POBLACHT NA h-EIREANN

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Eighth Year of the Republic

Price Twopence

CRESCENDO

"We are ready—ready to suppress ruthlessly It might be necessary to shoot half a hundred individuals, and then order would be restored."

(General Macready in press interview, September, 1920).

"The Government are up against a great conspiracy of crime."

"We have murder by the throat,"

(Lloyd Ge)rge on four occasions).

"We are making very good progress towards quieting our distracted country and making an end of outrage and murder."

(Lord French in April, 1921).

"The last revolver must be picked from the hands of the last assassin."

(Sir Hamar Greenwood in May, 1921).

"It is proposed to take sterner measures in view of the increased outrages in Ireland."

(British Cabinet in May, 1921).

"Lord Birkenhead on June 21st, 1921, asked for more British forces and sterner measures."

"The armed forces opposed to us.....have to be met vigorously."

(Richard Mulcahy on Sept. 12th, 1992).

"The whole military situation is that the work of the Army.....has been done."

(Mulcahy on Sept. 27th, 1922).

"The Government has no alternative but to deal with them drastically."

(Mulcality on January 17th, 1923).

"We are going to use the maximum amount of force....in the minimum time."

· (Hogan on January 17th, 1923).

"They had got past the threat of death stage, and there was nothing left but the actuality of death."

(O'Higgins on January 17th, 1923).

"The Government were up against a great conspiracy of crime."

(Blythe on the same date).

"we cannot economise on the death penalty."

(Cosgrave on January 17th, 1923).

"Mulcahy urgently appeals for more recruits for the Colonial Army."

(January 25th, 1923).

Report from 1st Southern Division

On Monday, the 8th inst, at Lisarqurke, near Newcestown, a Republican Column came into contact with a large enemy raiding party from Ballineen, reinforced by six lorries from Bandon and Dunmanway. At 3.30 p.m. the enemy sleaithily approached the Republicans from three different points, but their efforts to surround them were defeated by the bravery of the I.R.A. flanking parties, who were rushed into position. Desperate fighting ensued, while the main body withdrew across bogs and open country, before superior numbers, to a position near party of F.S. troops, routed them. Enemy casualties:—one wounded.

THE SLIGO FIRE BRIGADE

WHERE IT WAS.

On the 15th inst the Colonial Military Commandat Sligo issued an official report in an attempt to dispel the popular impresssion that on the night of the destruction of the station their troops showed more discretion than valour. If the authors of the report applied to its preparation some of the discretion which keeps them indoors while the Republican Army is about, they might perhaps have spared themselves further ridicule. As it is, the report is too late and too lame.

It states:—

"Small parties of troops from every post were out in the streets 10 minutes after the first explosions were heard. One party reached to goods store in time to save it from destruction and under heavy fire and without the aid of a fire hose or engine, saved an amount of rolling stock."

But the local press correspondents wrote:

"Just about II pm. a band of armed men....marched into the town.... Other bands opened fire on the Courthouse and the Town Hall, where some of the large national garrison are quartered. This move was calculated to divert the attention of the troops from the station and it seems to have been successful, for the men who carried out the work of destruction were unmolested."

"It was nearly 2 o'clock before the firing ceased in the town and by the time that the National troops reached the station the whole place was a roaring furnace."

This was confirmed by a member of the Colonial garrison who, when interviewed by a press correspondent on the 11th inst. said that when the shooting began the garrisons of the various posts "suspected that a coup was contemplated and held themselves in readiness for an attack." But they held themselves too long for "when at last they made their way to the station they were unable to save anything."

The official report then went on to explan that while small parties of troops were out "in the suburbs or the country following up the Irregulars" (who were in the town) other parties of troops were making an effort to discover the Sligo Fire Brigade " which if available, would make the efforts of the Army to fight the fire much more successful."

The report did not add that the Fire Brigade apparatus is kept in the Town Hall, one of the buildings occupied by the troops and that it could have been taken out by them in less than two minutes and Greenhill: Here the I.R.A. forces were brought to the railway station in another eventually mustered, and making a suc- five. The members of the Fire Brigade all cessful counter-attack on the advancing reside in the immediate neighbourhood and, it being Curfew, could all have been "discasualties: - A Sergt.-Major killed, a Lieut. covered 'in their homes and summoned and four other ranks wounded. Republican to the Town Hall within 10 minutes of the alarm.

AMERICAN SUPPORT REPUBLIC

The following resolutions were unanimously adopted at a Mass Meeting of over 10,000 people held at San Francisco, California, on December 10th, 1922, Rev. Peter Yorke, D.D., of San Francisco, presiding:-

RESOLVED that as Americans loyal to the principles of the Declaration of Independer ce and the Constitution of the United States we renew and strenghten our adherence to the doctrine that Ireland is a nation; and has a right to be as free and independent as any nation in the world.

RESOLVLD that we refuse to accept the Free State as a just settlement of Ireland's indefeasible claims and repudiate its so-called constitution as a satisfactory instrument of government, and condemn any Irishman as a traitor to the Irish people who pretends to administer it. That we repudiate the hypocritical claim that the Treaty or the constitution represents the will of the I ish people inasmuch as neither measure was ever presented to the full and free vote of the Irish electorate. That far from being the constitution of a Free State the so-called Irish Constitution, manufactured by the English Cabinet and imposed by the English Parliament, is written within and without with the name of the English King, which name is now as it always has been to the Irish nation the badge of slavery.

RESOLVED that we reaffirm our belief in the essential unity of Ireland, the one Mother of the Irish people, and reprobate the separation of the inhabitants of the Six Counties in Ulster from the rest of their fellow citizens as an English scheme for the perpetuation of religious dissension in Ireland and a fatal obstacle to the normal political development of the Irish Nation.

RESOLVED that we see in the actions of the so-called Provisional Government an ineluctable demonstration of its illegal, un-Irish and inhuman character in its murder of Erskine Childers whose claim to the title of Irishman is through his Irish mother like the claim of Patrick Pearse, and we denounce the atrocious cruelty which sends young men from a secret court to a secret place of execution for the sole crime of defending the Irish Republic, and that we impeach the mutinous officers of the Republican Army and the frithless leaders of the Republican Brotherhood whose support of the so-called treaty under fear of immediate and terrible war brought confusion upon their people, dissention in the state and two wars instead of one upon the Republic.

RESOLVED that we see in the immoral Arms Law, in the imprisonment of women without trial, in the cruelty to prisoners, in the persecution of Republicans, the same shameful instrument of English coercion no longer wielded openly by the Royal Constabulary, but secretly by the Irish mercenaries wearing a fraudulent uniform and fighting under a false flag.

RESOLVED that we acknowledge Eamon de Valera as the President of the Irish Republic, that we bear witness to the manliness, unselfishness and sincerity with which he has upheld the cause of the Republic, faithful where so many were faithless found; and we pledge him and the Irish Republic all the support that we can offer as American citizens and all the aid that our judgment of our circumstances will enable us to give.

