POBLACHT NA h-EIREANN

WAR NEWS NO. 74

Wednesday, 4th October 1922

Seventh Year of the Republic.

Price Twopence

FALSE PEACE

Many staunch Irishmen are striving for a peace of any kind which will lead to the grounding of arms. We also desire peace—a real peace. Europe got a peace in 1918 for which many days of thanksgiving were held. Europe to-day reeks with famine and war and tyranny. Ireland secured a peace in July 1921. Ireland to-day is torn by a fiercer conflict than ever in the past. From the European peace and from ours justice was missing; in both naked force triumphed. The peace-makers now crying "end the war" can likewise secure a few months of deceptive tranquillity. Then the smouldering beacons of independence will again burn fiercely on the hills and young Irishmen, gathering round them, will go once more into battle.

Ireland has a destiny which is not merely a material destiny. It is a mission to teach nations that true greatness is founded on truth and justice and that human liberty can never be destroyed by bloodstained steel or unashamed corruption The fulfilment of that mission resolves itself to-day into the defence of our declared independence. No terms which exclude that independence can be terms of peace. It does not matter what the cost is or what are the results of endurance. The great rebels of the past taught that whether Irishmen could in their own day achieve freedom or not they could and must resist tyranny in their own day and refuse sanction to foreign domination. That is the real road to national liberty and that is the road we are travelling. The foundations of peace shall be found only in a recognition of Ireland's unalterable nationhood and the impossibility of our existence as a subject people. Those who seek a peace other than this ensure unending war.

Mitchel, Smith O'Brien, Martin, O'Doherty McManus, Meagher of the Sword, Kickham, O'Donovan Rossa—all these were deported in the 'ferties and 'sixties. Those who use their names to-day are negotiating with the Empire which deported them for an Island to which to deport us.

The F.S. Press has for three solid months announced a daily capture of many "leaders of the irregulars." Yet the "irregulars" seem pretty well led still.

FOUND OUT: On Sept. 22nd 39 I.R.A. prisoners escaped from Cork Jail. The F.S. Authorities declared that none of them was of any prominence. But in an action on Sept. 29th they claim to have killed Brig.-Gen. Sean O'Donoghue, Acting O/C Cork No. 1 Brigade, who, they add, escaped with the 39 prisoners the previous week. The liar is always found out.

War Items.

The strength of the Republican forces which captured Kenmare with 130 prisoners and all arms and ammunition on Sept. 9th numbered 84 men all told.

The F.S. aeroplane captured and destroyed by I.R.A. at Toames, 2 miles from Macroom, Co. Cork on Sept. 8th carried a Lewis and a Vicar's gun and ammunition which fell into our hands.

At Ballywilliam Co. Tipperary the recent attack on a F.S. patrol in which the enemy admitted 3 killed and 3 wounded was carried out by four members of the I.R.A.

At 11.10 p.m. on Sept. 25th the prisoners in Mountjoy were again fired upon in their cells although no disturbance occurred. One prisoner, Kevin Downey, was wounded in the shoulder.

Justifying the atrocities now being perpetrated on Ghandi's followers in India, Sir William Vincent, one of the British Governors, said at Simla on Sept. 12th:-

"The real issue was whether the Govt. are to discharge their primary duty of protecting individuals or abdicate their functions under threat of force."

Mesars Cosgrave and Mulcahy say this kind of thing five times a day in their "Parliament." Imperial statesmen are the same everywhere: they always crucify the "natives" in the name of liberty.

MORE JAIL ESCAPES: The Press of the 2nd announced that 18 I.R.A. escaped from Templemore Barracks and 9 from Milmount Barracks, Drogheda. The same day F.S. G.H.Q. claimed the capture of 19 'rregulars.' Nett loss of 8 on the day.

MINISTERIAL ADVICE-"No squeamishness" (Mulcahy) "No mawkishness" (Fitzgerald) "No prisoners" (Hogan) "Hand *them up for execution" (Blythe).

Hamar is gone— Welcome Kevin!

Sir Hamar Greenwood ceased to be Chief Secretary for Ireland on Saturday last. He clung to office, in spite of the clamorous outcries of English tax-payers, until events in Ireland proved to him that he could safely leave. Once again Military Courts are in being with power of life and death over the I.R.A., unrestricted even by the presence of the Press. Murder-gangs, identical with his own and in part composed of the same material, are again on the Irish roads. The prisons are full and the graves are filling. Ireland's name has been befouled with a grosser propaganda than his own. Inquests are suppressed. The Castle has been re-established as the fount of "law" and "justice." The Press is controlled. Spies and informers throng the city streets. Coffin-ships are in preparation. The liberty and life of the individual Republican is not worth an hour's pur- Verey cartridge, Two 'First Aid' chase. In these circumstances, says manuals, Some field dressings, One Sir Hamar Greenwood, I can leave signal lamp, One bayonet in scabbard, the work to my excellent successors length of electric cable." As there is Cosgrave, O'Higgins and Blythe no mention of pocket-handkerchiefs, whom I once imprisoned by mistake. the war must go on.

A TIPPERARY ACTION.

PRESS ACCOUNTS AND THE FACTS.

The F.S. Press of Sept. 20th, 21st and 22nd gave 3 separate accounts of an action at Ballinard Co. Tipperary. All were false in vital particulars. The first account stated that F.S. troops, attacked by an I.R.A. column, captured 17 of the column after a stiff fight in which each side lost 2 killed. The second account located the action in a farmhouse, describing a $2\frac{1}{2}$ hour conflict in which 2 I.R.A. were killed and 6 wounded. The 3rd account reported 2 I.R.A. dead and "many wounded" and stated the F.S. casualties were I killed and 4 wounded. In fact the action was a very considerable one. At 8 a.m. on the 18th 30 F.S. troops raided the house of John Hickey, Ballinard, where 3 I.R.A. Officers, Comdts. Allen, Sheehan and Ryan, were resting. The Officers surprised from sleep had barely time to arm themselves when the troops were on them in the room, They attacked, killing one and driving the others out of the house. They then left themselves, mobilised a column of 16 I.R.A. billeted nearby and watched the F.S. troops attacking the empty house with fierce fire for half-an-hour. Then our men attacked from the rear and a big action followed. Reinforcements rushed up from neighbouring towns brought the enemy force to 450 with 2 armoured cars and 6 machine guns. The 19 I.R.A. slowly withdrew to avoid encirclement and for four hours fought across country. One of the 19, Vol. Hanly of Soloheadbeg, was wounded but refusing to surrender fought from the ground until his last round was fired. He was then captured and promptly riddled with bullets and his body thrown into a dyke. Hanly had seen much service against the Black and Tans. This was our only casualty. No prisoners were taken and there were no I.R.A. wounded. The enemy in the whole engagement lost 2 killed and 8 wounded, of which, following his usual practice, he admitted only 50 per cent.

STILL ANOTHER F, S. VICTORY: The F.S. "Army Bulletin" is hard pressed for victories to record. On Monday with all solemnity it published in heavy type the following captures from the I.R.A. in Louth: "One

