POBLACHT na h-EIREANN WAR NEWS No. 25

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BREAKING-UP.

George Gavan Duffy, signatory to the Treaty, supp rer of the Prcvisional Government, one of the consenting parties to Churchill's war against the Irish people has resigned his post in the Dail Cabinet, declaring that while he is "entirely at one" with the military policy of the "Government" he finds himself profoundly opposed to it on other 'grave and urgent guiltiness of this unnatural war both in preparing the ground for it and participating for a month in its direction; and even now, while he washes his hands of responsibility for its results, giving it a parting benediction. But that any of those engaged in the betrayal of the Republic should sicken of the infamy of this war and endeavour to escape from the popular anthors is at least something. The excuse Mr. Duffy gives for his retirement does not convince us. The which his colleagues are concerned are all part of their military policy which Mr Duffy says he supports if this approval of war was wrung from Mr. Duffy as the price of permission to resign and as an attempt to hide from the nation that the warmakers after a month of useless attempts at victory are profoundly divided against themselves.

Afraid of the Dail.

The Free State cant about the "Will of the People" is being stripped of the last shreds of its sheep's clothing. The Dail is again postponed. "The obstacles to its meeting at present are obvious" says the inspired Press. Obstacles? The Dail of 1919, of 1920, of 1921 allowed no obstacles to stand in its way. It sat in spite of British guns and British spies. But the Dail of 1922 must forsooth hide from "irregulars" who we are told have been "utterly routed" twice a day since June 28th. "The country will endorse this new postponement" adds the tutored Press, even while the Treaty Party at Cork, the leading Free State Churchman in the West,

(Continued on Column 3.)

THE "AMBUSHED" FUNERAL

issues." We do not forget that Mr. Comdt. A. Brennan ordered that no other heavy armament adopt guerilla to pass. The three men refused but, being threatened with death, obeyed and then one of their number, anger which is mounting against its a motor-driver was arrested and his car captured. The car was tied to Comdt. Callanan's car and the party moved off, Having thus presumed on the liberty allowed only "grave and urgent issues" with to the funeral and engaged under cover of the deal in an act of war the armed Free State troops were fired upon. They replied with revolver and ritie but when Coundt. Rooney waa wholeheartedly. It appears to us as killed they surrendered, handing over their arms, the captured car and the prisoner. Meanwhie the cars containng the coffin and the mourners drove on to Gort without any molestation of any kind. This statement by the Free State officer in charge was borne out by the evidence at the inquest, also published in full in the "Connacht Tribune" The Free State forces did not call Capt. Hession as a witness and did everything in their power to cover up the act of war which preceeded the attack upon them. But even their own statements convicted them of the first act of aggression. The dead boy's father swore that the funeral proper was not attacked. At the opening of the inquest the Coroner. refused a request to adjourn so that Republican witnesses might have an opportunity of appearing.

The ¡Castle won the war in the

marched victoriously through the newspapers-only Ireland now remains to be conquered.

A Warning to Free State Optimists.

At last the true account of the Co. Wexford, on July 24th, when "ambu-h" of a Free State funeral at Free State troops lost 2 killed and 7 available. It is published in the pro- "victories" claimed by Free State Treaty "Connacht Tribune" of the G.H.Q. A fortnight ago Wexford 22nd and is contained in a signed was declared to be "under our constatement by Battalion Staff-Captain trol," it had been successfully "clear-P. J. Hession of the Free State Head- ed of Irregulars" who had "fled quarters at Gort who was in charge South." As we pointed out recently of the escort. He declares that Col- the I.R.A. having no artillery or arms be carried by the escort and none tactics, evacuate towns at little or no were. Ent at Cranghwell an armed loss and form themselves into flying Party of F.S. troops under Comdt. columns to attack enemy patrols, es-Callanan attached itself to the funeral costs and lines of communication. and travelled with it through Repub- Killurin is an example of what will lican territory. At Coshla where a happen in scores of other "controlled" considerable party of I.R.A. were and "cleared" areas. The war begun in ambush position Comdt. Callanan by the treacherous bombardment of ordered three unarmed I.R.A. to re- the Four Courts will not end quite so move entirely a barricade which had quickly or so easily as Churchill's' gunmen hoped.

Afraid of the Dail (continued) and Labour, Commerce and Agriculture everywhere are calling upon the Dail Cabinet to convene the Parliament at once! No; there is an entirely different "obstacle" to the meeting of Dail Eireann. It is nothing else than the real Will of the People. The Free State junta which shelled the Four Courts, destroyed O'Connell Street, and is now sending death into every Irish county dare not meet the elected representatives in whose name they pretend to act. Therefore the Second Dail is adjourned sine die and the Third Dail is suppressed. No national authority, no democratic Government, ever before pleaded that times were too dangerous to consult the representatives charged with the safety of the people. But the men who with British help have usurped governmental authority in Ireland despite the people and, if they can help tit, will never consult them. Why should they? Have they not set up a Military Dictatorship to make Ireland safe for Democracy?

WAR ITEMS.

The Press of July 24th reports_ that four Special Constables in plain clothes were arrested at Clones, Co. Monaghan by Free State troops. They declared they had been released from Athlone and produced safenewspapers but lost it in the country. McKeon. They were allowed to proconducts signed by Major-General The Free State forces have ceed to the Six County area to continue the murder of Catholics.

> Mr. Collins war to avoid war is like his "Freedom to get Freedom."

