# POBLACHT NA H-EIREANN

## WAR NEWS No. 54

Thursday, 7th September 1922

Seventh Year of the Republic.

Price Twopence

#### PEACE!

There are rumours of peace pegotiations. The Provisional Government which began this war can have peace tomorrow by calling off the attack upon the IR.A. and respecting the declared independence of Ireland. There can be no peace as long as the attempt is continued to make the Irish Nation an English Colony. The Free State is dead. Let the Free Staters return to the Republic. Peace will follow.

## Befouling Michael Collins' Memory.

The "Irish Times" of Saturday stated that Mr. Hadyn Talbot of the Hearst Press is engaged in writing an 80,000 word life of Michael Collins to be ready in 8 days. For eight months Mr. Talbot has been cabling to U.S.A. anti-Irish propaganda of the vilest kind. He is known even to his fellowjournalists as a man utterly unreliable and unscrupulous and his effort to make money out of Michael Collins' death is a typical example of his character. No reputable writer would belie the dead by turning out illdigested matter at the rate of 10,000 words a day, purporting to describe the life of a man he had seen for less than 48 hours. If Mr. Talbot's "life" is anything like his articles in the London "Sunday Express", which are filled with venomous misrepresentations, we fear for the honour of Michael Collins' memory. At the hands of such a man it will be dragged through any filth that will catch a dollar.

## The Price of Empire.

LAST WEEK'S F.S. LOSSES

During the week ending Sept. 1st the I.R.A. in eighteen counties delivered 118 attacks on F.S. posts, patrols, and barracks and in the engagements which followed the F.S. Press admits 16 enemy troops were killed and 51 wounded. But the real number of casualties is much greater. taken unawares our men attacked. under Gen. O'Duffy, endeavoured to Since the attack on the Four Courts One Lancia car and one lorry got have Dunford buried without an inthe enemy's admitted losses up to through. The driver of the 2nd lorry quest. But the inquest was held September 1st are 156 killed and 566 was hit and his car tumbled into the and a unanimous verdict of murder wounded, a total of 722 in nine ditch and the 2nd Lancia then drove was returned against the troops who weeks.

Yesterday's "Irish Times" says that Mr. Eamon Duggan is about to retire from the F,S, Cabinet. The last of the Treaty signatories!!

## IN SOUTH WEXFORD.

BIG ENGAGEMENTS.

An I.R.A. Official Report dated Aug 28th gives a full account of recent operations in the South Wexford Brigade area. Itshows our troops to be in virtual control of the district where they have the sympathy of the civil population. Frequent cutting of the enemy road and railway communications has been carried out, isolating the garrisons, sometimes for days. Vac. ated R.I.C. barracks, about to be occapied by F.S. troops, were destroyed at Taghmon and Fouksmills and all the rural post-effices raided and the telephones taken. Considerable actions, suppressed or falsely reported in the F.S. press took place from Aug. 17th to Aug. 20th.

On Aug. 17th 8 I.R.A. attacked a F.S. patrol near New Ross. After a brief action enemy reinforcements arrived and the engagement developed into a cross country fight. Several efforts were made by 40 F.S. troops to surround our men but each time they fought their way through and the enemy eventually withdrew.

On Aug. 19th another party of 8 I.R.A. attacked an enemy motor patrol near New Ross. The F.S. troops left their lorries and attempted an out-flanking movement which developed into a fierce engagement at close quarters, our men using hand grenades with deadly effect. After 50 minutes hard fighting, large enemy reinforcements from New Ross appeared and the 8 I.R.A. were compelled to withdraw. No F.S. Official Report was issued but the Press of the 21st described the I.R.A. as being "in large numbers." The enemy casualties were 4 wounded all of whom are reported to have since died. Euemy G.H.Q. has not admitted these casualties.

known.

back for reinforcements to Enniscorthy While O/C Column was taking the surrender of the troops in the damaged lorry the 1st Lancia returned and a stiff engagement lasting 30 minutes followed. The enemy was on the point of

surrender when 80 F.S. troops from Enniscorthy arrived. These were also engaged but, being now in danger of cross-fire, the Column, after 10 minutes further fighting, got clear. The enemy had 9 woundea of which he admitted 4. We lost 1 rifle, a land mine and 2 overcoats, but had no casualties. In a fantastic description of this action the Press stated that 10 F.S. troops were attacked by 200 I.R.A. and in the end having inflicted many casualties gallantly routed them. Needless to say the 2 armoured cars were not mentioned.

## "To the Last Bound."

The Press of Sept. 1st gave a typically false description of the attack on Fenagh, F.S. Barracks, Carlow. According to this account "the little gallant band" of 17 F.S. troops though attacked by 140 I.R.A. armed with Thompson-guns, rifle grenades etc., heroically fought for an hour until all their ammunition was expended and then smashing their rifles walked out of the building. When they saw the serried ranks of their attackers they could only see 20 Carlow men, all the others having been brought specially from Cork to attack them. I his dramatic story was headed by the "Irish Independent" "FOUGHT TO THE LAST ROUND." The facts are: 21 I.R.A. were engaged in the attack, which began at 2 a.m. and concluded at 2.30. No casualties were suffered by the garrison which then surrendered, handing over 17 rifles intact, 1,100 rds. of ammunition and 15 Mills bombs. So much for the "little gallant band", the F.S. Press, and "the last round."

### Fight Clean, Mulcahy!

The murder-gangs are at work in the provinces also. The press of August 30th referred to the 'myster-On the same day a foot patrol of ious' shooting at Limerick of Michael F.S. troops was attacked in New Ross Danford.' The facts are: On Aug. itself but enemy casualties are un- 29th at 6.15 a.m. Vol. Dunford I R.A. was arrested in a raid on his sister's On Aug. 20th the biggest action house by Free State Captain Quinn, yet fought in the area occurred. A ex-British offlicer. Quinn informed flying column of 22 I.R.A. were pre- his sister that he was taking Dunford paring an amoush at Whiteford Hill to Limerick Gaol. Two hours later when a F.S. convoy comprising two Dunford's body was found riddled Lancia armoured-cars, and two ar- with bullets in the opposite direction moured lorries appeared. Though to the Gaol. The F.S. command, arrested Dunford. Gen. Beasley F.S. censor saw to it that the verdict never appeared in the Press. Will Richard Mulcahy's "ideals" stand this test? Capt. Quinn was still at liberty and in control of troops on September 2nd.

