

THE NEW SURRENDER

DAIL EIREANN STATEMENT

THE Executive Council Dail Eireann, Government of the Republic of Ireland, formally repudiates, in the name of the people of all Ireland from whom it obtained its mandate, the misleading and slavish Agreement signed at London, April 25, 1938, between "the Government of Ireland" and "the Government of the United Kingdom" so-called. We repudiate any negotiations with Britain—particularly private negotiations—which exclude the problem of Partition deliberately created by British intrigue and armed force; and we repudiate equally the recent undertaking to pay an impost of £10,000,000 to England. We renew the claim made by every generation of Irish statesmen for restitution of the hundreds of millions extracted from us through admitted over-taxation; through confiscations over long centuries; through Absentee Drain, Pension Lists, Enforced Emigration and Artificial Famines; and we demand adequate compensation for the suppression of our schools, the destruction of our commerce; the banishment and impoverishment of our people; the general oppression and misery resulting from the wars which England has wantonly waged on us.

We deny that Ireland has any obligation to assure the English Government that "it is not going to permit its territory to be used as a basis of attack against Britain" while England uses our territory or territorial waters as bases of attack on her enemies, and otherwise continues to involve us in her wars. We deny that the Taoiseach of the "Irish Free State" had any authority from the Government of the Irish Republic in 1920 "to indicate such a policy to the Government of the United States when seeking formal recognition." We further deny that the "Free State" Government had any authority to discriminate, in favour of England, as against any other European Power, when affording facilities for an air base at Rynnana beside the centre of our national electric supply, or for an oil refinery, with a capacity far in excess of the nation's needs, at the entrance to our metropolitan port. We declare anew our repudiation of common citizenship of the British Empire, as of any undertaking, express or implied, in the matter of Imperial defence. We reiterate our declaration that there can be no lasting peace between England and Ireland while England seeks to exercise any authority whatever within our shores or our territorial waters, or claims any right to speak for us abroad as if we were her subjects. And we repeat our exhortation to the young men of our race, who have been driven into England's service by the economic conditions her oppression has created, to be always on the alert lest they should find themselves entrapped in her ever yawning military machine. The young men here at home know that their duty, now as in the past, is unceasing preparation for the enthronement of the Sovereign Republic of Ireland.

Dublin, May, 1938.