

STOP PRESS WAR NEWS. No.10.

THURSDAY, JULY 6th, 1922. SEVENTH YEAR OF THE REPUBLIC

THE SPIRIT OF CATHAL BRUGHA

Cathal Brugha's glorious rush into the jaws of death will live in Irish History, symbolic of the untamed spirit of the race in its unceasing struggle for freedom. Just as he fell in Easter Week, riddled with wounds but unsubdued, fighting for a Republic born in blood and fire, so six years later he falls again unsubdued, in defence of the Republic he helped to erect on foundations as strong as his own dauntless spirit. Nor will the Irish people ever forget the heroic devotion of Terence MacSwiney's widow and Kevin Barry's sister in remaining to the end in the flaming shell of O'Connell St. position. All that is noblest in Ireland will respond to these high examples. The spirit of Brugha is the spirit which will be decisive in this struggle, and God forgive those who in forgetfulness of the past and blindness to the present will seek in prolonging it to attain the craven aim and the futile aim of binding Ireland by an oath of allegiance to a foreign Empire. Tens of thousands of Brughas will never submit, and all Churchill's guns will never make them submit.

An Apology to the Civic Guard.

We accept the official denial of our statement that civic guard were employed at Mountjoy Prison in the brutal ill-usage of our prisoners of war. We should have said Free State Soldiers. There is no denial of the fact that the Warders struck, and that armed troops were substituted for work too repulsive for the warders. It was a Free State Soldier who shot Tutty in the corridor. Our statement is officially described as a "deliberate falsehood," as if it mattered what uniform these armed jailers wore.

A MESSAGE FROM RAMON DE VALERA
TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

The danger to Ireland which I feared most, and which I warned our people of - Civil War - has come upon us. The soldiers of the Army of the Republic have been attacked by the forces of the Provisional Government at the instigation of English politicians, who wanted an immediate set-off to the shooting of Sir Henry Wilson, in order to avert from themselves the political consequences which they feared.

The political pact between Irish parties which had ensured peaceful elections, which could have secured the unity of the Irish Army, and which was the only hope of maintaining peace, was ordered to be torn up, although this pact had been ratified by the National Assembly (Dail Eireann) and by the National Convention of Sinn Feil.

Dail Eireann has not been allowed to meet, and the Provisional Government, relying on English powers, has unconstitutionally assumed a military dictatorship, and with English big guns, English armoured cars, English ammunition, and English methods of Press censorship and false propaganda, has made war on the voluntary soldiers of Ireland who are simply keeping their oath to the Republic and preventing the sovereign independence of their country from being surrendered.

The Irish people want a Republic; they do not want an English King as their King, or an English Governor-General or English Privy Council as legal supervisors. Under threat of renewal of an infamous war many of our people have been induced to give an appearance of submission, but there are men and women who will not submit and who will never pretend to give an allegiance which it is not their intention to render, and all those to-day send their felicitations to the great Republic of America, and their greetings to the descendants of those whose faithfulness to the cause of independence in some of the dark hours that succeeded 1776 won for America the proud position she now enjoys.

RAMON DE VALERA

Dublin, July 4th, 1922.

A FATAL DECISION

We warn the "Provisional Government" that the attempt to treat prisoners of war as criminals under the name of "military captives" will embitter this contest disastrously. The public have read the reply of the prisoners in Mountjoy to Prison Order No. 1 - the dismal precedent in this new Castle regime run by Irishmen - and can judge. They can also judge of the statement upon it in the true Macready spirit issued by the Free State G.H.Q., with its base sneers and innuendos and the one outstanding charge that our men "shot National troops." Shot "anti-National mercenaries" would be truer. But let it be understood that if in this war a soldier defending the Republic who shoots a soldier attacking it is to be regarded as a criminal, then Mr. Mulcahy and his Government will have more to answer for than they realise.

WAR REPORTS

THE DEFENCE OF O'CONNELL STREET

As we go to press full details are still lacking of the defence of the O'Connell St. position. But we know that an heroic resistance was prolonged to the last possible point by a small and dwindling rearguard and that it was only by shelling the salient buildings to pieces and finally by firing the whole block that the last defenders of an untenable post were overcome. Then came the memorable dash of Cathal Brugha single-handed upon the rifles of his foes, and his fall, terribly wounded at their feet, a scene of vivid and eloquent significance in this new war for the subjection of Ireland. And then the capture of Mrs. MacSwiney and Kathleen Barry the last of the brave women of the garrison.

NEWS CENSORED OUT OF THE IRISH PRESS

- (a) That Comdt-Gen. Ernie O'Malley escaped from Smithfield Distillery.
- (b) That in Wexford, Cork, Limerick and Kerry there is not a Free State post left.
- (c) That Comdt. O'Leary Hannigan of Limerick County West and East with all men and equipment has united with the Republican forces.
- (d) That Comdt-Gen. Liam Lynch has resumed his post as Chief of Staff of the I.R.A., with Headquarters at Mallow, and is engaged upon a plan of united action between the Southern, Western and Eastern Divisions.
- (e) That the Republican forces under Brig. Murphy captured Listowel and that after the capture Commandant Kennelly who was in charge joined forces with Brigadier Murphy to fight "the common enemy."

WOMEN SEARCHERS

The Black and Tans had women searchers and the Free State Authorities have already adapted themselves to this form of "Warfare". On the 5th. inst. in Gardiner St. an effort was made to search Gumann na mBan in the public street. One of the Free State Authorities assisting the military operation was Mr. Desmond Fitzgerald, Director of Publicity.