

SINN FEIN HEADQUARTERS, 23 SUFFOLK STREET.

# DAILY SHEET.

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## The Hunger-Strikers.

Certain politicians and writers in the papers pretend that the hunger-strike is a political expedient—that the Republican prisoners are exploited by their leaders, and are prepared to suffer death, in order to injure their political enemies. This monstrous assumption is repudiated by the prisoners themselves, who say they were driven to hunger-strike for release because of the brutal and degrading treatment that they were subjected to at the hands of their jailers, until they could endure it no longer. Their sole purpose in continuing the hunger-strike is to gain their liberty without sacrificing their honour.

### NEWS FROM THE JAILS AND CAMPS.

N. D. Union.—The eight girls here are on their 30th day. Miss Bohan, Sligo, is dangerously ill—complications having set in. Miss Maeve Phelan and Miss Lily Dunne are very emaciated. The other five women are very weak.

Kilmainham.—Prisoners here are on their 41st day, and are all in grave danger. The following are the most serious cases:—E. O'Malley, T.D.; Sean Buckley, T.D.; Dr. McCarvill, T.D.; Austin Stack, T.D.; Eamonn Donnelly, Frank Gallagher. The Mayor of Limerick is now too weak to drink water.

Mountjoy.—The prisoners here are also on their 41st day, and all are very worn. Those seriously ill are: Andy Sullivan, Mallow; Sean Forde, Dan O'Donnell, ——— Murphy, Cork; P. Mullins, Kinsale; Dominick Benson, the two Keenas from Offaly, and the two young O'Toole's from Longford. P. Morrissey, Dublin, was removed on his 37th day of hunger-strike, to St. Bricin's Hospital, for an operation. When in the Curragh some fifteen months ago, he asked to be sent to hospital for the same operation, but instead was brought to Mountjoy. His condition is critical.

Dundalk.—John Molloy, Westmeath, is seriously ill. The following are also very bad:—P. Smyth, T.D., Thomas Magee, Monaghan; John Rogers, Frank Marmion, Patrick Oates, Luke Rock.

Tintown 2.—Michael Wylie, Waterford; Michael Kennedy, Killaloe; Joe Considine—condition grave. B. Walsh, Sean O'Twomey, Cork, are also seriously ill.

Tintown 3.—Brian O'Higgins, T.D.; Dr. Ryan, T.D., Jack Fitzgerald, and Frank Scully, Dublin; are the worst.

Newbridge.—T. Cloone, D. O'Moore, Dublin; Denis Mulcahy, Sligo; L. Breen, Tipperary; T. O'Donoghue, T.D.; P. Ryan, T.D.; are all reported bad. The following wire was received to-day by Mrs. Mulcahy:—"You are advised that Denis Mulcahy is dangerously ill at Newbridge Internment Camp. Should you wish to visit him, facilities will be granted on personal application to the Governor of the Camp.—Ministry of Defence."

### DENIS MULCAHY.

The wife of Denis Mulcahy visited him to-day in Newbridge Camp. She found him very much wasted.

This man, taken from his wife and little children in July, 1922, was brought to Sligo Jail, and there subjected to the same conditions as his comrades: bedding dirty and verminous, five men in a cell, their exercise ground being an enclosed store. From this jail he was transferred to Athlone in September, 1922, where conditions were equally bad, as a result of which he was laid up for four weeks. During this period his release was signed by the Free State Commandant in charge, Sean McKeon. It was then deferred and subsequently cancelled.

In September, 1923, he was brought to Kilmainham, and from there to Newbridge.

Denis Mulcahy has given consistent national service to his country. His life has been spent in arduous work for Ireland. And now he lies suffering in a cold hut in Newbridge Internment Camp, but with courage and fortitude awaiting the end.

### GEORGE CONNOLLY.

Go nDeunfaidh Dia Trocaire ar a Anam.

Volunteer George Connolly died in the Hospice for the Dying, on the 20th instant. He, and two of his brothers, were arrested in Kells last February, and were imprisoned in Dundalk Jail. While there, George got a chill, and was two months laid up, receiving very poor medical attention.

He was transferred in the middle of September to St. Bricin's Hospital, and from there was moved in the first week of October to the Hospice, where a little more than a month afterwards he died.

This is the second prisoner dead within the last ten days as a result of illness incurred during their imprisonment.

In neither case did it occur to the Free State medical authorities to move their patients to civilian hospitals and allow them human care. In poor George Connolly's case they waited until he was beyond medical aid to send him out to die.

Bishop Colohan's remark in July, that the Free State Government could have filled the graveyards, instead of the jails was a trifle previous. In this respect they did all they could with the men outside. The 94 murders make a very big total. Now they are turning their attention to the victims within the jails.

### TRALEE.

We have received the following wire:

"Th hunger-strike here is off from midnight (Monday). Release guaranteed.

### COUNTESS MARKIEVICZ, T.D.

Countess Markievicz has been moved from the Bridewell to an unknown destination for internment. She was arrested on Monday evening by three armed men in civilian clothing. They alleged no reason for their action, nor has she been charged with any offence.



She was addressing her own constituents in St. Patrick's Division on behalf of the hunger-strikers. It is an amazing thing that her action could be called unlawful. The obvious reason for her arrest is that she was giving publicity to the hunger-strike in a very efficient manner. She was doing this through the city to the man in the street, with whom Madame is very popular.

If the Free State Government wished to apprehend her as a Republican leader, as the "Freeman" poster stated this morning, why did they not do so before?

Their real reason is that above stated, viz., the publicity which was being thrown by this lady on the ill-treatment of the prisoners, as a result of which they were compelled to hunger-strike.

The people's wishes seem to be entirely ignored by the Free State Government when they can arrest with impunity one of their representatives without cause and detain her without charge. Madame was elected by a larger majority than many of the Free State T.D.'s.

The Press dismisses the fact of her arrest without comment; even the police refuse to tell of her whereabouts.

## THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

### THE PLEBISCITE.

OLD COURT (Co. Wexford).—330 have signed.

BRIDGETOWN (Co. Wexford).—640 signatures.

KILLANE and district.—580.

STILLORGAN (Co. Dublin).—264.

Parish of Corra na Mona, Ross district, Co. Galway.—608.

BALLINA (Co. Tipperary).—449.

TARBERT.—679 signed; 21 refused.

Districts of Ardoughton, Bedford, Ballyduff, Dery and Parish of Causeway and Ballyduff.—813.

ATHENRY.—600.

Parishes of Ross and Ardane, Clonbur (Co. Galway).—450; 5 refused.

GORT.—270.

LISTOWEL.—1,000.

RUSKEY (Co. Cork).—358.

COLLOONEY.—406 signed; 10 refusals—proceeding.

LONGFORD.—937 have signed; 10 refusals.

EAST KERRY.—16,292 have signed.

CLONMEL.—2,800 have signed, including the Mayor and three members of the Corporation, President of local Union, two members of P.L.G., and the Town Clerk. Canon Leslie, Protestant Rector, has also signed—proceeding.

GALWAY.—10,000. No one refused so far. Proceeding.

### RESOLUTIONS.

Ballaghaderreen Union of Distributive Workers and Clerks emphatically demand release of all political prisoners and call on their Executive to do likewise.

### MRS. J. RYAN REPUDIATES MR. MULCAHY'S STATEMENT.

In yesterday's Free State Parliament the Minister of Defence makes a characteristically false statement with a view to getting the people of the country to believe that the present hunger-strike was forced on the prisoners by "those outside" whom he is careful not to specify. The strike was forced on the men by the tyranny of the Free State Government and not by any other.

My husband, Dr. Jim Ryan, T.D., representing 10,307 Republicans in the County of Wexford, now on his 35th day's fast, in a letter to me written on September 15th, says:—

"It is not our intention to remain here indefinitely without some protest. Alive or dead I hope to be away from here before another two months have passed away." Later he says:

"It will be all over in a few weeks, and we shall have ended the most humiliating and most irksome term of imprisonment that spiteful brains could invent."

When I mentioned in a recent letter that well-meaning sympathisers were anxious to approach the Republican Government and get them to order the prisoners off hunger-strike so as to save their lives, Dr. Ryan answered that they (Republican Headquarters) should not interfere, adding, "I don't believe H.Q. will call it off nor would I think it advisable."

I speak for one man definitely, but from what he has told me of the attitude of the other men now on strike with him, I have very little hesitation in saying that the men inside are not "filled with dismay" at the situation in which they now find themselves of their own free will. Such extracts as

"Our number (in Tintown 3) seem to be very cheerful and more optimistic than ever."

"We are definitely settled down to a fight to a finish . . . we have suffered too much now not to see it through. I have reconciled myself to death if necessary. . . . Brian O'Higgins is very bad . . . he is very cheerful. . . . If we die we are getting a great opportunity to prepare. . . . Everybody is in great form, delighted to end this imprisonment somehow. . . ."  
go to show that the men are not in the state of depression and panic in which Mr. Mulcahy would fain have them.

I think all fair-minded people will agree that the prisoners and their relatives know better than any others why they are on strike, and it will not be superfluous to repeat that it is because six months after the Republicans had faithfully obeyed the order to cease fighting they find themselves not only still imprisoned but with new outrages and indignities being forced on them, culminating in an attempt to reduce their status to that of common criminals. This was the last straw, and they seized the only weapon they could use under the circumstances—a Hunger Strike—and are using it.

Until they get some definite promise of a speedy release they will continue to use it.

MAIRIN BEAN Uí RIAIN,

28 Harcourt Street.