

Crime—Special.

Hd.-Qrs. File No. _____ S.

COUNTY OF County Dublin.Confidential Report for Month of Dec 1913

1. Jan 1914

I beg to state that the County Dublin this continues to be in a disturbed state owing to the strike among the farm labourers. Some have gone back to work but a large number are still on strike. A considerable number of men were locked out by their employers (who were members of the Farmers Association) for refusing to abandon the Irish Transport Union. but the greater number went out on strike at the instigation of the Transport Union. There appears to be no prospect of any immediate settlement. and it is likely to drag on until it settles itself through exhaustion unless some settlement is arrived at in Dublin City. Protection Posts are still in existence at Kilmore (near Coolock village) at Bynnam near Swords and at Ennsworth near Malahide for the protection of "free" labourers. — Besides these large numbers of free labourers and ^{some} labourers who have returned to work have to be protected by strong patrols in several portions of the County. — For this purpose as well as for the protection of a large number of

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farmers a large extra force of police is employed in the County. In the Liscann district besides the farmers and others, protection has to be given to mill owners and their imported lands. and all carts have to be escorted by police from these mills to R.I. stations and elsewhere —

In the Swords locality where a large number of labourers are on strike, a strong force of police is located to protect the farmers and their property. Some large farmers about Swords & Malahide are so unpopular with the strikers that constant police protection has to be afforded them —

The relations between the farmers, especially those belonging to the Co. Dublin Farmers Association, and the labourers is still greatly strained —

Intimidation and disorderly conduct has been more or less abandoned by the strikers and incendiarism resorted to. During the month there have been six cases of malicious burning. However three of these cases are not supposed to have any connection with the strike beyond the fact that the spirit of recklessness is about and persons with any grievance or for revenge resort to this form of outrage —

Every possible effort is being made by the police to detect the incendiaries but without avail

I There were Seven Offences of an indictable nature committed during the month.. Six of these were malicious burnings. Three were directly attributable to the Strike. Three to absolute wantonness.

I. Malicious burning of 30 tons of straw on night of 8th Dec. belonging to a farmer named Thos Flood. who has claimed £100 compensation -

II. Malicious burning of large hay shed full of hay and 3 pits of hay outside the property of a farmer named Thomas Long. on night of 16th Dec. - He has claimed £573 compensation - His labourers went out on strike -

III Malicious burning of or rather attempt to burn, a dwelling house of Catherine Harvey. small farmer. by setting the thatch on fire. which was at once discovered and put out - on 20th Dec.

IV Malicious burning or attempt to burn. the dwelling house of Kate Wogan. small farmer. on 20 Dec. Quite close to the previous case. & evidently done by the same man. It was also discovered at once & extinguished

V. Malicious burning of 12 tons of hay the property of a small farmer named Charles Donohue no compensation claimed. as he was late in doing so. This occurred same night as No II and is situated within 1/2 mile of Long. farm -

VI Malicious burning of two Cocks of hay on 24th Dec. property of Nicholas Plunkett near Garristown Compensation £60 has been claimed - This is supposed to have been done by the same person as committed Nos III and IV -

III. Murder of Marilla Walsh on 17th Dec.

Deceased lived in a small cottage and was supposed to have been accidentally shot by a pistol belonging to her son in law Michael Walsh. - Walsh has been returned for trial on the Capital charge -

III

A few labourers on strike were evicted from their cottages by the owners, as they refused to return to work. No excitement was caused by the evictions. However the bailiff had to be protected and the evictions will tend to increase the bad feeling between the farmers and the labourers - There is no combination against the payment of rent and generally speaking the relations between landlords and tenants is good

IV

The following Organisation exist in the Co for political and other purposes - The branches of the A.O.H and U.I.L are fairly well organised but none of them have been active recently. The organisers of the Irish Transport Union have been fairly active. They held some meetings during the month to try and keep the strike going and encourage the labourers to hold out -

A.O.H. Fourteen Branches

U.I.L. Twelve do

Labour League. Five do

Gaelic League Six do.

Irish Remanti. Two -

Irish N. Boy Scouts. Three branches

National Council (Dinnin Glen) one.

V There has been no actual boycotting or
intimidation. but there has been some petty
intimidation arising out of the strike. but
owing to the presence of the police this has
been frustrated. As all farmers, and labourers
who have returned to work and other unpopular
persons are being closely protected and watched
by the police -

VI The farmers in this Co. are nearly all well to do.
A large number belong to the Ind Farmers
Protection Association, and will not employ any
labourers belonging to Larkin's Union -
Free labourers have been imported in different
parts of the County in strong numbers and
are located in farm houses under police
protection -

Reginald Heare
CJ

The Insp General