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# FRISONERS OF WAR CONDEMNED TO DEATH.

The Goventry Murder Frame up ended on Thursday, Dec. 14th, with the passing of the death sentence by Judge Singleton on two of the 5 Irish people accused on a false charge of murder in connection with the Coventry Explosion, carried out by an I.R.A. Unit, on August 25th. They are James Richards, who se real name is James McCormack of Mullingar and leter Barnes of Offaly.

As the Judge was donning the Black Cap, James Richards declared in calm tones; - "Boforo you pass sontonco, I wish to thank sincerely the gentlemen who defended me during my Trival, and I wish to state that the part I took in these Explosions since I came to England, I have done in a just Cause. I am not afraid to dio, as I am dying in a just and holy Cause. I say in conclusion - God Bloss Ireland and

God Bless the men who have fought and did for her".

Poter Barnes who was sentenced with him said:- "As I am going beforo my God and as I am condomacd to doath, I must say I am innocent. Later I am auro it will all come out that I had neither hand act nor part in it". On Wednesday James Richards in evidence stated that he and another man went into a bicyclo shop in Coventry on August 22nd last to purchase a bicycle. "There; was another men with me" he declared "but I refuse to give his name. It was not Poter Barnes and he is not in this country now".

The sole evidence produced against Barnes and that on which he was convicted was a letter alleged to have been written y him, and which was stated to have contained the following sentence "I go from place to place and bring the S. Be-lieve me it is hard but I got away swell so far". On this flimsy shred of evidence and the highly doubtful identification by a Coventry Cycle No one whether friend or foo Dealer, this young man has been sen- could withold admiration for the identification by a Coventry Cycle tenced to douth, despite his own pro- couragoous bearing of James Richards. testations of innocence, and the

evidence of James Richards that Basics was not the man who accompanied him to the Cycle Shop.

James Richards in evidence de-

clared he was a member of the I.R.A. He also said that the instructions of the I.R.A. were that no lived should be deliberately endangered. He refused to give any information: about the personell of our Expedit-ionally Forces in England. Regard-ing the Bomb, he admitted soing part of a Bomb in the possession of another man but he did not help to make that Bomb.

In answer to the Renegado Irish Crown Prosecutor who asked whether Barnes took the white powdor to the House in Coventry, Richards said: No that is not true I had the white powder and distributed it to any member of the I.R.A. who called for it. Richards added that he came to England as a member of the I.R.A. Expeditionary Forced. He was ordered to go to Coventry, but would not divulge the names of those who instructed him. He did not make the Bomb nor did he know where it was to be set off. He merely supplied the powder. Ho was surprised when he read of the Explosion.

Attorney Sullivan acked. Are you corry for the part you played in the preparation of the Bomb?" Richards answered "I did no pro-paration". "Are you corry now for distributing the chlorato in the consciousness that it was to be used for making a bomb?" James Richards answered "No" The other 3 prisonors, Joseph Howitt, Mrs Mary Howitt and Mrs. Bridget O'Hara, who all denied membership of the I.R.A. were acquitted of the Murder charge. Joseph Hewitt was detained in custody pending the hearing of further chargo's, whilst the two women were later released.

throughout his trial. The calm and dignified manner in which he gave his evidence, devoted almost entirely to the clearing of another man, was in the best traditions of our Race. Before the dread tribunal of his country's foes- on trial for his life - he proudly declared his membership of the I.R.A. although he knew full well that such an admission would sign his death warrant. He expressed no regret for his part in the lorious Fight for Irish Freedom at present being waged on Freeligh soil. And when a Black on English soil. And when a Black Capped Judge had sentenced him to death, there was no trace of fear or faltering in his voice as he proudly declared "As a Soldier of the I.R.A. I am not afraia to die as I am dying in a just Cause. God Bless Ireland and God Bless the men who have fought and died for her":

When a German bomber attacking English cities is shot down, the crew if they come out alive are interned. They are not tried for their actions nor sentenced to death for killing non combatants with their bombs. When English Airmen attack German towns, they do not wait for the civilian population to be evacuated. But an English Kirman taken prisoner is not sentenced to death he is not even tried. This Airman by releasing his bombs may have killed thousands women, children and non combatants + under the watching gaze of a horri- I fied populance, yet he is treated

honourably as a prisoner of war.

Talk to an Englishman of putting such a merson to de th and he will raise his hands in horror at the suggestion. Preposterous! Ridiculour! He simply would not hear of such a thing. Why? Because if German prisoners were put to death in England, English Prisoners in Germany would quickly share their fate. Talk with any Englishman and ask him if armament workers who fill shells with high explosives are responsible for every death those missiles cause. Unless he be a Conscientious Objector he will-answer No! Similarly it would not enter peoples minds to try a prisoner of war on the strength of his being the storekeeper of an explosives factory. In fact this way of thinking would be very quickly condemned by the authorities of both church and state because its implications are so wide spread. Carried to its logical conclusion it would mean that the King of England was liable to stand trial as a murderer for. signing the Declaration of War. Winston Churchill for being Lord Admiral of the Fleet and Cardinal:
Hinsley for inciting the Almighty to
conspire with Churchill and King George against Gern ny. Such

reasoning will be regarded by the man in the street as rather far fotched but it is precisely on this sort of logic that two Irish-men were sentenced to death on December 14th.

The Lawful Government of the, Irish Republic declared War on England last January for the pur-pose of ending British Aggression in Ireland. After 8 months of war, on English soil in which every precaution was taken to prevent unnecessary loss of human life,5 people were killed in an Explosion in Coventry. And 5 Irish people, two women and three men were put on trial for their bives, merely because they were the 5 people with Republican opinions, that Scotland Yard could most conveniontly lay hands on. Two were condermed to die. One James Richards because he was in charge of a store of Explosives from which the bomb was manufactured and admitted buying the carrier cycle, used for the purpose of the explosion, although in neither case was he aware of the exact Tuse to which they would be put. In fact he carried out his orders efficiently and unquestioningly, as every good soldier should. Today, a prisoner of War he faces his death with the same heroic courage as the Manchester Hartyrs whose legal murder in exactly, similar circumstances,75 years ago, sent Ireland into mourning and provided inspiration for the Baster Week Rising of 1916.
In the case of Poter Barnes,

there is not even a bhred of evidence to prove his member ship of the I.H.A. Even if the letter attributed to him and containing the sentence "I go from one place to the other and bring the S" be not a forgery its value as evi-dence is Nil. We can think of a dozen ordinary words beginning with the letter S, which would fit the context. Even assuming the S to stand for "stuff" what does it prove? The answer is no-thing. The criminality of such procedure may be judged by com-parison with the irrational action of a tyrant, who makes a mans life dependant on the solution of a cross-word puzzle.

It is clear, therefore, that Peter Barnes was condemned to death on the evidence of his being an Irishman, of his acquaint-ance with James Richards and on the suspicion that he was a member of the I.R.A. If any one finds it incredible that an English Jury should willingly commit (CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

In the Leinster House Illegal Assembly on Nov. 30th, Mr. Dillon referred to the prospect of a General Election in Jan. 1940, an occurrence the likelihood of which has become increasingly evident during the past two months. The reason why this Election should be regarded as almost inevitably are as follows: - When Cosgrave's Murder Government in 1931 became useless to stem the rising tide of Irish Nationalism, our Imperial Masters found it necessary to divert that current from its Natural task of sweeping away British domination in this country into the more devious channels of constitution and the release of all Political al action through which it could be skilfully directed in such a manner as not to cause harm to Englands. vested interests in Ireland. Cumann na nGaedheal was discarded and Fianna Fail set up in its stead, with a programme for achieving Freedom by Con-stitutional means. After 8 years in Office, the Fianna Fail Government had not only failed to restore the Republic but have actually passed Coercive Measures to retard that achievement. They have behind them. not a record of laudable endeavour towards the goal of a Free United Ireland but a long series of surrenders to Imperial pressure; of legalised exploitation of the plain people and deliberate people and delibera of Ireland, and deliberate neglect to remody the widespread state of unemployment which exists.

The foregoing actions of Fianna Fail togother with the recognition of King George of England, and the jailing of Republicans on orders from Whitehall have been ample proof to those people who have blindly followed de Valera that the winning of Freedom by any other means than force

of arms is a wild goose chase,

The British Government realises that our Expeditionary Forces in der England, are a serious menance to est fear. Why? Because the clique the Empires chances of success in its in whose hands the wealth of England present war against Germany. They is vested it also controls the have, therefore, endeavoured to prevent wealth of Ireland - and not only of controls to their lines of Ireland but also of India, Canada, communication, sources of food supply Australia, NewZealand and many other etc., by such measures as the prevent countries, nominally outside the ion of Violence Act in England the Treason Bill and Offences Against the State Act in Ireland and the estab-lishment of a Passport System between Economic power are nevertheless the two Countries. But Fianna Fail ready to sacrifice such symbols State Act in Ireland and the estabthe two Countries. But Fianna Fail have failed to hold the pass for Britain. Our Expeditionary Forces have demonstrated their capability of ponetrating the Empires Defences, and the War Chiefs of London are well aware of the possibility that we may

paralyse some nerve centre of the Military Machine which would leave them at the mercy of Germany. They also realise that as long as Ireland remains obviously a subject Nation of the British Empire, the I.R.A. will have behind it the moral and material support of the Irish Race. This danger to Britain could be eliminated by the withdrawal of all British troops from Ireland and the renunciation of all claims to vested interests in this country on the part of British Finance. Along with these would go the recognition of the Republic established in 1918 Prisoners held in British jails. But the Oligarchy who rule the British Empire ds not yet willing to abandon its enjoyment of the evil fruits derived from Conquest and the age long exploitation of our Race.

No one realizes better than British Politicians that the purpose of the Conquest of Ireland which was achieved by force was primarily and fundamentally for the despoilation of the Irish Race; Social and class priveleges accrued to those who held the plundered wealth of the country in their hands. The suppression of our native culture, and the taking away of our Political rights were merely a means to an end, viz: - the securing and perpetuation of the economic Conquest. The undoing of this Conquest in all its phases, Political, Economic and Cultural is the object of the I.R.A. The Aim of British Politicians is to prevent Irish public opinion from supporting this Organisation which threatens the West British Ascendancy here, for a United Ireland fighting for the right to own the wealth of this country and to order its economic and social system without outside interference, is Englands greatcountries, nominally outside the British Empire. These people although they naturally prefer to hold the political symbols of their whenever popular clamour for a share in the Government of a country becomes insistent, provided always that such a course was necessary to preserve or extend the Economic Ascendancy of their cast.

Technique has the added advantage of concealing the real seat of power in a country, while deluding the public into a belief that they are free, whereas in point of fact the West Bri. tish Press exercises a direction and control over the Voters of a so called Democracy more rigid than that of any Dictatorship, while the Government they vote into power is at the mercy of those who lond It money for its

schemes. Cosgrave's Murder Gang has boon rejected by the Irish People, do Valera's "New Constitution" is discredited and Sir John Maffey has arrived in Ireland to settle what is known in English circles as the Trish Broblem. Sir John' Labours here are already bearing fruit. Eire mar each! has declared her Neutrality by increas they do to-day - by force. This ing her productions of foodstuffs ex- Alien coteris in Ireland will not clusively for the British Market, and yield their enjoyment of the obligingly blacking out her cities and siloneing Athlone when necessary so that in the words of Mr. Briscoe T.D. "they will hot be a beacon for any German attack on England. Our "Independence" has been further emphasised by the purchase from England of Torpedo Launches to be manned by Amti-Trish Trishmen who will patrol our shores to prevent a chance U. Boat from Anchoring in our bays. Neither the British nor the "Free State "Government have thought fit to mention that these boats will serve the dual purpose of enforcing our highly benevolent and lopsided Neutrality, while at the same time releasing British Battle-ships to help in the starving out of German women and children, at the expense of the Irish Taxpayer. But this is not all. The British and "Free State" Governments have been haggling during the past three months over the terms on which the Six County will be lumped together with the 26 to form a Thirty-Two County hotchpotch Dominion or sham Republic. It is not however, the interests of the Irish people that are causing "Free State" Politicians to drag out these farcical proceedings. Indeed we may take it that the main features of our newest Constitution have already been settled. British interests will be Planter Landlords will represerved. ntain their land. Irish Credit and Irish Industry Will continue in subjection to the policies of British Finance and the Social Ascendancy of Britains Garrison Class will be preserved. For the Irich people next January there may be a Thirty-Two County Puppet State, or the promise of one, but inclusion in the British Empire, unemployment and emigration will be the lot of the Irish Race. It will

be seen, therefore, that the only matters outstanding are the Social status and emoluments of "prec State Politicians and their families

Let the Irish people make no mistake. Let them not be deluded by Fianna Fail or any other "Free State" Party with a false semblance of liberty whether it be 32 County Dominion or sham Ropublic. Let them remember that the British Ascendancy dang in Iroland have won their owner-ship of land and capital by force of Arms. They have never been assi-millated into the Irich Nation but have always gith their Irish Sateblitos formed a separate Nation -the West British Nation in Ireland holding the wast masses of the Is ish people in subjection - a. this country to constitutional pressure - they will yield only to the sword. And if our country and our people would survive, we must apply that sword to broak and Sxpel this Alien Cancer in our midst. Let us remember also that the Ropublic of Ireland was established in 1918 by the unanimous voice of the Irish People. It has not been dis-established in fact it cannot be dis-established by any section of the people whether in the 26 or Sim County Dominions or even in the whole of Ireland. To talk of reestablishing the Republic or winning the Republic is abourd. The Republic of Ireland already exists, and any other Government whatever its name or form is

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illegal. The Ropublican Government through the instrumentality of its lawful Army, the I.R.A., has set itself the task of undoing the Cone quest in all its phases. By that we mean that the British strangle-hold on Ireland must be loosened and the wealth of Ireland redistributed among our people so that every family may possess sufficient property to render it independent nd such control over the means of production as will guarantee a decent livelihood for all. We wish to establish a Gaelic system of Society here, for this purpose the British mind and British ideas must be completely destroyed and a system of Society based on Christian Social justice, estab-lished so that neither the tyranny of Capitalism, Facism or Communism may oppress the Irish People. therefore, advise all patrictic

Irishmen to boycott the Elections next January or whenever they may be. We warn them that Fianna Fail or any other body claiming to be the Government of Ireland and dependant for its functioning on Loans in which the highest shareholders are Freemason Banks and Insurance Companies, can never win our Independence. If the Irish People suffer themselves to bo deluded into voting for a sham Republic, they will only have succeeded in retarding the achievement of the National Objective for at least a generation:

They owe a duty, therefore, both to the memory of our Pathiot dea d and to posterity to support their lawful Government and its Army to the fullest extent of their powers, so that in this generation we may achieve the aim of all the generations- an Treland Gaelic and Free.

## PRISONERS OF WAR CONDEMNED TO DEATH (CONTINUED)

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such a flagrant miscarriage of justice, we would refer him again to the Legal Murder of the Manchester Martyrs.

If these men were German prisoners of war in England, they would merely be interned, but because they are Irish they must hang. We have previously pointed out the absurdity and injustice of making the man in an armaments factory responsible for the actions of a soldier on the field of battle. We have stressed the criminality of sentencing to death a r isoner of war as these men in Birmingham undoubtedly are although it suits the English to ignore the fact.

We now wish to emphasise that responsibility for the sentencing to death of a political prisoner lies at the door of those in authority. If James Richards and Peter Barnes are executed King George of England, Mr. Chamberlain, Winston Churchill and others will be their murderers. And since these actions are carried out with the full approval of the British Public, every individual Englishman will Assizes on a charge of possessing be guilty of the same heinous crime of murder. The British Government has by this trial asserted the principle of saying that the veredict was a every Irishman's individual responsib bility for the actions of his fellow countrymen. They cannot grumble, therefore, if we apply this same principle to themselves. Let Irishmen remember that there are no innocent Inglish lives:

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The Six Belfast Republicans who were arrested in South County Dublin on Sunday, Dec. 3rc , were sentenced to 6 months imprisonment, by the Special

Criminal Court, sitting at Collins Barracks, Dublin, on Thursday Dec. 14th. Their crime was refusing to answer questions asked by "Free State" police thugs.

----0000000----I.R.A. OPERATIONS IN ENGLAND.

On Tuesday evening Dec. 12th an I.R.A. Unit placed two Incendiary bombs in an Oxford Street Store in London, these bombs were unfortunately discovered and rendered harmless. On Thursday Dec. 14th, Incendiary Bombs Exploded in two Cinemas in Birmingham, causing panic among the audience. A futher Explosion occurred on the same day, at the factory of Messrs. Ericssons, Telephone, Ltd., Beeston, Notting-ham, extensive damage was done and one man was killed. A strong police guard was placed on the factory immediately afterwards. Scotland Yard has issued a special warning to all police divisions to be prepared for a new I.R.A. Offensive shortly -We would be sorry to disappoint them. ' '

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## MORE I.R.A. MEN SENTENCED.

Three Ulster Republicans were sentonced on Friday, Dec 15th at Birmingham Assizes. Their names were given as William Bradley (25) and Stanley J.Rice (27), both of whom were sentenced to IOyears penal servitude; also Patrick McBirne age 57 who received I5 years.

All three prisoners when charged, refused as soldiers of the I.R.A., to plead: ----0000000

# YOUNG REPUBLICAN FOR TRIAL.

Brendan Behan, a young Dublin Republican who was arrested in Liverpool recently has been committed for trial to the Liverpool explosives for an unlawful purpose. Behan refused to plead, foregone conclusion. He wished everyone in the Court a Happy Christmas.

#### ---0000000----OUR BROADCASTS.

From Friday, Dec. 22nd and until further notice, Broadcasts from the Irish Republican Radio BELFAST REPUBLICANS SENTENCED IN DUBLIN Station will be curtailed to one per week. Broadcasts will be made each Friday at 9 p.m. on a Wave-length of 21.4 metres. ----0000000----

AR AN TRIOMAO LÁ FICEAD D'ADRÁN 1916, 1 3CATAIR D'LEÁ' CLIAT, bo cuir scactar rear-tar ceann sprib 7 cuspoir an náisiúin Saecealais, ná géill riam 7 nár glac riam le gamáltas Sall - a n-ainmneaca la sgriðinn atá anois 'na sgriðinn staireamail, 7 is beimin go mairrio Alnmneaca na break san 30 beo bá bakk.

Do cuiread séala ar na signigõe sin le ruil an cseaccair san 7 le ruil cuib mait sáir-fear eile i gceann des na troideanna da cróba dár cuiread riam i Stair an domina. D'árduigead náisiún na nSaedeal ó náire 30 h-onóir, ó h-úirísleadt spride 30 mórdáil, ó

ກຽດຂອຍດີ ວັກລາກຄວາດ h-onoir, o h-unristeact spride 30 mordail, o baoirse 30 saoirse.

Tri bliana 'na biaib san (as an naomab la ficeab b'eanair 1919)

bo tainis tossairi tobta de saebealaib le céile cun an poblact a frosruiseab i 1916 a beimnin 7 a bunú 30 fuirmiúil. Do deimeab san cuireab fósra neam-spleabcas saebeal 30 sae náisiún ar doman.

D'fonn an fósrab san a cur ar neim-nio 7 cun coss a cur le h-éireact a tea t ann, do cuir saisbiúirí an tSasannais cosab ar muinntir na tíre seo. Do bein arm poblacta na h-éireann seasam cóm tréan, cóm do-claoibte sin 'na scoinnib 30 mb'éisin do Sasanna taréis dá bliain de cosab fuiltis, sos cosaib a lors cun téarmaí siotéána a béanam. stotčána a čéanam.

De beassaib mio-tuissint fear a cuaib a' ceansal tearmaí siotéána le namaib armta laistig bá scríoca, buaib an Sasannac an tsiotéáin. Tosnuig an comrac airís agus tosnuig Sasanna ar a sean-seifteanna cun easaontais a bunú imeas Jaeoeal. Roinnead an tír 7 cuiread da pairlimint ré leit la riaglú - da pairlimint a dí ré smact 7 la

Riaslú as pairliming Sasanna in lonndain. Tá saisidiúirí arméa Sasanna i seilő Sé Conndasce d'éirinn rás 7 an ceart tógta cuca féin aca na cala -puirt atá fágta le tamall aca in beiseeart η h h-éireann a ait-sealbouin-aimsir cogaio. Τά θire rós ré mar atá sí leis na céabta blian i ngreim ag Sasanna cun go oreadrad si i tarrac isteac 'na cuio cogad. 1 bouasseart na h-éireann tá mór-cuib Saebeal i bpríosún as Sasanna.

Ue deasgaid cailleamnais a deit imeass saedeal, tá an poblact curta ar an méir fada anois, at ní tuirfid an saosal ná an aimsear deire le Fósra úd Seatthaina na Cássa, le Fósra neam-spleadtais FACCEAL. Nº RAID SÓ DE MISMEAC AZ ADINNE FÓS, CAILLEAMNAC NÁ
eile, bul siar ar ar fózruizeab bo'n saozal an uair úb. Seasuizeann,
azus seasócaib ózánaiz atá bilis i zeroibe 7 i nzníom b'éirinn, leis
ne fózraí sin zo btí zo n-eireócaib leo éireact 7 briz a cur ionnta.
Tá an uain tazaice cun an cata san a cur. Ní záb poblact na
n-éireann a fózrab airís. Ní záb neam-spleabcas saeceal a beimniú Seasungeann,

n-eireann a fograo airis. Di gao neam-spleadas Saedeal a deimniú aris. Act anois an t-am dun tréan-iarract a déanam dun éireact a dur ionnta araon. I n-ainm a druil mard de laocrad Saedeal 7 i n-ainm a druil beo de Saedealaid dilse, tugaimis réin iarract san. Iarraimid ar Sasanna a cuid saigdiúirí, a duid oirigeac 7 tosgairí de gad sagas 7 gnó a tógaint léi as éirinn ar fad, mar go dtí go ndéanfar san ní deid sioctáin ná caradas idir an dá tír; 7 iarraimid ar Saedealaid, sa daile 7 i gcéin cadrú linn san iarract seo atá á dur rómainn, in-ainm dé, againn dun iadall a dur ar Sasanna san a déanam, 7 cun, poblact, na, h-éireann a dur i réim.

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# IRISHMAN ON LONDON CONSPIRACY CHARGE.

An Irishman - Daniel Crotty was at Bow Street on December 14th, returned for trial on a charge of having conspired to cause Explosions with other Republicans recently sentoneed under the names of John Evans, John Gibson, James O'Regan and Daniel Jordan to 20 years penal servitude. ----0000000----

TRISHMEN! JOIN THE IRISH REPUBLICAN ARMY AND DO YOUR DUTY.