

**THE IRISH CASE
BEFORE THE COURT
OF PUBLIC OPINION**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649542789

The Irish Case Before the Court of Public Opinion by P. Whitwell Wilson

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

P. WHITWELL WILSON

**THE IRISH CASE
BEFORE THE COURT
OF PUBLIC OPINION**



-From The New York Tribune

"NO EUROPEAN ENTANGLEMENTS"

THE IRISH CASE

Before the Court of
Public Opinion

BY *C.C.*
P. WHITWELL WILSON
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT OF
THE LONDON DAILY NEWS



NEW YORK CHICAGO
Fleming H. Revell Company
LONDON AND EDINBURGH

{ 1920 }
FLEMING H. REVELL COMPANY
LONDON

FOREWORD

THIS book has been written at the urgent request of numerous American Citizens who have heard me speak upon Ireland. Numbers of these American Citizens tell me that they want to know the facts about Ireland but do not know where to find them. And they ask me why I do not write the facts for the press in the United States. I tell them that I was asked to do this by a leading agency and that in response I supplied the material, with figures and statistics. The agency circulated the articles, and if only a few journals printed what I had to say, I can scarcely be blamed for that!

I happened to call on an editor and saw my work reposing in his waste paper basket. We had a hearty laugh over the matter and he explained to me that the best plan at these political seasons is to leave the Irish severely alone. The whole business was simply politics

87.20

and the less said about it the better. I am sure that my friend was wholly sincere in his desire for good relations between his country and mine, but of course his theory means in effect that much may be said against Britain without being answered. To give my editorial friend his due, I must add that his practice has been often broader minded than his preaching. But the Ulster Deputation, when over here, left with a sense that they had not been given a full hearing in print. I do not know whether they were right or wrong. One New York daily gave them a good half page in the Sunday Edition and there were doubtless others. But their general complaint is on record. On the other hand, I have just had in my office a Sinn Feiner, a most delightful personal friend, who says that the newspapers are very unfair to De Valera, mentioning him as little as possible! He felt this to be a distinct grievance.

One little incident may perhaps be worth recalling. During the War, the American Y. M. C. A. issued a book or pamphlet for the American Army telling the troops what had

been accomplished by the British Forces. The object was, I take it, to help the soldiers to realise the situation in Britain where many of them would be stationed. In crossing the Atlantic in a boat full of "Y" workers, I was asked to give addresses on the same lines, as few of these crusaders had ever seen Europe. What happened? An attempt was made by direct appeal to Mr. Newton D. Baker to have the book suppressed by military order. In a letter to the State Department, Mr. Joseph C. Pelletier, District Attorney of Boston, makes onslaught on Dr. John R. Mott and compliments my own country in this vivacious fashion:

Your Honor—that is Mr. Baker—knows full well the interpretation which our Doughboys gave the initials "A. E. F."—"After England Failed."

Again:

God preserve us from England's treatment of labour, of the poor, of the sick.

Again:

We need no French, no English, no Italian propaganda to stimulate us to just regard for your European brethren. The American people want facts:

This, I confess, interested me very much. Anything a Frenchman or an Italian or an Englishman may say in the United States is "propaganda." But anything about the Irish Republic is "facts."

This monopoly claimed for anti-British writing is of course repudiated with indignation by the more reputable journals throughout the United States. It is, however, sufficiently serious to warrant a word of genial warning before things drift any further. This morning, I have cabled to Britain the information contained in the following announcement:

ASKS PRESIDENT TO RECEIVE
IRISH ENVOY

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 6.—Representative James A. Hammill of New Jersey offered

to-day in the House of Representatives a joint resolution seeking to have Congress "suggest" to President Wilson that he refuse to receive Sir Auckland Geddes as "Ireland's diplomatic representative." The resolution suggests that the President receive, instead, Dr. Patrick McCarton, "the Minister named by the duly elected Government of the Republic of Ireland." No action was taken on the resolution, which was referred to committee. The Hammill resolution read:

"Whereas, Sir Auckland Geddes is about to present his credentials as Ambassador from Great Britain and Ireland to the United States; and,

"Whereas, the President of the United States, in Paris, on January 20, 1919, said, 'we are here to see that every people shall govern themselves, not as we wish, but as they wish'; and,

"Whereas, the people of Ireland, in December, 1918, by a vote of 3 to 1, elected to live under a republican form of government; and,