

Bunú na heagraíochta
Focus on the formation

“All able-bodied Irishmen,
will be eligible for enrolment”

Call for recruits contained in poster
publicising a public meeting to be held in
the Pillar Room, Rotunda Hospital, Dublin



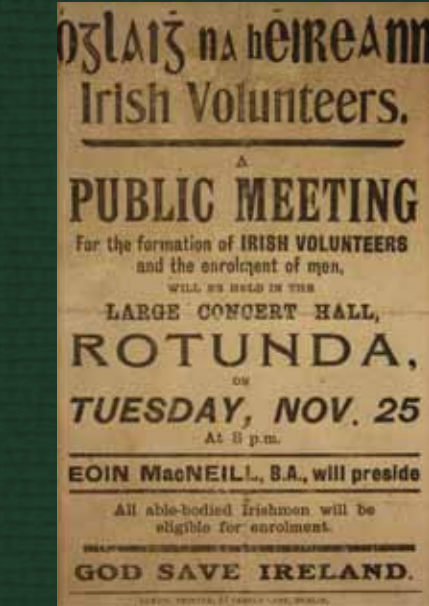
Pictiúr teantaithe isteach ar Mhac Néill, as pictiúr de ghruipa daoine a tógadh i mí Meitheamh 1917. BMH P 10, An Chartlann Mhileata
Close up of MacNeill, extracted from a group photograph taken in June 1917.
BMH P 10, Military Archives

Tús

Alt a scríobh an tOllamh Eoin Mac Néill, an 1 Samhain 1913, ag iarraidh go mbunófaí Óglaigh na hÉireann a leag amach an clár oibre do chruinniú in Óstán Wynn, Baile Átha Cliath, an 11 Samhain. Dáréag fear ar tugadh cuireadh dóibh agus bhunaigh na daoine a bhí i láthair Coiste Sealadach a rialódh an eagraíocht nua ar ar tugadh Óglaigh na hÉireann. Socraíodh an oíche sin go n-eagrófaí cruinniú poiblí i mBaile Átha Cliath chun an eagraíocht a chur ar bun go foirmeálta agus daoine a earcú go hoscailte le teacht isteach sna hÓglaigh.

Where it all began

Article written by Professor Eoin MacNeill, 1st November 1913, calling for establishment of the Irish Volunteers, set the agenda of a meeting in Wynn's Hotel, Dublin, 11th November. Invitations were issued to a dozen men, and those in attendance established themselves as the Provisional Committee to regulate a new body to be called the Irish Volunteers. A decision was made that night to hold a public meeting in Dublin to formerly establish the body and recruit members openly.



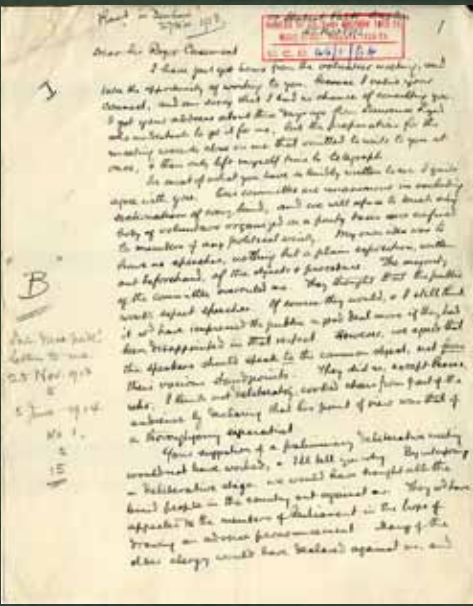
Le Caischead Ad-Mháiream na hÉireann
Courtesy of the National Museum of Ireland

Cruinnithe poiblí

Eagraíodh an chéad cheann de shraith cruinnithe poiblí sa Rotunda i mBaile Átha Cliath, an 25 Samhain 1913. Cuireadh manifesto Óglaigh na hÉireann i láthair agus scaipeadh foirmeacha clárúcháin ar a raibh sa slua. Tugadh orduithe an oíche sin do na hÓglaigh i mBaile Átha Cliath agus chuir an Coiste Sealadach Ceanncheathrú ar bun d'fhonn comhordú a dhéanamh ar fhorbairt fhoirmeálta na gluaiseachta taobh amuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath. Ag cruinniú poiblí a eagraíodh i gCorcaigh, bhí Mac Néill, an Cathaoirleach ar an gCoiste Sealadach, ar aon ardán le cainteoirí áitiúla.

Public meetings

The first of a series of public meetings was held in the Rotunda Complex, Dublin, 25th November 1913. The manifesto of the Irish Volunteers was aired and enrolment forms were circulated amongst the crowd. Orders were issued to Dublin-based Volunteers on the night, and the Provisional Committee established a Headquarters to coordinate the formal development of the movement beyond Dublin. A public meeting held in Cork saw MacNeill, as Chairman of the Provisional Committee, share the platform with local speakers.



Na línte tosaigh i léir ón Ollamh Eoin Mac Néill chuig Ruairí Mac Easmainn, ina drugar cuntas achoimre ar an gcruinniú poiblí sa Rotunda. GIL
BMH CD 45/1/44, An Chartlann Mhileata (is féidir an téacs íosláin a léamh ar www.militaryarchives.ie)
Opening lines of letter from Professor Eoin MacNeill to Sir Roger Casement, summarising the public meeting at the Rotunda. 6pp.
BMH CD 45/1/44, Military Archives (full text can be read on www.militaryarchives.ie)

BFaoi mhí na Nollag...

Bhí complachtaí de chuid na nÓglach curtha ar bun i gCorcaigh, i nGaillimh, i Loch Garman agus i Muineacháin. Cuireadh hallaí druileala agus cruinnithe ar bun i mBaile Átha Cliath trí shaothar Bhord Chathair agus Chontae Bhaile Átha Cliath. Cuireadh The Volunteer Gazette, foilseachán speisialta aon uaire, ar fáil d'fhonn teacht ar aghaidh na gluaiseachta a chur chun cinn, freagra a thabhairt ar cháineadh a rinne lucht nuachtán agus daoine eile agus d'fhonn cora den chineál sin agus an meon ina leith a chur i láthair ghnáthdhaoiné in Óglaigh na hÉireann.

By December...

Volunteer companies were established in Cork, Galway, Wexford and Monaghan. Drill and assembly halls were established in Dublin through the work of Dublin City and County Board. The Volunteer Gazette, a one-off special publication, was produced to highlight the progress of the movement, respond to challenges made by members of the press and contemporaries and to share these developments and views with the rank and file members of the Irish Volunteers.

BMH CD 23/2, An Chartlann Mhileata
BMH CD 23/2, Military Archives

leanfaim go dlúth do clú ár sinnsir.

Irish Volunteers.

2764

TICKET OF ADMISSION TO
PUBLIC MEETING

To be held at 8.30 o'clock, in the

CITY HALL, CORK,

ON SUNDAY NIGHT NEXT, 14th DECEMBER,

TO FORM A CORK CITY CORPS OF THE
IRISH VOLUNTEERS

PROFESSOR EOIN Mac NEILL, B.A., DUBLIN, and LOCAL
SPEAKERS will address the Meeting.

Volunteers embrace men of all Creeds, Classes, and Parties.
Only Citizens ready to join should attend, as capacity of hall
is limited to 1,500.

BUREAU OF MILITARY RECORDS

BUREAU OF MILITARY RECORDS

NO. C. D. 23/2

J. J. WALSH (G.A.A.),
LIAM DE ROISTE (Gaelic League),
DIARMAID FASAIT (I.D.A.),
MAURICE O'CONNOR (U.C.C.)

B.—THIS MOVEMENT IS STRICTLY
NON-PARTY.

“On the **march to Howth** we passed one of the **Fianna** who was standing on the seawall at Sutton Strand. He was signalling to Childers’ yacht, **The Asgard**”

Patrick Ward, ‘B’ company, III Battalion, Dublin Brigade (BMH WS 1140 p.5)



Complacht ‘D’, An Tríú Cathlán, Reisimint (nó Briogáid) Bhaile Átha Cliath, fearann Childers Dhuimhach Thír, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath 1914. Aon mhó armbair BMH CD 384, An Chaitiarn Míleata

‘D’ Company, III Battalion, Dublin Regiment (also known as Brigade), Sandymount Castle grounds, Co. Dublin 1914. 1 item BMH CD 384, Military Archives

Follasach Feiceálach

Bhí á mholadh do chomplachtaí na nÓglach druileáil agus inlíocht a dhéanamh os comhair an tsaoil mhóir agus úsáid a bhaint as faichí agus páirceanna poiblí. Eagraíodh taispeántais agus máirseálacha ar gach leibhéal, ar mhórsála náisiúnta ar fud na tíre agus ar scála beag bunaithe ar an aon bhaile amháin. Chuirtear teagascóirí agus eagraithe cuairte, a raibh sainscíl acu sa mhúscaedaíocht, sa chomharthaíocht, i ndruileáil scaud nó gasra, ar fud na tíre chun oiliúint a chur ar chomplachtaí. Thagadh Óglaigh le chéile ar oícheanta na seachtaine agus d’eagraítear paráidí, taispeántais agus inlíocht machaire uaireanta ar an Domhnach.

Out in the open

Irish Volunteer companies were encouraged to drill and carry out manoeuvres in clear view of the public and make use of public squares and parks. Displays and marches were organised at all levels, from large-scale countywide demonstrations to small-scale, town-based displays. Mobile instructors and organisers, skilled in musketry, signalling, squad and section drill, were dispatched countrywide to train companies. Volunteers met on weeknights, with occasional Sundays scheduled for parades, displays and field exercises.



Cuid den chuntas (all), arna choimeád ag George Walsh, lontaibhail de chuid Chiste Cosanta na hÉireann, ina léirithear an costas a bhí le raidhfilí a tugadh i dtír i gCill Chomhghaill agus i mBeann Éadair.

Part account (app), made by George Walsh, Trustee of Defence of Ireland fund, showing cost of rifles landed at Kilcoole and Howth. Undated PRCN000800004, George Walsh Papers, Military Archives

Faire Airdeallach

Bhí údarás na Breataine ag faire go géar ó tugadh airm i dtír i Latharna, Contae Aontroma d’Óglaigh Uladh (UVF). Bhí Aonaid de Phóilíní Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath (DMP), agus de Chonstáblacht Ríoga na hÉireann (RIC) agus arm na Breataine i mbeairc Bhaile Átha Cliath san airdeall maidir le beart den chineál céanna. Bhí an ceart ag na húdaráis; bhí plean dána chun raidhfilí a fuarthas as an nGearmáin a thabhairt i dtír leagtha amach ag Mary Spring Rice, Erskine Childers agus a Bhean agus Conor O’Brien, ag a raibh cleachtadh ar an bhfarraige agus teacht ar bháid oiriúnacha.

Gun Watching

British authorities were on high alert following the landing of arms in Larne, county Antrim for the Ulster Volunteer Force (UVF). Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP), Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) Units and the British military stationed in Dublin were on standby for a similar landing. The authorities were correct; a daring plan to land rifles acquired from Germany was conceived by the Hon. Mary Spring Rice, Mr and Mrs Erskine Childers and Conor O’Brien, who had seafaring experience and access to suitable yachts.



Cárta poist le pictiúr d’eachtraí a bhain le gunnaí a thabhairt i dtír i mBeann Éadair, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath. PRCN000800008, Paper George Walsh, An Chaitiarn Míleata

Picture postcard depicting gun running scenes at Howth, Co. Dublin. PRCN000800008, George Walsh Papers, Military Archives

Tabhairt i dtír na nGunnai

Fuair an Rathailéach airm agus armlón a cheannaigh Darrell Figgis, Iriseoir, thar ceann Óglaigh na hÉireann ó chomhlacht airm Moritz Magnus i Hamburg na Gearmáine. Tháinig an lasta go hÉirinn ar dhá bhád, an chéad cheann (an “Asgard”) a tháinig i dtír i mBeann Éadair agus an dara ceann (an “Kelpie”) a tháinig go Cill Chomhghaill seachtain dár gcionn. Bhí dream d’Óglaigh na hÉireann, d’Fhianna Éireann agus de lucht cúnta roimh an “Asgard”. D’éirigh go maith le hÓglaigh na hÉireann agus na gunnaí a dtabhairt i dtír i mBeann Éadair agus i gCill Chomhghaill ach ní eachtra gan tragóid é. Maraíodh triúr sibhialtach neamharmtha ar Shiúlán Bhaitsiléir, Baile Átha Cliath, nuair a scaoil gasra de na King’s Own Scottish Borderers, nár éirigh leo tabhairt na ngunnaí i dtír a chosc, faoi shlua a bhí ag fonóid orthu.

Gun Running

Arms and ammunition were sourced by The O’Rahilly and acquired by Darrell Figgis, Journalist, on behalf of the Irish Volunteers from arms firm Moritz Magnus in Hamburg, Germany. The shipment arrived on two yachts, landing firstly in Howth (“Asgard”), and a week later in Kilcoole (“Kelpie”). A concentration of Dublin-based Irish Volunteers, Fianna Éireann members and supporters were on hand to meet the “Asgard”. The Howth and Kilcoole landings were successful for the Irish Volunteers, but did not occur without tragedy. Three unarmed civilians were killed at Bachelor’s Walk, Dublin, when a section of the King’s Own Scottish Borderers, unsuccessful in their attempts to prevent the landing, and faced with a jeering crowd, opened fire.

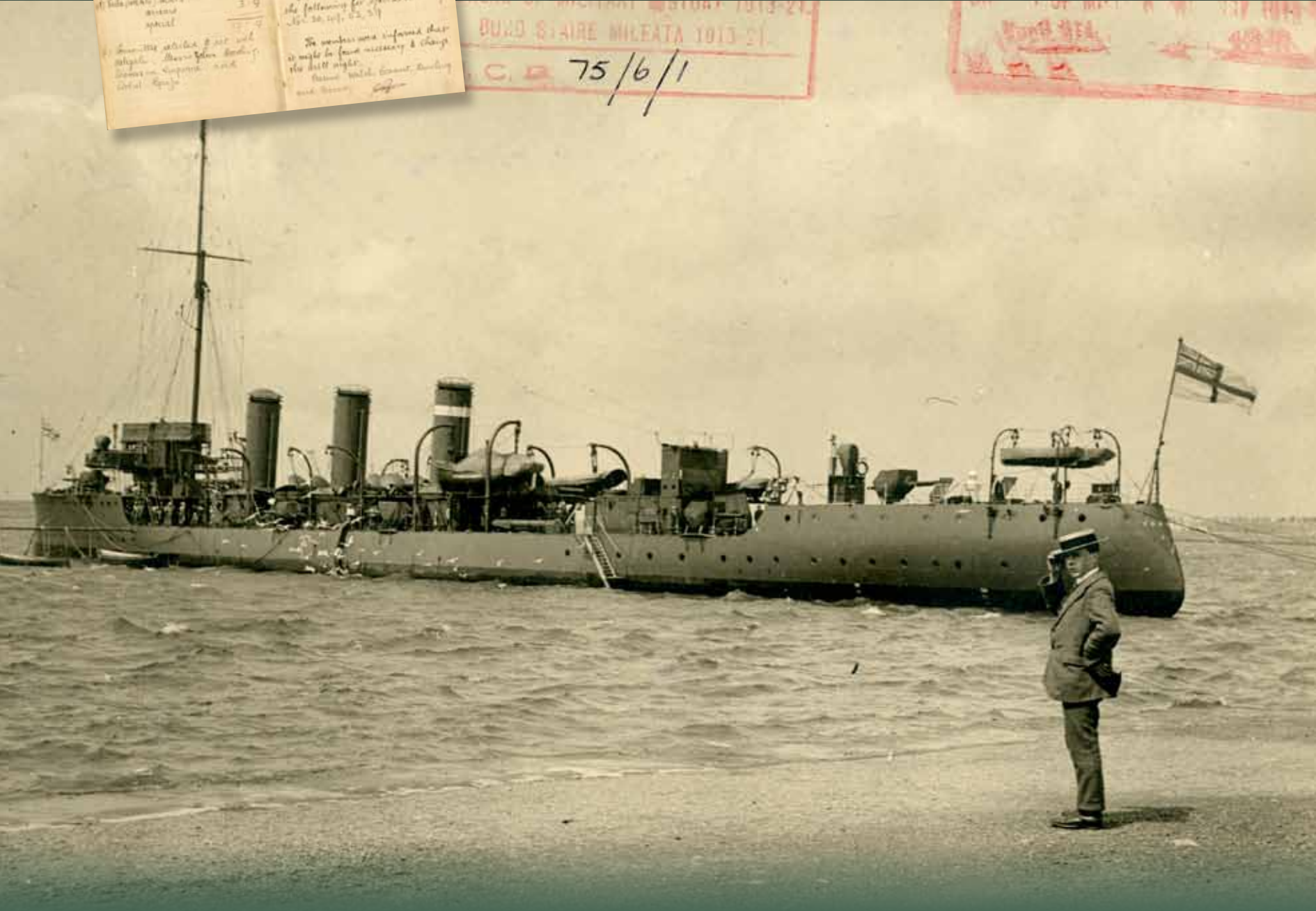


Iontráil dar dáta an 9 Eanáir 1914, as leabhar miontuairiscí arna choinneáil ag Complacht Ghort na Faiseoige, an Ceathrú Cathlán, Briogáid Bhaile Átha Cliath, Baimeann na tuairiscí leis an tréimhse ón 2 Eanáir go dtí an 20 Feabhra 1914 (11 cruinniú). PRCN000800009, Paper George Walsh, An Chaitiarn Míleata

Entry dated 9 January 1914, from minute book kept by Larkfield company, IV Battalion, Dublin Brigade. Entries cover period 2 January to 20 February 1914 (11 meetings).

Grianghraf leis an mBráthair Oirmhinneach Walker, den H.M.S. “Forward” i gCuan Dhún Laoghaire, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath (Kingstown Harbour) ag faire an mbeifí ag feachaint le gunnaí a thabhairt i dtír, Iúil 1914. BMH CD 75461, An Chaitiarn Míleata

Photograph by Reverend Brother Walker of H.M.S. “Forward” in Kingstown Harbour (Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin), on look out for gun running, July 1914. BMH CD 75461, Military Archives



An Ceanncheathbrú agus aighneas i measc lucht na gluaiseachta
Focus on Headquarters and tensions within the movement

“We, and the Volunteers
at our instance, have taken a certain pledge. Redmond has announced
a totally different
policy and duty”

Eoin MacNeill, addressing
his “old colleagues” within
the Provisional Committee,
in response to press
reports covering Redmond’s
Woodenbridge speech
(Unpublished memoir of Eoin MacNeill, BMH CD/7)



PRN/0003010004, Paper George Walsh, An Chaitián Míleata

PRN/0003010004, George Walsh Papers, Military Archives

Socrú agus socruithe...

Bhí daoine ar an gCoiste Sealadach ag teacht le chéile uair sa tseachtain ag plé dul chun cinn na gluaiseachta agus obair na bhfochoistí a bhí ceaptha acu agus ag déanamh socruithe faoi chúrsaí airgeadais, oiliúna, éide, údarais, earcalochta agus aralonachta. I mí Bealtaine, tharla aighneas teasai idir John Redmond, ceannaire Pháirtí Parlaiminteach na hÉireann agus Eoin Mac Néill, Cathaoirleach Óglaigh na hÉireann, maidir le smacht ar ghluaiseacht na nÓglach agus daoine arna n-ainmniú ag Redmond a cheapadh ar an gCoiste Sealadach. Thángthas ar shocrú i mí Meitheamh agus déirígh le Redmond ceapachán 25 duine a thabhairt i gcrích, rud a d'fhág gur aigsean a bhí smacht ar an ngluaiseacht.

Decisions, decisions...

Members of the Provisional Committee met once a week to discuss the progress of the movement, the work of appointed sub-committees and to make decisions affecting finance, training, uniform, authority, recruitment and discipline. In May, heated exchanges took place between John Redmond, leader of the Irish Parliamentary Party, and Eoin MacNeill, Chairman of the Irish Volunteers, over control of the Volunteer movement and the appointment of Redmond nominees to the Provisional Committee. A decision was reached in June with Redmond securing the appointment of his 25 nominees, thereby taking control of the movement.

Grianghraf a tógadh ag Greenmount Oil Company, Crois Araid, Baile Átha Cliath, ina bhfuil Stiúrthóir na Cuideachta, an tUasal Dobbyn, Laurence J. Kettle (a bhí ar an bhFochoiste maidir le héide) agus George Walsh, an Ceathrú Cathlán, complacht Chamaigh, Bealtaine 1914. Tá Kettle ag taispeáint na héide ar aontaigh an Fochoiste saincheaptha uirthi (arbh iad a bhí air, Eoin Mac Néill agus Laurence J. Kettle) PRN/0003010004, Paper George Walsh, An Chaitián Míleata



Póstaer earcalochta de chuid Oifig Cogalochta na Breataine a bhain leis an bhfeachtas earcalochta 1914-1918. I gcló 1915 ag Alex. Thom and Co. Ltd. Le Caoinchead 6 And Mhuseum na hÉireann Máire 1995.39

British War Office Recruitment Poster connected with recruiting campaign 1914-1918. Printed 1915 by Alex. Thom and Co. Ltd. Courtesy of National Museum of Ireland. NMH01995.39

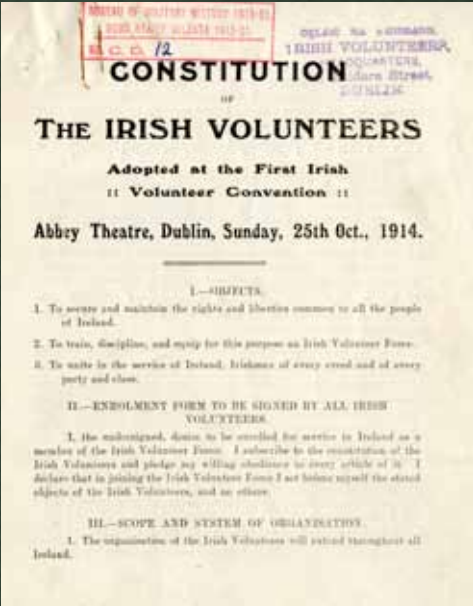
An Deighilt

An 20 Meán Fómhair, labhair John Redmond le dream Óglach sa Droichead Adhmaid, Co. Chill Mhantáin. I bhfianaise an Chéad Chogadh Domhanda a bheith ar síd agus an Triú Bille Rialtas Dúchais a bheith curtha i Leabhar na Reachtaíochta, mhol Redmond do lucht ghluaiseacht na nÓglach liostáil in Arm Shasana d'fhonn seasamh le feachtas an chogaidh agus bua na gcomhghuaillithe a thabhairt i gcrích. Tharraing moladh Redmond easaontas idir daoine ar an gCoiste Sealadach agus deighilt ghinearálta sa ghluaiseacht. Sheas an tromlach le Redmond agus thug na hÓglaigh Náisiúnta orthu féin. Choinnigh an mionlach an teideal Óglaigh na hÉireann orthu féin.

The Split

On 20th September, John Redmond addressed a unit of Volunteers at Woodenbridge, Co. Wicklow. In light of the outbreak of World War 1 and the placement of the Third Home Rule Bill on the Statute Book, Redmond advocated that members of the Volunteer movement enlist in the British Army to support the war effort and cultivate a win for the allied forces. Redmond's assertion divided the governing Provisional Committee, and caused a general split in the movement. The majority supported Redmond and titled themselves the National Volunteers, while the minority retained the title Irish Volunteers.

Photograph taken at Greenmount Oil Company, Harold's Cross, Dublin, featuring Company Director Mr. Dobbyn, Laurence J. Kettle (member of Uniform Sub-Committee) and George Walsh, IV Battalion, Kimmage company, May 1914. Kettle models uniform approved by appointed Sub-Committee (comprised of Eoin MacNeill and Laurence J. Kettle) PRN/0003010004, George Walsh Papers, Military Archives



BMH CD/7a, An Chaitián Míleata

BMH CD/7a, Military Archives

Roll call

Tar éis don deighilt tarlú, eagraíodh an chéad Chomhdháil Ghinearálta ag Óglaigh na hÉireann an 25 Deireadh Fómhair in Amharclann na Mainistreach, Baile Átha Cliath. Bhí toscaire ceaptha i láthair ó 134 complacht as Éirinn, Sasana agus Albain. Ba é Eoin Mac Néill a bhí ina Chathaoirleach ar an gCoiste Sealadach agus ar chomhaltai an Choiste, bhí an Rathailleach, Pádraig Mac Piarais, Seán Mac Diarmada, Micheál S. Mac Breithiúin, Tomás Mac Donnchadha, Bulmer Hobson agus Seosamh Pluincéid.

Roll call

Volunteer companies were established in Cork, Galway, Wexford and Monaghan. Drill and assembly halls were established in Dublin through the work of Dublin City and County Board. *The Volunteer Gazette*, a one-off special publication, was produced to highlight the progress of the movement, respond to challenges made by members of the press and contemporaries and to share these developments and views with the rank and file members of the Irish Volunteers.

Belt
Belt Buckle



Oiliúint, searmanais agus bailiú airgid
Focus on Training, ceremony and fundraising

“Twenty months have passed since the first public enrolment of Irish Volunteers [...]”

Thomas McDonagh, observing the profile of the Irish Volunteer in 1915 (BMH CD 316/2 p. 21)



1 Dream as Complacht 'A', an Ceathrú Cathlán, Briogaid Bhaile Átha Cliath, buaiteoirí trofaí a bronadh ag an lá spóirt a eagraíodh i Scoil Eanna, Ráth Fearnáin, Baile Átha Cliath, an 5 Meán Fómhair 1915. BMH CD 61/12, An Chartlann Mhileata

Members of 'A' Company, IV Battalion, Dublin Brigade, winners of trophy presented at sports day held in St. Enda's college, Rathfarnham, Dublin 5 September 1915. BMH CD 61/12, Military Archives

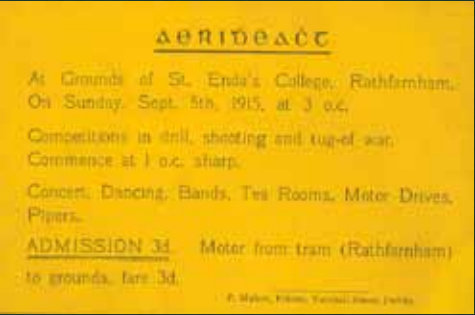
“Chun Oibre”¹

Aontaidh siollabas nua oiliúna, arna chur le chéile ag an Stiúrthóir Oiliúna, Tomás Mac Donnchadha, ar an 13 Eanáir. Níor cuireadh fiacail ann; má bhí post ceannasaíochta ag Oifigeach, níor mhór roinnt coinníollacha áirithe a shásamh ina leith sin. D'fhonn cinntiú go ndéanfaí an oiliúint go críochnúil i ngach uile cás, treoraíodh do na hOifigigh i bpoist ceannasaíochta teacht i láthair le haghaidh dianoiliúna i rith shéasúir an tsamhraidh agus an fhómhair 1915. Eagraíodh campaí traenála d'Oifigigh Óglaigh na hÉireann i gContae Thír Eoghain (mí Iúil), i gCill Mhantáin (Lúnasa), i dtuaisceart Chontae Chorcaí (Lúnasa) agus in ionaid i gContae na Gaillimhe, i gContae Ros Comáin agus i gContae na hIarmhí (mí Meán Fómhair).

“Get to work”¹

A new training syllabus, produced by Director of Training, Thomas McDonagh, was approved on 13th January. The message was clear; if an Officer held a command position, they had to satisfy certain qualifying conditions. To ensure training was carried out expertly and consistently, Officers in command positions were detailed to report for intensive training held over the course of the summer/autumn season 1915. Training camps for Irish Volunteer Officers were held in county Tyrone (July), Wicklow (August), North county Cork (August) and sites within county Galway, Roscommon and Westmeath (September).

¹ An Seachtú Oiliúna, Óglaigh na hÉireann, Teachtaireacht do na hÓglaigh, 23 Eanáir 1915, Irish Volunteer, Iml. 2 Uimh. 8 (Sraith Nua) L4
Director of Training, Irish Volunteer's message to troops, 23rd January 1915, Irish Volunteer, Vol. 2 No.8 (New Series) p.4



BMH CD 61/12, An Chartlann Mhileata
BMH CD 61/12, Military Archives

‘Ceolchoirm, Damhsa, Bannaí Ceoil, Seomraí Tae, Tiomáint Carranna agus Píobaireacht’²

D'eagraigh complachtaí d'Óglaigh na hÉireann, i gcomhar le Cumman na mBan agus Fianna Éireann, roinnt imeachtaí sóisialta i rith na bliana 1915 in ionaid éagsúla in Éirinn, i Sasana agus in Albain. Bhí d'aoidhm leo siamsaíocht agus caitheamh aimsire a chur ar fáil do na hÓglaigh chomh maith le hairgead a bhailiú agus earcaíocht a chur chun cinn. Ar na hionaid agus na láithreacha inar eagraíodh imeachtaí bhí St George Hall, Westminster, Londain, Leabharlann Poiblí Chluain Dolcáin, Baile Átha Cliath agus ionaid in Inis Córthaidh, Contae Loch Garman agus an Tulach, Contae Cheatharlach.

‘Concert, Dancing, Bands, Tea Rooms, Motor drives, Pipers’²

A number of social events were organised over the course of 1915 by Irish Volunteer companies, in association with Cumman na mBan and Fianna Éireann, at various venues in Ireland, England and Scotland. The aims were to provide entertainment and diversion for the troops but also to raise funds and advance recruitment. Venues and sites which hosted events included St George Hall, Westminster, London, Clondalkin Public Library, Dublin and venues in Enniscorthy, county Wexford and Tullow, county Carlow.

² Clár na nImeachtaí, Scoil Eanna, Ráth Fearnáin, 5 Meán Fómhair, BMH CD 61/12
Programme of events, St. Enda's College, Rathfarnham, 5th September, BMH CD 61/12



1 Pásta mairtíthe 'Diarmuid O' Donnabháin Rossa (Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa), 1831-1915 Meabhrádh maidir leis an 15ochraid Phoiblí go dtí Reilig Ghlas Naíon, Baile Átha Cliath, an 1 Lúnasa 1915'. Arna fhoilsiú ag Coiste Shochraid Ul' Dhonnabháin Rossa. Tá liosta chomhaltai Fhochoisí na Sochraide isteach leis. BMH CD 61/2, An Chartlann Mhileata

Illustrated plate from 'Diarmuid O' Donnabháin Rossa (Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa), 1831-1915 Souvenir of Public Funeral to Glasnevin Cemetery Dublin, 1st August 1915'. Published by O'Donovan Rossa Funeral Committee. Contains list of members of the Funeral Sub Committees. BMH CD 316/2, Military Archives

Bás Fhínín

Adhlacadh Diarmuid Ó Donnabháin Rossa i reilig Ghlas Naíon ar lá Lúnasa. Ligeadh na socrúithe maoirseachta le hÓglaigh na hÉireann. Thosaigh mórshíúl na sochraide ó Halla na Cathrach bhí oifigigh poiblí as gach cuid den tír uirthi agus as eagraíochtaí éagsúla, ina measc, na hÓglaigh Náisiúnta, Cumann na mBan, Fianna Éireann, Arm Cathartha na hÉireann agus ionadaithe as Cumann Lúthchleas Gael. Ba é Pádraig Mac Piarais a thug an óráid os cionn na huaighe “thar ceann glún nua daoine”.

Death of a Fenian

Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa was laid to rest in Glasnevin cemetery, 1 August. Marshalling arrangements were devolved onto Irish Volunteers. The procession which commenced at City Hall included public officials from all over the country and organisations including the National Volunteers, Cumman na mBan, Fianna Éireann, Irish Citizens Army and representatives of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The graveside oration was delivered by Pádraig Pearse “on behalf of a new generation”.



BMH CD 58/6, An Chartlann Mhileata
BMH CD 58/6, Military Archives

Oifigigh de chuid Óglaigh na hÉireann a d'fheastail ar champa oiliúna i mBaile Átha Luain, Meán Fómhair 1915 (lá gluais maidir leis na daoine atá sa phictiúr sa treoir a ghabham leis an bpictiúr).
Irish Volunteer Officers who attended a training camp held in Athlone, September 1915. (Key to people in accompanying guide)



Óglaigh na hÉireann thar sáile
Focus on Irish Volunteers across the water

“I have never lived a normal life. I have always been in the thick of things”

Grace Plunkett, nee Gifford, recalling her fiancé Joseph Plunkett's trip to Germany (BMH WS 0257 p.2)



BMH CD 62/7, An Chlárán Mhíleata
BMH CD 62/7, Military Archives

Beartaíocht faoi rún

Thug Seosamh Plúincéid, comhalta den Lár-Choiste Feidhmíocháin (an Coiste Sealadach tráth ba luaithe) agus duine de Bhráithreachas na Poblachta (IRB), turas chun na Gearmáine thar ceann an Bhráithreachais. Bhí leagtha air ag Ard-Chomhairle an Bhráithreachais leanúint leis na cainteanna a raibh tús curtha leo ag Ruairí Mac Easmainn. Socraíodh cruinnithe le daoine mórhábhachta i gcúrsaí airm sa Ghearmáin agus le hoifigigh eile d'fhonn cúnamh taca na Gearmáine le cúis na hÉireann a chinntiú. Bhí meon rúndachta ag baint le cúrsaí eile seachas beartaíocht Phlúincéid agus, in Éirinn féin, chuir daoine den Lár-Choiste Feidhmíocháin bonn foirmeálta faoin gceangal le hArm Cathartha na hÉireann ionas gur cuireadh Comhairle Mhíleata ar bun i gcomhar a dhéanfadh comhordú ar bhearta ina dhiaidh sin.

A very secret thing

Joseph Plunkett, member of the Central Executive (formerly Provisional Committee) and member of the Irish Republican Brotherhood (IRB), travelled to Germany on behalf of the IRB. He was tasked by the Supreme Council of the IRB to continue negotiations, commenced by Sir Roger Casement. Meetings were arranged with key German military figures and officials, with the aim to secure German support for the Irish cause. The air of secrecy extended beyond Plunkett's mission and, back in Ireland, members of the Central Executive formalised associations with the Irish Citizen Army to form a joint Military Council to coordinate future activities.



BMH CD 95/12, An Chlárán Mhíleata
BMH CD 95/12, Military Archives

Airgead as Meiriceá

Thug Coiste Mheiriceá d'Óglaigh Náisiúnta na hÉireann \$5,000 d'Eoin Mac Néill, faoi chomhair Sheáin T. Uí Cheallaigh, duine de Bhráithreachas na Poblachta agus Captaein in Óglaigh na hÉireann. Airgead a bhí ann a tháinig ó bhearta a rinne an cumann Clan na Gael, a bhí bunaithe i Meiriceá, chun airgead a bhailiú. Tugadh an ciste ar lámh do Ó Ceallaigh ag teannadh le deireadh an turas coicise a thug sé go Meiriceá. Chas Ó Ceallaigh le John Devoy ó chumann Clan na Gael, le Joseph Garrity agus le Denis Spellissy le linn na cuairte go Nua-Eabhrac agus Philadelphia. Ba é an bearta deiridh a tharla idir an Ceallach agus Spellissy gur ghlac sé le £1,000 breise do Bhráithreachas na Poblachta. IRB. Fágadh, d'aon turas, an t-airgead sin gan aon admháil foirmeálta ina leith.

Funds from America

The American Committee of the Irish National Volunteers entrusted \$5,000 to Eoin MacNeill, care of Sean T. O'Kelly, member of the IRB and Captain of the Irish Volunteers. The money was the product of fundraising activities undertaken by the American-based association Clan na Gael. The exchange was made towards the end of O'Kelly's two week stay in America. O'Kelly met John Devoy of Clan na Gael, Joseph Garrity and Denis Spellissy while in New York and Philadelphia. O'Kelly's final transaction with Spellissy involved his acceptance of an additional £1,000 for the IRB. This transaction was purposely unrecorded formally with a receipt.



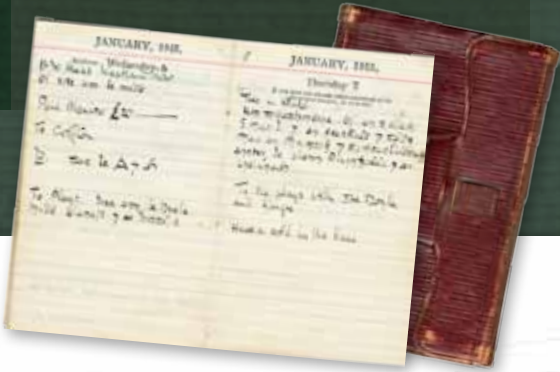
Seosamh Máire Plúincéid. Cóip d'omhá ón bpas a eisíodh sa bhliain 1915.
BMH P 24, An Chlárán Mhíleata
Joseph Mary Plunkett. Copy image from passport issued 1915.
BMH P 24, Military Archives

Dún agus Áras...

Bhí an Captaein Thomas Craven as Complacht 'B', Óglaigh Learphoil, ar na daoine sin in Óglaigh na hÉireann a tháinig thar sáile chun páirt a ghlacadh in Éirí Amach 1916 agus san ullmhúchán roimh ré. Bhí Teach agus Múlte Ghort na Fuiseoige, Camaigh, Baile Átha Cliath, áit chónaithe mhuintir Phlúincéid, ina bhunáit míleata ag Craven agus Óglaigh eile as Learphoil, Manchain, Londain, Glaschú agus Dún Éideann. Bhí timpeall is go duine eile in éineacht le Craven sa dream ar tugadh Garastún Chamaigh orthu.

Home from Home...

Captain Thomas Craven of 'B' company, Liverpool Volunteers, was one of a number of Irish Volunteers who arrived in Ireland to take an active part in both the Rising 1916, and preparations in the lead up to it. Larkfield House and Mills in Kimmage, Dublin homestead of the Plunkett family became a military base for Craven and other Irish Volunteers from Liverpool, Manchester, London, Glasgow and Edinburgh. Alongside approximately 90 others, Craven became part of a military body known as the Kimmage Garrison.

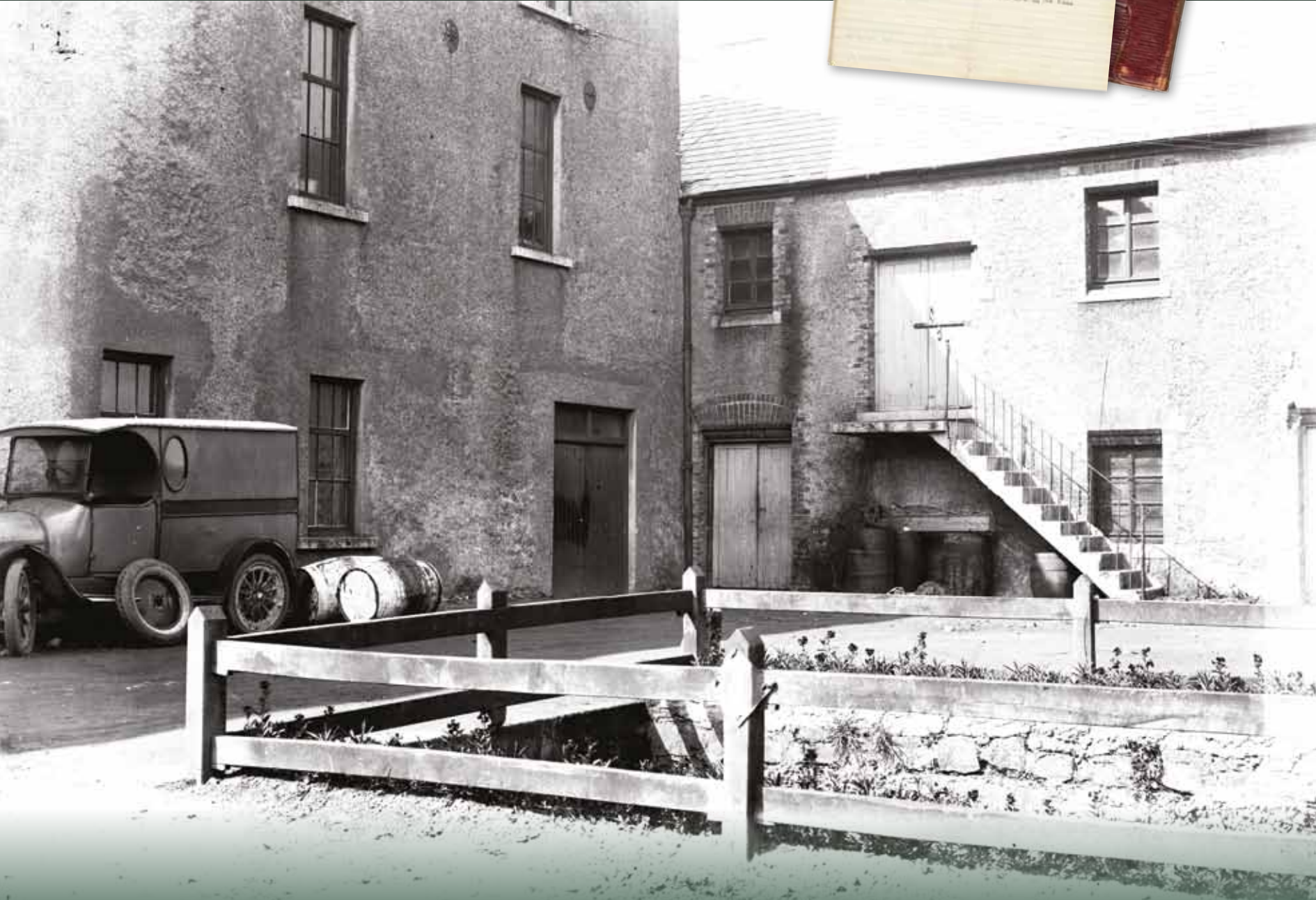


Larkfield Mills, Kimmage, May 1923 MA/GPN/09/024, Military Archives

Múlte Ghort na Fuiseoige, Camaigh, Bealtaine 1923 MA/GPN/09/024, An Chlárán Mhíleata

Dialann 1915, Sheosamh Mháire Plúincéid BMH CD 320, An Chlárán Mhíleata

Diary 1915, Joseph Mary Plunkett BMH CD 320, Military Archives



Ullmhú don Éirí Amach, teacht an Éirí Amach agus tar éis an Éirí Amach
Focus on Preparations for the Rising, advent of the Rising and aftermath

“Whatever I have done
I have done as a Soldier of Ireland in what I believed to be my
country’s interests”

Seán Heuston, on the eve of his
execution, to his friend and colleague
in Great Southern and Western Railway
Company, Mr. E. Walsh (BMH CD 95/2/4)



Ordúithe a d’eisigh an Leifteanant E. Bulfin, arna iarsú agus arna n-athrú ag an gCaptein Liam Mac Piarais, ag cur aithriúle i bhfeidhm ba gha tar éis do Eoin Mac Néill ordú a fhóisiú. BMH CD 99/2, An Chaitiam Míleata

Orders issued to Lieutenant E. Bulfin, revised and altered by Captain William Pearse, applying changes made necessary following the publication of an order by Eoin MacNeill. BMH CD 99/2, Military Archives

“not much use in having a battalion if you cannot get it together when you want it”¹

I rith na bliana 1915, bhíodhas ag treorú do na hAonaid, géarú ar an scéim slógtha a bhí acu. Scaipeadh airm agus lón airm go dtí pointí áise roimh aimsir an Éirí Amach, faoi stiúir na comhairle. Bhí an Comhchoiste Míleata ag cur bailchrioch ar na pleananna don Éirí Amach ó mhí Eanáir ar aghaidh agus socraíodh ar Dhómhnach Cásca (an 23 Aibreán) mar dháta. Tharla an phlé sin uile gan fhios ag cuid mhór ar an Ard-Chomhairle, Eoin Mac Néill agus Bulmer Hobson ina measc, go raibh sé ar siúl.

Bhí “bearta suimiúla” inlíochta leagtha amach do dhreath seachtaine na Cásca, faoi mar a bheadh inlíocht mhachaire ar siúl. Treoríodh d’Óglaigh teacht i láthair agus iad ullamh do lá nó dhó biobháige. Chuir Mac Néill an t-ordú slógaidh ar ceal go poiblí ar a fháil amach dó an chúis a bhí dáiríre leis an inlíocht.

“not much use in having a battalion if you cannot get it together when you want it”¹

Throughout 1915, Units were instructed to sharpen and perfect their particular scheme of mobilisation. Arms and ammunition were distributed to access points prior to the Rising, under direction of the council. The Joint Military Council finalised plans for the Rising from January, fixing Easter Sunday (23rd April) as the start date. These discussions took place without the knowledge of many on the Central Executive, including Eoin MacNeill and Bulmer Hobson.

An “interesting set” of manoeuvres was planned for the Easter weekend under the guise of a field exercise. Volunteers were instructed to report prepared for a one to two day bivouac. MacNeill publicly countermanded the mobilisation order and instructions on finding out the real reason for the exercise.

¹ Notes on ‘Communications’, An tÓglach, Vol. 3, Linn. 8 (South West)

Notes from Headquarters, The Irish Volunteer, Vol. No. 58 (New Series)

Ceannairí agus daoine iomráiteacha a raibh baint acu le hÉirí Amach 1916. Pláta léaraide ó fhoilsicéan dar teideal ‘The Sinn Féin Leaders of 1916’, BMH CD 229/1/1 agus pictiúr de Thomás Ceannnt, Conchúr Ó Colbáird, Seán Heuston, Micheál Ó Mealláin agus Liam Mac Piarais as bailiúchán de ghrianghrafáil i ghnéitheacha agus de cháitai cuimhneacháin, BMH CD 2/1/8, An Chaitiam Míleata

Leaders and personalities associated with the 1916 Rising. Illustrated plates from publication titled ‘The Sinn Féin Leaders of 1916’, BMH CD 229/1/1 and Thomas Kent, Con Colbert, Seán Heuston, Michael Mallin and Willie Pearse images from a collection of miscellaneous photographs and memorial cards, BMH CD 2/1/8, Military Archives



BMH CD 95/2/4, An Chaitiam Míleata
BMH CD 95/2/4, Military Archives

“Go luath Dé Máirt bhí ráflai de gach cineál ag dul thart. D’éirigh na hÓglaigh amach! Fógraíodh an Phoblacht! Bhí Caisleán Bhaile Átha Cliath, Teach an Chustaim agus Ard-Oifig an Phoist gafa ag na hÓglaigh! Bhí an lámh in uachtar acu i ngach áit!”¹

Ón tráth ar athraíodh ón mearbhall mar gheall ar na hordúithe agus go ndearmadh gníomh, is gearr a mhair an rath ar eachtraí tionscanta i mBaile Átha Cliath maidir le slógadh na n-óglach agus garastúin a chur ar bun mar tháinig tuilleadh fórsaí de chuid na Breataine ar an bhfód. Fógraíodh dlí airm an 25 Aibreán (Dé Máirt), bhí lár na cathrach dúnta ar dhaoine agus tródam saighdiúirí socraithe d’fhonn deireadh a chur leis an troid. Leanadh den troid taobh istigh den limistéar dúnta sin go dtí an 29 Aibreán (Dé Sathairn), nuair a ghéill Pádraig Mac Piarais thar ceann Rialtas Sealadach na Poblachta. Gabhadh ceannairí, gnáthóglaiigh agus daoine arbh eol gur sheas siad leo. Cuireadh sé dhúine dhéag, ar sonraíodh mórthabacht a bheith leo, chun báis idir an 3 Bealtaine agus an 3 Lúnasa. Cuireadh na mílte thar sáile isteach i gcampaí géibhinn i Sasana agus sa Bhreatain Bheag mar gheall ar a bpáirt san Éirí Amach, agus bhí ar mhuintir na linne ag dul i gcleachtadh chás nua na tíre mar áit inar tharla Éirí Amach.

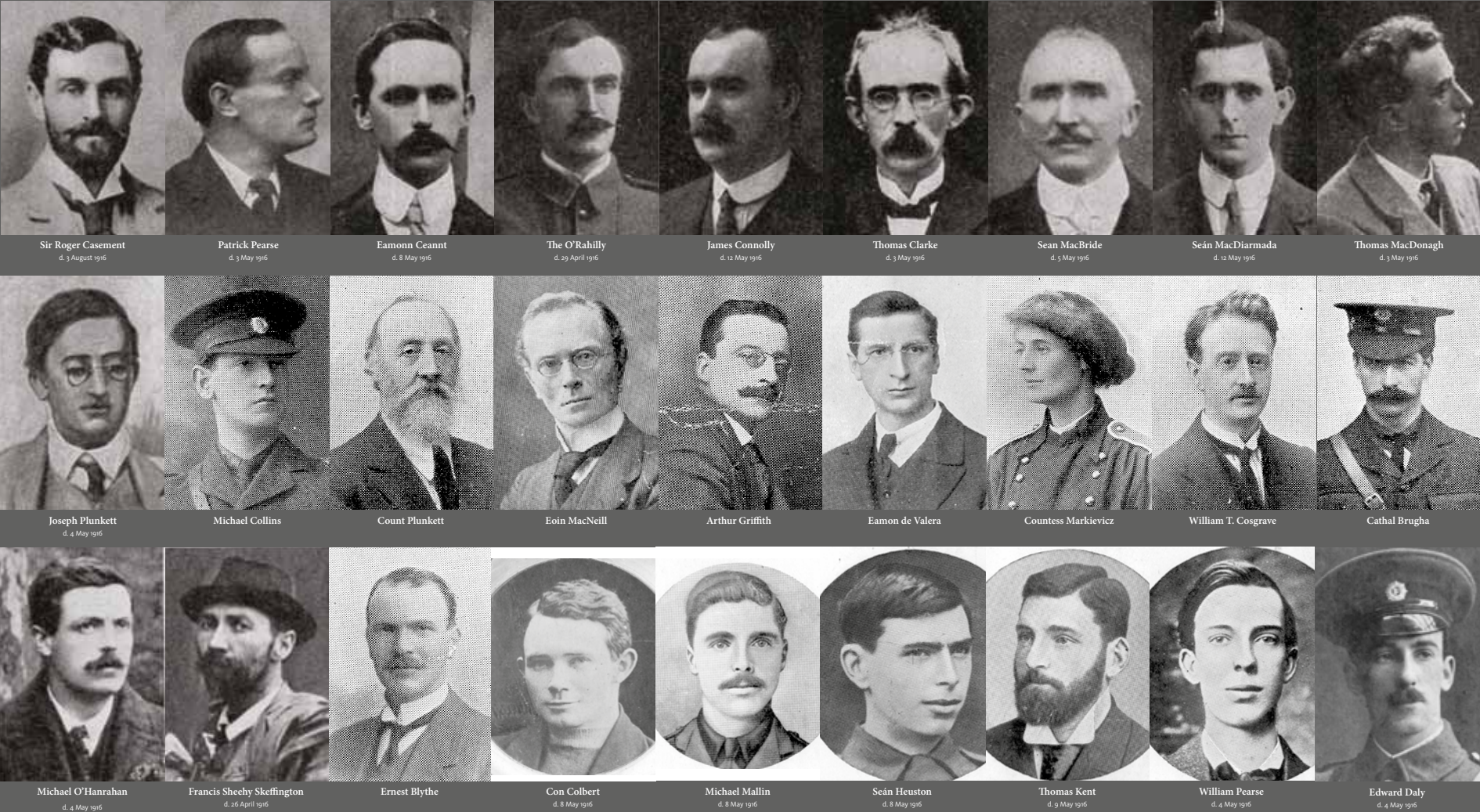
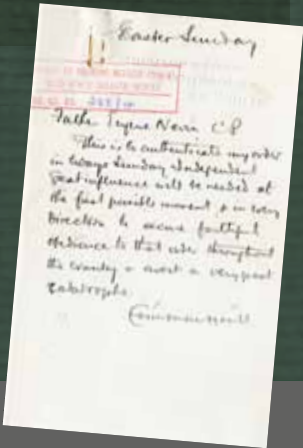
“Early on Tuesday all sorts of rumours were in circulation. The Volunteers were up! The Republic was proclaimed! The Volunteers had captured Dublin Castle, the Custom House and the GPO! They were winning everywhere!”¹

Once confusion surrounding the orders turned to action, initial successes in Dublin in mobilising troops and in establishing garrisons, were short-lived as British reinforcements gathered. Martial law was declared 25th April (Tuesday), the city centre shutdown with a cordon put in place to bring the fighting to an end. The fighting continued within this concentrated area until 29th April (Saturday), when P.H. Pearse surrendered on behalf of the Provisional Government of the Republic. Leaders, rank and file and known supporters were rounded up. Sixteen men, identified as key leaders were executed between 3 May and 3 August. Thousands were deported to internment camps in England and Wales for their part in the Rising, while a generation came to terms with the inherited landscape of a country, post rebellion.

² Éire Ní Shabhaire BMH WS 19, 59
Éire Ní Shabhaire BMH WS 19, 59

Litríocht ag Athair Mac Néill, C.P. 6
Eoin Mac Néill, ina dtugann sé deirniú mar gheall ar an ordú a foilsíodh ar an Sunday Independent. Bhí seo ar cheann de shraith teachtairíochtaí a chuir Mac Néill amach ag iarraidh stop a chur le slógadh chomplachtaí de chuid Óglaigh na hÉireann ar fud na tíre sular tharla an Éirí Amach. BMH CD 288/4, An Chaitiam Míleata

Letter addressed to Father Nevin, C.P. from Eoin MacNeill, authenticating his order publicised in the Sunday Independent. This is one of a series of communications issued by MacNeill in an attempt to halt the mobilisation of Irish Volunteer units countrywide before the Rising took hold. BMH CD 288/4, Military Archives



Of the 261 men of the **Pembroke Enlistment Forms**,
20 men went on to participate in the **1916 Rising**



Eamon de Valera

Eamon de Valera

Bhí Eamon de Valera i láthair ag an gcuirniú poiblí sa Rotunda an 25 Samhain 1913 agus chuaigh sé isteach in Óglaigh na hÉireann. Ceapadh ina Leifteanant é sa bhliain 1914 agus bhí sé ina oifigeach earcaíochta ag an 3ú Cathlán i nDomhnach Broc, mar a raibh cónaí air. Sa bhliain 1941 agus é ina Thaoiseach, bhronn sé 261 foirm iarratais ar Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann agus is díol suime an léargas atá uathu ar chúrsaí earcaíochta agus Óglaigh na hÉireann i samhradh na bliana 1914.

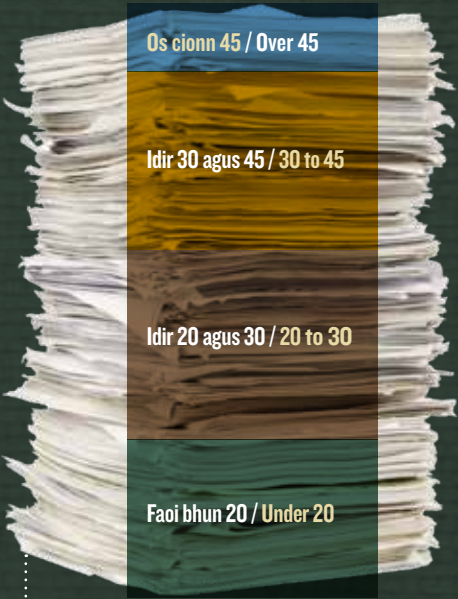
Eamon de Valera

Eamon de Valera attended the public meeting at the Rotunda on 25 November 1913 and joined the Irish Volunteers. He was appointed as a Lieutenant in 1914 and became the recruiting officer in Donnybrook, where he lived, for the 3rd Battalion. In 1941 when he was Taoiseach he donated 261 application forms to the National Museum of Ireland and these give an interesting insight into the recruiting of the Irish Volunteers during the summer of 1914.

261

Foirmeacha iarratais a bronnadh ar Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann
Application forms donated to the National Museum of Ireland

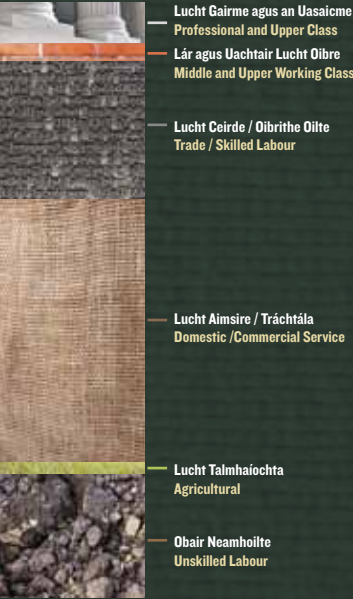
Aois
Age



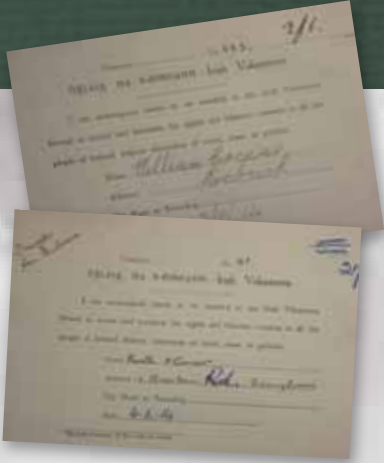
Dennis Meehan, 13 bliana d'aois, an té ab óige. Ba mhac eisean le hoibrí ar na dugáí a raibh cónaí air i 16 Sráid Chaoimhín Uacht. i mbarda Ché an Adhmaid.

The youngest man was 13 year old Dennis Meehan, the son of a dock labourer, of 16 Upper Kevin Street in the Wood Quay ward.

Gairm
Profession



Taighde de chuid Brenda Malone Research by Brenda Malone



Foirm iarratais, Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann
Application forms, National Museum of Ireland

Ardán Morehampton, Domhnach Broc
Morehampton Terrace, Donnybrook



“Darkness and pain, horror and bitter cries, and rending flames crackle the sky above. But when splendour and the beauty dies, out of the ashes soars the Shining Dove”

Devastation a poem
by Grace Plunkett
(BMH CD 227/35 p.10)



Dréacht den manifesto, ann ullmhú ag Ard-Chomhairle na nÓglach, Bealtaine 1917, le hionchas go n-eagrófaí Comhdháil Óglaigh na hÉireann (ní raibh dáta socráithe lena aghaidh tráth ar ullmháid an cháipéis seo). Tá leasuithe, ceartúcháin agus moltaí maidir leis an téacs ag gabháil leis an dréacht seo a chuirtear i leith Míchil Uí Chloicheáin. BMH CD 227/35, An Chaitiann Mheasta

Draft manifesto, prepared by the Irish Volunteer Executive May 1917, in anticipation of an Irish Volunteer Convention (date not fixed at time of production). Draft includes amendments, corrections and suggested text, attributed to Michael Collins. BMH CD 227/35, Military Archives

Filleadh

Tosaíodh i mí na Nollag 1916 ar lucht na gcampaí géibhinn, a cuireadh anonn go Sasana agus don Bhreatain Bheag tar éis an Éirí Amach, a ligean saor agus ligeadh an chuid deiridh den lucht géibhinn amach i mí Meitheamh 1917. Bhí cúnamh taca maidir le stádas agus leas na ndaoine a bhí i ngéibheann ón gCiste Cúnta Náisiúnta agus ó Chiste Chleithiúnaigh na nÓglach, a raibh brainsí réigiúnacha de ar fud na hÉireann, i rith an ama sin. Rinne an eagraíocht sin comhordúcháin ar an stocaireacht, ar phoiblíocht agus ar bhailiú airgid chun teacht i gcabhair ar an dream a bhí i ngéibheann agus ar na teaghlaigh.

Return

The release of internees, deported to England and Wales following the Rising, commenced in December 1916, culminating in a final release of internees in June 1917. The status and welfare of internees was supported by the Irish National Aid and Volunteer Dependent's Fund throughout this period, which had regional branches throughout Ireland. This organisation coordinated lobbying, publicity campaigns and fundraising to assist the internees and their families.



BMH CD 919/12, Charliann Mheasta

BMH CD 919/12, Military Archives



Léaráid as leabhar sínúcháin a bhí ag an Dr Brigid Lyons Thornton. Tá sínúcháin curtha ann ag polaiteoirí de chuid Sinn Féin, daoine a bhí in Óglaigh na hÉireann agus daoine a sheas leo ag cruinniúthe polaitíochta i Longfort, Ros Comáin agus oirthear an Chláir i rith na bliana 1917. PC1099 Bailiúchán an Uasal Barry Lyons, An Chaitiann Mheasta

Illustration from an Autograph book, belonging to Dr. Brigid Lyons Thornton. Contains signatures of Sinn Féin politicians, Irish Volunteers and supporters gathered at political rallies in Longford, Roscommon and East Clare throughout 1917. PC1099 Mr Barry Lyons collection, Military Archives

Atheagar

An dream a bhí i ngéibheann, tháinig siad ar ais isteach in eagraíocht a raibh gá le hord nua uirthi, le hathrú agus le ceannasaíocht thréan. Rinne Eagraithe, Diarmuid Ó hÉigeartaigh ina measc, ar éirigh leis éalú gan a ghabháil tar éis Éirí Amach 1916, obair ullmhúcháin maidir le heagar a chur ar na fórsaí agus aird a choinneáil ar an bpríomhaidhm. Eagraíodh Comhdháil (an Tríú Comhdháil) i bPáirc an Chrócaigh an 19 Samhain 1917 ag ar toghadh Ard-Chomhairle nua chomh maith le stiúrthóireachtaí a chruthú, dhá cheapachán sinsearacha nua san áireamh: Stiúrthóir Faisnéise agus Stiúrthóir Innealtóirí.

Reorganise

Internees returned to a structure in need of reorganisation, change and strong leadership. Preparatory work in organising the forces and maintaining focus was undertaken by Organisers, including Diarmuid O'Hegarty, who avoided capture in the aftermath of 1916. A Convention (the Third Convention) in Croke Park was held 19th November 1917 where a new Executive was elected and directorships formed, including two new senior appointments: Director of Intelligence and Director of Engineers.



Sochraid Thomáis Ághas, an 30 Meán Fómhair 1917. BMH CD227/35, An Chaitiann Mheasta

Funeral of Thomas Ashe, 30th September 1917. BMH CD227/35, Military Archives

Slógadh

Bhí an t-athrú ar chúrsaí polaitíochta, an borradh a tháinig faoi Shinn Féin agus an bhagairt leanúnach maidir le coinscriobh nó príosúnacht ina ghríosú ag cuid mhór de lucht Óglaigh na hÉireann páirt a ghlacadh san fheachtasaíocht a bhain le fo-thoghcháin agus toghcháin áitiúla a raibh iarrthóirí de chuid Sinn Féin ag seasamh iontu. Toghadh Éamon De Valera (Oirthear an Chláir), Liam T. Mac Cosgair (Cill Chainnigh), Seosamh Mac Aonghusa (Deisceart Longfoirt) agus an Cúnta Pluincéid (Ros Comáin) i dtoghcháin éagsúla i rith na bliana 1917. Bhí slógadh i gceist taobh amuigh den fheachtas polaitíochta agus tháinig na hÓglaigh le chéile, faoi éide airm, in onóir do Thomás Ághas nuair a adhlacadh é tar éis dó bás a fháil le linn stailc ocrais i bPríosún Mhuinseo, an 30 Meán Fómhair 1917

Rally

The changing political landscape, the growth of Sinn Féin and the ongoing threat of conscription and imprisonment, motivated many Irish Volunteers to participate in canvassing activities connected with by-elections and local elections where Sinn Féin candidates were running. Elections throughout 1917 saw the return of Eamon De Valera (East Clare), William T. Cosgrave (Kilkenny), Joseph McGuinness (South Longford) and Count Plunkett (Roscommon). The rallying effort extended beyond political campaigning, and Irish Volunteers came together, in uniform, to honour and bury Thomas Ashe, who died on hunger strike in Mountjoy prison, on 30th September 1917.

Príosúnaigh, ama scaoileadh amach, agus daoine a sheas leo, i bpicitúr a tógadh taobh amuigh de Theach an Ard-Mhéara, Baile Átha Cliath, an 17 Meitheamh 1917. (Tá gluais maidir leis na daoine atá sa phicitúr sa treoir a ghabhann leis an bpicitúr). BMH P 10, An Chaitiann Mheasta

Released Prisoners, and supporters, taken outside the Mansion House, Dublin, 17 June 1917. (Key to individuals featured in accompanying guide). BMH P 10, Military Archives



“We must remember we have **stern work**
to do, **vital** work, **perilous work** [...]”

An tÓglach, Vol. I No. 9
(31 December 1918/15 January 1919)



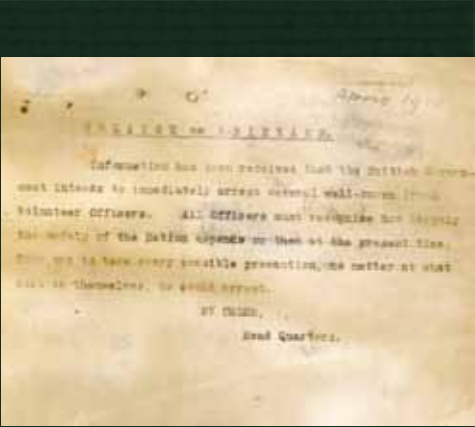
Gealladh maidir le Coinscrobh 1918. BMH CD 4107, An Chaitiún Mheasta
Conscription Pledge 1918. BMH CD 4107, Military Archives

An Gealladh Náisiúnta

Tháinig Óglaigh na hÉireann, eagraíochtaí Náisiúnta, páirtithe polaitíochta agus brains den rialtas áitiúil le chéile i rith na bliana 1918 gur sheas ceart na hÉireann cur in aghaidh an choinscríofa. Cuireadh feachtas agus ciste ar bun ag cur in aghaidh an choinscríofa. Tháinig ionadaithe ó gach gné de shaol an chultúir agus na polaitíochta in Éirinn le chéile chun a raibh beartaithe a phlé go foirmiúil ag Comhdháil a tionóladh i dTeach an Ard-Mhéara, Baile Átha Cliath, an 18 Aibreán. Bhí an ghluaiseacht in aghaidh an choinscríofa tréan taobh amuigh d'Éirinn freisin, eagraíodh cruinnithe i gcathracha móra sna Stáit Aontaithe agus tháinig airgead don chiste as áiteanna ar fud an domhain.

The National Pledge

Irish Volunteers, National organisations, political parties and branches of local government unified throughout 1918 to defend Ireland's right to resist conscription. An anti-conscription campaign and fund was launched. Representatives from all aspects of Irish political and cultural life met to discuss the proposals formally in a Convention held in the Mansion House, Dublin 18th April. The anti-conscription movement was prominent beyond Ireland, with anti-conscription meetings held in large cities in the United States, and worldwide contributions being made to the fund.



Ciorcán ón gCeannteathrú, Aibreán 1918, re gabháil a bhí beartaithe a dhéanamh ar cheannairí na nÓglach. BMH CD 4081/1, An Chaitiún
Headquarters Circular, April 1918, re projected arrests of Volunteer leaders. BMH CD 4081/1, Military Archives

Notes from Headquarters

Bhí an Ceannteathrú Ginearálta i mbun cumarsáide, trí chiorcláin agus An tÓglach (arna atheisiúint ó mhí Lúnasa 1918 amach), leis na hOifigigh agus leis na hÓglaigh uile.

Notes from Headquarters

General Headquarters, through the medium of circulars and An tÓglach (reissued from August 1918), communicated with Officers and all ranks generally. Regular contributions in An tÓglach, featured the Director of Organisation, the Director of Engineers and the Director of Training. Matters discussed by General Headquarters were also shared with readers.



Suíltheantas choinscríofa. BMH CD 22775/4, An Chaitiún Mheasta
Anti-Conscription badge. BMH CD 22775/4, Military Archives



Pictiúr de ghruipa daoine a tógadh ag Ceanntoifig Shinn Féin, 6 Sráid Fhearchair, Baile Átha Cliath, Deireadh Fómhair 1918. BMH CD 957/6, An Chaitiún Mheasta
Group taken at Sinn Féin Headquarters, 6 Harcourt Street, Dublin, October 1918. BMH CD 957/6, Military Archives

“Ready and Steady”¹

An dul chun cinn a rinneadh maidir le toghchánaíocht sa bhliain 1917, leanadh de i rith na bliana 1918, agus ghnóthaigh Sinn Féin níos mó suíochán san Olltoghchán an 14 Nollaig 1918. Tionóladh an chéad chruinniú de Dháil Éireann an 21 Eanáir 1919 mar gheall ar thoradh an toghcháin sin. Tháinig deireadh dá réir sin le húdaráis Ardchomhairle na nÓglach, mar eagraíocht mhíleata ar leithligh, i mbun ghnóthaí Óglaigh na hÉireann agus ón dáta sin amach aistríodh an chumhacht ina leith sin go dtí an Roinn Cosanta faoi Risteárd Ó Maolchatha, an chéad Aire Cosanta.

“Ready and Steady”¹

Election success in 1917 was continued throughout 1918, with further gains for Sinn Féin in the General Election 14th December 1918. The inaugural meeting of Dáil Éireann was held 21st January 1919, in recognition of the election result. The Irish Volunteer Executive, as an autonomous Military entity, ceased to be the authority directing Irish Volunteer affairs from that date, with power being transferred to the Defence Ministry, under Richard Mulcahy as the first Minister for Defence.

¹ An tÓglach, Imil, 1, Uimh. 3, 30 Meán Fómhair 1918
An tÓglach, Vol. 1, No. 3, 30th September 1918

Grianghraf de 27 teachta sa chéad Dáil Éireann a tógadh taobh amuigh de Theach an Ard-Mhéara, Eanáir 1919. (Tá gualais maidir leis na daoine atá sa phictiúr sa treoir a ghabhann leis an bpictiúr) Cúrsaí Cosanta, An Chaitiún Mheasta

Group photograph of 27 members of 1st Dáil Éireann taken outside the Mansion House, January 1919. (Key to people in accompanying guide to caption) Cúrsaí Cosanta, Military Archives





Óglaigh
na hÉireann
DEFENCE FORCES IRELAND



Óglaigh na hÉireann

i bhfócas 1913–1918 in focus

The Irish Volunteers



www.militaryarchives.ie

The Volunteer Gazette.

No. 1.

DECEMBER, 1913.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

CLEARING THE AIR.

The Irish Volunteers are the natural outcome of the national spirit. Other movements have been planned out beforehand and organised into active working. The Volunteer movement is stirring everywhere throughout Ireland, and has yet to be shaped and organised. It is the people's own work. The hundredth part of the local feeling in favour of volunteering has not yet been made known to the general public, and for that reason the Nation at large is not yet fully aware of the strength of its own purpose. People in one locality who want to have the Volunteers established do not know as yet that their fellow-countrymen in other localities are of the same mind. This makes them slow to move, and it may be just as well that they are slow to move, and that they do not move at all until they get a clear notion of the lines they ought to move on. This present publication will give a fair idea of the right lines, and will enable people in their own localities to take the first steps in the formation of Volunteer companies.

There is really no National opposition to the Volunteer movement. There are some people who are doubtful about the present effect of the movement, and others who are doubtful about its future effect. The best way to settle these doubts is for those who are not doubtful to go ahead and make sure. Still, we must be satisfied with our own efforts towards our fellow-Irishmen, whose anxiety for Ireland's cause may confuse their purpose for the moment, and we should be prepared to answer their doubts.

There is a confused notion in many minds that the Volunteer movement, in some way that is not explained, might interfere with the Home Rule settlement. The opponents of Home Rule do not think so. On the contrary, they have kept saying, until the Volunteer movement began, that Irishmen were not much concerned about National government, "that they would neither fight for it nor pay for it." Their constant cry was that the Ulster Unionists were in earnest, and that nobody in Ireland but them was in earnest; and the proof of this was that the Ulster Unionists had enrolled themselves in a Volunteer force.

Some doubt whether they ought to support any action that affects the political future, unless such action is promoted or recommended by the Irish Parliamentary Party. But it ought to be plain to everybody that under their present engagements the Irish Party could not become responsible for the line of action implied in the Volunteer movement—not even to secure an obvious political advantage. The Irish Party is bound to go through with its present policy in alliance with the Liberal Government, even though their opponents abandon constitutional politics for the threat of open force and claim by that means to influence British public opinion, and thereby to govern the present concerns of Ireland and to make themselves future masters of Ireland. But the Irish people are perfectly free to protect themselves against government by violence or against a mastery secured by violent means. They are not only free to do so, but it is their plain duty to do so.

If by any means (and the vilest means are in contemplation) the enemies of Irish Nationality can defeat the Home Rule Bill, they will take up the government of Ireland with the double policy of suppressing the National spirit by force and corrupting it by doles. The way to prevent

their victory is by showing now that the Irish people will not submit to force. It would be the most stupid folly to make no preparation until our enemies had every possible advantage in their power.

We deplore the estrangement of some of our fellow-countrymen from the National cause, and we desire eagerly to bring about a National unity. The weapons of our enemies are not the weapons of force alone. They seek to hold us down by fostering hatred among us at home and by persistently defaming us as a nation. Violence, hatred, and defamation, with a dole here and there to tempt a people that has been systematically robbed and starved—these are the means by which the so-called Union is to be maintained, in the hope of ultimately destroying our National existence. It will be in the power of the Irish Volunteers to smash for ever the hope of subjecting their country to such a rule. We seek to injure no man, to protect liberty not to assail it, to defend our country and our nationality, not to attack others. The world will see our stand for right and liberty, and the power does not exist that dare undertake to suppress us.

MANIFESTO OF THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

Promulgated at the Kilmacree Meeting, November 25th, 1913.

At a time when legislative proposals, universally confessed to be of vital concern for the future of Ireland, have been put forward, and are awaiting decision, a plan has been deliberately adopted by one of the great English political parties, advocated by the leaders of that party and by its numerous organs in the Press, and brought systematically to bear on English public opinion, to make the display of military force and the menace of armed violence the determining factor in the future relations between this country and Great Britain.

The party which has thus substituted open force for the semblance of civil government is seeking by this means not merely to decide an immediate political issue of grave concern to this nation, but also to obtain for itself the future control of all our national affairs. It is plain to every man that the people of Ireland, if they acquiesce in this new policy by their inaction, will consent to the surrender, not only of their rights as a nation, but of their civic rights as men.

The Act of Union deprived the Irish nation of the power to direct its own course and to develop and use its own resources for its own benefit. It gave us instead the meagre and seldom effective right of throwing our votes into the vast and complicated movement of British politics. Since the Act of Union, a long series of repressive statutes has endeavoured to deal with the incessant discontent of the Irish people by depriving them of various rights common to all who live under the British Constitution. The new policy goes further than the Act of Union, and further than all subsequent Coercion Acts taken together. It proposes to leave us the political franchise in name and to annihilate it in fact. If we fail to take such measures as will effectually defeat this policy, we become politically the most degraded population in Europe, and no longer worthy of the name of nation.

Are we to rest inactive, in the hope that the course of politics in Great Britain may

save us from the degradation openly threatened against us? British politics are controlled by British interests, and are complicated by problems of great importance to the people of Great Britain. In a crisis of this kind, the duty of safeguarding our rights is our duty first and foremost. If we remain quiescent, by what title can we expect the people of Great Britain to turn aside from their own pressing concerns to defend us. Will not such an attitude of itself mark us out as a people unworthy of defence?

Such is the occasion, not altogether unfortunate, which has brought about the inception of the Irish Volunteer Movement. But the Volunteers, once they have been enrolled, will form a prominent element in the national life under a National Government. The nation will maintain its Volunteer organisation as a guarantee of the liberties which the Irish people shall have secured.

If ever in history a people could say that an opportunity was given them by God's will to make an honest and manly stand for their rights, that opportunity is given us today. The stress of industrial effort, the relative peace and prosperity of recent years, may have dulled the sense of the full demands of civic duty. We may forget that the powers of the platform, the Press and the polling booth are derived from the conscious resolve of the people to maintain their rights and liberties. From time immemorial it has been held by every race of mankind to be the right and duty of a free man to defend his freedom with all the resources and with his life itself. The exercise of that right distinguishes the free man from the serf; the discharge of that duty distinguishes him from the coward.

To drill, to learn the use of arms, to acquire the habit of concerted and disciplined action, to form a citizen army from a population now at the mercy of almost any organised aggression—this, beyond all doubt, is a programme that appeals to all Ireland, but especially to young Ireland. We begin at once in Dublin, and we are confident that the movement will be taken up without delay all over the country. Public opinion has already and quite spontaneously formed itself into an eager desire for the establishment of the Irish Volunteers.

The object proposed for the Irish Volunteers is to secure and maintain the rights and liberties common to all the people of Ireland. Their duties will be defensive and protective, and they will not contemplate either aggression or domination. Their ranks are open to all able-bodied Irishmen, without distinction of creed, politics, or social grade. Means will be found whereby Irishmen unable to serve as ordinary Volunteers will be enabled to aid the Volunteer forces in various capacities. There will also be work for women to do, and there are signs that the women of Ireland, true to their record, are especially enthusiastic for the success of the Irish Volunteers.

We propose for the Volunteers' organisation the widest possible basis. Without any other association or classification the Volunteers will be enrolled according to the district in which they live. As soon as it is found feasible, the district sections will be called upon to join in making provision for the general administration and discipline and for united co-operation. The Provisional Committee which has acted up to the present will continue to offer its services until an elective body is formed to replace it.

A proportion of time spared, not from

ment is seeking by this means not merely to decide an immediate political issue of grave concern to this nation, but also to obtain for itself the future control of all our national affairs. It is plain to every man that the people of Ireland, if they acquiesce in this new policy by their inaction, will consent to the surrender, not only of their rights as a nation, but of their civic rights as men.

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Saturday, December 5, 1914.

THE IRISH VOLUNTEER.

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HEADQUARTERS BULLETIN

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers met at Headquarters, 41 Kildare Street, Dublin, on Wednesday evening, 25th inst., Professor Eoin Mac Neill, President, in the Chair.

A Sub-Committee of Military Organisation was appointed.

The following General Order was issued:—

GENERAL ORDER.

With regard to a recent report as to a seizure of arms attributed to Volunteers in Dublin, the Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers expresses its strong disapprobation of any such action, and draws attention to the previous Orders of the Provisional Committee referring to alleged seizures of arms in the North and elsewhere.

Headquarters, 41 Kildare St.,
Dublin, 25th Nov., 1914.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS.

COMMITTEE OF MILITARY ORGANISATION.

An important step was taken at the last meeting of the Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers in the appointment of a Committee of Military Organisation. This body will take in hands immediately the organisation of the whole force on a definite military basis, the main outlines of which have already been approved by the Executive. The organisation will proceed from the company up rather than from the division down, and it will give a place—as special scouting sections—even to units smaller than the company. The main idea of the scheme will be to make each company and battalion, as far as possible, a self-contained unit, with representatives of every branch of the service in its composition, so that each company or battalion may be able, not only to take its place in the brigade, but to act independently in its own district. Pending the publication of the scheme, company and battalion commanders should bring into existence and carefully train special cycling, scouting, signalling, transport, engineering, and ambulance units on the lines suggested in recent notes sent out from Headquarters. The whole company, as already notified, is to be trained in scouting, and the cycle is to be availed of by as many of the men as possible.

GENERAL STAFF.

One of the duties of the new Committee will be to submit to the Executive a scheme for the organisation of a General Staff. With a General Staff at work at Headquarters and a military organisation adapted to the exigencies of Volunteer

service perfecting itself in the country, we shall soon have entered on a new phase of Volunteer history. During the past eventful twelve months we have simply been clearing the ground for the definite constructive work that remains to be done.

MUSKETRY PRACTICE.

The weekly musketry practice is now a regular feature of the training of every Company that is worth its salt. Service ammunition, being costly and scarce, should be husbanded as much as possible, but excellent practice can be secured with miniature rifles and .22 ammunition. Even an air-gun will afford practice in marksmanship. Several rural Companies have fitted up capital little ranges in barns and disused mills, where the men foregather once or twice weekly (in addition to the usual parades) and engage in firing practice. They are quite inexpensive. The total cost of an admirable miniature range recently fitted up by a Co. Dublin Company was only one pound.

KEEPING IN TOUCH.

It is very important that all Companies should keep in touch with their County Boards where such exist, and, in any case, with Headquarters. The weekly Headquarters Bulletin and Headquarters Notes should be studied by officers and by County Boards, and all local Orders should be in conformity with the Orders or suggestions therein embodied. Companies should be prompt in forwarding their affiliation fees to Headquarters. The affiliation fees are practically the sole source of income on which Headquarters can draw for running expenses, as all donations and collections are being faithfully devoted to the sole purpose of purchasing arms and ammunition.

SCOUTING SECTIONS.

Small isolated groups of Volunteers everywhere are urged to get into touch with Headquarters immediately, with a view to recognition as special Scouting sections. Groups, however small, are entitled to recognition in this way, and, among other possible activities, will be assigned very important duties in connection with the Executive's communication scheme. A group of half-a-dozen cyclist scouts in a district is the next best thing to a Company of Volunteers.

DUBLIN ACTIVITIES.

Dublin Companies were very busy in the forenoon of Sunday last. The Companies of the 2nd Battalion had field manoeuvres in the Park, under Captain MacDonagh, while Companies belonging to 1st, 3rd, and 4th Battalions had range practice. An interesting musketry competition between the officers of Companies A and C, 3rd Battalion, resulted in a victory for Company C.

FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY ARMIES

When revolutionary France entered on her struggle with the nations of Europe her military situation seemed desperate. Opposed to her were the Austrian, Prussian and English armies, all composed of tried long-service soldiers and all fully supplied with every warlike necessity of that time. Against these France could put in the field at first mere hordes of undisciplined men half-armed, half-clad, half-fed. At the very start France had not even Generals of any capacity. How, then, did the French prove eventually successful? What were the causes that operated to make them finally prevail?

We are often told that their victory was due to their revolutionary enthusiasm. But enthusiasm is hardly a military quality, and certainly is not, under any circumstances, capable of becoming a habit or permanent mark of troops. On the other hand troops animated by it will make efforts, while still raw and untrained, the results of which remain for ever—long after all enthusiasm is gone. One of these results is mobility: raw troops marching for an idea kept on their feet long after professional soldiers sought rest, and gradually this circumstance changed into a power to outmarch the mercenary—a power retained by the Napoleonic armies to the very end.

There were many reasons for this mobility. First of all, the men were willing to march: the physical act of swinging one's legs along a road was not of itself a hardship; they had some idea of what they were marching for and the prospect of some success to be gained at the end. With their naturally lively intelligence they thus cheered and heartened each other: there was no very rigorous discipline to anger them, and each man was thoroughly interested in his work. This willingness of the men was made the most of by their officers, and the "old hands" taught their younger comrades the thousand and one little things that make all the difference between unbearable hardship and a slight comparative comfort for the soldier in campaign.

Secondly, the army or division—as distinct from the troops—was unattended by heavy wagon-trains. There were thus no slow-moving columns of vehicles with the inevitable break-downs to annoy the soldiers with unexpected and inconvenient halts, to force them off the roads to make a passage or irritate them in any way.

Thirdly, they marched light: revolutionary France had no means of supplying elaborate equipments for her soldiers, and so they were at least spared the hardship of having any to carry. There was consequently much less physical exertion than if they were heavily laden—a much

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THE IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 2. (New Series).

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1914.

Price One Penny.

"A DESPERATE ATTEMPT."

Mr. John Dillon has written a letter to the Secretary of the Redmond Demonstration Committee, Tuam. Mr. Dillon says:

1. "A wicked scandalous attempt has been made to overthrow Mr. Redmond's leadership," and
2. "To break up the Irish Party," and
3. "To destroy the great movement founded 35 years ago."
4. "To achieve this work of ruin, a desperate attempt has been made to capture the organisation of the Irish Volunteers," and
5. "A flood of scurrility and lies was let loose on the country, such as I never remember in my political experience."
6. "If this attempt had succeeded, the Home Rule cause would have been defeated," and
7. "Ireland, according to the teaching of Nationalists of the new Sinn Fein brand, would have been referred for all future hope of liberty to the Kaiser."

Mr. Dillon's seven articles can be dealt with one by one.

I.

Mr. Redmond's leadership of the Irish Parliamentary Party has not been disputed, questioned, or intrigued against in any way that the public has been permitted to hear of. Mr. Redmond holds a definite mandate from the majority of the Irish electorate. That mandate has yet to be fulfilled. No departure from it has been sanctioned by those who gave it.

II.

The Irish Party hold the same mandate. The public has never heard, till Mr. Dillon wrote, of any attempt to break up the Irish Party. The public ought not to be kept in the dark about such things, and Mr. Dillon should explain what he means. Otherwise, he will appear to be writing in order to create an unfounded scare, and to bounce people's judgment by hinting at some hidden conspiracy.

III.

By "the great movement founded 35 years ago" Mr. Dillon no doubt means the constitutional Home Rule movement. There is no doubt that the constitutional movement has been brought to a standstill by an unconstitutional movement financed and supported by the British Unionist Party and backed up by militant anti-Irish Jingoism. It is also known that resistance to this unconstitutional and revolutionary movement has been declared by Lord Crewe, the Liberal leader in the House of Lords, to be "coercion" and contrary to Liberal principles, and by the Prime Minister in the House of Commons to be "unthinkable." The Ministry, headed by these Statesmen, stood pledged for two years to the full text of the Home Rule Bill, now called the Home Rule Act. They now stand pledged against it. We do not know what their next pledge will be. In these circumstances, it seems rather contemptible to be turning the attack on those whom Mr. Dillon calls "Nationalists of the new Sinn Fein brand," the vast majority of whom are men who support the policy to which the Liberal Ministry stood pledged and which the Ministry has now abandoned.

IV.

This statement is open to an obvious retort, but the matter is altogether too serious to be treated in the debating society fashion. Mr. Dillon alleges that a desperate attempt has been made to capture the organisation of the Irish Volunteers with a view to overthrowing Mr. Redmond's leadership, breaking up the Irish Party, and destroying the Home Rule movement. Now either I am aware of that attempt or I am kept in ignorance of it. If I am aware of it, then I am guilty of falsifying every undertaking that has been made by myself and others on behalf of the Irish Volunteers since the first committee meeting at which I

presided, over twelve months ago. The Irish Volunteers are not a secret society. They are not under a secret administration. They have no secret policy. Their membership and their companies consist of Irishmen freely admitted on publicly-known conditions. They have no secret signs or passwords. They are bound by no secret engagements. All their acts are as open and above-board as the friendly Government will permit. How it is proposed to "capture" an organisation of this kind, or who proposes to do it, is a mystery. Since the public knows absolutely nothing of the "desperate attempt," the attempt must be a secret one. Mr. Dillon can do no harm by a full exposure of the plot. As his statement stands, it can be classed with other statements attributed to "responsible" persons, statements which appeared to have for their object the holding up of the Irish Volunteers to persecution by military authorities acting under no small degree of excitement. Already quite a number of Irish Volunteers have been driven from employment and deprived of their livelihood. If the authorities are taken to task for acts of persecution, they will easily find justification in the statements of men claiming to be Irish Nationalists, though till now it has never been known in Irish history that men claiming to be Nationalists were willing to hold up other Nationalists, whatever differences might exist between them, to the anger and hostility of the British authorities; least of all to the anger and hostility of that very class of men whose violent antipathy to Irish nationalism was so clearly manifested a few months ago. What Irish Nationalist could have believed at that time that he would be asked, before the year was out, to implicate himself in providing victims for the spirit that animated the Curragh revolt and the Clontarf expedition? The "sharpe curve" is "about turn" in the National march. "By their fruits ye shall know

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Saturday, July 31st, 1915.

THE IRISH VOLUNTEER.

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VIII.

To the end—what could stimulate us more to the full height of our achievement than the thought that we may be writing the last chapter in the struggle for freedom? That last chapter should be the best: by every canon of logic and art and truth the last chapter should be the best. Put everything then from mind that it may be filled with this one thought,—the day that is ours. The history of this day must be written in golden lines worthy of the chapters that make up the splendid story of our race. Let those who are our inspiration stand forth in spirit from the past, challenging us to comradeship, that we may rise to the level of their nobility, their valour and their constancy. That is the spur to make us burn with pride and strive like heroes: and then we shall write the last chapter, and write it well. Remember, we especially who have preached this hour, its coming and its hope; the hour will be all we have dreamed, if all we have protested we are willing and ready to dare. The whole history of our people has culminated to this point, and we must rise on the crest of the moment: so shall we seize our opportunity, vindicate our prophets, justify our dead, restore an old nation to her place among the nations, and add a new glory to the history of the world.

TERENCE J. MACSWINEY.

Excursion to Warrenpoint.

The Colmcille Branch of the Gaelic League are running an Excursion to Warrenpoint next Monday, 2nd August (Bank Holiday). Gaels and Volunteers should rally to the assistance of Craobh Colmcille, as it is one of the oldest and hardest working branches in Dublin. Time and Fare can be seen by referring to our advertisement.

cumne na marb.

**Excursion from Belfast,
O'DONOVAN ROSSA FUNERAL.
SUNDAY NEXT, AUGUST 1st.
RETURN FARE, 4/6.**

Tickets to be had at the principal Newspapers and at 30 Divis Street, Belfast, from Tuesday, 27th inst.

"Thou art not conquered yet, dear land."

craobh colmcille.

**EXCURSION TO WARRENPOINT,
NEXT MONDAY**

(Bank Holiday).

Fare 4/9 (Tickets 5/3 on Morning of Excursion)

Tickets on sale at 5 Blackhall St., Dublin,
and Irish Ireland Shops.

Train Leaves Amlens St. at 9-15 a.m.

AN CUMANN COSANTA

**Insures Irish Volunteers
against Victimisation by
their Employers.**

Write for particulars to the Secretary, I.V. Head-
quarters, 2 Dawson Street, Dublin.

Don't Buy a Watch by the Case!

By all means let the case be as good as you can afford. But remember that a good case does not necessarily mean a good watch. Be sure you are buying an accurate timekeeper. An excellent watch is our £3 3s. Silver Keyless Lever, whose average variation is less than a minute a month.

GANTER BROS.,

65 South Great George's Street, DUBLIN.

FUNERAL OF O'DONOVAN ROSSA

To-morrow the remains of O'Donovan Rossa will be laid to rest in Glasnevin Cemetery, and the men of Ireland will have the opportunity of paying a last tribute of respect to one of the greatest of the men of '67.

The funeral of a '67 man, occurring at such a time as this, must inevitably remind us of the circumstances attending the funeral of Terence Bellew MacMunn in 1861. MacMunn was a '48 man, who died in San Francisco in 1861. Arrangements were made for bringing his remains to Ireland, and the newly organised Fenian Movement took charge of the funeral arrangements. They decided to make it a test of their strength and discipline. The funeral itself was a most impressive affair. Order was

foundation two years before. Luby, O'Leary and Halcigan were arrested with him. He was sentenced to penal servitude, and during the years he was in prison he was constantly subjected to the utmost brutality and the grossest insult. In 1871, with other prisoners, he was released on condition of not returning to Ireland for 20 years. After his release he lived in America for many years, where he took an active part in assisting the National Movement at home. He spent some time in Ireland a few years ago, and, to the regret of his friends, returned again to spend the last years of his life in America. Now he is dead, and his remains have been received in Dublin with the honour due to one who never wavered in



Do capa-mair xiu capáin.

Sparrnaid O'Donnabháin

Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa

kept among the vast concourse of people by Fenian Marshals, and 50,000 men, nearly all members of the brotherhood, marched in procession. In Thomas Street the men uncovered as they passed the spot where Robert Emmet was executed. At Glasnevin, James Stephens delivered the oration. From that day Fenianism was a power. To-morrow one of the men who organised that procession will receive a similar tribute. O'Donovan Rossa fell into the hands of the English Government when, in Sept., 1865, it raided the offices of the "Irish People," which he had managed since its

his adherence to the cause of an Independent Ireland. The funeral, which will take place to-morrow, will mark a fitting close to the career of a man who died unrepentant of his hostility to imperialism, and who spent his whole life in the service of Ireland. The streets of Dublin will be thronged with men from all parts of Ireland, who believe in the principles to which O'Donovan Rossa dedicated his life. Unconfounded by contemporary happenings; undisturbed by the present turmoil in Europe, they will carry on the work which he has left unfinished, until its final triumph.

1782 The Volunteer Boots. 1914
13/6 To . . . Specially designed for marching, and manufactured in my own factory by Irish Trade Union Labour. Post Orders promptly attended to.
JOHN MALONE, NORTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa

kept among the vast concourse of people by Fenian Marshals, and 50,000 men, nearly all members of the brotherhood, marched in procession. In Thomas Street the men uncovered as they passed the spot where Robert Emmet was executed. At Glasnevin, James Stephens delivered the oration. From that day Fenianism was a power. To-morrow one of the men who organised that procession will receive a similar tribute. O'Donovan Rossa fell into the hands of the English Government when, in Sept., 1865, it raided the offices of the "Irish People," which he had managed since its

his adherence to the cause of an Independent Ireland. The funeral, which will take place to-morrow, will mark a fitting close to the career of a man who died unrepentant of his hostility to imperialism, and who spent his whole life in the service of Ireland. The streets of Dublin will be thronged with men from all parts of Ireland, who believe in the principles to which O'Donovan Rossa dedicated his life. Unconfounded by contemporary happenings; undisturbed by the present turmoil in Europe, they will carry on the work which he has left unfinished, until its final triumph.

1782 The Volunteer Boots. 1914
13/6 To . . . Specially designed for marching, and manufactured in my own factory by Irish Trade Union Labour. Post Orders promptly attended to.
JOHN MALONE, NORTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.

THE IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 19. (New Series.)

SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 1915.

Price One Penny.

NOTES.

Readers will excuse me, I trust, if they find my comments behind time now and then in reference to public events. The Liberal Home Rule Government compels me to get the "Irish Volunteer" printed at a distance of over a hundred miles from where I live. Having forced the former printer, Mr. Mahon, to relinquish his contract, I am told that they have now, after several weeks, given him back his confiscated property. They will find some difficulty in persuading even the most war-fevered brain that these brilliant operations have the remotest connection with the Defence of the Realm.

They have another way of keeping me from being in too great a hurry. The mails get from Dublin to Belfast in three hours, but a letter from Dublin to the printers of the *IRISH VOLUNTEER* takes forty-eight hours to get through. This is unreasonable. I made a more reasonable offer publicly to Dublin Castle—to let them read my proofs, which would allow the printing to be done without delay, and enable Dublin Castle to hold up the issue if they liked. I admit that it can do Dublin Castle no harm to read carefully all I have to say, but they can read it better in print than in manuscript, and I offer this mild remonstrance to the Home Rule Liberal Postmaster-General, whose co-operation with Dublin Castle imposes a delay of two days on me.

The same Home Rule Liberal P.M.G. will perhaps be able to explain how it happened that a letter sent to me a few days ago by a parish priest in the County Derry, and registered by him, was opened in transit and again closed before it reached me. Of the opening and closing there is no question. It is officially admitted on the envelope, which I have returned to the sender. Is this more of the Defence of the Realm?

If I am a week late, then, in my references to the review of National Volunteers in Dublin

on Easter Sunday, let me be excused. The Realm has to be defended. But for the expense involved, the muster and review of National Volunteers was a commendable undertaking. I expressed the hope beforehand that, once the review had been ordered, the National Volunteers would answer the call of their headquarters and turn out in the fullest possible strength. I take the estimate of the "Daily Independent" as a fair one, that about 25,000 men answered the call.

Some 5,000 or 6,000 are said to have been armed with rifles. Only for the hostility of the Liberal Home Rule Government and the difficulty of educating the Irish Parliamentary Party, it would have been easy to muster ten times that number of rifles. The Belfast contingent, to the estimated number of 750, carried rifles and bayonets. Several smaller contingents were armed with pikes. The professional military men are inclined to discountenance the pike. Every Volunteer who has not a rifle ought to have a pike, supplemented, if possible, by a good holster weapon.

Rifles, bayonets, and pikes are "munitions of war." It will accordingly be understood henceforth that when Dublin Castle interferes with the possession of "munitions of war" by Irishmen, it does so in order to enable the treaty-breakers to "amend" Home Rule.

If a half-finished work could give any cause for pride and satisfaction, the men who, in the face of every discouragement and hostility, saw the need for the Irish Volunteers, seized the occasion and shaped the work, might well congratulate themselves on the events of Easter Sunday. So complete a change has been effected in Irish public affairs and in the public mind, that it is hard now to get back, even in imagination, to the year 1913, and to look forward from that point a year and a half, to see the Irish Parliamentary Party, from Mr. John Redmond, the Chairman, to Mr. Richard Hazleton, the penman, associated with a display of rifles, bayonets, and pikes, and with a military array of 25,000 men—no speeches,

no resolutions, only the silent but effective eloquence of serried ranks. If the treaty-breakers have succeeded to some extent in their line of compulsion, the Irish people have met them more than half way. The "March of the Nation" goes on. Silence indeed was most appropriate for men standing under Parnell's statue and its inscription of Parnell's memorable words.

The best armed contingent came from Belfast. This also was proper. Let me repeat that "the Ulster difficulty" disappears as soon as all Ulstermen are placed on a footing of equality. There is a difficulty in doing that, owing to the reluctance of the Liberal Home Rule Government to "coerce" the other wing of English Imperialism, their cousins and confederates. It would be "coercion" to allow the threatened people in Ulster to defend their homes, their families, and their rights as Irishmen against the violence threatened and financed from London Tory Clubs. When a Government wants to abandon its pledges under threat of force, it is naturally not too anxious to see the threat of force neutralised.

Silent Sunday was followed by speechful Monday. Ireland is not looking to speeches for consolation in her present crisis, but in Monday's speeches, to judge from Press reports, there was at least one reassuring feature. We seem to be gradually rising to a sense of National duty, and it is becoming recognised that the old factious spirit of treating the Irishmen with whom we differ as a worse enemy than the stranger can no longer be counted on as a winning element.

I have seen much of the inner side of political diplomacy during the past eighteen months, but I confess that Mr. Redmond's repeated appeals and offers to the War Office are a puzzle to me, and since he is alone in making them, I infer that others find them equally mysterious. What is the exact difference between the military attitude in April, 1915, towards Mr. Redmond's electoral mandate,

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Saturday, January 8th, 1916.

THE IRISH VOLUNTEER.

The Dublin Brigade

ORDERS FOR WEEK ENDING
9th JANUARY, 1916.

- 1.—Classes at Headquarters as usual.
- 2.—Lecture for Junior Officers on Saturday at 8 p.m.
- 3.—Inspection of 3rd Batt. at Camden Row on Sunday by the Brigade Commandant. The Battalion will assemble at 10.45 a.m.
- 4.—Officers will hold themselves in readiness for immediate examination.

EAMONN DE VALERA,
Brigade-Adjutant.

RESULTS OF FIRST AID EXAMINATION.

The following have been successful in the First Aid Examination recently held.

1ST CLASS.

Vol. J. Byrne, C Coy. 3rd Batt. - 100%
Vol. W. Stapleton, B Coy. 2nd Batt. - 96%
Vol. V. Gogan, B Coy. 1st Batt. - 92%
Vol. M. Kavanagh, C Coy. 3rd Batt. - 92%
Lieut. G. Murphy, C Coy. 2nd Batt. - 90%

2ND CLASS.

Vol. J. Daly, C Coy. 3rd Batt. - 88%
Vol. J. Doulan, A Coy. 4th Batt. - 88%
Vol. H. Ridgeway, C Coy. 2nd Batt. - 86%
Vol. E. Sweeney, F Coy. 2nd Batt. - 86%
Vol. D. O'Brien, C Coy. 4th Batt. - 86%
Vol. G. Mahoney, C Coy. 1st Batt. - 84%
Vol. J. F. Brooks, C Coy. 1st Batt. - 84%
Vol. P. Fuhery, C Coy. 2nd Batt. - 84%
Vol. J. Hannon, E Coy. 2nd Batt. - 84%
Vol. J. Bracken, A Coy. 3rd Batt. - 80%

3RD CLASS.

Vol. L. Cassin, E Coy. 2nd Batt. - 76%
Vol. J. McKenna, C Coy. 4th Batt. - 74%
Vol. P. Walsh, G Coy. 1st Batt. - 74%
Vol. J. O'Gorman, A Coy. 4th Batt. - 70%

SPECIAL COURSE OF TRAINING FOR SENIOR OFFICERS AT HEADQUARTERS, JANUARY 15th to 22nd.

The Special Course for Senior Officers will comprise conferences and lectures on Organisation, Military Geography, Military Engineering, Night Operations, Defence of Buildings, Orders and Reports, Lessons of the War, and kindred subjects. There will be frequent staff-rides.

As previously announced, the course is open to Senior Officers of all Ireland. Every battalion in the country should send at least one officer to the class. Officers other than Commandants and Vice-Commandants are to be chosen by the Battalion Councils, and the names of officers intending to follow the Course are to be reported, before January 12th, to the Director of Training.

THOMAS MacDONAGH,
Commandant,
Director of Training.

Hedge-Fighting for Small Units

THE POINTS WHERE FENCES INTERSECT.

Intersection points of hedges are of the utmost importance. These are the only proper posts for outlying scouts and snipers. One man concealed at such a point can enfilade both sides of every one of the four hedges meeting at that point. He only needs to have a small clear space for the muzzle of his rifle. He is also admirably placed to pick off any hostile troops moving across the middle of the fields. It is very easy for these solitary outlying scouts to fall back unobserved from point to point. In this way they can easily keep up a running fight, halting successively at each intersection point of the hedges. It must be remembered that in the circumstances one man will be always able to fall back faster than the others will dare to follow. For these outlying snipers will be readily able to give one another mutual support when falling back.

When these outlying scouts are posted at or near the flanks of a position they must be specially alert and watchful. It is their duty in such a case to give warning of and hold off any attempt at a turning movement. Snipers picked for this service should be specially trained men, and should be detailed for the same work on manoeuvres and field days.

The manner in which the Germans in the present campaign occupied such localities as the famous "Labyrinth" at Souchez gives on a big scale an idea of the kind of action that in Irish hedge combats would be pursued on a small mobile scale. There the points held were the intersection points of fire trenches and communication trenches, and they were held by machine guns instead of by individual snipers.

THE FIRE ACTION REQUIRED.

The action of the advanced snipers would be quite distinct from that of the main strength of the infantry. The latter would occupy suitable positions in accordance with the principles previously indicated. They must be always ready to open a burst of concentrated fire at a moment's notice and at close range. If they can always do this there is no danger of their being rushed and overwhelmed. Evidently for these short, sharp bursts of fire at point-blank range revolvers and automatic pistols are quite suitable: any ordinary assault would be shattered be-

fore the pistols were empty. Coolness and steadiness are required to secure the needed fire-discipline in the men: for this purpose Section Commanders of a resolute stamp are needed. They need only be able to ensure steady fire, which does not need elaborate training on their part. The practice of volley firing by sections is the best peace training for this kind of action. The tactics of Wellington's infantry in the Peninsular War should be carefully studied.

SNIPERS.

The snipers who would be detailed for the holding of advanced points should be picked and specially trained men. They would all be armed with rifles, even in those cases in which the bulk of their companies were not so armed. Their musketry training should be such as to render them dead shots at ranges of a couple of hundred yards; quickness in catching their target being essential. They should also be men of quick intelligence and resource, and these qualities should be developed by constant practice on manoeuvres.

SUPPORTS AND LOCAL COUNTER-ATTACKS.

Opportunities will frequently offer themselves for small local counter-attacks. These should be resorted to on every possible occasion. With a view to them supports should be held well concealed in suitable covering positions. As a general rule the supports should depend entirely on the bayonet or pike, rushing in when the firing line is being attacked. The tedious, complicated nature of the advance in hedge-intersected country renders the attacking troops particularly liable to be disorganised by the determined onslaught of even a small body of men. It may happen that a section of the line is forced back, and this might be thought to involve the withdrawal of units to the right and left of the gap. This should not be tolerated. The enemy just where he is successful exposes his own flanks by pressing forward. This exposure of his flank must at once be seized on as the signal for a prompt and energetic counter-attack, which has every chance of success.

All Officers and men of the 1st Batt. wishing to attend the Special Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Capt. Thomas Dolan, "C" Company, will assemble at 41 Parnell Square at 9.15 a.m. on Sunday the 9th inst. Full equipment. No rifles.

plead
na
nooLAs

On Saturday, 8th January, 1916
in Round Room, Mansion House
Dancing Commences at 8 p.m.
Tickets - Single, 3s.; Double, 5s.
to be had at 25 Parnell Square and at all Irish Ireland shops.

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Commandant,
Director of Training.

IRISH VOLUNTEER

EDITED BY EOIN MAC NEILL.

Vol. 2. No. 72 (New Series).

SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd, 1916.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

NOTES

There is an Irish-American journal that supports Mr. Redmond's compulsory policy, the "Chicago Citizen." For months past no newspaper from America was allowed to reach me by post. But the "Chicago Citizen" of March 25 reached me on April 14. It contains an article beginning as follows: "Is German money being used to foment an armed insurrection in Ireland? Is the German-Irish alliance preparing to set Erin ablaze for the purpose of creating a diversion in favour of Germany? Is there a plot afoot to deluge the Green Isle in blood in order to discredit Mr. Redmond and his colleagues? Information in possession of the writer warrants affirmative answers to these three questions. From sources in which he places entire reliance the writer has learned that the beginning of the coming summer has been fixed upon as the time for an insurrection in Ireland."

The writer of the article goes on to show that his information or his inferences are based entirely on his interpretation of statements made in America. If I answer him, I can hardly hope that my answer will be allowed to reach the public in America. He shows, in the course of his article, that the insurrection in the beginning of the coming summer is to be the work of the Irish Volunteers. My answers to his three questions will be plain enough. The Irish Volunteers have never received and never sought German money. The purpose of the Irish Volunteers remains unchanged since it was first announced in November, 1913. It did not then, and does not now, include "creating a diversion in favour of Germany." The Irish Volunteers will not make the interests of Ireland subsidiary to those of any other country. I do not know what is meant by "deluging the Green Isle with blood in order to discredit Mr. Redmond and his colleagues," but I do know that I did my utmost while I could to maintain Mr. Redmond and his colleagues in a position of independence of English party dictation; that, owing to the "adroit management" of Mr. Asquith, they treated the Irish Volunteers as an enemy to be kept in subjection; that their present position of impotent dependence on the good-will of English politicians is mainly the result of factions hostile to the Irish Volunteers; and that to discredit them is the policy of their own allies and not the policy of the Irish Volunteers, even though Mr. Redmond acquiesces in the Dublin Castle programme of exasperation.

In the course of the article in the "Chicago Citizen," the writer seems to be under the impression that the Irish Volunteers are under the control of Irishmen in America. No Irishman and no number of Irishmen in America have ever advanced the slightest claim to control or dictate the action of the Irish Volunteers. We have received from the Irish in America funds which have been publicly acknowledged. Not one cent of money has ever been sent to us from America with any condition or stipulation attached to it as to our plans, policy, or action.

The writer of the article in the "Chicago Citizen" seems to me to be sincere and well-meaning. He is Mr. Bernard McGillion and, if I mistake not, he has been for many years a supporter of the Gaelic League. The voice of faction, which alone has free passage from Ireland to America, has led him to fear that the Irish Volunteers may allow their national duty and purpose to be subordinated to the advantage of another country or to the petty aim of discrediting Mr. Redmond. Apart from this, I observe that he does not use the language of insult towards fellow-Irishmen which is the distinguishing mark of the new Imperial patriotism. To judge, however, from an editorial in the same issue of the "Chicago Citizen," those who from this side of the Atlantic inspire that organ of theirs with the gospel of the new Imperial patriotism taken even a baser view of their fragment of a following in America than they take of their bewildered and hoping-for-the-best supporters here in Ireland. The "German gold" lie, it will be remembered, was first communicated by "responsible members of the Irish Party" to that great friend of Irish liberty, Lord Northcliffe's "Daily Mail." The statement was promptly and publicly repudiated by two members of the National Volunteer execu-

tive, Mr. Sherlock, then Lord Mayor of Dublin, and Colonel Maurice Moore. Since then the repetition of it has been confined to safe places and to such pillars of Law to Order as District Inspector Hicks, whose valour completed the Imperial victory won at Cahirciveen over an Arklow fisherman. But the lie that was shamed down in Ireland is thought good enough still for Mr. Redmond's Chicago editor.

He begins his editorial with a confession of uneasiness. "Adversers from Ireland," he writes, "tell us of a growing disaffection among certain factions in that severely-trying country." You can judge faction from its own mouth. Mr. Dillon is a guest at Mr. Asquith's Coalition banquet. There he is surrounded by Friendlies, Irish Nationalists who do not take their orders from Mr. Asquith are proclaimed to be the enemy. "The old enemy," says the Chicago mouthpiece, "so long stimulated by funds from across the Channel, now receives nutriment from another source." However, we do not think the Teutons gain much by the vast expenditure of money among men and women of the Irish race. The hirings that have been secured here and in Ireland can bring neither help nor credit to anyone. We trust when the war is over, as we think it will be before many months, the traitors of the Irish race will have the decency to be ashamed of their blood-money. All calculated, no doubt, to earn the respect of Englishmen and increase the debt of gratitude.

Just above this editorial pronouncement I see four mottoes. They are part of the standing heading of the editorial page. If they were removed, readers might miss them and ask awkward questions. The first motto is quoted from John F. Finerty: "Europe, not England, is the mother country of America." The second motto is this: "We must tolerate one another or else tolerate the common enemy." The third is from Henry Grattan: "What Great Britain tramples on in Ireland will rise to sting her in America." The fourth is from Thomas Davis:

It is not strength and 'tis not steel
Alone that make the English reel.
But wisdom working day by day
Till comes the time for passion's sway.
The patient dint and powder shock
Can blast an Empire like a rock.

Fye! Mr. Redmond. Under such colours it is to be feared that your editor's sincerity, if not your own, may become suspect. Men are sent to jail in Ireland with your acquiescence for expressing sentiments that are mild in comparison with the standing mottoes of your Chicago organ.

A fool's bolt is soon shot. The grand attempt to stifle free discussion of the prospective ruin of Ireland by Imperial taxation has been made. Its failure is assured. The confidence voters who at one meeting declared against the ruinous taxation and at the next meeting swallowed their own declaration, not because it was not true but because the Irish Party did not like it, have justified the famous opinion expressed by Dr. McWalter some years ago in regard of another public question: they have "returned like dogs to the vomit." Do the leaders of the Irish Party see any real gain in this game of making public fools of their own supporters? Do they imagine that their present allies, from Lord Lansdowne round to the cynical Chief Secretary, will be imposed on by the sort of strength exhibited in such performances?

I am glad to note that, as I surmised last week, the Right Honourable Sir Walter Boyd, the Liberal Queen's Advocate who had charge of the Crossmaglen Conspiracy, has retired from the Bench of which he was so long an ornament for no reasons of impaired health or increased incapacity. Since his retirement he has turned up as vigorous as ever, and wearing the new distinction of his eminent merits, at a meeting of the Zoological Society. As a result of this rather singular phenomenon in the annals of the Irish Bench, Mr. James Campbell, pending his becoming Lord Chancellor in the Provisional Government of Ulster, will have charge of the legal department of the war in Ireland. We shall see whether the new Attorney-General will apply the motto of his political chief, Sir Edward Carson, "there are illegalities which are not crimes," by showing that there are crimes which are not illegalities.

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The baronetcy conferred on Judge Boyd has roused the spirit of Judge Kenny, whose record as a Catholic Unionist endears his words to all Irish people. Judge Kenny thinks the Empire and the Union will be benefited by a more vigorous persecution of Nationalists who don't take their orders from the Government. Among the signs of war that have met his eye in Dublin is a poster of the Irish Volunteers displaying the words "Pretence of the Realm Act." Will the honourable and learned and impartial judge deign to answer a question? When the Defence of the Realm Act provides that an accused person shall be tried where he is found, can he persuade any honest man that the words of the Act empower the Government to bring the accused person wherever they choose and then to find him where they put him? And if so, will he explain why the words are in the statute, seeing that their omission from it would make no difference? The Government's administration of its own statute, and the acquiescence of its incorruptible and upright tribunals, either justify or do not justify my words—the Pretence of the Realm Act. It is a remarkable fact that, while a whole crop of prosecutions and punishments are taking place under that Act, throughout all Ireland and especially in those parts most lamented for their disaffection, there is an unprecedented dearth of punishments under the ordinary law. When the chief disturbing element in Ireland, Dublin Castle, is abolished, Ireland will be the most peaceful and orderly country in the world. Is that what Judge Kenny does not want to see?

Colonel Sharman-Crawford, M.P. for East Belfast, has been telling his constituents what other members have not been telling theirs. After the war, he says, there is to be an Imperial Parliament of the whole British Empire, and Ireland is to have an extension of local government. Is that the private arrangement, and if so, when will the voters of confidence be taken into confidence? Will there be another tour by motor in Ulster, and assurances that it is all for the best? The whole British Empire outside of Britain and Ireland contains only a few million inhabitants of European race, and the other races will not have much to say in the future Imperial Parliament. The total European population of the self-governing colonies of the Empire is smaller than the population which Ireland would now have only for the ravages of Imperial peace no less renowned than war. Will these self-governing colonies, whose loyalty and united front is held up for our admiration, be invited, like Ireland, to take on their "fair share" of the Imperial Debt and the Imperial taxes? I shall regret if this question cannot be asked without giving the Irish Party cold feet.

If Mr. Asquith believes Mr. Redmond's assurances that the Irish people, not to mention the Irish in America, are at Mr. Redmond's back, keeping it from being stabbed by a contemptible minority, why should Mr. Asquith be reported to have "drawn the Pope's attention to the rôle which the Catholic Bishops of Ireland could fulfil in an opportune manner, by intervening with the people to bring about a union, so desirable at present, with the other parts of the British Empire?" It is Mr. Chesterton who wrote that Gladstone "stood disgraced" by his request to Cardinal Newman, which Cardinal Newman indignantly rejected, to induce the Pope to influence the Irish Bishops against the Land Agitation. Mr. Asquith is said to have accompanied his plea with an assurance that "after the war the Home Rule question would be settled in an equitable manner." Mr. Pitt assured the Irish Bishops that after the Union the Catholic Emancipation question would be settled in an equitable manner, and Mr. Pitt was then the most powerful Minister that England ever had. But Daniel O'Connell testifies that the Union delayed Catholic Emancipation for a quarter of a century, and even then the concession was only made to fear of insurrection and was accompanied by a measure of disfranchisement that caused wholesale evictions. We want no more promises and postponements. **Airgood steel!**

The "bloodmoney traitor hiring" inspiration of Mr. Redmond's Chicago organ is supplemented by a politer and more reserved style in a weekly paper called "Ireland," published in New York. Owing to the attitude of the Irish Press in America, this new organ was launched at the beginning of the present year, and is "devoted especially to supporting the Irish Parliamentary

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The "bloodmoney traitor hiring" inspiration of Mr. Redmond's Chicago

POBLACHT NA H EIREANN.
THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
OF THE
IRISH REPUBLIC
TO THE PEOPLE OF IRELAND.

IRISHMEN AND IRISHWOMEN: In the name of God and of the dead generations from which she receives her old tradition of nationhood, Ireland, through us, summons her children to her flag and strikes for her freedom.

Having organised and trained her manhood through her secret revolutionary organisation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood, and through her open military organisations, the Irish Volunteers and the Irish Citizen Army, having patiently perfected her discipline, having resolutely waited for the right moment to reveal itself, she now seizes that moment, and, supported by her exiled children in America and by gallant allies in Europe, but relying in the first on her own strength, she strikes in full confidence of victory.

We declare the right of the people of Ireland to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, to be sovereign and indefeasible. The long usurpation of that right by a foreign people and government has not extinguished the right, nor can it ever be extinguished except by the destruction of the Irish people. In every generation the Irish people have asserted their right to national freedom and sovereignty: six times during the past three hundred years they have asserted it in arms. Standing on that fundamental right and again asserting it in arms in the face of the world, we hereby proclaim the Irish Republic as a Sovereign Independent State, and we pledge our lives and the lives of our comrades-in-arms to the cause of its freedom, of its welfare, and of its exaltation among the nations.

The Irish Republic is entitled to, and hereby claims, the allegiance of every Irishman and Irishwoman. The Republic guarantees religious and civil liberty, equal rights and equal opportunities to all its citizens, and declares its resolve to pursue the happiness and prosperity of the whole nation and of all its parts, cherishing all the children of the nation equally, and oblivious of the differences carefully fostered by an alien government, which have divided a minority from the majority in the past.

Until our arms have brought the opportune moment for the establishment of a permanent National Government, representative of the whole people of Ireland and elected by the suffrages of all her men and women, the Provisional Government, hereby constituted, will administer the civil and military affairs of the Republic in trust for the people.

We place the cause of the Irish Republic under the protection of the Most High God, Whose blessing we invoke upon our arms, and we pray that no one who serves that cause will dishonour it by cowardice, inhumanity, or rapine. In this supreme hour the Irish nation must, by its valour and discipline and by the readiness of its children to sacrifice themselves for the common good, prove itself worthy of the august destiny to which it is called.

Signed on Behalf of the Provisional Government,

THOMAS J. CLARKE,

SEAN Mac DIARMADA, THOMAS MacDONAGH,

P. H. PEARSE, EAMONN CEANNT,

JAMES CONNOLLY, JOSEPH PLUNKETT.

THE LUCK HAS TURNED.

THE IRISHMAN

Edited by HERBERT MOORE PIM.

VOL. II., No. 41]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1917.

[PRICE ONE PENNY

AN APPRECIATION.

(FROM "WESTMEATH INDEPENDENT," BY PERMISSION OF MR. DARRELL FIGGIS.)

Thomas Ashe's death is a tragedy—using the word in its pure and exact meaning. Tragedy does not only imply a death that is terrible in itself, but a death whose terror has a peculiar and arresting spiritual significance. The death of Orestes or King Lear is not only terrible to look upon—as death is always terrible to look upon—the unseen Passer-by and the havoc of his passing—but it awakens an ancient terror of the mind. It is so set, it is so phrased, in its circumstances and their eventual crisis, that it leads the mind to contemplate Life and Death as new realities, without any of the words or philosophies, with which we have wrapped these things about, encumbering the mind. So it is with the death of Thomas Ashe. To those who knew the man, who knew his clean, honest courage, his unselfish comradeship in the Nation's cause, the blunt directness of his mind, and his carelessness as to the consequences of an act that he saw to be right and proper to be done, the news of his death came like a horrible thing that blotted the light of the sun. Nothing seemed worth while, while such a thing could be; and a simple fury possessed the mind. Yet it was more than that; more than a personal loss; more even than a Nation's loss; more than a black and horrible and ghastly thing. It caused the mind to face anew the reality of a Nation's life and bondage. It put to one the simple and direct question: Who was this man, and how came he to die as he did?

I did not know Thomas Ashe as well as others of his friends. I did not know him except in the comradeship of work. Indeed, it would have been hard to know him otherwise: for it would have been hard to have found any part of his life that was not concerned with National work. He never spoke at a public meeting but the whole of the man was in what he said. He never spoke for the sake of speaking, but with the purpose of getting things done. As long as that purpose could be fulfilled it was a matter of indifference to him who spoke or who did the deed. At the height of the East Clare Election he went off to the seaside to rest. It was an action very eloquent of the man. For the work was going well; there was an abundance of workers and speakers; and he turned to rest, not primarily because he needed that rest, weakened as he was by the prison from which he had just come out, but because there was no particular need of him at that moment, and he was not looking for the personal satisfaction of addressing meetings. Had the work required him, however, as later it did, he would have thrown himself into it with that same utter disregard of self as he

showed when he withdrew himself from a thriving work.

And his mind was as direct as his methods. He saw only the one thing: the work to be done, and the end to be achieved. He disregarded himself except in so far as he could further that purpose; and he disregarded others as simply and as scornfully. Lovable and comradely as he naturally was, with a big generosity of character, he had the hardness of a man with a purpose in his life. If he thought a man failed to help forward that purpose—especially if he thought weakness or a care for self prompted that failure—his judgment was as brief as it was contemptuous. No quality of mercy lightened that judgment. It might have been wrong—and he did not look to right or to left to discover if it were—but it was compact, complete, and utterly sincere. But if he thought that a man truly desired to help forward the good work, he was quite ready to stand aside and let the other assume the leadership, even though that other were less able than he. No hint of self entered his judgments, were they right or wrong. He took his relation from his work; and others had to take that same relation.

Then, when the day's work was over, in the evening's social exchange that makes the comradeship of National work so infinitely rich a memory, he would sit a somewhat detached and silent figure. He did not take much part in conversation, but rested in himself like a man temporarily laid aside—like a weapon hung up, significant only of the fact that it awaited its hour of use again. When asked to sing, he sang, not in the foreign, but in the traditional Irish manner, old Irish songs rich with history, quavering through their half-tones and quarter-tones, and poignant with the mingled sorrow and laughter that lingers at the heart of the world. The smell of turf-reek and the sight of long, dark bogs and lonely hills were in his singing, as in the singing of those from whom he had learnt his songs. It was when he sang that one discovered best how lovable and comradely a man he was, even more than when he sprang intent and alert into the work for which he lived.

How, then, came such a man to be carried dying from a jail? No felon was this

man; but one of the earth's cleanest and best. How came he to be herded with criminals, ground to death by a system devised to deal with vicious men? The history of his country is in that. Had he been a Belgian, and the circumstances of his imprisonment and death exactly reproduced in Belgium, England to-day would be seething with indignation. Her Press would search its cheapened vocabulary to find words to express its sense of horror and outrage. Her public men would fly to platform, and shake the air with denunciations that, in this 1917th year of grace and the Gospel, so foul a thing could be. Her people would stop in the streets of her cities to discuss an infamy so monstrous. The Lord God (especially the Lord God of Battles) would be invoked; and the shade of Nurse Cavell would be compelled to confess itself outdone. For why did Thomas Ashe die? There is some thing of a ghastly and sickly comedy, an almost demoniac laughter, in the answer. Thomas Ashe was ground to death because he believed in the Freedom of Small Nations, for which half the world is fighting. Only he believed in it for his own dear land of Ireland, whereas it is only permitted to believe in it for Belgium, Serbia, Timbuctoo, and possibly Tierra de Fuego.

That is why this noble soul died so terrible a death; and that is why his death is not only a great sorrow, but mainly a great and significant Tragedy. The purpose of Tragedy is that we should survey Realities once again in their naked and simple essence; and in the death of Thomas Ashe the Nation has a compulsion that it cannot, and will not wish to, neglect. In the height of his manhood Thomas Ashe was brought forth from prison, weak and broken, to die; because in the height of its manhood the Nation of Ireland is weakened and in chains, the Nation for which so many of its best have died. In his death that Nation will re-baptise itself in the blood of its hero martyrs. Thomas Ashe could not have chosen for himself a death nearer to his wish. *Beannacht Dé ar a anam!*

DARRELL FIGGIS.

NOTES.

The Times We Live In!

Needless to say it was through no fault of ours that last issue appeared without even the name of Thomas Ashe. Our top heading was "Even unto Death"; and the absence of explanatory matter was eloquent.

Arbitration Courts.

The Belfast Evening Telegraph says:

With the object of keeping litigants from ventilating their grievances in the Courts, an arbitration committee has been formed by Killaloe Sinn Fein Club to deal with disputes of neighbours.

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An tÓglach

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

Vol. I. No. 9]

31st Dec and 15th Jan 1918.

[PRICE TWOPENCE.

FIVE WONDERFUL YEARS.

With the dawning of 1919 the Irish Volunteers enter upon their sixth year of existence, and can look back with pardonable pride upon the five years of strenuous work and exciting history through which they have passed. That Ireland to-day is stronger than she has been for many a year, that the National spirit was never sounder or more uncompromising, that we look to the future with the utmost confidence, that there is good ground for hoping to see the fruition of all our hopes in this New Year of 1919—all that is due principally to the Irish Volunteers.

place-hunter seemed supreme. The faithful few who strove to keep the torch burning in those dark days—the torch handed down from Tone and Emmet—were met on every side with derision. To suggest that the men in these days were prepared to die for Ireland moved the mockery of the professional politician. The British Government had set itself out to buy over Irish Nationalism. Every fresh Act they passed—the University Act, the Old Age Pensions Act, the Insurance Act—created a fresh horde of officials, and consequently a fresh army of job-hunters. A weak, supine, corrupt Party seemed to speak for and have the confidence of

Complaints are constantly reaching G.H.Q.—sometimes from Battalion Officers, more frequently from Company Officers—that copies of "An tOglach" are not sent them. Brigade H.Q. must clearly understand that the paper is for distribution among ALL Companies. It is issued by G.H.Q. on the basis of five copies for each Company. Brigade H.Q. will keep this in mind when allotting supplies to their Battalions. Battalion H.Q. will act in like manner to their Companies.

Both Brigade and Battalion H.Q. must have arrangements for IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION on receipt of "An tOglach."

Their establishment in November, 1913, marked the dawning of a new era. It would be hard to find a period in Irish history in which the Irish National spirit seemed to have sunk to a lower ebb than in that year of 1913. The previous eight years had been years of Anglicisation, corruption, and the insidious lowering of National ideals probably unexampled in our annals. All the dominant forces in Irish public life stood for cowardice, compromise, and corruption. All faith in lofty ideals, in patriotism or self-sacrifice seemed to have vanished. A horrible cynicism reigned everywhere. The

the vast majority of the Irish people. The crowning triumph of the English Government's policy of corruption was their purchase of that Party, by making its members pensioners of the English Government. The road seemed clear for hoodwinking whatever of National feeling was left in Ireland by passing off some trivial concessions on the Irish people as a satisfaction of the demand for self-government. It seemed as though the conquest of Ireland by England was at last to be accomplished.

Suddenly the Volunteers sprang into being, and the first signs appeared of a change of

Óglais na hÉireann
Irish Volunteers.

A
PUBLIC MEETING

For the formation of **IRISH VOLUNTEERS**
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