

# WAR NEWS

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TO OUR READERS.

At this time, when after an interval of sixteen years the destiny of the Irish Nation is once more being decided in arms, it is more than ever necessary that the Irish people should have full and free information as to the events that are taking place and the reasons for these events. Were the present struggle to be carried on, as former ones have been, in their midst, the truth could not be concealed from the Irish people, but this time the scene of operations is entirely outside Ireland, and all operations are being carried out in enemy territory. Under such conditions the truth is easily concealed.

The present Free State Government have not failed to realise what will be the reactions of the Irish people to the true state of affairs at the present time, and so they have taken careful measures to prevent the truth reaching them. The provisions in their latest coercion act provide for a control of the press even more stringent than any imposed under British or previous Free State regimes.

Hence the impossibility of asking any printer to endanger his whole plant by printing this paper, and the form in which we are consequently compelled to produce it. Hence also the impossibility of placing it on sale publicly and the necessity for free distribution.

To counteract this attempt to prevent the truth reaching you, and this denial of your right freely to form your own opinion, we ask you, when you have read this paper, neither to keep it yourself nor to throw it away, but to pass it on to someone else who, but for you, would be denied information essential to that right of forming his own opinion which is the very essence of democracy.

"PROTECTION FOR THE BRITISH"

A British judge, sentencing Mrs. Mary Furlong, aged 77 years, to three years imprisonment said "I could wish I did not have someone of your age to deal with, but the public must be protected". The judge has shown up the panic of the British cowards when they regard even a woman of 77 years as a danger to them.

At the same time Martin Clarke and Lawrence Dunlea were sentenced to 20 years each. It is easy enough to sentence a man to 20 years, but to make the sentence effective a crumbling and degenerate Empire must last 20 years. That is quite another matter.

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B O M B S !!

It will be well in the first issue of this paper briefly to make clear the position in England and the reasons for the activity being carried on there.

Sufficient reason to justify the carrying on of the war in England can be given in a very few words -- THE OCCUPATION BY ARMED BRITISH FORCES OF PART OF THE TERRITORY OF THIS NATION AND THEIR CLAIM THAT THIS COUNTRY IS PART OF THEIR EMPIRE AND THAT THEIR KING IS KING OF IRELAND.

As long as this occupation of our territory continues, and as long as Ireland suffers any connection with the British Empire, the justification for acts of war against England clearly exists. It is simply another phase of the war started by the British themselves years ago by their first invasion of Ireland, and which will end only by the complete withdrawal of British force, institutions and interference from this country. Until then, it is merely a matter of tactics as to what moment armed action against the British is advisable.

WHO IS THE AGGRESSOR?

We have said that the justification exists --- but in this connection a little further clear thinking is needed. It has been and is frequently suggested that the questions at issue with England should be settled by negotiation and that force should not be used till negotiations have failed. Apart from the fact that they have failed, there is a possibility for debate as to the justification for the use of force in the first instance but THE ONLY REPLY TO FORCE IS FORCE. A rifle represents force whether a shot is fired out of it or not. The Six Counties are held by the rifles of the British Army and the revolvers of the British police and B specials.

So clearly the use of force by Ireland to reply to British force is justified. It is a matter of tactics as to the right moment for its use. In this connection two things must be considered -- what would happen if action were not taken, and what are the chances of success of the action that is being taken.

IF ACTION WERE NOT TAKEN.

For 15 years action has not been taken. Throughout all this time the English have further strengthened their grip on this country. They have shown no signs of willingness to evacuate our territory. They have continually strengthened their hold on our financial and economic life. They have allowed certain of the external signs of dependence to be removed simply because they know that thereby the Irish people would be lulled into a sense of security that would permit them to strengthen their grip on more essential things. There is no doubt that this process would have continued to follow the same path.

Recently the English have felt acutely the insecurity of their international position. This has forced them to take a somewhat different view of Irish questions. Irish support in case of war would be invaluable to them. Though they have outwardly maintained the same attitude in regard to partition there are signs that this attitude might be suddenly changed. It is possible they might soon consent to withdraw from the Six Counties, BUT ONLY ON CONDITIONS WORTHWHILE TO THEMSELVES.

They may offer the Six Counties to the Free State Government on condition of receiving Irish support in case of war, and Ireland remaining in the Empire. This is the object of much of the Anti-Partition propaganda now being carried on. It must not be allowed



to happen. IRELAND MUST NOT BE INVOLVED IN ANY WAR TO SAVE THE BRITISH EMPIRE. The British must abandon all pretended rights in Ireland.

During the past 18 months the shadow of war has seldom been lifted from Europe. At this time British propagandists tell us that our only friend is England, and that England's enemies are our enemies. It is indeed a strange form of friendship to occupy our territory. It is strange that the same people do not follow their argument to its logical conclusion and say that Germany is the only friend of Czecho-Slovakia. Ireland must be kept clear of the coming war. OUR ONLY ENEMY IS ENGLAND. WE HAVE NO QUARREL WITH ANY OTHER COUNTRY.

But we are told our neutrality will not be respected. We will be attacked if we supply food to England. But no power fighting England will attack us if they see England embarrassed by our Expeditionary Force. One explosion in England will do more to protect Dublin than all the Air Raid Precautions of the Free State Government.

### CHANCES OF SUCCESS.

Our only enemy is England and no action taken in Ireland can secure any real success against England, because what happens in Ireland does not seriously affect the British. Any action that is to bring results must take place in England, where its effects will be felt by the enemy. The Clerkenwell explosion paved the way for the Land War. It was only when the I.R.A. in 1921 carried the war into English territory that the British Government asked for a truce, and in 1921 Britain had just won a world war. If a victorious Britain in 1921 could not stand up against these tactics, what chance has Britain of 1939, after 18 more years of increasing degeneracy, and now facing a far more terrible world war, a war in which defeat is probable and economic collapse is certain, no matter who wins.

In future issues of this paper detailed information will be given as to the carrying on of the campaign in England and the successes obtained. Now we have space only for a few brief words on the situation in general.

The damage caused, together with the cost of the precautions the British are obliged to take, already runs into tens of millions of pounds, and even more important than this is the effect on the morale of the British Nation. It must be remembered that warfare on this scale has not been known on English territory for over 200 years. An explosion in Ireland would have relatively little effect, because the Irish people are used to such things, but in England its effects are ten times greater. The English have read of such things happening in Ireland or Palestine, but till the last six months they would never even have been able to imagine that such things would be possible in England itself.

In the start of the campaign, due to the relative inexperience of the Volunteers operating in a strange country, many operations were only partially successful, and many men were captured. But the reverse is the case now. The campaign is increasingly successful. And as our successes have increased in number, the number of arrests the English police have been able to make has diminished in proportion.

The continued existence of the Irish Nation is at stake in this campaign. It can have only one end---VICTORY. Till that victory is achieved it must and will be carried on. How long it will take depends on the Irish people themselves.

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## INSIDE THE GAOLS

During all the last 150 years the fight for Irish Freedom has been carried on inside British Gaols as well as outside their walls.

In the history of the Fenians there is no more inspiring chapter than the indomitable resistance of O'Donovan Rossa to every torture his gaolers could devise, tortures that showed the powerlessness of the whole might of Empire to break the spirit of one true Irishman. After the release of Rossa and his comrades, the same heroic struggle was carried on by Tom Clarke and the dynamiters sentenced for the same acts as the I.R.A. men to-day.

In more recent times the same fight has continued. In 1919 Austin Stack kept the tricolour flying over Crumlin Road Gaol in the heart of the Orange Quarter of Belfast. Still the tradition has been unbroken, through the historic hunger strike of Mountjoy, the tragic death of Sean Glynn in Arbour Hill, yet never has this struggle reached such a height of success as in English prisons during the last few weeks.

British judges sentencing captured Volunteers to savage terms of imprisonment have paid unwitting tributes to those men when they have varied the sentences by a few months "Because" they have said "it is not advisable that you men should come out of prison together!" Even the British are beginning to learn something. They are realising that all the might of Empire is unable to break the spirit of one Irishman. They have realised that such men as these, even though they might hold them for 20 years, will still be a danger to the Empire at the end of that time. No higher tribute could be paid to the captured Volunteers.

But even these precautions have proved vain. The judges realised that such men would be a danger to the Empire when they would be released, but now we read in the English Press that even in gaol they are a danger to the Empire. The fight in the gaols has been carried on for 150 years as a defensive fight, but the Volunteers of 1939 have turned the tables on their captors. They have taken the offensive even inside the gaols. New "outrages" to take place all over England are being planned, we are told by the British Press, inside Dartmoor.

"Mounted police are patrolling Dartmoor night and day following the discovery of the plot, planned inside the jail, for a new I.R.A. wave of terror... Warders have known for some weeks that trouble would take place at Dartmoor through the I.R.A. element but their closest watching has failed to discover the plot".

And it is not merely inside the prison that this trouble is to take place Superintendent Smith, in whose division Dartmoor Prison comes, said yesterday "Every precaution is and has been taken to prevent acts of terrorism at Princetown. The public may rest assured that everything possible is being done".

Yes, everything possible is being done. "Everything possible" has been being done and the public has been "resting assured" with monotonous regularity every week since the first explosions, and explosions have continued with increasing success. "Everything possible" has shown that it is not possible for the might of Britain to defeat the I.R.A.

And now all the might of Britain is not sufficient to control a handful of prisoners in Dartmoor. Even inside prison these men are still a danger to the Empire. The seed sowed by O'Donovan Rossa and Tom Clarke has not failed to bring forth fruit a hundredfold.



But while these men, even from the depths of British Gaols are spreading panic among the English, many of them have wives or children, fathers or mothers, dependant on them. Those men who, even from their prison cells strike terror into the heart of a craven Empire, have trusted the Irish Nation to accept those responsibilities they are prevented from fulfilling. Those men are fighting for you. It must not be said that the Irish Nation failed to support the dependants of those fighting its battles. As long as any dependant of any prisoner is in want, no Irishman or Irishwoman can escape their share of the responsibility. Remember that if there is one dependant in want YOU are responsible if you are able to help and fail to do so.

Send your subscription at once, however small it may be, to the Irish Republican Prisoners Dependants Fund, or get in touch with your local Committee.

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### REACTIONS IN IRELAND

The most important immediate result of the English campaign is not merely the damage which is being done to English property, nor even the world-wide publicity which is being accorded to Ireland's struggle against the British Empire.

Something still more important is happening in our own country, though perhaps the full effects have not yet become apparent. Our minds have been raised from the level of passports, presidents, pensions and all the other smoke screens with which opportunists have attempted to obscure the national ideal. The issue has now become as clear as it was in '48 or 1916.

Nobody realises this better than the politicians. The latest Coercion Act has been framed with the same purpose as all its predecessors, but in addition its sponsors have deliberately set out to ensure that the Irish people will be kept in ignorance of the war which is going on in England for they know that publicity must inevitably rally public opinion behind the policy of the I.R.A.

But the urge for freedom is older and more powerful than newspapers or propaganda, and when the present day coercionists are forgotten, or remembered only with bitterness the Republican soldiers who to-day lie in England's gaols will be the proudest memory of this generation.

They represent something more important than any majority or political party; they are the living successors of all the patriots who fought against England or were imprisoned by her -- they represent the Ireland of Tone and Mitchel, Pearse and Brugha, the Irishmen of whose history every Irishman is proud, and they alone at the present day are entitled to speak for her.

Every Irishman can do his share in this struggle by giving support to the Irish Republican Army at home and its Expeditionary Force in England. Already many have listened to the voices which from the dock of English Courts have promised that as long as there is one Irishman to step into the breach, the struggle will be carried on. Already recruits are flocking in and many old soldiers of the Republic have returned to their allegiance.

It is an opportunity which only comes once in a generation and it will be the last, for this fight will not be abandoned till the terms of the Republican Government's Ultimatum have been accepted in full.

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## S A V A G E S

At Birmingham on July 14th, Mrs. Mary Ann Furlong was sentenced by a British judge to THREE YEARS imprisonment on a charge of conspiracy and possession of explosives. At the same time her two daughters were sentenced to three and five years, and Martin Clarke to 20 years penal servitude.

MRS. FURLONG is aged 77 years. Not a single shred of evidence was produced to connect her with the explosives found in the house, for which Martin Clarke took full responsibility.

It is no new thing for the British to attack women and children. Respect for age or weakness is a thing that has always been unknown to these savages. Ireland has good reason to know this. Even within living memory we have had the opportunity to observe the conduct of British cowards in the Land War and from the Black and Tans.

But the contrast between the sadistic English judge and jury satisfying their hatred and crying to relieve their terror by passing what is practically equivalent to a sentence of death on an innocent and defenceless old Irishwoman, and Irishmen, who in the face of a certain sentence of 20 years if caught, expose themselves to additional danger in taking precautions to safeguard English lives is the old contrast between British savagery and Irish civilisation.

In spite of all the provocation received, only one English life has been lost in over 150 explosions, though the policy of avoiding risk to life has rendered operations far more difficult. Such a policy is doubtless incomprehensible to the English, who have never troubled about any lives but their own.

But if they continue to behave as savages it will be necessary for the I.R.A. to adopt methods that even savages will understand.

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## WHO OWNS IRELAND?

When the Army Council of the Irish Republican Army issued its ultimatum to the British Government last January, demanding the withdrawal of British Forces and institutions from this country and threatening military action against Britain should they fail to comply with the demands of the I.R.A., the Army Council had a definite end in view. It wished to undo the British Conquest in its three phases, Political, Cultural and Economic.

Other articles in this paper have referred to the damage done to national prestige and sovereignty by the political and cultural phases of the Conquest. It remains for this article to point out to the Irish people the damage and havoc that has been wrought in our economic structure by the financial and industrial links which bind us to the British Empire.

## BRITISH CAPITALISM.

In the space at our disposal it would be absolutely impossible to give a complete survey of the economic ills resulting to this country from the economic control of Britain. All we can hope to do in one article is to point out how the wealth of this nation is being utilised by British Capitalists for the enrichment of the British Empire, the net results to Ireland being poverty, low marriage rate, emigration, unemployment, underproduction, badly run social services, and biggest of all evils, our urban and rural slums.



First and foremost, ~~our~~ currency is likened to British Sterling and our banks controlled by the Bank of England. Thus is our whole economic life depending on a foreign money market. Under such conditions development of native industries becomes farcical and the man in the street can see for himself that these industries that have been set up have been financed by British capitalists in the main, who behind a tariff wall (to protect "Irish" industries) are accumulating huge profits which are exported to the detriment of the national life.

In some future issue of this paper we hope to give lists of the Directors of the concerns mentioned above and to show that they are also directors of British Companies, and to show also that their profits (made in Ireland) are invested abroad in British and Indian securities.

WHO SHALL OWN IRELAND?

We have asked the question "Who owns Ireland"? and unfortunately the facts answer and tell us -- not the Irish people, certainly not Tone's "men of no property", but the new rich of a puppet state who have dared to link the destinies of this nation to those of the bloodiest Empire the world has seen. Later on, we shall prove this in detail, but in the meantime we want the Irish people to understand that when a bomb explodes in Piccadilly or Manchester it is a step towards making it possible for a government to function here that will restore the Irish people to the ownership of Ireland and end poverty in this land of plenty.

YOUR DUTY

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