and financed attack on the U.S! Dr. Ormsby just back from a week at New Orleans told me that people down there were madly belligerent! I think my prophecies are going to come true.
To Roosevelt, Theodore	3 Apr, Tue	The President’s speech to Congress last night leaves little to be desired. It justifies all I have said to our government about him. Roosevelt congratulated him on it & I congratulated Roosevelt on this fine example of patriotism.
	4 Apr, Wed	Today the last stitches were taken out & tomorrow the pain is expected to disappear so that I will be able to dispense with morphia which I am still taking 1/6 gr[ain] in the 24 hours.
	5 Apr, Thu	Another letter from Col. House saying he had sent my last to him

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		(about the Food question in war preparation) to President Wilson.
	6 Apr, Fri	[No entry]
<i>Fr House, E.M.</i>	7 Apr, Sat	Got a nice letter from Arthur Balfour but I felt it showed that he was a tired man.
	8 Apr, Sun	McCarthy spent a good bit of the day with me. He is on his way to St. Louis where Secretary Houston is consulting the leaders of agriculture through the Middle West tomorrow on the food situation. I am urging that an increase in the food production of the U.S. is the greatest service the Republic can do to their allies at the moment. They will run the blockade if there is an assured surplus at home.
	9 Apr, Mon	A letter from Col. House in which he says "Matters arise almost daily about which I should like your counsel and I am eagerly awaiting word that you are here."
	10 Apr, Tue	[No entry]
<i>Fr Roosevelt, Theodore</i>	11 Apr, Wed	[No entry]
To Leslie, Shane	12 Apr, Thu	Went down town to Henry A. Blair's office & dictated letters! Dr. Bevan approved of my leaving the Hospital on Saturday. I plan to go via Battle Creek to New York as Arthur Balfour is coming over to discuss with Wilson the co-operation betw'n the Allies & the U.S.
	13 Apr, Fri	Had a pleasant letter from Roosevelt whom I had congratulated on his previous appreciation of Wilson's war message to Congress.
	14 Apr, Sat	Left the Hospital & came to Congress Hotel to meet a few people Walter had been working up on our publicity scheme. I am afraid he has caught no big fish. I had a very tiring day & stood it well.
	15 Apr, Sun	Cannon came from Omaha to discuss business affairs I cannot attend to. McCarthy in from Madison with his wife & the bookkeeper of the N.A.O.S. Took afternoon train to Battle Creek.
[RN – Royal Navy]	16 Apr, Mon	Wrote about 1400 words on Americas services to the allies in Food supply. Saw my Battle Creek friends including Miss Lucy Furman who was still in the Hospital. Was introduced to Hamilton Garland (the magazine writer) a delightful personality. Mrs. Robinson, Roosevelt's sister I also met. Letter from Col. House telling me Arthur Balfour may not be at Washington till end of week. Wire from Capt. Norman Thwaites RN (doing secret service work in NY) asking me to write at once to a N.Y. paper defending B from Irish attacks!
	17 Apr, Tue	After sleepless night took train for New York. Walter finding he could do no good on our project in Chicago came along. I was very unwell & felt quite unable to write about AJB.
	18 Apr, Wed	Had to take morphia last night on account of the pain the long sitting caused. I had a fair sleep & feel better. Godkin received me more kindly than ever. S.K. Ratcliff[e] English journalist called on me. Saw Sir W Wiseman & Capt. Thwaites of secret service (British) and discussed publicity. Had a talk with James Byrne over the Irish question on which he feels

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		very bitterly.
	19 Apr, Thu	Wrote an article for the N.Y. World in defence of Arthur Balfour who I heard might be attacked by the Irish when he comes over to the International Conference at Washington. House told me today that the party would land in Canada and go by special train to Washington. Lunched with House & had two hours talk on the recent happenings at Washington. He was full of information. The President was throughout determined to go to the limit for peace & then to go into the war with vigour. Carl Ackerman who has been in Germany most of the time since the War declares that the Pres[iden]t's notes greatly helped the German people to think for themselves – the essential preliminary of liberal gov't. House declares that there is no danger of the U.S. quitting before Prussian militarism is destroyed. He strongly advocates dealing with no after war questions at the Conference but concentrating on finishing the war. He said the Irish Question was a factor in the international policy of the U.S. & ought to be settled. He quite understood the difficulties. He agreed that the Middle West was the pivotal (politically) part of the U.S.
	20 Apr, Fri	Heard that Arthur Balfour would arrive Washington tomorrow & decided to leave tonight. Before leaving had a pleasant dinner with Godkin, Cravath & John Quinn. Also during day called with Shane Leslie on Cardinal Farley. All this to try & “get a line” on the Irish American situation.
	21 Apr, Sat	The joy of being back in life & in the midst of big affairs is inexpressible. Called first on Spring Rice who told me that Arthur Balfour would not arrive till tomorrow. I explained to S.R. & he approved my Mid-West publicity scheme. I was very tired & did little else. But I had a good talk with Pritchett who is in Washington as a member of the American International Corporation seeking to do a war shipping service about which I must talk to Balfour. Walter too came along from New York.
	22 Apr, Sun	Mostly resting but saw Medill McCormick, Congressman at large from Illinois about a ridiculous resolution he is introducing in favor of “the establishment of a united & self governing Ireland and Poland”. United is quite right but how? Saw also Sydney Brooks & E.G. Lowry. The latter very interesting. He says the peculiar thing about the U.S. in the war is that the people have no love for Eng'd or hatred of Germany. Long talk with C.S. Barrett of the Farmers Union. He says the Southern farmers could easily raise another 5 million acres of food – corn, oats, beans & sweet potatoes. He has been summoned by Secretary Houston to advise upon (or rather approve of?) the Departments proposals. He pressed me to go & talk to the Southern farmers. He says I am one of the very few they would listen to. Arthur Bullard, who seems to be second in command in the Publicity & Censors Dep't of the war government, dined. He was interesting as usual & rather bitter.
	23 Apr, Mon	During day I succeeded in getting Gifford Pinchot to devote his energies to getting the farmers to increase the food supply. Otherwise I made no progress, everybody being overwhelmed by the excitement of Balfour's arrival. I fear the Commission will be completely misled about the real feeling of the American people by Washington Society's excitement over Balfour. He will make

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		the most of the occasion. But will he see behind the mask?
	24 Apr, Tue	<p>Called on Spring Rice & got his approval for my Mid West publicity scheme. Went to Dept of Ag & had a talk with Vrooman. Then lunched at Pinchots where another guest told us of the awful confusion in the war preparation commissions & committees.</p> <p>Had nearly an hour with Arthur Balfour. I wanted to ask him questions but felt bound to tell him what I knew & so did most of the talking. He said the things America could do were 1 ships, 2 food, 3 money – he did not mention men. Italy & France, strangely, were shorter of food than England. Germany? I asked. Yes very short too. So far the Commission were marking time in Washington, waiting for the French to arrive. I explained the immense importance of getting the Irish Question settled as a means of enlisting American sympathy with Eng'd. He agreed. It was arranged that he would see a <u>small</u> (3 or 4) number of Irishmen if I decided that it was well for him to do so. I warned him against pulverising these men who would no doubt display ignorance.</p> <p>Called on Archbishop Ireland. He had no views of distinction about the war, Ireland or anything else that I remember. But he was very cordial.</p> <p>Left at midnight for New York as in the chaos at Washington I should only lose my time.</p>
	25 Apr, Wed	<p>After a talk with John Quinn over the phone wrote to Balfour that the Irish Question must be settled somehow – & I believed my plan the only way – if American opinion was to be favourable to us in this crisis. Had a long talk with Col. House about Irish Question & American war preparation. Called on the Aberdeens at their request. They seem to be collecting money for Irish charitable institutions for which they had made themselves personally responsible. Pritchett dined – Lunched with the New Republic people.</p>
	26 Apr, Thu	<p>Called on old Carnegie. He is very near his end. His mind has gone. A pathetic figure. Had a long talk with his secretary Poynton who will back up my American work – agric'l organisation.</p> <p>Met Pomeroy Burton, Northcliffe's business manager, sent out to report on Publicity. Very bad appointment.</p> <p>Worked on the Irish situation & left midnight for Boston.</p>
<i>Fr Drummond, Sir Eric</i>	27 Apr, Fri	<p>For breakfast at Lowells. Unfortunately a busy day for him. Met at lunch again Rev. James L. Barton who knows Eastern Europe very well. The Turks he says hate the Germans & are only forced to fight with them. Bulgaria would have been on our side but for our insistence on giving Serbia too much of what she wanted & she may soon break with Germany. She has already refused to attack us at Gallipoli.</p> <p>Lowell still likes my Irish settlement. He thinks the importance of an immediate settlement for American co-operation in the war is slightly exaggerated. But he changed when I told him what I had heard in Washington & New York. He is strongly for public education on the issues of the war, the chief of which is he says</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		<p>not democracy vs autocracy but public law against brute force. The world he feels sure will find some way of ending war & the League to enforce peace is of course his way.</p> <p>Did some calls but it was a dreadful rush.</p>
	28 Apr, Sat	<p>Finished up my business in New York. Then after conference with Sir W. Wiseman cabled Adams to 10 Downing St. suggesting that he & Kerr should urge Lloyd George to settle the Irish Q[uestio]n on my plan. Lady Kingston called to ask if I could get Balfour to attend a function for the relief of wounded Irish soldiers fund. Walter who had come from Washington, Byrne & I went to hear Billy Sunday at his huge Tabernacle. I was not edified. He is a buffoon & most people present were looking for jokes. He preached on Job a man “for whom God would go the limit”. He said one good thing. When every thing a man has got – his wealth, his relations, his health – has been taken from him, when he is stripped – peeled to the skin – then what is left is character.</p>
<i>Fr House, E.M. (cable)</i>	29 Apr, Sun	<p>McCarthy came from Madison & Godkin & I met him & Poynton (Carnegie’s secretary) at Byrne’s for dinner. We arranged for future N.A.O.S. work.</p>
	30 Apr, Mon	<p>Arthur Balfour advised me to go to Washington next Thursday. The Adriatic which was to have sailed today was put off till tomorrow. I wrote Balfour I would stay if he wished it but thought I had better go & work at the other end. He wanted me to help him to meet an Irish Deputation, John Quinn & 5 others.</p> <p>Worked at Pritchett’s office at N.A.O.S. application & called on Dr. Shipton Smith now in his 95th year and as clear & keen as an ordinary man of 45.</p> <p>House thinking I should not see him before sailing, which I shall as my ship is delayed, told the President about me. He then wired me last night “The President bids me send you greetings and wishes me to convey his deep appreciation for your unselfish efforts to promote good feeling on both sides of the Atlantic”.</p>
	1 May, Tue	<p>Another lost day! Saw Roger Williams, C.R. Crane’s business man. He told me that the Russians were being badly served by American financiers who were in league with the extreme reactionaries – the Romanoff sympathisers. On to Carnegie Foundation office where I made a reasoned application for another \$20,000 for agricultural organisation under McCarthy & his boys. Then called on House. He told me that last night he, Balfour & Wilson had 4 hours together & all went smoothly. The Irish Question was not discussed & all the papers have been saying about Wilson’s attitude thereto is “bunk”. I must not write down what H told me of the conversation. We discussed the food question & House agreed with me that Gifford Pinchot & McCarthy should be employed by Hoover. (I wrote to Hoover urging him to employ them). House told me that the President authorised him to back me to the limit in his (Wilson’s) name. He said my solution for the Irish Question was the one he favoured and at the proper time he would get Wilson to back it.</p> <p>Jim Byrne, Walter, Godkin & I had a lunch together at 36 W. 10[th]. I felt a little sad. Who knows when I shall meet these three</p>

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		<p>true friends again.</p> <p>Went on board the Adriatic which got out to sea at sun down. The Sydney Brooks were the only passengers I knew.</p> <p>I am furnished with a waterproof suit which not only keeps you dry but also warm!</p>
	2 May, Wed	I was glad to find that they have cut down the menu to about one third. The only deprivation I feel is potatoes!
	3 May, Thu	Secrecy has increased at sea. The latitude & longitude are concealed while the submarines get troublesome. Now we don't even know the run! But the clock is put forward & back & the sun gives us a vague idea of direction.
	4 May, Fri	[No entry]
	5 May, Sat	Fine weather. Steamed about 14 knots for some reason I don't understand.
	6 May, Sun	[No entry]
<i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>	7 May, Mon	<p>Captain showed me the chart. We were at long[itude] 20 west, rather far south & so over 1200 miles west of Greenwich.</p> <p>Had to preside at a lecture & did it very badly. I am sleeping poorly.</p>
<i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	8 May, Tue	Began zigzagging as we were in the danger zone.
	9 May, Wed	Zigzagged so much that heaven knows where we are.
<i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i>	10 May, Thu	Morning broke to find us being convoyed off the S.W. corner of Ireland by an American destroyer! The moral effect hardly reconciles me to its not being British.
	11 May, Fri	<p>A miserable day. We had been kept awake all night by the sirens, steam whistles &c. at the L[iver]pool bar. It was not till 5 P.M. that we were docked & 7.30 P.M. before we got through. Hardly any porters and the wildest confusion. Passengers had to handle their own baggage, the men helping the women. On board the ship alien officers were interminably stupid. I was cross examined at length to find out whether I had any relationship to Count Plunkett of Rebellion fame & so forth.</p> <p>Some Japanese on board I was told had talked a good deal about Russia. We have been supplying them with ammunition. They are using it against each other & not paying us. Fortunately the British government has guaranteed payment!</p> <p>An Australian passenger told me that his country was faced with the menace of colored immigration. The Japanese are kept out with a £100 immigration tax, which has had to be suspended during the war & probably cannot be resumed. Indeed the practice of the Japs in the west – spending the surplus of their earnings over their low cost of living on education – makes them the future rulers of the world in this Australian's opinion. He further told me that what Australia wanted was men on the land, but the returning soldiers won't leave the cities. They stay there because they can organise politically & get their needs attended to. He anticipates serious trouble after the war and thinks the only way to avoid it is a rural reconstruction policy strongly backed by the British Gov't!</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
<i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i>	12 May, Sat	<p>No sleepers available last night so took 9:40 AM train to London where Adams met me & told me more news than I had gathered from letters & newspapers for many a day. The Irish Question was an absolute impasse. L.I. George had guaranteed Ulster against forcible inclusion – had thrown himself into the Carson camp. He had some leanings that way. He would not smash his cabinet government (i.e. lose Carson & Bonar Law) over Ireland. The war situation was good on the West Front, chaotic on the East front. France was getting very low in men & resources. Italy was playing a doubtful game & in Mesopotamia we were not now doing quite so well. The Russians of course are giving us little if any help there. At home Labour is out of hand again – through the fault of the Gov't in not dealing drastically with certain employers. The best feature in the situation was the splendid determination of the people as a whole to go through with the war.</p>
<i>Fr Walter, Karl</i> <i>Fr Wilkins, L.</i>	13 May, Sun	<p>Hanson called. He is grinding at munitions still & thinking of little else. However he kindly offered to give me literary assistance if I needed it.</p> <p>Lunched with the Sidney Webbs. They gave a gloomy account of the labour situation brought about by the “positive lying” of the Government to the labour leaders & unions. The lying was so patent that it must have been through stupidity. Mrs. S.W. was rather pathetic in her account [of] the disturbance of her life's work by the war.</p> <p>Called on FS Oliver & found that he had a billet in the F.O. under Buchan. This may help things for Walter & me.</p> <p>Dined with AD Hall (now Secretary of Bd of Ag & Fisheries) & Sir Wm. McCormick. They had been golfing in the first hot day & were rather sleepy. But I began to get into the agric'l situation.</p>
	14 May, Mon	<p>A bus strike & taxis few made it a slow day for me. Chief event a long talk with Buchan (Colonel John) on Walter's & my publicity scheme. Dined with Lady Leslie & called after on Moreton Frewen who was lying on a sofa with a big gouty foot. Saw “Clara” – oh what memories of the wild free days.</p>
<i>Fr Norman, Harry F.</i>	15 May, Tue	<p>Working at the Irish muddle & American publicity. My dear Adams lets me use his office & excellent typists. Dined tête à tête with Mrs. Erskine Childers, who gave me her husband's solution of the I.Q. – an Ontario & Quebec with their Ottawa in Dublin.</p>
(To Norman, Harry F. fr Barbour, H.)	16 May, Wed	<p>Gave a little attention to my own business affairs. I worked again at a possible pronouncement on the Irish Question. It may have been time wasted as Lloyd George is to propose a settlement by letter to Redmond before night & this will appear tomorrow.</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
<i>Fr Norman, Harry</i>	17 May, Thu	<p>Meeting of Creditors of Berthon Boat Co an unpleasant morning's work.</p> <p>An interesting talk with Walter Long on the Irish situation. The Gov't's proposal had appeared in the morning papers. The boobies had this time offered a Parl't for 26 counties, the sugar of the partition pill being a Council ½ & ½ N. & S. with no powers but with the right to suggest measures to apply to the whole country. Of course the Nationalists won't look at it – Ireland & America would both rend them if they did. Walter Long wanted the Gov't to offer a Convention in Ireland & this Lloyd George in his letter to Redmond – the method of making the proposal – threw out as an alternative. This Redmond will no doubt accept & if the Convention has a sufficient representation of anti-Parliamentary Party people something may well come of leaving the matter to Ireland to decide. The Gov't scheme was the child of three parents it seems – Milner, Duke & Dr. Addison (Minister of Munitions!!) Garvin I think was the real parent.</p> <p>Long told me that the Gov't would not look at my scheme for recruiting the Irish for service in the U[nite]d K[ingdo]m though he strongly recommended it.</p>
<i>Fr Kershaw, L.J.</i>	18 May, Fri	<p>Chief event first talk with Duke, Ch: Sec for Ireland. A shrewd unimaginative lawyer – more like a family solicitor – utterly incapable of more than an outside cynical survey of the soul of Ireland. But a good honourable man & strong.</p> <p>Saw more of Adams. He tells me Ll. George can't be got at by the right people. He sees only those he takes it into his capricious fancy to see. I am leaving London because it is impossible there to deal with the crux of the Convention proposal. If Ulster comes in – which is not certain yet – how are the Sinn Feiners to be represented in their unknown proper proportion? I told Duke if I could throw any light on this I would send him a cipher wire on Monday.</p>
Fr Coote, Algernon (Fr MacDonnell, Ld. Antony Patrick to O'Brien, Cruise) Fr Spring Rice, Thomas	19 May, Sat	Day mail to Kilteragh. There Daisy & Anderson, not nearly as bad as I expected to find him, met me. It was a joy to be home again, well after nearly a year of illness & absence.
Fr Smith, A.L.	20 May, Sun	<p>Fr. Finlay, Norman, H. Robinson, E. O'Farrell & Æ called & I began to get into touch with things. I was dead tired after a bad night in the house. Slept on roof this night & slept well.</p> <p>Worked my mind a lot on the Constitutional Convention.</p>
To Buchan, John To Monteagle, Lord (misdated 1916) <i>Fr Sullivan, A.M.</i>	21 May, Mon	<p>The first day at the Plunkett House for nearly a year. I had almost forgotten how to drive my "run-about". I had a kindly welcome from my associates in the I.A.O.S. from the office boy up.</p> <p>Wired (cipher) & wrote Duke on Irish Convention, recommending nomination rather than election & releasing John MacNeill as the best chance of getting the right men nominated from the Sinn Fein Group. I also urged an absolutely open reference to the Convention.</p>
To Adams, W.G.S. To Associated Press To Wells, H.G.	22 May, Tue	I.A.O.S. work & generally getting in touch. A meeting of the Council of Chamber of Commerce where I was very cordially received on entering. They wasted ½ hour on a point of order, was the notice of the meeting regular? Yet they were all agreed

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		that the business on the agenda should be done & it was!
To Smith, A.L. <i>Fr Frewen, Moreton</i> <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i> [<i>functus officio</i> – of no more use, having fulfilled its purpose]	23 May, Wed	Attended a meeting of Monteagle’s Conference Committee – a feeble body with which I foolishly agreed to collaborate. However when the Conference is called it will be <i>functus officio</i> . Eddie & Beatrice came only to dine and sleep. He is greatly improved by his military discipline. Harold Barbour also came for 2 sleeps.
(To Frewen, Moreton fr O’Brien, Wm.) To Hopkinson, Edward To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Matthai, J.</i>	24 May, Thu	IAOS work. Hannay & wife called. He is beginning a book on The War & Religion – I suppose the effect of the former on the latter as the latter had no effect on the former.
To Phelan, Canon <i>Fr Kennedy, T.</i>	25 May, Fri	Smith Gordon came back from a tour in Ulster & we had a good discussion on the future of “the movement”. He is the most promising successor of RAA & myself. But Norman is very senior to him. I am considering manoeuvring Norman to the Library & S.G. to the I.A.O.S. which would suit them both.
To Buchan, John To Frewen, Moreton To Kennedy, T. To Matthai, J.	26 May, Sat	Minnie Fitzgerald, JE Healy, Daisy & Mamie came for a quiet weekend. An election in South Dublin seems imminent. It has been conveyed to me (through the Freemans Journal & Cruise O’Brien) that the Irish Parl’y party would not oppose me if I stood as an “independent”! The party must be in a sorry straits plight!
<i>Fr Matthai, J.</i>	27 May, Sun	Monteagle rushed in having seen General Smuts yesterday in London & failed to see any Minister (even Duke) who can help towards a settlement of the I.Q. He wants me to assemble privately a number of “reasonable irreconcilables” would be the best description. But he flew before we could settle anything & was writing letters while he was talking to me! Had a foursome – my first golf for close on a year. Canon Charles of Westminster was brought by Mahaffy to lunch. A very able Irish cleric who, I think, might be a Carsonite if he had remained in Ireland. He was from Tyrone. The outer world has softened him.
<i>Fr Bryce, James</i>	28 May, Mon	A lazy day. Called on the Arnotts & tried to get him to understand the Irish Question in its international aspects.
To Duke, H.E. <i>Fr Ginnell, Lawrence</i>	29 May, Tue	Wrote at length to Duke suggesting a procedure for the Convention – a small C’ttee of experts to be appointed by the Gov’t to formulate a scheme or schemes for discussion by the larger body. Also more than hinted that he ought to come to Ireland & not work out the scheme at Westminster, the chief factor in the problem situation at the moment being the distrust of the Parl’y Reps.
To Walter, Karl (cable) (To Walter, Karl fr Buchan, John [Baron Tweedsmuir], cable) <i>Fr Phelan, Canon</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	30 May, Wed	I.A.O.S. work badly overlain by Convention.

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To Bryce, James To Chamberlain, Austen (MAT.4) To Ginnell, Lawrence To Matthai, J. <i>Fr Poynton, John A.</i> <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	31 May, Thu	St. John Brodrick (Visc[oun]t Midleton) came to Dublin to counsel the Irish Unionist Alliance which has survived the Union. Had a talk with him & thought him not very understanding. Monteagle wired me from London to be at the Irish Times office at 5.30 P.M. as Healy had made the private wire available. He used it at great length & told me positively nothing. He had seen Duke, Carson & Adams & had apparently poured himself out to them. Their attitudes were described – sympathetic but not encouraging, cautious, suspicious & so forth. Poor old dear – so good, so futile.
<i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>	June – day uncertain	
To Byrne, James To Godkin, Lawrence To House, E.M. To Pinchot, Gifford To Walter, Karl (cable) <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i>	1 Jun, Fri	Tom Ponsonby came to dine & sleep. He is growing intellectually – has a wonderful store of information & is using it well. He will be some day I think a concise clear interesting if not brilliant writer on subjects of common interest.
To Monteagle, Lord [Speaker of House – James W. Lowther]	2 Jun, Sat	Monteagle arrived back from London with no information not in the morning's papers. Duke crossed over & I had a long talk with him. He was much more open than at the only other interview – told me the plans, as far as settled, for the Convention & let me advise him about the crux of getting a Sinn Fein repres[entatio]n. He commissioned me to find 5 men he could safely nominate if methods of election failed. He told me that Sir F Hopwood was to be secretary. I said this makes an Irish Chairman essential, even if Hopwood is reinforced with good Irish ass't Sec'y. The Speaker, apparently, has been offered the job chairmanship. I said I thought Arthur Balfour would be much better. Three qualifications were needed – (1) skill in presiding (2) constitutional knowledge (3) intimacy with Irish local op[inio]n & <u>personell</u> [sic]. It is in (3) Lowther would fail badly. A.B. would quickly offset this by getting in rapport with the assembly & with the passives moving it from outside. I discussed the release of MacNeill & D. said if I would bring it about that a reputable body would move for the release he would probably work it. I urged D. to substitute Shaftesbury for Wimborne. Dined with Herbert Shaw to meet Bernard [sic] Powell K.C., Major Hills M.P. & Healy. Good discourse. Lennox Robinson, Wilfrid Fitzgerald, Daisy, & Mamie for week end.
<i>Fr Walter, Karl (cable)</i>	3 Jun, Sun	Another Kilteragh Sunday. George Moore & Gogarty lunched. Lennox Robinson, Cruise O'Brien & I talked Carnegie Trust business & through the day the Convention loomed.
To Leslie, Shane To Monteagle, Lord <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	4 Jun, Mon	Worked hard all day at Plunkett House & left by night mail for London where I had to attend 3 meetings of Carnegie Trust & do some private business & try & help forward the convention.
	5 Jun, Tue	Geoffrey Robinson, Adams, Montgomery, Buchan, Gavan Duffy, Struthers, Sydney Brooks, & FS Oliver were all met & talked with. Ireland & America from more "viewpoints" than I have time to develop here. I learned that I had been considered as Chairman for the Convention but turned down by the persons

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		consulted (Carson & TP O'Connor I suspect).
<i>Fr de Bary, Richard</i> <i>Fr Seton, Sir Malcolm C.</i> [Lynd]	6 Jun, Wed	More talk with Adams who lunched to meet Robert Lind [<i>sic</i>], a Belfast Nationalist – very able & rather bitter. Dined with FS Oliver & met John Buchan & wife. Had good political talk. Oliver is working with Buchan in the publicity department of the F.O.
<i>Fr Duffin, Adam</i> <i>Fr McNeill, James</i> <i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i> [John (Eoin) MacNeill – founder and first secretary of Gaelic League.]	7 Jun, Thu	James MacNeill (Indian C[ivil].S[ervice].) brother of John MacNeill, Pres't [<i>sic</i>] of Gaelic League, undergoing life sentence for Irish Rebellion (which he is said to have instigated & too late called off) met me at my request. I wanted to know under what conditions the prisoner, who is the best representative of the moderate Sinn Feiners according to Æ & others, would, or could safely, accept release. A general amnesty stood out as the only satisfactory course. Later I saw Duke who had arrived from Ireland, and pointed out (as James MacNeill has pointed out to me) that amnesty is bound to be brought up at the Convention. If the Chairman (not yet discovered) rules it out the Sinn Feiners would bolt: if he allows it Ulster will bolt. Duke saw the point but said the Ashbourne ambushing of the police & the Castlebellingham murders made it hard to amnesty some of the 60 (about) prisoners. Alas no course in a matter so mismanaged will be free from both injustice & inexpediency, but it is I think better to close the chapter if the Convention meets as I confidently expect it will. Had a long talk with Sir F Hopwood who was offered the Secretaryship of the Convention. He has not yet accepted it but the offer got into the Press, which also announced the acceptance. This makes an Irish Chairman almost essential & none exists who would not be fiercely opposed. I, for instance, have been considered & rejected at T P O'Connor's & Carson's instance I have no doubt. Carnegie Library sub'tee discussed very stickily Irish developments. I saw my way to future policy but got made little advance.
Fr Norman, Harry F. Fr Rolleston, T.W. (MCN) (To Rolleston, T.W. fr Dixon, W.M.; MCN)	8 Jun, Fri	More of Adams re Convention. He is chief adviser of the Gov't in the matter, I think. Meetings of physical welfare & executive C'tees of Carnegie U.K. Trust & dinner with Moreton Frewen, Leverton Harris & Worthington Evans at Carlton made an interesting day.
Fr McNeill, James Fr Pritchett, Henry S.	9 Jun, Sat	Had a long talk with J MacNeill, Dixon & a professor Kemp Smith of Princeton University on publicity in U.S.A. They asked me to get written some statement on the Irish Question. Saw Prothero & advised him to let the American farmers know that we value their contrib[utio]n to the defeat of the submarine menace by more food. Came to Wycombe Kingswood to stay the weekend with Adams who wants me to write to Lloyd George on Amnesty. So it goes.
<i>Fr Walter, Karl (cable)</i>	10 Jun, Sun	Extraordinarily interesting day with Adams. We decided that if an Irish Chairman for the Convention was impossible the next best would be Duke. But we discussed the general situation – from China to Peru – more than Ireland. He is an invaluable friend.
<i>Fr Montgomery, (Chas.)</i> <i>Hubert</i>	11 Jun, Mon	Began the busy day by writing a letter to Lloyd George in favor of amnesty for the Rebellion prisoners which was approved.

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		<p>During day had a talk with Philip Kerr who is convinced that only possible way of getting a United Ireland is to combine local self government with a strong repres[entatio]n in the U.K. Parl't which must "devolute" in Great Britain also. Ld. Charnwood asked me to join a small c'tee to promote (in England) good relations betw'n the American and British peoples. Saw Buchan who told me he was asking Treasury to finance Walter's & my scheme which Butler has approved at last. Offered to see Carson: he refused, having I think, seen my letter to L.I.G. re amnesty, for which I think I made a conclusive case.</p> <p>The composition of the Irish Convention was announced – 33 chairmen Co[unty] Councils, 14 urban local authority reps., 20 equally divided betw'n Nat, Sinn Fein, Ulster & S. Unionists, 2 O'Brienites, 2 peers, 4 R.C. & 3 Prot ecclesiastics, 3 Chamber of Commerce, 5 labor reps. The Gov't will nominate 15 – 101 in all. Chairman to be chosen by Convention or failing that by Gov't.</p> <p>Had a long talk with Austen Chamberlain & another with Walter Long.</p>
To Adams, W.S.G. (2) To McNeill, James	12 Jun, Tue	Back at The Plunkett House. A meeting of the Congested Districts Board, the first I had attended for a year. Fingall brought Lord Ffrench to dine – a travelled interesting man of whom I hope to see more.
To Adams, W.S.G. To Montgomery, (Chas.) Hubert <i>(Fr Beirne, Capt. L.J. to Buchan, John)</i> <i>Fr McNeill, James</i>	13 Jun, Wed	Nearly all day presiding over a small meeting of Congested Dist[ri]cts Bd listening to the prosy monologue of Doran. Dined with John B. Powell K.C. at Sackville St. Club to meet in political caucus J E Healy & Herbert Shaw. All except Healy were possible (Powell & I most unwilling) candidates for the vacancy in S. Dublin. It is the tag end of a Parliament & such a Parliament. I at any rate have ample work elsewhere. But it is not in the interest of Ireland, nor will it help the Convention if there is a contest half in the county & half in the capital betw'n Sinn Feiners, Nationalists & Unionists. We all agreed that if the Nationalists put up a good man the Unionists might stand out and support him. But they threaten to put up a ward-heeler, Hearn the chairman of the Freeman, & as the S[in]n. F[eine]rs would run a candidate the Unionists would win. So might I, possibly, as an Independent. But I don't want a contest which would mean throwing away many hundreds of pounds in addition to all the other annoyances & distractions. In the end I said I would run only if my doing so was the sole alternative to a contest – a situation which I devoutly hope will not arise.
(To Beirne, Capt. L.J. fr Buchan, John) To Duffin, Adam To Killeen, Lord To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Buchan, John</i> <i>Fr Montgomery, (Chas.)</i> <i>Hubert</i>	14 Jun, Thu	I.A.O.S. & C.D.B. work again. Dr. O'Donnell called at the Plunkett House on latter's business. He told me the Bishops (who meet at Maynooth on Tuesday next) may possibly decline to send delegates to the Convention. They are evidently badly split. I expounded my ideas of how the Convention should be conducted so as to secure some sort of agreement. He said I ought to be Chairman.
To McNeill, James <i>Fr Beirne, Capt. to sec'y</i> <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i>	15 Jun, Fri	The Government released all the Rebellion prisoners! This I doubt not was largely due to my letter to Lloyd George of only 4 days ago in which I made, I think, an unanswerable case for this act of statesmanship.
To Adams, W.G.S.	16 Jun, Sat	Eddie & Beatrice & Tom de Burgh came. The last is a gallant old

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To Bernard, John Henry (Archbp. of Dublin) To Buchan, John <i>Fr Duffin, Adam</i> <i>Fr Norman, Harry F.</i>		fellow, did his bit at the front & is superannuated out of it. Eddie has 3 weeks sick leave having been passed for G.S. (general service). I don't think they mean to send him to the war except to have a look at it and lecture on it at home as they have done.
	17 Jun, Sun	Father Finlay & Sloss of the Chicago Daily News came to lunch. The latter interviewed Fr. F & me on the Convention. I dictated my interview both question & answer. A glorious summer day.
To Adams, W.G.S. To Beirne, Capt. To Duffin, Adam To Leslie, Shane To O'Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe) To Spring Rice, Thomas <i>Fr Godkin, Lawrence</i> <i>Fr Green, Alice Stopford</i> (Mrs. J.R.) <i>Fr Walter, Karl (cable)</i>	18 Jun, Mon	Wrote Dr. O'Donnell to Maynooth where the R.C. Bishops are tomorrow to pronounce about the Convention. I tried to warn their Lordships against the danger of wrecking – or even not supporting – the Convention. I had heard they were on mischief bent & I wanted to let them know they were playing with fire. The world is moving rapidly away from their domination.
To Buchan, John (To Marburg, Theodore fr White, T.M.) To Unwin, Mrs. WALT) To Redmond, John E. <i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i> <i>Fr Quinn, John</i>	19 Jun, Tue	Meeting, well attended, of General C'tee of I.A.O.S. Was well received on my return to this duty after a year. Good business talk though I was not at my best.
To Adams, W.G.S. To Childers, Erskine To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Duffin, Adam</i> <i>Fr Lysaght, Edward E.</i> <i>Fr Macardle, Mr.</i>	20 Jun, Wed	IAOS work. Belgian Relief C'tee! Alexandra Coll Council!!! Wimborne got back & wants me to come "to any meal" (no escape) to talk Convention. Maynooth unanimously agreed to send four Bishops to the Convention. I daresay my letter to Dr. O'Donnell (see 18th) helped.
To Green, Alice Stopford (Mrs. J.R.) To Lysaght, Edward E. <i>Fr Marburg, Theodore</i>	21 Jun, Thu	Longest day & by fooling the sun (daylight saving 1 hour + assimilation Irish & Greenwich time 25 min) we have light nearly to 11 P.M. You could play golf to 10:15. Agreed to speak on the Convention at Dundalk next Monday & began to prepare difficult speech!
(To Gill, Charles fr Holman, Charles) To Macardle, Mr.	22 Jun, Fri	Worked again at speech.
To Dunsany, Ld. Edward	23 Jun, Sat	A talk with Duke about the Convention. I suggested that Arthur Balfour should preside till the Convention elected its own chairman.
To Adams, W.S.G.	24 Jun, Sun	Finished my speech – all but the polishing. A Col. Blackburn & a General Perceval on the staff in Dublin called. The former very nice & intelligent. The new P.P of Foxrock dined.
To Adams, W.S.G. (<i>Fr Frewen, Moreton</i> <i>encl. letter from Wm.</i> <i>O'Brien to Frewen;</i> <i>date uncertain</i>) <i>Fr Ormsby, Oliver S.</i> [Address: "A Defence of the Convention"]	25 Jun, Mon	Went to Dundalk as chief speaker at meeting in Town Hall (at 2 P.M.!) on Convention. My speech well received & its public[ati]on may do good. Maurice Moore was on platform with me but my speech "blanketed" his which was poor stuff. I appealed to Wm. O'Brien, Sinn Feiners & Labour to reconsider their refusal to take part in Convention. The candidates for S. Dublin (D. Ashe & Sir JR O'Connell) have

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		publicly announced that they would not oppose me if I ran. The Nationalist party hold and will contest the seat & in no case would I <u>contest</u> it. If I were the only alternative to a contest I should have to run which God forbid!
	26 Jun, Tue	Very tired after yesterday but had two I.A.O.S. Committees & much writing to get through. The Nationalists put forward two candidates for S Dublin – so now there are 4 in the field & plenty more to come!
<i>Fr Duffin, Adam</i>	27 Jun, Wed	Worked at I.A.O.S. & Convention. It seems that I have made myself a sure nominee of the Government but I wish they would tell me I could do better work outside! The Unionists decided not to put up a candidate for S Dublin. So now there are 4 Nationalist candidates in the field two of whom would retire for me. If I chose to run I should win easily.
To Byrne, James To Duffin, Adam To Leslie, Shane To Macardle, Mr. <i>Fr Barker, J.G.</i> <i>Fr Byrne, James</i>	28 Jun, Thu	A Dr. Geyl & his wife came to tea & dinner. He was Dutch correspondent in London of a Rotterdam paper & was sent to me by the F.O. He is studying the Irish Question. These inquirers are rather a burden to me. He was nice & intelligent enough to be bewildered & hopeless upon his quest! He was going to restrict his out of Dublin wanderings to Clare where there is a bye election pending. I diverted him to Belfast, less interesting but more important.
To O'Brien, William	29 Jun, Fri	An enormously long letter from Wm. O'Brien – courteous & reasonable but obdurate. The one chance of a reconsideration of his determination to have nothing to do with the Convention is my being able to state “officially” what I stated in my Dundalk speech (which I now know was approved all round!) viz that the decision of the Convention would be referred in some way to popular vote. I wired Duke to this effect but he replied that he must wait till the P.M. gets back from Scotland.
	30 Jun, Sat	Wm. O'Brien's letter appeared in the Press. I wrote Adams to try & get a decision by the Cabinet as to whether I was justified in saying at Dundalk that any scheme agreed to by the Convention not obviously popular would be referred to the Irish people. On this may depend the coming in or staying out of W. O'Brien. Decies & Shaw (figure & working heads of Censor's Office in Dublin) told me that de Valera in East Clare Election is preaching rebellion – another rebellion preferably at time of Peace Conference. The future looks dark.
	1 Jul, Sun	More correspondence with Wm. O'Brien. Æ returned a week earlier from his holiday than necessary in order to help the Convention.
To McCarthy, Charles To Pritchett, Henry S. <i>Fr Gill, Charles</i> <i>Fr Holman, Charles W.</i>	2 Jul, Mon	I.A.O.S. work. American correspondence. S. Dublin situation. Convention – a full day. To London by night mail. On boat Tim Healy who told me the O'Brienite abstention was from conviction that the whole business was a “put up job” betw'n “the Party” & the Gov't to bring about <u>partition</u> , the Redmondite (or rather TP O'Connor) solution. The bishops (R.C.) having appointed the two Redmondite leaders[,] Dr. Kelly & Dr. O'Donnell[,] to serve in Convention is the chief offence according to T.M.H. Dr. Kelly was on the boat & I discussed with him the Selborne Report of the agric'l Reconstruction C'tee which is so far as it affects

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		<p>Ireland very badly done.</p> <p>A third candidate Travers Hartley Falkiner, brother of the late Caesar L. F. has come forward for S Dublin! I instructed R Ryan of J O'Hagan & Son to appear at the nomination in case the situation calls for H.P. unopposed which is possible if improbable.</p>
	3 Jul, Tue	<p>Began at 10 Downing Street where Adams explained to me that my adumbration at Dundalk (June 25) of a referendum before the Convention's scheme (if they produce one) is passed into law was unfortunate. Ulster, whose heart has been hardened by the recent extravagances of Sinn Fein utterances in Ireland, might seize any alteration in the terms of the Convention to as a reason for keeping out of it. Saw the Widow Green who is very bitter, though not to me.</p> <p>12 to 5 Selborne's agric'l policy Reconstruction Committee. Examined two witnesses on intensive cultivation.</p> <p>A. Balfour's p[ri]vate sec gave me carbon copy of a letter he had written me to Ireland in which he asked me to get from Reggie particulars in support of his general charges against the Admiralty. I sent this on to R.</p>
<i>Fr Moles, J.A.</i>	4 Jul, Wed	<p>11 to 4 Selborne's C'tee today. I had to modify the praise of the Irish Department by Dr. Kelly who was allowed to draft pages of eulogy in the Report.</p> <p>Twice in 10 Downing St. The second time I found Duke, Sir B Mahon & W Long in conference in the Hall. The situation in the west of Ireland is getting serious.</p>
[<i>in posse</i> – potential; possible]	5 Jul, Thu	<p>Selborne's report again. It was so badly drafted that in the 3 days we did not consider & amend more than 1/3 & I don't know when we shall get to Press.</p> <p>Dined with AD Hall & met Beatrice Chamberlain. Good discourse.</p> <p>Wire from Ryan, my Election agent in posse to say my unopposed return not likely. Later he wired that Sir J O'Connell had withdrawn but did not say how this affected the situation.</p>
	6 Jul, Fri	<p>The official Nationalist candidate was returned unopposed for S. Dublin. I could have beaten him but am glad I did not run. I saw Arthur Balfour about Reggie, Ireland & America. He incidentally said "You can do much better work out of than in Parliament".</p> <p>A long letter had come from Reggie in response to A.B.'s request for particulars in support of his charges. Unfortunately the charges (which were ample) all related to the past – to the period before the last "reconstruction" at the Admiralty. "Loyalty & discipline" prevented Reggie from giving up to date details. I wrote asking for these. During the day he wired asking me to go to Dunfermline. I wired impossible now.</p> <p>On the American mission I wanted to talk but B. entered upon a comparison of Lincoln & Wilson. We agreed that if (as I suggested) Wilson were assassinated (which God forbid) he would be the bigger man as he had played the far bigger part. I must see him again. He was so dreadfully tired he could hardly keep awake.</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To O'Brien, William	7 Jul, Sat	<p>An air raid. I counted 16 planes almost over head in Bond & Regent Sts. No bombs dropped there.</p> <p>A talk with the Sidney Webbs. They admit that war must be made impossible because the next war would be to extermination. The military regime of the Central powers must be destroyed. But what about the people who at present support them whole heartedly? To them as to me there was the crux. They believed that Milner is so afraid of democracy after the war that he is anxious to make peace with the Kaiser. They gave me a picture of governmental control after the war. The world would be short of food & raw materials. Nations would have to be rationed. Governments would do all the importing & distribution. Hence no tariffs & very little capitalism. They seemed happy in the prospect as a whole.</p> <p>Came down to Kingswood with Adams for a quiet talk over the week end about the Convention & other things.</p>
	8 Jul, Sun	Talked with Adams mostly about Convention. I suggested Atkinson as Chairman failing nomination by Convention.
<i>Fr O'Brien, William</i>	9 Jul, Mon	<p>Spoke at A.O.S. annual general meeting at Mansion House. Selborne in Chair & F.D.H. [sic] Acland occupied nearly all the available time & I had to cut my remarks short in the middle as Leslie Scott K.C. M.P. appeared & had yet to speak.</p> <p>Called unavailingly on Mrs. Willie Jameson, found Willie & a girl he has taken on. Dined with Sydney Armitage Smith & his new wife who showed me my Godson on way to night train to Dublin.</p>
To Moles, J.A. <i>Fr Atkinson, Lord John</i> <i>Fr Rolleston, T.W.</i>	10 Jul, Tue	Office & Finance C'tees of I.A.O.S. & C.D.B.
<i>Fr Bottoms, D.M.</i> <i>Fr Lloyd George, D.</i>	11 Jul, Wed	<p>Sir Francis Hopwood arrived to look into the question of the premises for the Convention. T.C.D. is the only suitable (& in present state of national feeling towards the "packed" Convention the only safe) meeting place but Mahaffy is "difficile" to say the least. Visited College of Surgeons, internally ideal, but in a very Sinn Fein locality & waited till tomorrow when Mahaffy is to return from Belgium.</p> <p>Spoke (very badly – no time to prepare) at Hospital for Incurables. News of East Clare Election came & it was a death blow to the Irish Parl'y Party. The vacancy was caused by the most popular of the M.P.s the gallant Major Willie Redmond. A local candidate Lynch K[night].C[ommander]. stood for the Constitutional Nationalists. Against him de Valera the bravest & most determined of the rebels. Result de V 5010, Lynch 2035 – practically 5 to 2!</p> <p>I wonder whether this will open the eyes of the English government to the real feeling of nationalist Ireland. It is another "too late". De Valera ran as an out & out republican. That was the minimum as well as the maximum & another rebellion if necessary – the moment there was a chance of success not before – was openly advocated. The great majority of the Clergy were with this new leader not withstanding the Bishops' recent warning to leave politics alone.</p>
To Lloyd George, D.	12 Jul, Thu	Saw Mahaffy & tried to smooth him down before Hopwood got at

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To Rolleston, T.W. <i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>		him. Little success. Later took Hopwood to him & no more success. Dined with the Arnotts & met the widowed Lady Waterford (Lansdowne's daughter) a very nice & intelligent woman I thought. Invited by Lloyd George to join the Convention & of course accepted.
<i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>	13 Jul, Fri	Wrote 400 words for Observer as part of an Irish article Garvin had asked Healy for. I denied that the Convention would be killed – it might be helped – by East Clare.
<i>Fr Moles, J.A.</i>	14 Jul, Sat	Half holiday in glorious weather at Kilteragh, Daisy & Mamie coming for week end, Healy, Callan & Capt. Herbert Shaw dining.
	15 Jul, Sun	Lady Waterford came to lunch – also Mahaffy, Gogarty & Æ. She was very nice & I shall get her here again. I telephoned to the Press Assoc'n an interview (!) on the Convention prophesying its success.
To McCarthy, Charles	16 Jul, Mon	Had a talk with the Ld. Mayor of Dublin (O'Neill) about the Convention. I did not know him but introduced myself. He was frank & sensible. Generally I was glad to see that we took much the same view of the Convention & its prospects. He would like me to be Chairman & if it were not for the bitterness of Ulster against me I should likely find myself in that onerous, difficult & dangerous position! Fr. Finlay is very much annoyed at my touching the Convention. He thinks the Cooperative movement the only thing worth fighting for in Ireland at the present time. Left by night mail for London to attend the agric'l Reconstruction Committee.
<i>Fr de Bary, Richard Fr Rehtaler, L.</i>	17 Jul, Tue	10 Downing St. with Adams, working at the Selborne report, a meeting with a few Americans (including Ed Marshall) at Ld. Charnwood's to discuss this end of Anglo American publicity work & a night talk with AD Hall. He had just returned from France where he had buried one of his two sons & had left his wife to nurse the desperately wounded Chris. Poor fellow. We had a long talk over the war & his essentially English mind outpoured upon the ghastly waste of it all. If I read his mind aright it all comes from the interested blindness of the class politicians – "Your Walter Long's" he mentioned, & yet he knows what an honest man W.L. is so I see his point – and while there is nothing for it but to stick it out & hack through on the Western front, or rather wear down the Hun, make him sick of his losses – after the war there must be a bloodless revolution. He described the amazing organisation of the multifarious services – he and his wife were handled by the wounded relatives service – all adding up to the total of near 8 millions daily expenditure!! The army of workers as well as fighters in this vast undertaking will take control of things & never again will the world be allowed to be blundered into another such tragedy by the "interests". But the direction of all these workers, I queried, for I agreed about the politicians. Where are the new leaders to come from[?] As now the workers are all right but the command –

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		there's the rub.
To Lonsdale, John <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	18 Jul, Wed	<p>4 hours at agric'l policy Reconstruction C'tee struggling with Selborne's badly drafted report. Called on Mrs. Childers to find out Erskine's movements so that he can be got for the Secretariat of the Convention. More talks with Adams.</p> <p>Carson today joins the War Cabinet. Sir Eric Geddes going to the Admiralty.</p> <p>Dined with Mrs. Willie Jameson. She told me of her domestic trouble. Willie has taken to her hearth & home an empty headed pretty Australian girl who may or may not be all right. But he is infatuated & his poor wife who has slaved for his selfish comforts, luxuries & pleasures during over 45 years of married life is no longer Mistress in her own home. He is 67!</p>
<i>Fr Godkin, Lawrence</i> <i>Fr Lockwood, G.</i> <i>Fr Lonsdale, John</i>	19 Jul, Thu	<p>At Selborne's Committee I got through some paragraph which means a recasting of the report in its social economy bearings.</p> <p>Went to the House of Commons & was introduced by S. Gwynn to Devlin with whom I had a long talk. He is full of political sense – e.g. he admitted the blunder which had been made by the Nationalists in last year's "settlement". We discussed the Chairmanship of the Convention & he said he thought Redmond (whom Gwynn had recommended) would hardly take it & said "I should not object to you". I said the Ulstermen would.</p> <p>Talk with Duke. He justified not noticing de Valera's treasonable speeches in the Clare Election & I asked him about the equally bad one the other day in Dublin. This he said raised a real difficulty. I said you may be forced to arrest him before the Convention? He said that was quite possible. He thanked me for publicly backing the Convention & unquestionably it has helped it over a bad streak of unpopularity.</p> <p>Dined with Bernard Shaw. Brilliant as ever. He is very keen to get on the Convention & I shall try to bring it about.</p>
<i>Fr Green, Alice Stopford</i> <i>(Mrs. J.R.; yr uncertain)</i> To Lonsdale, John	20 Jul, Fri	<p>Long talk with Bryce – in his 80th year & as vigorous as ever. Mostly about Convention. He thinks a Colonial status impossible – we can have no army or navy. 1886 & 1893 Bills better than 1912.</p> <p>Discussed procedure of Convention with Hopwood & Adams. Lunched with Lady Londonderry & called on Arthur Balfour. To Ireland by night.</p>
To O'Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe) [Bart. – baronet] [<i>sine qua non</i> – an indispensable requirement]	21 Jul, Sat	<p>Back at work in P[lunkett] House & at Kilteragh. Question of Chairmanship of Convention still undecided. Campbell – now Sir James, Bart & Lord Chief Justice – ambitions the post & Ulster would back him, possibly making him a sine qua non of their cooperation. Dunraven also supposed to be canvassing. I am not running but am told I am "in the running"! Anyone might get this awful job!</p> <p>Healy & Capt. Shaw dined & we discussed the Convention usefully.</p>
	22 Jul, Sun	<p>Adam Duffin & his women folk tea'd & supped. He is a liberal minded Ulsterman but of course under the discipline as he is in business in Belfast. H. McLaughlin a big Belfast & Dublin contractor who has come round to liberal views from the opposite</p>

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		extreme also came to lunch. I avoided having delegates as the air is full of “plots” for nobbling the Convention.
<i>Fr de Bary, Richard</i>	23 Jul, Mon	Worked hard at Selborne draft for Agric’l Reconstruction C’tee & I think got it into better shape.
To Adams, W.G.S. (To Godkin, Lawrence fr Quinn, John) (<i>Fr Carver, Clifford N.; HOU</i>)	24 Jul, Tue	Saw Duke about the Convention. He told me he would preside over it if asked by the delegates and he made it quite clear that he would try in his opening speech & by the procedure for choosing the Chairman (a small nominated C’tee of selection) to be asked. He would do it well but I doubt whether it would give the Convention a good start in the country & abroad. Had also a long talk with Redmond. He was all for Duke Chairman & Hopwood Secretary. Too English for an Irish Convention. But as Ulster & WM Murphy would agree this may come to pass.
To Adams, W.G.S.	25 Jul, Wed	If I am to have another biographer (I have had one too many already) I suppose this will be the day of my life – so far. The Irish Convention met. Duke presided and tried to get a chairman agreed to by a small c’tee. It soon became clear that the Convention would have to be <u>thoroughly</u> represented & this took 10. We adjourned & met again at 3 to hear the report. Meanwhile I had been told by Æ what had taken place. Redmond presided & for some time agreement seemed impossible. The difficulty was that Nationalist Ireland wanted me & Unionist Ireland didn’t. Midleton was chief opponent to my claims & tried Hopwood for Chairman. Rightly the Nat’s objected to an Eng[lish] chairman for an Irish Convention. M. really wanted an English judge but did not dare to propose it. Finally I was agreed to on condition Hopwood was secretary – the very thing I should have asked for! The Convention unanimously agreed to this report of the Committee of Selection & I entered upon about the hardest task a modern politician has had to face. I fear it not a bit, <u>if</u> I can only keep my health.
To Hetherington, A.L. <i>Fr Byrne, James Fr Hetherington, A.L. Fr Long, Walter Hume Fr McCarthy, Charles Fr Rolleston, T.W. (date uncertain)</i>	26 Jul, Thu	The second day of the Convention – or half day for we adjourned at 12.15 P.M. – passed off all right. We meet again on Aug 8th & meanwhile make rules & discuss procedure. Barrie, Londonderry & McDowell deputed Hopwood & me & threatened to withdraw if TP Gill was given a job. Spent the evening at Shelbourne with a dozen American & colonial journalists – very interesting. Decies is trying to take Capt. Shaw away from the Secretariat & back to censorship office where S. does the work & D. gets the credit.
(To McCarthy, Charles fr Byrne, James) <i>Fr Dublin Consumers’ Co-op. Society Fr Flynn, J.J. Fr Frewin, Moreton (2) Fr McLaughlin, Joseph [“Sir Horace Plunkett”, The Times, p. 9]</i>	27 Jul, Fri	Cables & ‘wires’ & letters of congratulation on my hazardous new venture pouring in. Col. House, K Walter, Betty Balfour & hosts of unknown. Callan joined the secretariat. I wrestled with Decies for Shaw & the matter still hangs in the balance. S. Gwynn & Hopwood supped with me. I had a long talk with Iveagh, who is housing the Northern & Southern Unionists for the Convention with the Primate Crozier & many others.

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To Frewen, Moreton To Petrol Control C'tee. (by sec'y) To Shaw, George Bernard <i>Fr Barron, John</i> <i>Fr Bennett, T.W. (by sec'y)</i> <i>Fr Coupland, George</i> <i>Fr Furman, Lucy</i> <i>Fr Leslie, Shane (date uncertain)</i> <i>Fr Merriman, John X.</i> <i>Fr Moore, Col. Maurice</i>	28 Jul, Sat	Erskine Childers arrived in his Naval Flying Corps uniform which he doffed for mufti for first time in nearly 3 years! He & Callan got to work together. I had a ¾ official day. E.E. Lysaght (my biographer, worse luck!) came for week end. He is a good, rather clever, earnest & somewhat raw thinker. He will I think be useful on the Convention.
<i>Fr Graham, C.K.</i> <i>Fr Mortimer, James</i> [Christian Science, see 4 Jul 1926]	29 Jul, Sun	Quiet day. Erskine Childers, Lysaght & Cruise O'Brien discoursed with me on Convention. Then called General Eddie Stuart Wortley – obviously alas drinking too much – with a nice daughter. Mary Herbert dined & slept en route for England. Mrs. R Martin – best of women – came and cross examined me as to the rocks ahead of the Convention which she said she meant to “take up” in her C.S. striving with evil.
To Holland, P.E. To Montagu, Edwin S. (HOLL) <i>Fr Bagg, Miss Ethel</i> <i>Fr Shaw, George Bernard</i>	30 Jul, Mon	A very big days work at the Convention office in T.C.D. Gill came up from Wexford by motor (at Government expense) to find out why he was not welcomed with open arms by the Convention & the Government as a constitutional expert. Left by night mail amidst rumors of submarines which were I fear only too true. Kingstown Harbour was crowded by vessels ordered not to cross. So this may be my last entry. Mermaids take note!
To Barron, John fr sec'y To Bennett, T.W. To Dublin Consumer Co-op. Soc. (by sec'y) <i>Fr McIlldowie, John</i> <i>Fr Indian Industrial Com'n. [HOLL]</i>	31 Jul, Tue	Largely at 10 Downing St. with Adams. Saw Duke about Capt. Shaw & other Convention details. Busy all day & too tired to remember what I did. Must go to bed.
<i>Fr Coffey, Diarmid (date uncertain)</i>	Aug	
To Shaw, George Bernard <i>Fr Decies, Ld. (CONV)</i> <i>(Fr Gwynn, Stephen to Hopwood, F.)</i> <i>Fr Ireland, John</i> <i>(Archbp. of Minnesota)</i> <i>(cable)</i> <i>Fr Norman, Harry F.</i> <i>Fr Oliver, F.S.</i> <i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford;</i> <i>cable (NOR)</i>	1 Aug, Wed	Introduced a big co-operative Deput[atio]n to Ld. Rhond[d]a, Food Controller. It tired me greatly but I think will be appreciated by the Irish farmers. Filson Young lunched with me & was very interesting – about himself. I must try & get him work with the F.O. A long talk with Midleton about the Convention. He is very narrow.
To Gill, Charles To Oliver, F.S. To Ross, John <i>(Fr Riddell, Geo. to Cave, Geo.; DUK)</i>	2 Aug, Thu	Called on Bryce & had a useful talk on the Convention. Agreed to keep him informed. He will advise. Then 2 hours agric'l reconstruction C'tee in which I got through a lot of big amendments to the Selborne report.

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		<p>Lunched with Lloyd George. He was as nice as possible about my appointment as chairman & said he thought it the very best that could be made. He could not make it "on account of Dillon". I asked him what he had in his mind as to the finance of the Irish settlement. He had not thought of it at all except that we might take over (& so not repudiate!) various loans & make their repayment part of our revenue. He was for a very liberal settlement if we all agreed. There were two Americans at lunch & he talked a good deal about America & little about Ireland. L.I.G. is a small man off the platform.</p> <p>Had over ½ hour talk with the King at Buckingham Palace. He was as genial as possible and listened interestedly to my description of the Irish situation. Asked me to keep him informed.</p> <p>Meeting of Anglo American relations C'tee Lord Charnwood's at John Buchan's office. Much talk & little work.</p> <p>Talked with Carson. Told him of American view of his actions & said I would be glad to associate him with a settlement (if he would bring the Ulster Dervishes along) for the sake of his reputation.</p> <p>Rushed back to pack & leave for Ireland when Sir W Wiseman phoned that he had arrived from America & wanted to see me. Before departing he had had 1½ hours talk with the President who sent a special message to me re Irish Convention in which he knew I should participate. He wanted me to keep him informed as he was deeply interested.</p> <p>[Newspaper item pasted in from <i>Morning Post</i>, 3 August:]</p> <p>THE KING AND SIR H. PLUNKETT – The King after his return to Buckingham Palace yesterday received Sir Horace Plunkett in audience.</p>
<p>To Balfour, A.J. To Ireland, John, (Archbp. of Minnesota) To Moore, Col. Maurice <i>Fr Long, Walter Hume</i> <i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i> <i>Fr Shaw, George</i> <i>Bernard</i></p>	<p>3 Aug, Fri</p>	<p>At 3.30 AM arrived at Holyhead Station to be told that the boat would not be alongside for an hour "whatever". It proved 1½ hours rather a break in one's sleep!</p> <p>So did a poor days work in Dublin where I found Hopwood, Childers, Callan, Shaw, Vernon & Cruise O'Brien hard at work, & doing good work, for the Convention.</p>
<p>To Ormsby, Oliver S. <i>Fr Chenery, Wm. L.</i> <i>Fr Hetherington, A.L.</i> <i>Fr O'Keefe, Thomas</i></p>	<p>4 Aug, Sat</p>	<p>No half holiday & we decided to work on Monday the Bank Holiday. The question of procedure – how to get into the practical discussion of a Constitution without raising the partition issue – is appallingly difficult.</p> <p>Mrs. St. Clair Stobart, sent by F.O. to America to lecture for the allies, came to Kilteragh to study the Irish Question. I had also Hopwood, Vernon & his wife & Daisy for my week end party.</p>
	<p>5 Aug, Sun</p>	<p>Mrs. Stobart was very interesting about her treatment by the Germans when she, her husband and another man connected with the Red Cross were arrested as spies, & very nearly shot, on the entry of the Germans into Brussels 1914. Their brutality & frank statement of their war aims – <u>extermination</u> of the enemy – were "thrilling".</p> <p>Had a crowd of convention folk – including J.B. Powell.</p>

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<p>To Marburg, Theodore To Monteagle, Lord To Redmond, John E.</p> <p><i>Fr Clancarty, Earl of Fr Indian Industrial Commission (cable) Fr Leslie, Leonie (date uncertain) Fr MacDonald, A.M.</i></p>	6 Aug, Mon	<p>Had to send a motor bicycle messenger to Redmond in Wicklow to induce him to come to town early enough tomorrow to help in the negotiations for Wed[nesday]'s important proceedings. Had long talk with Martin Murphy who will I think back my plan for approaching the definite task of the Convention.</p> <p>Managed to get a half holiday though having to instruct Mrs. Stobart in the Irish Question before she left at night & to entertain Starkie & wife at dinner was rather strenuous.</p>
<p>To Dublin Consumers' Co-op. Soc. (by sec'y) To Bernard, John Henry (Archbp. of Dublin) To Hetherington, A.L. (by sec'y) To McDowell, Sir Alexander To O'Keefe, Thomas (by sec'y) To Shaw, George Bernard <i>Fr Drummond, Sir Eric Fr Gill, T.P. (likely misdated 1907) Fr Leslie, Shane Fr Pacha, C. Coles</i></p>	7 Aug, Tue	<p>A very hard day's work. The "leaders" of the Convention groups swarmed around me. H. Barrie M.P. the worst figure of the lot, unhappily leader of the Ulster group of 21, Middleton claiming 12 followers, Redmond, Devlin, Dr. O'Donnell, Ld. MacDonnell & the Ld. Mayor all tackled. Redmond & Devlin (seen together) were all right & the Ld. Mayor as nice as possible. Made some little progress with my <u>almost</u> inoperable task.</p>
<p>To Clancarty, Earl of (fr sec'y) <i>(Fr Duke, H.E. to Riddell, Geo.) Fr de Bary, Richard Fr Dublin Consumers' Co-op Society Fr Irish National Volunteers Fr Moles, J.A. (by sec'y)</i></p>	8 Aug, Wed	<p>The critical day, perhaps, of the Convention & it went off well. The delicate question was how to approach the real business of the Convention and I got them to accept my plan which is a general discussion of all the "schemes" a representative Standing Committee will pass through its sieve – only 3 or 4 I hope – with a view to elucidation. Lds. MacDonnell, Middleton, Desart & Dunraven opposed, Redmond, Devlin & Dr. O'Donnell supported me & I won. We now have the Convention – the thing is to keep it. Part of my plan was the home education of the Convention with attractive elementary Constitutional politics & tomorrow I must try to adjourn it 2 or if possible 3 weeks. If the latter we should have an extraordinarily interesting debate on reassembling.</p> <p>Had to endure a conversazione at the Mansion House. It was, however, a great success in the interchanges of opinion & compliments I heard.</p>
<p>To Duke, H.E. To Stamfordham, Lord (cable) <i>Fr Duke, H.E.</i></p>	9 Aug, Thu	<p>I managed to get the Convention to adjourn at lunch till 21st. Middleton – with whom Bernard, unhappily, Sir Henry Blake, Desart & Mayo – fought for their procedure against mine. I carried the Convention & hope later to placate some of my critics. In the afternoon [incomplete]</p>

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<p>To Duke, H.E.</p> <p><i>Fr Clancarty, Earl of Fr Lowell, A. Lawrence Fr Magill, A.P. (2) Fr Moles, J.A. Fr Monteagle, Ld. Fr Stamfordham, Lord</i></p>	10 Aug, Fri	Hard work at the Convention office all day.
<p>To Magill, A.P. <i>Fr de Bary, Richard Fr French, Capt. W.E. Fr Frewen, Moreton Fr Graham, C.K. Fr Phenix, George P.</i></p>	11 Aug, Sat	<p>Decided to write for the King & Prime Minister a confidential record of the Convention, beginning with an introduction which may make it interesting to them – intelligible to H.M. suggestive (as to action to be taken on the report if agreement is reached) to the P.M.</p> <p>Had all the secretariat out for the week-end so as to plot & plan without constant interruptions.</p>
<p>To Drummond, Sir Eric To Lowell, A. Lawrence <i>Fr Londonderry, Ld. (7th Marquess)</i></p>	12 Aug, Sun	Worked off & on all day with the Secretariat & golfed between whiles on the lawn. Had Miss Sullivan come to typewrite for us & got lots of work done in the pleasantest way possible.
<p>To Clancarty, Earl of (by sec'y) To Dublin Consumers' Co-op. Society (by sec'y) To Irish National Volunteers To Moles, J.A. (by sec'y) To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Anstey, Mrs. H. Fr Cassidy, Joseph Fr Stewart, George</i></p>	13 Aug, Mon	A long hard day at the Convention office. Alice came to stay a few days, her aunt Kathy being very ill at Clondalkin.
<p><i>Fr Aston, E.A. Fr Chameroy, S. Fr Morin, John M. Fr Reddan, J.H. to O'Brien, Cruise Fr Walter, Karl</i></p>	14 Aug, Tue	Meeting of Grand Committee of Convention & another fight with Middleton, Bernard & Co over the Procedure. I won again but it is disagreeable being always against the Southern Unionists to whom I once belonged.
<p>To Aston, E.A. (by sec'y C. O'Brien) To Drummond, Sir Eric (fr sec'y ?C. O'Brien) To French, Capt. W.E. To Londonderry, Ld. (7th Marquess) (To Buchan, John WALT) To Stamfordham, Ld. <i>Fr Byrne, James Fr Leslie, Shane Fr Moles, J.A. Fr Walter, Karl</i></p>	15 Aug, Wed	<p>Sent off first instalment of my report to the King. I think it was a good presentation of the difficulties before the Convention which will interest him in the future record of how they are tackled.</p> <p>Long day at Convention office.</p> <p>Report got about that de Valera had been arrested – in fact Sir Wm. Byrne (Under Secretary) a bore an ass had blabbed it to a lady! Monteagle & Lysaght got a scare & Hopwood & I saw Sir Wm. & found he had only <u>ordered</u> the arrest.</p>
<p>To Walter, Karl <i>Fr de Bary, Richard Fr Bottoms, D.M.</i></p>	16 Aug, Thu	<p>The widow of poor Kettle, Grace Roe a follower of Mrs. Pankhurst & Mrs. Stephen Gwynn with a deputation all successively called on me to try & get them on the Convention.</p> <p>I found that the arrest of de Valera could possibly damage the</p>

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		Convention by causing ?three County Councils to withdraw their representatives. So I went to Sir Wm. Byrne who had still failed to catch this hero & got him to leave him alone for the present.
To McCarthy, Charles To Murphy, John <i>Fr Aston, E.A</i> <i>Fr Moles, J.A.</i>	17 Aug, Fri	Hopwood in London & my responsibilities increased. Worked hard & got out a letter to the members of the Convention asking their help in the coming debates & explaining my procedure. Alice left me in the morning having heard that her aunt Kathy Ponsonby had got very ill in the night. She died in the afternoon.
To Anstey, Mrs. H. (by sec'y C. O'Brien) To Aston, E.A (by secy C. O'Brien) To Barrie, Hugh T. To Moles, J.A. (by sec'y) To Monteagle, Ld. To Stamfordham, Ld. <i>Fr Murphy, John</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl (2)</i>	18 Aug, Sat	The Convention Office worked ¾ths of the day & I too. Tom Ponsonby & Shan Bullock came to stay with me.
Fr Byrne, General J.A. Fr Monteagle, Ld.	19 Aug, Sun	A very quiet restful Sunday. I was dead tired & was glad of a real rest.
To Byrne, James To Leslie, Shane To McLaughlin, Joseph (by sec'y) To Redmond, John E. To Walter, Karl Fr Robinson, Lennox Fr Stamfordham, Ld.	20 Aug, Mon	Back at work at Convention office. Londonderry came to Kilteragh & Daisy tried to stir him to leadership.
<i>Fr Anstey, Mrs. H. (to sec'y C. O'Brien)</i> <i>Fr Godkin, Lawrence</i>	21 Aug, Tue	Another critical day in the Convention & it strained me every way. Lord MacDonnell & W.M. Murphy introduced "Dominion" scheme of Home Rule already circulated, the first in an admirable speech. Then no one else would rise to speak & I had to adjourn. In the lunch hour I saw Redmond who, gentleman & sportsman that he is, changed all his plans & agreed to break the silence & start the debate. This he did perfectly and Londonderry followed with a halting, badly phrased speech full of repetitions, but excellent in manner (inherited from his father clearly) & ideal in tone & temper. Sir Henry Blake bored but did not offend in a survey of the Colonial governments in which he had worked been the King's representative. Barrie prevented my letter to the members from being published which annoyed me. It was "too controversial". I should like to have told him that if the Convention succeeds he will appear ridiculous, if it fails he will be responsible.
To Balfour, A.J. To Petrol Control C'tee. (by sec'y) <i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i> <i>Fr Moore, Col. Maurice</i>	22 Aug, Wed	The debate today was very hopeful. The R.C. Belfast Bishop (Down & Connor, Dr. MacRory) made a bad speech raking up the past but got no cheers from the Nationalists. Clancy M.P. made a temperate speech for the Parl'y party. Barrie made a hedging speech of some merit. Dr. O'Donnell & Ld. Desart did well but the thing of the day was a fine business like statement by Pollock, Chairman of the Belfast Chamber of Commerce repeating the arguments put before Gladstone in /86 & /93 & Asquith in 1912 against Home Rule & bringing them up to date. This is just what was wanted.

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To Anstey, Mrs. H. (by sec'y C. O'Brien) <i>Fr Moles, J.A.</i>	23 Aug, Thu	<p>The best day yet in the Convention. Æ made a brilliant reply to the Ulster Case as presented by Pollock. Mahaffy declared himself a Home Ruler on account of the iniquities of the British Gov't against which Ulster was quite right to arm! Devlin made rather a demagoguish speech & Oranmore gave a conciliatory description of the Southern Unionist attitude which was merely a demand for adequate guarantees.</p> <p>In the afternoon the Grand Committee met & was rather "sticky". Hon. W.A. Holman, Premier New South Wales made an official visit to the Convention office led by Devlin.</p> <p>Hopwood & I tea'd at the Mansion House to meet the "distinguished foreigner".</p>
To Duke, H.E. To Monteagle, Ld. To Stamfordham, Ld. <i>Fr Oliver, F.S.</i> <i>Fr Petrol Control C'tee.</i>	24 Aug, Fri	Hard work at Convention office interrupted by a lunch at Vice Regal for which I managed to be late as I had to leave early!
To Moles, J.A. To Redmond, John E. <i>Fr McDowell, Sir Alexander</i> <i>Fr Moles, J.A. (2)</i> <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i>	25 Aug, Sat	<p>A half day at the Convention office. Then Duke to lunch, with Æ, Lysaght, Bullock, Herbert Shaw & Cruise O'Brien to discuss with him the Sinn Fein difficulty, i.e. how to prevent dangerous drilling & arming without undue repression of political exuberance.</p> <p>A Senor Castillejo (from Ministry of Higher Education Spain – Higher Education being his job) came for week-end with introd[uctio]n from Michael E. Sadler. A very interesting man who told me more about Spain than I had ever heard before. Much of it is very like Ireland but far less hopeful it seems to me. I must not attempt when I am behind hand in my urgent work to summarise his delightful & informing talk.</p>
	26 Aug, Sun	A restful but wet day. Too many sundries for lunch.
To Barclays Bank (WALT) To Carver, Clifford (HOU) To Furman, Lucy To Graham, C.K. To London & South Western Bank (WALT) To Long, Walter Hume <i>Fr Byrne, Helen Macgregor</i>	27 Aug, Mon	Convention office all day. The weather has become desperately bad, all over the U.K. I fear. Famine threatens everywhere. Russia in the early parts of the War embarrassed with a glut of unsaleable food is now, through anarchy at home, unable to farm. Her food is short!
<i>Fr Pinchot, G.</i> <i>Fr Stamfordham, Ld.</i>	28 Aug, Tue	<p>The first dull day at the Convention – made so by Fitzgibbon M.P. who made a long speech about the Congested Districts – wholly irrelevant but not wise to rule out of order – & Middleton's narrow attitude as leader of the S. Unionists. S. Gwynn made a very good speech & Lysaght read a badly constructed 10 minutes shocker about Sinn Fein & its wondrous & horrible doings – if we don't agree & agree quickly. Sir Bertram Windle came to Kilteragh.</p> <p>Dined at Vice Regal and they had a conversazione after[,] which was well done & well attended by County Councillors & other</p>

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		Nationalist Convention members.
To Leslie, Shane <i>Fr Ellis, Wm. Edward</i> <i>Fr Long, Walter Hume</i> (year uncertain)	29 Aug, Wed	A powerful speech from Bernard for the Southern Unionists & 2 labour speeches were the features of the debate. Midleton was very angry at the delay in getting ahead with the business. If he were chairman he would have broken up the Convention long ago. But it is hard on men who have had his Parliamentary & official experience to listen to so much discursive talk – at this time of year too. A Garden Party at Iveagh's in Stephens Green did good.
To Barclays Bank To Ellis, Wm. Edward (by sec'y) To Oliver, F.S. To Walter, Karl	30 Aug, Thu	Worked at the Convention pretty hard. We sat 11 to 2 & then the Grand C'tee had an hour in afternoon. I had another fight for my procedure, Midleton & Co trying to upset it. "Wee Joe" Devlin came to sup with me & I got to like him. He came from the masses & he feels for them. Of course he is a demagogue – a Ward boss perhaps. But he is as politicians go straight enough. He faces facts.
To Duke, H.E. To Frewen, Moreton <i>Fr Clancarty, Earl of</i> <i>Fr Fisher, Irving</i> <i>Fr Reddan, J.H.</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	31 Aug, Fri	Sir Bertram Windle left me. There is something in his character I don't like. He is highly but not I think honestly intellectual – I mean intellectually honest & he is very weak. Had a talk at the house in Rathmines of James Douglas, a very nice haberdasher, with John MacNeill about the position of Sinn Fein & its attitude to the Convention, which I tried to persuade him Sinn Feiners should enter. He evidently thought so too. But while he and de Valera were in gaol the leadership of the extremists – & as so often happens in Ireland these are all that count – had passed into other hands. He argued the case for a Republic very badly & admitted that he had not taken the Ulster opposition very seriously, thinking it would vanish if English Tory support were withdrawn.
To Canty, Michael (by Sec'y) To, Chenery, Wm. L. To Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross) (To Reddan, J.H. fr O'Brien, Cruise) To Redmond, John E. <i>Fr Balfour, A.J.</i> <i>Fr Redmond, John E.</i>	1 Sep, Sat	Walter Hussey Griffith & wife, the Erskine Childers & Moira Roche came for the week end. Half day at Convention office. Then restful afternoon – very tired after work.
	2 Sep, Sun	A pleasant day. Moira Roche's account of her nursing at Malta & elsewhere as a V[oluntary].A[id].D[etachment]. was most interesting. Truly the women of the War are one of the hopeful things to set against the awful calamity.
To Clancarty, Earl of (by sec'y) To Godkin, Lawrence <i>Fr Duke, H.E.</i> <i>Fr Rolleston, T.W.</i> <i>Fr Frewen, Moreton</i>	3 Sep, Mon	After a very hard morning & a lunch tête à tête with Duke at the Chief Secretary's Lodge, took 3 P.M. train for Belfast with about 1/3rd of the Convention. Hopwood & I were put up at Crawfordsburn by Col. Sharman Crawford M.P. Mine hostess was the most bitter Ulsterite I have talked too [sic] for a long time. <u>He</u> is stupid but open to conviction where he understands. The only chance with these people is to persuade them that they will have to change when the whole world is 'new' after the war. The Primate (Crozier) was of the party & is an excellent

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		raconteur.
<i>Fr Keedick, Lee</i> <i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i> [Ld. Mayor – James Johnston]	4 Sep, Tue	<p>The Mayor & Corporation “did” the Convention splendidly, the arrangements being ten times as good as in Dublin. The Council Chamber in the City Hall exactly held us. The Committee rooms, smoking rooms, Chairmans private <u>suite</u> &c were perfect. The dignity of the thing was a bit overdone. Whenever I moved outside my private room, even to the Secretary’s private room I was preceded by two awful top-hatted, brass banded mace bearers who wouldn’t proceed until they had got into step with each other. One started with the right the other with the left foot, so there were delays. The Ld. Mayor gave us an excellent (but tee total) lunch with only two speeches, his & mine. I could of course say nothing & I took 8 minutes doing it.</p> <p>The sitting (only the morning as we are to inspect things in the afternoon) was notable for a very fine appeal from Redmond to come to a settlement.</p> <p>Londonderry told me that the whole difficulty was with “labour”. A Parliament in Dublin. No – never. No agreement beyond “we won’t have it”.</p>
<i>Fr Canty, Michael</i>	5 Sep, Wed	<p>Dr. Kelly spoke for 1¾ hours & Andrew Jameson for nearly an hour. I had 7 speakers on my list! However I get on all right. The debate was good as Dr. K. made an excellent case for financial independence & Jameson spoke very broadmindedly for the S. Unionists.</p> <p>We went round the harbour & Harland & Wolff’s works where we saw 25,000 leave their work at 5.30 P.M. A wonderful organisation. The Belfast authorities all round have done us splendidly.</p> <p>“Wee Joe” Devlin entertained the Convention to a dinner with good music & no speeches. But it was very tiring.</p>
Fr Desart, Ld. (Fr Shattuck, Henry L. to Dixon, W. Macneile) Fr Walter, Karl	6 Sep, Thu	Brought back Medill McCormick of Chicago a member of Congress (Rooseveltian) & owner – or his family owns – Chicago Tribune. He was sent over by the F.O. to “see” Convention. He can see it journalistically all right.
To Devlin, Joseph To Johnston, James To Rolleston, T.W. To Stamfordham, Ld. To Walter, Karl Fr Devlin, Joseph Fr Monteagle, Ld. Fr Plunkett, R.W.N.	7 Sep, Fri	An awful day at the Convention office. But all seems to be going well. Redmond called in on way from Belfast & I had also an important conference with W M Murphy. All except the Ulster “dervishes” are well in hand.
To Canty, Michael To Desart, Ld. To Monteagle, Ld. To Plunkett, R.W.N. <i>Fr Gill, T.P.</i> <i>Fr Johnston, James</i>	8 Sep, Sat	After a sleepless night – stomach trouble – a half idle day. The week was a hard strain.
	9 Sep, Sun	Meant to do no work. But I was obsessed. And in the afternoon Erskine Childers & wife came! We talked unadulterated shop.

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<p>To Coupland, George To Gill, T.P. To Graham, C.K. To Morin, John M. To Phenix, George P. To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i></p>	10 Sep, Mon	Convention work all day. In evening my old private secretary Dunning brought his wife, "Mrs. Jim" [Power] & the priest who married them so irregularly to see me at Kilteragh. They are giving Leopardstown Park lock stock & barrel to the country for wounded soldiers!
<p>[<i>Ne Temere & Motu Proprio</i> decrees – Papal pronouncements on mixed marriage]</p>	11 Sep, Tue	<p>The Convention opened with a speech from a Dervish from Harland & Wolff's, but his points were very important. In effect he was more a labor unionist than a political Unionist. Then Capt. Doran made almost the best speech of the Convention so far. He was a Methodist Chairman of the Louth Co Council, a Nat Volunteer & then a soldier for 3 years in France. Col. Wallace, Grand Master of the Orangemen brought up the <i>Ne Temere & Motu Proprio</i> decrees & Dr. O'Donnell replied. A contest in theology betw'n the Colonel & the cleverest of the Irish bishops – late professor of Theology in Maynooth – was edifying.</p> <p>There followed a lot of Co Council folk & the general discussion began to "peter out".</p> <p>Desart came to stay with me. He is a dry lawyer – a good chap though.</p>
<p>To Vince, Dr. <i>Fr Canty, Michael</i></p>	12 Sep, Wed	Convention ran out of talk on the Murphy & MacDonnell schemes & Murphy replied. Londonderry & Daisy came to Kilteragh.
<p>To Bryce, James</p>	13 Sep, Thu	MacDonnell replied on his scheme & three other schemes were introduced – Two Irishmen's by Walter Kavanagh, Vesey Knox's by S. Gwynn and Mahaffy's by himself. There was only one other speech – the Mayor of Clonmel's. The Convention is getting tired which is just what I am working for. In another two weeks it will gladly adjourn & let a few of us get to work.
<p>To Frissell, Julia <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i> [Clark]</p>	14 Sep, Fri	A most interesting talk with W. Walker of Belfast, the ablest of their Trades Unionists on the pos[iti]on of labour there towards a political settlement. It all came down to this – Sir G. Clarke [<i>sic</i>] & Sir Alexander McDowell absolutely control the situation. How are they to be got at!
<p>To Bagg, Miss Ethel To Byrne, Helen Macgregor To Byrne, James To Magill, A.P. To Pinchot, Gifford To Redmond, John E.</p>	15 Sep, Sat	No half holiday, but chiefly spent in trying to work off arrears of miscellaneous correspondence.
	16 Sep, Sun	Edward Saunderson, Mrs. Martin & Sir F Hopwood were chief guests. Walked with Bullock to top of Three Rock Mountain. Glorious day – the last really Summer day we shall have probably.
<p>To Balfour, A.J. To Canty, Michael ((2) fr Sec'y) To Duke, H.E. To Godkin, L. To McCarthy, Charles To Walter, Karl</p>	17 Sep, Mon	Got off another instalment of my secret report to the King & did other Convention work.

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To Shaw, George Bernard To Petrol Control C'tee. <i>Fr Canty, Michael</i>	18 Sep, Tue	More Convention. An excellent speech from Dunraven & the Primate & some progress. Tom Ponsonby, now on the Agric'l Wages Board, stayed the night at Kilteragh.
<i>Fr Bryce, James</i> <i>Fr Carver, Clifford</i> <i>(HOU)</i> <i>Fr Midleton, Ld. (2)</i> <i>Fr Petrol Control C'tee.</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	19 Sep, Wed	8 Co. Councillors spoke in the morning & it was a demonstration of the bad composition of the Convention. In the afternoon Andrews representing the Dublin & Pollock the Belfast Chambers of Commerce had a duel which was interesting. Æ followed in a rather intemperate attack on Pollock. The Grand Committee met afterwards & backed my procedure against Midleton again.
	20 Sep, Thu	The most critical day yet. Æ finished his yesterday's speech. He recovered himself magnificently, was temperate, wonderfully correct & eloquent & established his position as a necessary member of whatever C'tee drafts a scheme. Mahaffy followed in an amusing but not serious speech. Then Ld. MacDonnell made another long speech on his & other schemes ending up with a tirade against the Ulster delegates for their silence upon their real intentions which he characterised as "an impeachment on their honesty"! I rose immediately and said I thought he was misrepresenting the attitude of the Ulstermen, ignoring their difficulties & so forth. That drew Barrie & Redmond both of whom did admirably & Midleton who did no harm. It discredited MacDonnell, though he did not see it. Many said I had saved the situation. Hopwood thought my intervention very risky but said I had had great luck! In the afternoon we visited Guinness' Brewery en masse in order [to] show the Northerners that industrial organisation with welfare work was possible down South & also to occupy time, the Presentation stage being pretty nearly exhausted.
To Barrie, Hugh T. To Gwynn, Stephen To Johnston, James To Midleton, Ld. To Wyoming Development Co. <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i> <i>Fr Oliver, F.S..</i>	21 Sep, Fri	Worked at King's Report of Convention. Bryce who had seen the first three instalments says in a letter rec[eive]d today "it is the most vivacious & 'actual' State paper I have seen for a long time[?]".
To Bryce, James To Canty, Michael (fr Sec'y) To Fisher, Irving To Shaw, George Bernard <i>Fr Johnston, James</i>	22 Sep, Sat	Rose at 6 A.M. and managed in the half day to bring my Secret Report up to date – a great relief. I can now tackle the real work of the Convention with this load – which I cannot 'delegate' – off my chest. 'Pat' Cox came for the week end. He had commanded his regiment in the Balkans for over 2 years after an awful experience at Gallipoli. Hopwood & son for week end.
	23 Sep, Sun	Restful. Lysaght of the Convention brought out his father to see me. Greatly superior to his son in culture I should say. The father is a young old man, the son an old young man.
To Oliver, F.S.	24 Sep, Mon	After hard morning's work went by a 3 hour train smoothly,

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<i>Fr Agar-Robartes, G. to sec'y C. O'Brien</i> <i>Fr Rohu, F.H.</i> <i>Fr Shaw George Bernard</i> <i>Fr Willis, G. de L.</i>		luxuriously & swiftly to Cork. No hostile reception whatever – in spite of reports – no <u>visible</u> police precautions.
To Shaw, George Bernard	25 Sep, Tue	Up early to prepare a speech for a lunch (Cork Harbour Com'n entertaining Convention) at Imperial Hotel – a suffocating 200 squeeze. I spoke in the highest terms of the Convention & its prospects! The morning sitting was a struggle for an adjournment of 12 days for Convention & committees. Those for indefinite adjournment for Convention while G[ran]d C'tee try to agree upon a scheme to be brought before Convention.
<i>Fr Balfour, A.J.</i> <i>Fr Varian, I.S.</i> [Thomas Ashe]	26 Sep, Wed	Another short session & then by a big cross channel steamer to the ancient ceremony of “throwing the dart”. That is the Lord Mayor of Cork every three years throws a dart into the sea outside (we kept inside for a German submarine had been sunk outside a few hours before) the port & thereby claims, as Admiral of the Port under a charter of Henry VIII, the overlordship of the waters of the port & for 3 miles beyond. On the way back from the function, which meant another speech & was very tiring, we of the Convention mostly disembarked at Queenstown where I saw the huge cathedral, the Bishop doing showman. It is a fine edifice outside & rather too ornate but very good inside – in marked contrast to most of the gaudy edifices the Church has scattered over Ireland. Joe Devlin went back to Cork in the steamer & was mobbed by Sinn Feiners. Yesterday a Sinn Fein prisoner in Dublin died on hunger strike & trouble is brewing.
<i>Fr Rohu, F.R.</i> <i>Fr Shaw, Charlotte F.</i>	27 Sep, Thu	Mostly valedictory proceedings. The Cork visit has pushed the Ulster delegates a little further towards a settlement & has so been a success. Our luxurious train brought us back to Dublin in absolutely record time, 2 hours 55 minutes Cork to <u>Amiens St.</u> ! At Thurles we waited 10 minutes being ahead of time, so the 167 miles was covered in 165 minutes running time! Got back very tired. The Presentation stage of my Convention procedure has worked better than I could have imagined. My speech on Tuesday has produced a good effect, especially its concluding words where I prophesied that as the result of the Convention “the men of the north & the men of the south would continue to meet and say to one another in the larger patriotism ‘my country shall be thy country’ – in the larger charity my ‘God thy God’”. Joseph R. Fisher, formerly editor of the Northern Whig came for a few days.
To Balfour, A.J. To Bryce, James To Butterfield, T.C. To Dunsany, Ld. Edward To House, E.M. (HOU) To Redmond, John E. To Shaw, Charlotte F.	28 Sep, Fri	Back in Dublin & a long day at the Convention office. Wired to Duke (in London) my views upon the Irish situation & urged immediate recognition of Sinn Feiners in prison as “political” prisoners. Pointed out that the abuse of the term political crime in the Agrarian agitation had led to disallowance of “political” offences – Sinn Feiners <u>were</u> pol[itical] prisoners if any could be so described. [Newspaper item pasted on opposite page, “The Convention’s Express Train”, letter to the editor of the <i>Irish Times</i> from the chief mechanical engineer, clarifying the previously published

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		times of the 27 Sep Cork-Dublin run.]
To Brooks, Sydney To Redmond, John E. Fr Barrie, Hugh T. Fr Ford, Prof. James <i>Fr Gwynn, Stephen</i> <i>Fr Moore, Col. Maurice</i> <i>(to O'Brien, Cruise)</i> <i>Fr Murphy, Wm. Martin</i> <i>Fr Scanlan, J.J.</i>	29 Sep, Sat	Worked out a procedure for the Grand Committee. Wired Redmond to come & see me if possible Monday or Tuesday. He 'phoned at night from his son-in-law Max Green's place Prospect Tempogue. I agreed to see him next morning. Had a long talk with Duke and urged him to make the Sinn Feiners political prisoners at once. I gathered he would do it.
To O'Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe)(RED) <i>Fr Kellogg, Dr. J.H.</i> <i>To Murphy, Wm. M.</i>	30 Sep, Sun	Post brought letter from W.M. Murphy, who is suspected of a desire to wreck the Convention, that he would move two resolutions in Grand C'tee (1) postulating an <u>all</u> Ireland Parl't & (2) claiming fiscal autonomy. Motored to see Redmond & had long conference with him about procedure. Got him to approve my plans but would not take his part in them. I wanted him to open the ball at Grand C'tee by tabling a scheme. He would not because he was afraid of falling foul of W M Murphy! He advised me to write to Dr. O'Donnell which I did.
To Barrie, Hugh T. To Gibson, Sir Henry To Magill, A.P. To Middleton, Lord To Moore, Col. Maurice To Redmond, John E. (To Shattuck, Henry L. fr Dixon, W. Macneile) To Shaw, Charlotte F. To Varian, I.S. (by sec'y) To White, H.O. <i>Fr Agar-Robartes, G. to</i> <i>sec'y C. O'Brien</i> <i>Fr Murphy, Wm. M.</i> <i>Fr O'Donnell, Patrick</i> <i>(Bp. of Raphoe)(2)</i>	1 Oct, Mon	Convention work all day, trying to get somebody to open the ball, to take the plunge & definitely propose to the Grand C'tee on Oct. 11 Home Rule (with fiscal autonomy) for the whole of Ireland.
To Duke, H.E. To Keedick, Lee To Murphy, Wm. M. To O'Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe) (2) To Redmond, John E. To Rohu, F.R. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Graves, Arnold</i> <i>(MAGI)</i>	2 Oct, Tue	Long talk with Duke at Castle & then lunch at the Lodge. Talked Irish situation generally. Wrote to Redmond & Dr. O'Donnell & phoned to Barrie – he called me up from Belfast. Got ahead with my procedure for Grand C'tee on Oct. 11th. Hard work at Convention office.
To Duke, H.E. To Graves, Arnold (MAGI) To Leslie, Shane To Redmond, John E. To Shaw, Charlotte F. To Wimborne, Ld. <i>Fr Graves, Arnold</i> <i>(MAGI)</i> <i>Fr Middleton, Ld. (cable,</i> <i>date uncertain)</i>	3 Oct, Wed	Worked at Convention & to London by night with Hopwood. Bad crossing, but they gave me the cabins reserved for the Ld. L[ieutenant] & Ch: Sec & I was fairly comfortable.

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<i>Fr Shipman, E.W.</i> <i>Fr Wallace, Henry</i>		
To Agar-Robartes, G. fr O'Brien, Cruise) To Scanlan, J.J. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Daly, James</i> <i>Fr O'Brien, Cruise</i> <i>Fr Power, S.M.</i> (MAGI) <i>Fr Redmond, John E.</i> <i>Fr Shaw, George Bernard</i>	4 Oct, Thu	Talk with K. Walter at the office of The Reciprocal News Service. Then to 10 Downing St. where I brought Adams up to date with Convention affairs. Next Bryce, Hopwood & Adams lunched with me & we talked for two hours on the possibilities of an Irish settlement. Bryce told me he thought very highly of my Secret Report. Long talk with Carson. He had thought out nothing. Barrie, Londonderry & McDowell had told him what they would <u>not</u> have. It was chiefly an executive for Ulster under a Parliament in Dublin.
To Bottoms, D.M. To McCarthy, Charles To O'Brien, Cruise To Pinchot, Gifford <i>Fr Barber, O.C.</i> <i>Fr Gwynn, Stephen (date uncertain)</i> <i>Fr O'Brien, Cruise</i> [<i>saeva indignatio</i> – savage indignation]	5 Oct, Fri	After morning at Convention work with Miss Sullivan & in conference with Adams at 10 Downing St. had an interview with Lloyd George who consulted me about the muddle of Irish Government. He asked me whether there was anyone in Ireland who as Under Secretary might get things straight. I said the only man I saw at present who looked capable of the part was General Byrne, Inspector General of the R.I.C. "What is that[?]" the little Welshman asked. I told him. I went on to say that I didn't see how he could deal with the situation through a subordinate office. He then asked me what I thought of Duke. I gave him my opinion of his virtues. "Yes, I daresay, but do you think him the man for the post[?]" I said that put me in a great difficulty as Duke had been kind to me & frank with me. I was pressed to say yes or no & said no. Who on earth could fill the place I was next asked. I suggested Cecil Harmsworth who is in the War Cabinet Secretariat & who had greatly impressed me in the talks I have had with him in Adams' room. L.I.G. said he was shy and reserved & doubted whether he would take the job. I added to my recommendation the substitution of Shaftesbury for Wimborne. He asked me to come & see him again on Monday if I thought of any further plans for getting out of the mess. William Allen White & Captain Allan the two chief men of Kansas were not at the office of the Reciprocal News Service. I made Walter bring them both to dine with me & we had a most refreshing Middle Western talk. They knew McCarthy of Wisconsin & Gifford Pinchot intimately. They were delighted with my belief in the Middle West attitude to the war. They had just come back from the front & confirmed an instinct I had that the Americans would soon be 'fed up' with the French & would feel a saeva indignatio against the Huns. They had no doubt at all of the Americans going through with it. They talked rather ominously of another 3 years of war!! William Allen White is the author of the leading article which began "What is the matter with Kansas[?]" Kansas set out to raise Hell and there has been overproduction.
To Ely, Richard T. To Gwynn, Stephen To Murphy, Wm. M. To O'Brien, Cruise To Smith, Dr. Stephen <i>Fr Shaw, George Bernard</i> <i>Fr White, H.O. to</i>	6 Oct, Sat	Morning at 10 Downing St. chiefly, where I explained the Irish situation to one of Lloyd George's private secretaries. Went to Kingswood for week end with Adams.

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<i>O'Brien, Cruise</i>		
<i>Fr Moles, J.A.</i>	7 Oct, Sun	Concentrated Convention talk with Adams all day. I told him I had considered whether I would recommend Lt. George to make him Ch: Secretary & get him a seat. He had told me he thought of entering Parliament. He was not averse to the idea & I think it might be the way out.
	8 Oct, Mon	Lunched with Hopwood at Reform Club, Lord Moulton, Sir John Bradbury, Adams & Bryce fellow guests. Talked 'fiscals' hard. Separate Customs & Tariff an awful crux. General Hutchison at W[ar].O[ffice]. Director of organisation gave me a long interview. I asked him to advise upon various military matters for Convention, but my chief object in the visit was to size him up as a better military ruler of Ireland than Bryan Mahon. I think he would do. ¾ hours with Arthur Balfour, all on Ireland. I told him all my views. I would make a clean sweep Wimborne, Mahon & Duke to be replaced by Shaftesbury, Hutchison & Adams (a seat to be got) or Cecil Harmsworth. He agreed generally, Dined with Selborne who had been 9 months sketching (with F.S. Oliver) a fiscal settlement betw'n England & Ireland, Federal of course. He is to send me the pamphlet containing the plan & I promised to have it fully considered.
To Daly, James (by sec'y) To White, H.O. <i>Fr Murphy, Wm. M.</i>	9 Oct, Tue	With Adams & Cecil Harmsworth. Brief talk with Lloyd George, long talk with Matthew Nathan about government of Ireland. Reggie turned up & he & Kathleen lunched with me at Club. Back to Ireland by night mail.
To Agar-Robartes, G. fr sec'y O'Brien, Cruise To Magill, A.P.	10 Oct, Wed	Hard day with the Secretariat preparing for the fateful meeting of the Grand Committee tomorrow. Long conference with Redmond & Devlin & with Murphy. Sutherland, Lloyd George's p[ri]vate]. sec'y sent over to spy out the land, a very inferior type of politician, with low cunning & incapable of any large views lunched with me. I pressed on him the changes I had urged on Lt.G. Adams as Ch. Sec is impossible. Cecil Harmsworth I daresay it will be if a change is made.
To Redmond, John E. To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Bryce, James</i> <i>(Fr Daly, James to O'Brien, C.)</i> [<i>sine die</i> – without a day being set]	11 Oct, Thu	The first bad set-back I have had. The Ulstermen told the Grand Committee which met today that it was idle to debate any further, it was a question of secret negotiation between a few, a very few men. So a subcommittee was formed consisting of Redmond, Devlin & O'Donnell, Middleton, Murphy & AE, Barrie, Londonderry & last chiefest McDowell. Middleton told me they wanted to elect their own chairman. I not only assented but recognised that he did not want me to be there at all. So I said I would be on hand. The subcommittee then met, the Grand Committee adjourning <u>sine die</u> . The former after a very brief sitting adjourned for a fortnight, then to meet in London! Hopwood was present & never sent for me – the first blunder he has made. After brief consideration I got on the telephone and managed to get together, inconveniently late, six of the subcommittee – Barrie, Murphy, O'Donnell, Devlin, AE and Middleton. All except Barrie were apologetic. I shall have great difficulty in warding off a row.
To McCarron, James	12 Oct, Fri	Came to a rapid decision – much I fear to the annoyance of

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To Waugh, Robert		Hopwood (whose Peerage was announced today) – to call back the Grand Committee & put before them the extraordinary situation created by Redmond’s incompetence as chairman of the secret Negotiation Committee. The few members I saw or ’phoned to during the day Midleton, Æ, Murphy, MacDonnell [<i>sic</i>], Redmond, Lysaght, Londonderry agreed to my calling the G[ran]d C’tee. I had a long talk with Redmond & several others. Hopwood & his Man Friday, Vernon would not help. But I have cleared my own mind & shall I think on Monday clear the air.
To Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross) To O’Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe) To Plunkett, R.W.N. Fr Barrie, Hugh T. Fr Coupland, George Fr Desart, Ld. Fr McCarthy, Charles	13 Oct, Sat	Another anxious day. Wrote at great length to the two R.C. Bishops (neither of whom will attend probably) about the Convention crisis. Worked hard to 4 P.M. Then had to go to the Foxrock national school to “unveil” – a photograph!! – of the late Manager, Canon O’Hea. Worn out. Bernard Shaws arrived after dinner.
To Desart, Ld. Fr Irwin, John Fr Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross) Fr Londonderry, Ld. (7th Marquess) Fr McDowell, Sir Alexander	14 Oct, Sun	Had Wm. M Murphy and Ld. MacDonnell out to lunch & dinner respectively. Redmond decided to cross over tonight & not to attend the meeting tomorrow because he could not get sleeping accom[modatio]n in the train Monday night! How I sympathise with him – <u>but</u> as he got me into this mess he ought to get me out of it at any sacrifice.
To Barrie, Hugh T. <i>Fr Harrison, Miss S.C.</i> <i>Fr Lieberoth, W.</i> To MacDowell, Sir Alexander To Redmond, John E. <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i> <i>Fr McCarron, James</i> <i>Fr Oliver, F.S.</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	15 Oct, Mon	The meeting of the Grand Committee was a great success after a most discouraging morning. Redmond, Devlin, Bernard & Dr. Kelly couldn’t & Barrie, McDowell, Londonderry, the Moderator [John Irwin] & Pollock wouldn’t come. But Dr. O’Donnell, Midleton, Gwynn, Clancy, Murphy, Æ, Lysaght, McCarron, Waugh, MacDonnell & Powell came – a majority. They agreed that I had done right to call the C’tee together & made arrangements to carry on the work just as I wanted – informally with no stereotyped subc’tees or references. I can now get the team seriously to work. I have reestablished my authority.
To Barrie, Hugh T. To Desart, Ld. To Irwin, John To Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross) To Londonderry, Ld. (7th Marquess) To MacDowell, Sir Alexander To Stewart, George To Walter, Karl	16 Oct, Tue	Got the plan adopted yesterday partially to work. Bernard, MacDonnell, Gwynn, 2 labour men, Lysaght, Doran, Granard & Desart roped in for work while the negotiators scheme in England. The strain of the crisis told on me & I am far from well. But I think the trouble is over.
To Harrison, Miss S.C. To MacDowell, Sir Alexander To Irish Civil Service C’tee (Barlas, A.R.) fr sec’y C. O’Brien To Plunkett, R.W.N. <i>Fr Irish Civil Service C’tee (Barlas, A.R.)</i>	17 Oct, Wed	Influenza & a temperature of 101° as it appeared when I got home. Slept out and hoped it would go. Worked through day & inter alia wrote an important letter to MacDowell which declared my position as Chairman & indicated my plan for the general conduct of the Convention’s work. I kept up my sleeve my trump card with the arrogant Ulstermen. At the proper time I may have to tell them that the Convention will report without asking their leave. They seem to assume that they alone count.

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<i>Fr Brooks, Sydney (cable)</i> <i>Fr Desart, Ld. (cable)</i> <i>Fr Doran (Wm. A.) (cable)</i> <i>Fr Granard, 8th Earl of (cable)</i> <i>Fr Irwin, John</i> <i>Fr Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross)</i>		
To Irwin, John To Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross) To O'Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe) To Petrol Control C'tee. <i>Fr Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh)</i> <i>Fr Desart, Ld.</i> <i>Fr Nathan, Sir Matthew</i>	18 Oct, Thu	Struggled at the Convention offices, did a morning's work & came back with a temperature of 100° & undoubted influenza. Kept warm on the sofa, went early to bed & took Dr. Pim's drugs with much discomfort.
To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) To Barrie, Hugh T. To Bryce, James To Nathan, Sir Matthew To Redmond, John E. <i>Fr Irish Civil Service C'tee (Barlas, A.R to sec'y C. O'Brien)</i>	19 Oct, Fri	I was to have dined tonight with the United Arts Club in Dublin, Hannay in the Chair. Bernard Shaw kindly undertook to "represent" me. The influenza got me down & left me depressed & weak.
To Desart, Ld. <i>Fr Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh)</i> <i>Fr Esmond, F.J.</i> <i>Fr Knight, M.E.</i>	20 Oct, Sat	Very depressed after influenza.
<i>Fr Desart, Ld.</i>	21 Oct, Sun	A regular Kilteragh Sunday. The Shaws still with me & to meet them Katherine Tynan & her awful husband to supper, Lennox Robinson, Cruise O'Brien. Capt. Colthurst & wife from Lucan – she a niece of G.B.S. & he a son of "Jacky" of Blarney Castle came to lunch. They have succeeded to "Charlie" Vesey's estate unexpectedly & will be nice neighbours.
To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) To Desart, Ld. To Merriman, John X. <i>Fr Armstrong, H.B. to sec'y O'Brien, C. (cable)</i> <i>Fr Robinson, Lennox</i>	22 Oct, Mon	Still weak from influenza but managed long day at Convention, Hopwood being in London.
<i>Fr Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh)</i> <i>Fr Desart, Ld.</i> <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i> <i>Fr Macartney Filgate, W.</i> <i>Fr Taylor, Morris</i> <i>Fr Varian, I.S.</i>	23 Oct, Tue	Lunched at RIC Depot – I had never been there before – taking G.B.S. with me. Otherwise a hard day at the office. Good talk with Ld. Mayor of Dublin who is in touch with the Sinn Feiners. Promised to stick to the Convention as long as I went ahead with the building of a Home Rule government! The Bernard Shaws & I left by night mail for London.
To Esmond, F.J. (by	24 Oct, Wed	Finished & handed to the F.O. 6th instalment of my secret Report

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sec'y) To Varian, I.S. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Macartney Filgate, W. Fr Stewart, W.R.</i>		to H[is].M[ajesty]. Much talk with Adams, Philip Kerr & others about Convention work. Kept away, but in telephonic touch with, the Secret C'tee of the Convention at the Langham Hotel. They made little progress.
<i>Fr Armstrong, H.B. (by sec'y) to O'Brien, C. (cable; date uncertain) Fr Aston, E.A. to sec'y C. O'Brien Fr Bryce, James Fr Varian, I.S. [Alfred]</i>	25 Oct, Thu	Looked in upon the Secret C'tee today & found them just about to discuss finance. They at once decided to postpone the awkward issue till Tuesday next when they meet in Dublin. They all except Barrie listened patiently to my explanation of what I had done about keeping the work going in Dublin. Had A.C. Pigou, E[dward] [sic] Marshall's successor at Cambridge to lunch with me. Adams who also came had recommended me to consult him about the economics of "fiscal autonomy" & Free trade betw'n Gt. Britain & Ireland. I am to furnish him with all the Convention documents & he will visit me at Kilteragh shortly. Dined with the Londonderrys – Lady L. Dowager being there. Also Edmund Gosse, Lady Essex &c. No light on anything.
To O'Brien, Cruise <i>Fr Moles, J.A. Fr Shaw, R.J.H.</i>	26 Oct, Fri	Two Carnegie Trust meetings. Little done – the Scotch are cautious, almost to paralysis. I was interested to find these dour Dunfermline folk keenly watching the Irish Convention. If it "arrives" they will regard me as a wizard. I went to the Fabian Society's lecture (by Sidney Webb, Herbert Samuel in the Chair) on a Britannic Alliance, the idea being the formation of a purely advisory council – anything more being considered unacceptable to the Dominions – to express pious wishes for the peaceful conduct of the now called imperial affairs.
To Aston, E.A. (by sec'y C. O'Brien) To Knight, M.E. To Stewart, W.R. <i>Fr O'Brien, Cruise)</i>	27 Oct, Sat	Another long talk with Duke. He will never understand Ireland. He feels that he can keep things from getting dangerous e.g. by closing the Shannon, the harbours & the railways to the north Clare could be starved into submission. I pointed out that Clare was in less danger of starvation than any part of the U.K. "Financial starvation I meant" s[ai]d Duke! Lunched with the Sidney Webbs. She is jubilant as she says her Minority Poor Law Report is being accepted by the Reconstruction C'tee. Went to Woolwich & saw Mamie at the Herbert Hospital. I was proud of her. It is hard work but she is standing it well & is not a bit hardened by the experience. A fine healthy natural child.
<i>Fr Oliver, F.S.</i>	28 Oct, Sun	Went to Kingswood & spent the day with Adams.
To Pigou, A.C. [Bishop- A. Winnington-Ingram]	29 Oct, Mon	Lunched with Ian Malcolm M.P. at H of C to meet a dozen American Congressmen, A.J.B., "Charlie" Beresford & the Bp. of London being among the house party. I was of course in my element. Rest of day at work on Convention matters. To Kilteragh by night mail.
To Greer To Ld. Grey of Fallodon (Sir Edward) To Lieberoth, W. <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i>	30 Oct, Tue	Back at Kilteragh. The subcommittee of the Convention sat in Dublin & I attended by request. Middleton had a fit of nerves about the state of Ireland & the day was wasted. Lunched with the attorney general O'Connor to meet Arnold Bennett. Had little time & asked them both to Kilteragh tomorrow.
To Moles, J.A. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Barber, O.C.</i>	31 Oct, Wed	Attended the Secret Committee which, at last, got to business on <u>the</u> issue – fiscal autonomy <u>versus</u> fiscal Union. Æ, Dr. O'Donnell, Redmond & W M Murphy (Devlin absent) strongly for the former, Pollock (vice McDowell), Barrie, Londonderry &

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
		<p>Midleton equally strongly for the latter. The debate morning & afternoon came very near a deadlock. I counselled delay in arriving at a decision & I think this will happen. Arnold Bennett was brought to dine with me by James O'Connor attorney general. The latter is the cheapest goods (except in respect of his salary £6000 I think!!) I have met in high place. Arnold B is an ugly & outside his books dull personality. Also came an Alexander M. Thompson, journalist (introduced by George A.B. Dewar) just back from Sweden & Russia to study Ireland. I had no time to give him. He seemed intelligent but both he & A.B. were a bit Broad ?treaty.</p> <p>[Newspaper item pasted in] Times 31.X.17</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SIR H. PLUNKETT'S DISCLAIMER</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DUBLIN, Oct. 30</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(from our special correspondent)</p> <p>Sir Horace Plunkett, the Chairman of the Irish Convention, informs me that there is no foundation for the statement that he has expressed himself in favour of any of the proposals which were recently published for associating the Convention, or any of its members, with Irish administration. In no case would he have offered any opinion upon the subject without first consulting the Convention, and he has seen no reason for bringing before it a matter so wholly outside the terms of its reference.</p>
<i>Fr White, W.C.</i>	Nov – day uncertain	
<p>To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) To Brooks, Sydney To Bryce, James To Derby, Ld. To Duke, H.E. To McDowell, Lady To Nathan, Sir Matthew To Oliver, F.S. To Shaw, Charlotte F. To Varian, I.S. (by sec'y) To Wallace, Col. R.H. To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Macartney-Filgate,</i> <i>W. to sec'y C.O'Brien</i> <i>Fr Oranmore, Ld.</i></p>	1 Nov, Thu	<p>Got the Grand Committee to sanction & approve highly my procedure. They now all see that I have guided them wisely.</p> <p>Alexander M. Thompson lunched with me & gave me a most deplorable account of Russia. The Chaos is far worse than I had imagined & their cooperation with the allies will be negligible. The war situation is awful.</p>
<p>To Ely, Richard T. To Kellogg, Dr. J.H. To Leslie, Shane To Macartney-Filgate, W. To Shaw, George Bernard <i>Fr Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh)</i> <i>Fr Moles, Thomas</i> <i>Fr Oranmore, Ld.(cable)</i></p>	2 Nov, Fri	Convention work.
<p>To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) To Byrne, General J.A. To Ervine, St. John (extract) To Ford, Prof. James To Lieberoth, W.</p>	3 Nov, Sat	Professor A C Pigou of Cambridge – Marshall's favourite pupil & successor in Chair of Economics – arrived to spend a few days with me & help me to think out the Ulster objections to fiscal autonomy which he favours. I had the Erskine Childers to meet him.

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
<i>Fr Buchan, John</i> <i>Fr Irish Farmers Union</i> <i>Fr Petrol Control C'tee.</i>		
<i>Fr Oliver, F.S.</i>	4 Nov, Sun	R.V. Vernon & wife, Fr. Finlay & R.A.A. joined the party during the day. It was a feast of economics which I confess I varied with golf!
To Buchan, John To Irish Farmers Union (by sec'y C. O'Brien) To Petrol Control C'tee. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Cork Meeting</i> <i>Fr Grey of Fallodon, Ld.</i> (<i>Sir Edward</i>) <i>Fr Shaw, George Bernard</i>	5 Nov, Mon	The subcommittee met – all present but McDowell. On <u>the</u> crux – fiscal autonomy vs fiscal Union – they very nearly broke up. I adjourned them saying the question had not been argued & that I would tomorrow put to each side questions which I felt should be answered before the argument was really before the subc'tee. I had no idea what the questions would be as I am only a little less ignorant than the average member of the subc'tee on the subject. But I shall try to keep them together somehow. General Hutchison had came over to deal with the Sinn Fein situation which is rather alarming. I had advised Lloyd George to put him in Bryan Mahon's place & I have no doubt his coming is due to this advice. I had a brief interview but with the Convention crisis on hands could say little.
To Oliver, F.S. <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i> [<i>deus ex machina</i> – lit. 'God from a machine'; a contrived solution]	6 Nov, Tue	Wrestled all day with the crisis in the subcommittee & I think averted it. I sent out a lot of questions & suggestions to the 9 members which (if they are honest) should show them that they had agreed to differ in complete ignorance of the question upon which they had fought to a deadlock. Of course Pigou (a <u>deus ex machina</u> if ever there was one) did my questions for me.
To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) To Bary, Richard de To Edgeworth- Johnstone, Col. W. To Morley of Blackburn, Ld. To Shaw, George Bernard To Wallace, Henry To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Bryce, James</i> <i>Fr Derby, Ld.</i> <i>Fr Frissell, Julia</i>	7 Nov, Wed	Very tired. But my letter has had its effect on the Subcommittee which will take several days to consider it. So I can rest on my oars.
To Petrol Control C'tee. (by sec'y) To Walsh, Mrs. Maud To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Morley of Blackbrn,</i> <i>Ld.</i> <i>Fr Oliver, F.S.</i>	8 Nov, Thu	Worked hard at my Secret Report of the Convention – got 14 lively & 7 dull paragraphs in fair shape.
To Cork Meeting (by sec'y) To Derby, Ld. To Moles, J.A. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Crozier, John Baptist</i> (<i>Archbp. of Armagh</i>) <i>Fr Edgeworth-</i> <i>Johnstone, Col. W.</i> <i>Fr ?Clune, B.?S.</i>	9 Nov, Fri	Convention work.

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<i>Fr MacCormac, Wm. Fr Murphy, J.</i>		
To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) To Morley of Blackburn Fr Phelps Realty Assoc. Fr Kavanagh, Walter M. <i>Fr Oranmore, Ld.</i> [Rogers enlisted as a private in 1918; his wife (elected to Congress) became advocate of veterans/service people.]	10 Nov, Sat	At breakfast arrived Hon. John Jacob Rogers Congressman for Massachusetts with an introd[uctio]n from the Foreign Office & a wife. To them the Irish Question had to be explained for the furtherance of the Anglo American entente. The inside of a day had been stolen from the Rogers crowded programme for the mastery of this little international complication. I got them into an expansive mood & a week end was permitted to be spent in the inquiry. I got Gen. R. Hutchison, chief of staff under Maxwell & wife, Percy La Touche & Daisy out to help in the education. They were nice simple people.
<i>Fr Lysaght, Edward E.</i>	11 Nov, Sun	Æ to lunch & I tried to calm him in his Convention attitude. A very pleasant Sunday with the two Americans, Daisy & Percy La Touche. General Hutchison & his wife left early.
To Bernard, John Henry (Archbp. of Dublin) To Bryce, James To Duke, H.E. (2) To Irish Farmers Union To Lysaght, Edward E. To Shaw, George Bernard <i>Fr Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) Fr Duke, H.E. Fr Morley of Blackburn, Ld.</i>	12 Nov, Mon	Convention work & looking after the Rogers's. The Ulster delegates were in Belfast discussing my questions.
To Duke, H.E. <i>Fr Bullard, Arthur Fr Knox-Kniven, H.</i>	13 Nov, Tue	Got the kindest letter from Lord Morley on my secret Report to the King. "I cannot but admire the succinct manner in which you have focussed got all the points (raised in 70 sittings of the HR debate 1893) focussed in your presentation stage. I fully recognise the arguments & the manoeuvres." He will "await the next instalment with uncommon curiosity & interest." So the day began but it went on less pleasantly. The Subcommittee of 9 met. The four Ulstermen had consulted their masters in Belfast and had, apparently, confirmed the deadlock. At any rate their discussion got us no nearer than we had been to a settlement. I went to bed with a sorry heart.
To Irish Farmers Union <i>(by sec'y C. O'Brien)</i> To MacCormac, Wm. To Taylor, Morris <i>Fr Rogers, Edith</i> <i>Fr Rogers, John Jacobs</i>	14 Nov, Wed,	Another bad day with the Convention leaders. Decided to call the Grand C'tee next week & the Convention the week after. The hope of an agreed settlement is receding but I am going to get out a good majority report. The Ulster force (Barrie, Londonderry & Pollock) sent me an uncompromising letter refusing to agree to any fiscal powers for an Irish Parliament.
To Barrie, Hugh T. To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) <i>Fr Duke, H.E. (JOH/E) Fr Irish Farmers Union</i>	15 Nov, Thu	The Convention sky brightened. Londonderry undertook to present next Tuesday a Federal scheme, the first constructive work the Ulstermen have done. Meanwhile the Nationalists will go steadily ahead with their Dominion scheme.

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
To Desart, Ld. To Edgeworth- Johnstone, Col. W. (by sec'y) To Rogers, Edith To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Furman, Lucy</i>	16 Nov, Fri	Worked at Secret Report chiefly.
To Monteagle, Lord To O'Brien, Cruise To Shaw, George Bernard	17 Nov, Sat	Pat Cox came for week end before going to France. Daisy came too – they are old friends.
	18 Nov, Sun	Had a restful Sunday as I had Gen. Byrne of the RIC & Vernon of the Secretariat out & 'worried' over things with both.
To Goddard, Mr. To Hall, Sir A.D. <i>Fr Flood, W.H. Grattan</i>	19 Nov, Mon	Southborough away & I was hard at work at Convention all day.
To Flood, W.H. Grattan (by sec'y) To Knox-Kniven, H. (by sec'y) To White, W.C. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Gray, Henry G. Fr Robinson, Lennox</i>	20 Nov, Tue	Southborough still away & I had to preside over the 9. Barrie came to Kilteragh & it was revealed to me that he would like a settlement, but "it would never do to speak with two voices" & Belfast had one voice & one voice only. That said no to any Home Rule which would enable the Parliament to interfere with business – i.e. to tax! The position does look pretty hopeless & I must work "the outside world opinion" for all it's worth.
To Brooks, Sydney To Bryce, James To Duke, H.E. To Morley of Blackburn, Ld. To Nathan, Sir Matthew To Oliver, F.S. To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Shaw, George Bernard</i>	21 Nov, Wed	The last meeting of the Nine negotiators. The issue is now transferred to the G[ran]d C'tee which meets tomorrow. I was all day hard at work negotiating about future procedure.
To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) <i>Fr Quinlan, D.W.</i>	22 Nov, Thu	The Grand Committee met & as I expected there was a very confused & difficult situation. The Ulster men stood, on the documents circulated, in a very bad light. The 12 members (including the Primate added at the last meeting) not of the secret 9 were angry at the little progress which had been made after such a long delay. Finally we decided to discuss Southborough's proposed fiscal compromise & to adjourn till Tuesday to prepare for the debate – the Convention to be summoned for a week later.
<i>Fr Orpen & Dickinson Fr Shaw, George Bernard</i>	23 Nov, Fri	Steady work at my Secret Report.
To O'Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe) <i>Fr Bryce, James (day unclear) Fr Nathan, Sir Matthew Fr O'Brien, Cruise</i>	24 Nov, Sat	Brought Secret Report almost up to date.
<i>Fr O'Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe)</i>	25 Nov, Sun	Had only Daisy & Bullock. Week end parties take too much out of me when I am hard at work. The Granards & Lady Drogheda, Southborough & his son lunched. The two ladies were nice & quiet in their demeanour. I fancy both would shine in high society!

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		Got a private letter from the Prime Minister bidding me to be of good Cheer – & keep the Convention going! He is off this week to an inter-ally conference & wants me to go & discuss things with him on his return.
To Bryce, James To Duke, H.E. To Moles, J.A. (by sec'y) To Nathan, Sir Matthew To Orpen & Dickinson To Quinlan, D.W. (by sec'y) <i>Fr McDowell, Sir Alexander</i>	26 Nov, Mon	The Grand C'tee met in the afternoon. Pollock at last argued the business case against removing Customs & Excise from the control of the Imperial authority. The Bp. of Raphoe answered him cleverly & The Primate spoke in favor of seeking a compromise betw'n two views which he said could never be compromised. The sky cleared a bit. At night came a wire from Adams that he would be over on Wed[nesda]y morning. I must now try to bring all parties in the G[ran]d C'tee to a sense of their responsibility for the future & not only for the present welfare of their country.
To McDowell, Sir Alexander To Pigou, A.C.	27 Nov, Tue	A very unsatisfactory day but Adams is coming! The prospects of a settlement are dark again.
<i>Fr Kellogg Food Co. Fr Lieberoth, W. Fr Varian, I.S.</i>	28 Nov, Wed	Adams arrived. The Convention sky brightened as the Southern Unionists put in a very good compromise scheme. If only the Nationalists would accept it the Ulstermen would be in a tight place. Pollock came to supper & poured himself out to Adams who knows now the Ulster difficulty!
	29 Nov, Thu	We did all we could do in a long day at the Grand Committee & adjourned to Dec. 11th leaving 3 subcommittees to work (& mark time) while next week Lloyd George negotiates betw'n the parties. I brought Dr. O'Donnell out to my house to confer with Adams. He made the case (not very well) for fiscal autonomy.
To Oliver, F.S. To Shaw, George Bernard To Walter, Karl <i>Fr Armstrong, H.B. Fr Hetherington, A.L. Fr Toal, Thomas</i>	30 Nov, Fri	A day with Adams & Secretariat. Saw P.J. O'Neill & had long talk with him about the Convention situation. He has no brains but an awful string of sentences which are applicable to all subjects, only mean absolutely nothing. But as he is Chairman of the Assoc'n of County Councils one has to cultivate him.
<i>(Fr Vernon, R.V. to Pigou, A.C.)</i>	December – date uncertain	
To Moore, Col. Maurice To Pigou, A.C. To Toal, Thomas To Varian, I.S. (by sec'y)	1 Dec, Sat	Went to Moorhead with bladder troubles. He told me it was rather serious & he would like me to go to bed for 3 days. But I have to go to London on Monday night to see Lloyd George who is going to see the Nat, Ulster & S. Unionist leaders in the Convention.
<i>Fr Toal, Thomas Fr Varian, I.S.</i>	2 Dec, Sun	Duke came to lunch & we had a confidential & frank talk on the Convention.
To Byrne, James To Gill, T.P. To Godkin, Lawrence To Hetherington, A.L. (2) To Pinchot, Gifford (2) To Struthers, (?Sir J.)	3 Dec, Mon	Moorhead found me much better. I worked at the Convention & left at night for London to see Lloyd George.
To Armstrong, H.B. by sec'y O'Brien, C. To Varian, I.S. <i>Fr Kellogg, Dr. J.H. Fr Leslie, Shane Fr McCarthy, Charles</i>	4 Dec, Tue	Went to House of Commons & saw Redmond. He layed [<i>sic</i>] himself bare. He won't justify the nice things I said about him in the earlier paragraphs of my secret report. He I fear won't stand to his guns and fight for a settlement. He sticks to "the Customs" admitting that the popular clamour therefor is so ignorant that many people believe that the dispute on which we may be

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<i>Fr Pyper, John</i>		<p>wrecked is whether a certain sum of six millions odd is to go into English or Irish pockets. He said the Convention was called to pacify Ireland for the purposes of the war! I denied this: it was to solve the problem he had struggled with all his life & solve it in a sense agreeable to himself.</p> <p>Went also to Dunraven who is laid up with gout. Told him he must scrap his scheme & come in with Midleton's. We must have a middle party with a <u>good</u> scheme for which they will fight with the opinion of the sick and angry world & their own consciences to back them.</p>
<i>Fr Canty, Michael Fr (Cork C'tee of Agric.)</i>	5 Dec, Wed	<p>Lunched with Lloyd George. He was <u>very</u> friendly and seemed to trust my judgment on the way he should approach the three difficult elements in the Convention. He asked me what I thought of giving the Convention some provisional powers over the Irish executive in the event of their failure to agree to a point where an Irish Parliament could be at once set up. I said I would like to think over it, but that in any case not a hint of the project in his mind should leak out as it might hinder agreement. I explained the whole situation to him minutely & I think guarded him against mistakes in dealing with the three parties. He rightly diagnosed the trouble – Ulster – Carson's commitments &c. I emphasised one thing. I would not let the Convention break up till all hope of agreement had gone, I would then make it agree to as much as possible & try to get a moderate report from S. Unionists, Ulster Liberals & Nationalists not scared by Sinn Fein into demanding Fiscal autonomy. <u>But</u> I would not keep the Convention sitting a day longer than there was prospect of results for the sake of keeping the country quiet. After I left he saw Midleton & Bernard. Adams was present at both interviews.</p> <p>Did a lot of work at 10 Downing St. but still suffering from inflammation of the bladder & passing blood.</p> <p>P.S. Had a brief interview with Page who authorised me to remind L.I.G. of his insistence upon the American value of a successful Convention. L.I.G. said Col. House was much more strong.</p>
To Hetherington, A.L. (by sec'y) To Kavanagh, Walter M. <i>Fr Midleton, Ld.</i>	6 Dec, Thu	<p>At 4 A.M. the maid called me to say the police had warned us to "take cover". For 2 hours the infernal racket of anti-air craft guns and the occasional whirr of aeroplanes made night hideous. Then I went to sleep again. Only 7 people were killed. About 25 planes attempted to converge in London only 5 or 6 got through the barrage. Two were brought down in the country. The bombs were mostly incendiary.</p> <p>Long talks with S. Gwynn, Dunraven, Geoffrey Dawson & a tête a tête dinner with Oliver, lunch with Pigou chief Convention work.</p>
To Midleton, Ld. <i>Fr Leslie, Shane</i>	7 Dec, Fri	<p>Conference with Stephen Gwynn. Meeting with Sir J. Struthers & Sir Wm. McCormick at which they promised to support my request that the Carnegie Trustees should give the remaining £2000 of my demand for £6000 for the Coop Reference Library.</p> <p>Lunched & had long tête a tête with Walter Page American Ambassador. He was very gloomy about the war situation. The allies except British & American were hopelessly unorganised & no match for Germany. The American troops would be good enough but the submarine menace was very grave & the transport</p>

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		<p>problem insoluble!</p> <p>Long talks with Adams. Saw also Bernard, Londonderry & Bryce.</p> <p>Back to Ireland by night.</p>
<p>To Dunraven, Ld. To Hetherington, A.L. <i>Fr Dunraven, Ld.</i> <i>Fr Hetherington, A.L.</i> <i>(to sec'y C. O'Brien)</i> <i>Fr Middleton, Ld.</i></p>	8 Dec, Sat	<p>After ½ day at Convention office Moorhead (I think the best physician in Dublin) told me I must lie up for 3 or 4 days & get rid of the bladder trouble which if neglected would become serious, probably involving the kidneys. Worst of all he won't let me attend next Tuesday's critical meeting of the Grand Committee.</p> <p>Wilfred & Minnie Fitzgerald & Daisy came for week end.</p>
<p>To Press re Irish Reconstruction Association (draft)</p>	9 Dec, Sun	<p>Not at all well. Kept to house with signs of severe bladder inflammation.</p>
<p>To Canty, Michael (fr Sec'y) To Cork Cttee of Agric. To Dunraven, Ld. To Gray, H.G. To Petrol Control C'tee. To Pyper, John <i>Fr Arran, Earl of</i> <i>Fr Craig, Messrs. W.R.</i> <i>Fr Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross)</i></p>	10 Dec, Mon	<p>Stayed in the house with Daisy & Bullock, Shaw & C O'Brien & Miss Sullivan out on Convention work.</p>
<p>To Arran, Earl of fr sec'y C. O'Brien To Barlow, Mrs. E. To Dublin Dockyard (by sec'y O'Brien, C.; ARR) To Dunraven, Ld. To Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross) <i>Fr Dunraven, Ld.</i></p>	11 Dec, Tue	<p>Went in in shut motor (feeling rather ashamed to be seen travelling like a dowager) to the Convention Hall where I had to address the Grand C'tee & preside over the morning sitting. This was all the doctor would allow. I spoke at length on the situation. My chief point was that the Nationalists ought to come to terms with the S. Unionists & Make the Irish Question 4/5ths vs 1/5th instead of 3/4ths vs 1/4th and the 1/5th will then come in! The Ulster delegates did not object to this way of putting things & I feel we are getting nearer to the possibility of an agreed settlement. Redmond & Devlin agreed with me, they said privately. The former said "but what of Murphy & O'Donnell?" He is a queer leader.</p>
<p>To Pinchot, Gifford <i>Fr Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross)</i> <i>Fr Irish Civil Service C'tee (Barlas, A.R.)</i> <i>Fr McCarthy, Charles</i> <i>Fr Merriman, John X.</i></p>	12 Dec, Wed	<p>Moping at Kilteragh, the urine analyzed showing albumen, pus & red blood corpuscles. So I must be careful & am.</p>
<p>To Dunraven, Ld. To Irish Civil Service C'tee (from sec'y C. O'Brien) To Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross) To Moles, J.A. (by sec'y)</p>	13 Dec, Thu	<p>May & Tom came. I still had to stay at home & do the Convention by telephone. I am far from well. I fear there may be if not kidney trouble, bad prostatitis. The blood still comes.</p>
<p>To Furman, Miss (Lucy) To Kellogg, Dr. J.H. <i>Fr Irish Civil Service</i></p>	14 Dec, Fri	<p>Southborough came & reported the position in the Grand C'tee which adjourned yesterday. They have issued their report to the Convention which is to meet next Tuesday fortunately only for</p>

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<i>C'tee (to sec'y C. O'Brien) Fr Lungley, Thomas</i>		two days which will give me a chance to get well. The pos[iti]o[n] now is – The Nationalists & Southern Unionists will I think be able to come to terms. Then my tactics of getting the I.Q. 4/5ths vs 1/5th instead of 3/4th vs 1/4th will be nearing success.
To Bastable, C.F. To Crozier, John Baptist (Archbp. of Armagh) <i>Fr Frewen, Moreton</i>	15 Dec, Sat	Was taken to Dr. Greene who is specialist for bladder, kidneys &c. He examined my bladder with electric light inserted. Very painful. It seems the blood which has come the last few days is due to a bleeding tumour which must be either cauterised away, or if that fails operated on by, I suppose, opening the bladder. In any case I shall have a hard time of it betw'n severe treatments & possibly a big operation in betw'n meetings of the Convention!
<i>Fr Bryce, James</i>	16 Dec, Sun	Rested. Vernon, O'Farrell & Cruise O'Brien came to see me. It was a cold, snowy day & I felt depressed.
To Dunraven, Lord <i>Fr Bastable, C.F. Fr Redmond, John E.</i>	17 Dec, Mon	Worked at Convention office.
To Frewen, Moreton To O'Donnell, Patrick (Bp. of Raphoe) To Redmond, John E. <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	18 Dec, Tue	The Convention re-assembled after having adjourned three months ago (Sept 27) at Cork. I had to make a long speech explaining what had happened in the meantime & I did it clearly but with no eloquence. The position is very doubtful and I think I must write a New Year letter – if I am well enough – which will make the members think right. Lord Midleton gave notice of a motion for our next meeting (which after 2 hours debate was fixed for January 2nd, against strong opposition from those who for one reason or another preferred Jan 8 or 15) in which he raised the question of Customs. The Unionists North & South refuse to break the fiscal connection with England. If this is maintained the South will be united against the Ulster Enclave and then it will be not easy but possible to get the Carson forces to change their attitude. My work is now clear & if only I do not have to undergo a major operation all may be well. I am still hopeful.
To Bastable, C.F. To Dunraven, Ld. To Hildebrand, P.J. (by sec'y) To Lungley, Thomas (by sec'y) To Montgomery, E. (by sec'y) To O'Connell, T.J. (by sec'y) To Shipman, E.W. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Adams, W.G.S. to sec'y C. O'Brien Fr Leslie, Shane</i>	19 Dec, Wed	The Convention sat till lunch and went away for a fortnight's Xmas holiday. Mahaffy, Powell, Gwynn, Jameson & Barrie spoke, all backing the Midleton Scheme except Barrie who, however, promised to bring from Belfast Ulster amendments thereto. The prospects were slightly improved. I had my first very painful experience of electric cautery inside the bladder.
To Midleton, Ld. To Oliver, F.S. (<i>Fr Daly, James to O'Brien, Cruise Fr Jones, Henry Fr Walter, Karl (2)</i>)	20 Dec, Thu	Sat over the fire all day. Dictated Convention letters & conversed with Stephen Gwynn on Convention tactics.

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To Londonderry, Ld. (7th Marquess) To Walter, Karl [Text of address in <i>IH</i> , XXIV:52 (29 Dec 1917), pp. 952, 955-6]	21 Dec, Fri	The annual general meeting of the IAOS. Made a speech (from notes) as President & then retired obeying doctor's orders but giving Convention business excuse. Another cautery in the bladder. Dr. Green showed me his instrument through which one can <u>see</u> as well as if he had opened the bladder but of course no longer cutting blade only an electric wire can be got to work. So far the treatment bodes fair to succeed.
To Daly, James (by sec'y) To Devlin, Joseph To Jones, Henry (by sec'y) To Power, S.M. (by sec'y) <i>Fr Armstrong, H.B.</i> <i>Fr Middleton, Ld.</i> <i>Fr New York Times</i> <i>Fr Pembroke U.D.C.</i> <i>Fr Wibberley, Thomas</i>	22 Dec, Sat	Rested excepting a long talk to Devlin & a few others to Adams & such like. Callan & Daisy came for Xmas.
<i>Fr Bryce, James</i> <i>Fr Fletcher, George</i> <i>Fr Middleton, Ld.</i>	23 Dec, Sun	Mrs. Pilkington came to lunch – otherwise Callan, Daisy and had a restful Sunday though I worked a bit at my secret Report.
To Fletcher, George To Wibberley, Thomas	24 Dec, Mon	Had to work at Convention office on Secret Report, to have a long talk with Duke & undergo another bladder tumour cautery. Fingall, Daisy & Gerald came to Xmas with me. I must try & get a real rest for 2 days. This from the Belfast Ev[enin]g Telegraph of today [newspaper item pasted in]: “ Sir Horace Plunkett's Hope In approaching the fourth Christmastide spent in the shadow of the greatest war in history, it is surely glad tidings that the Christian star shines once more over the place by Jerusalem, where nearly two thousand years ago, the message of peace and good-will was first given to the world. May we not hope that another star of peace and good-will is about to extend its rays over our country from north to south?”
	25 Dec, Tue	Xmas at my own hearth. I had avoided it for many years because I had none of the Xmas surroundings & none who can be merry? The Hammonds, Anderson & his remaining boy dined.
<i>Fr Devlin, Joseph</i> <i>Fr Dunraven, Ld.</i> <i>Fr Irwin, Albert</i>	26 Dec, Wed	Worked at Secret History of Convention. The Hannays called & Smith Gordon came to stay.
To Dunraven, Ld. <i>Fr Gray, H.G.</i> <i>Fr McCarthy, Michael</i> <i>Fr Walter, Karl</i>	27 Dec, Thu	Typists must have holidays & I had to do with poor help. But I got ahead with my Secret Report which I am trying to get up to date so that the Cabinet will have the real situation, with which they may have to deal, before them. Redmond called me up on the telephone from Rathfarnham district where he is staying with Max Green (his son-in-law) & said he wanted to see me. We arranged for him to come to Kilteragh where I shall be laid up with more bladder cautery, on Saturday. A sign of grace – or rather of opportunism – in the Irish leader. Sinn Fein is down in America & Redmond may now act as leader.
To Armstrong, H.B. To Devlin, Joseph To Pembroke U.D.C. (by	28 Dec, Fri	Half day at Convention office & then another cautery in the bladder. This time very radical & the Dr. thinks successful – very painful.

Correspondence [Notes]	1917	Diary Entry
sec'y) To Rolleston, T.W. <i>Fr Devlin, Joseph</i> <i>Fr Powell, J.B.</i>		
To Brooks, Sydney To Hall, Admiral To Irwin, Albert To McCarthy, Michael To <i>New York Times</i> To Robinson, Lennox (by sec'y) <i>Fr McAndrew, P.J.</i> <i>Fr Pinchot, Gifford</i>	29 Dec, Sat	<p>Indoors all day & in some pain necessitating morphia. That enabled me to do my Convention work which included a good deal of the secret report and an interview with Redmond who came to tea.</p> <p>Redmond put a wholly new aspect of the Convention crisis before me. He has discovered that Carson obtained the consent of the Government to an understanding that the Ulster Unionist representatives should act as a delegation of the party organisation thus placing them in a wholly different position from that occupied by the other members. This explains the extraordinary attitude of the Ulstermen in the Subcommittee of Nine and of the refusal of the Nationalists to place any trust in the Government's promise to legislate at once if there is "<u>substantial agreement</u>" and to give their intention to give a fair interpretation to that condition.</p>
<i>Fr Rolleston, T.W.</i>	30 Dec, Sun	<p>Nellie Balfour, now Hon. Mrs. Galbraith Cole, & her man arrived.</p> <p>I had to go in to Dublin & meet Duke & Southborough on the crisis made by Redmond's new attitude. Duke declared that he knew nothing of the Carson[-]Lloyd George understanding. So I had to get Miss Sullivan out & put the whole situation before L.G. via Adams. Not a restful Sunday & I saw nothing little of Nellie & her husband. The poor fellow is obviously suffering from rheumatoid arthritis at 36!</p>
To Kelly, Denis (Bp. of Ross) <i>Fr Lloyd George, D.</i> <i>Fr Tyrone Committee of Agriculture (2)</i>	31 Dec, Mon	<p>A hard days work at the Convention office. Æ & Lysaght came in in a very bad temper & talked as if they were determined to wreck the Convention. The situation at the end of 1917 looks a bit cloudy, but what are the political sorrows of Ireland to the appalling suffering of the Nations?</p>
	Year-end Summary	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>1917</u></p> <p>It has been the most important year of this diarist's life. Three months of hospital life (including a drastic & successful operation) followed by a month of really useful work in America upon my war work – the fostering of right Anglo American sentiment – & then back to Ireland where I surely did my part in trying to solve that age-long controversy. My unanimous election to the Chair of the Irish Convention was probably the zenith of my career. I kept optimistic throughout but Ireland never rewards her most devoted servants.</p>