

THE NORTH LET ITSELF DOWN

The Origins Of Partition Reviewed By "Northern Republican"

SELF PITY, THEY SAY, IS THE PRELUDE TO SENILITY. IF THAT BE SO THE NATIONALIST PEOPLE OF THE NORTH ARE WELL ADVANCED IN THEIR DOTAGE.

There, dreary pessimism and maudlin grief befog the advance of a race to the tune of "The North was betrayed," "the North was let down."

CLAPTRAP AND SENTIMENT!

THE NORTH LET ITSELF DOWN. THAT IS THE PLAIN UNVARNISHED TRUTH. AND UNTIL THAT IS REALISED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTH THE PRESENT CONFUSED MARCHING ROUND IN CIRCLES WILL CONTINUE.

What is the truth about partition?

Before and up to 1916 Mr. Devlin was the uncrowned king of the North East. He was the man who spoke for Northern Nationalism. That in itself can be my first indictment of the often described sterling Nationalists of Ulster. And what did Mr. Devlin, by virtue of the position in which he had been placed, do?

He called a Conference in Belfast for the purpose of advocating that a measure of "Home Rule," which pro-

If Wexford's heroism in '98 will always be shadowed by the circumstances of their entry into the fight then the part of the North in the last struggle must live in history in the same light.

When the "Treaty" came, nowhere was it supported with more scurrility and venom than in the Six Counties. Every self seeking person who tagged on to the National chariot when it was careering along with every chance of success immediately saw a chance of making something out of the proposed surrender and invoking God and all

Fianna Fail Deputy Calls On Ex-I.R.A.

BUT DOES NOT MENTION
ARBOUR HILL

"That challenge must be met and beaten by the people of Ireland!" In the language of the films we get instead of "Casement," we ask Mr. M. J. Kennedy, M.F.S.P.—"And How?" He was talking at Castlepollard last week to the ex-I.R.A. men. He asked them to spy on the Blueshirts and to give information to the police. Each of them to be an intelligence officer! Courage, old soldiers! They need you yet, even though they haven't revised the Pensions Act that gives money to your erstwhile foemen and though you must wade over barriers stronger than felled trees to claim the handful of silver—the barriers of ultra-red tape.

ARBOUR HILL!

Mr. Kennedy did not, however, tell the ex-I.R.A. men the dangers to be encountered if they oppose the Blueshirts. Perhaps, for Ireland's sake, and for the fortunes of the New Free State Party they would march heads up into Arbour Hill!

Did the law-abiding "T.D." realise that by his words he was trying to inflame feud between fools on the one side and pawns on the other, while the Government could lie back and read the account of the "Irish Swoop's" flight to Melbourne?

"The challenge must be met by the people!"

It was met by the people at Tralee and Drogheda—and the I.R.A. were picked on to go to jail.

"Help the Ministry to deal with road-blockers," but the Ministry knows full well who the real road-blockers are—not the rank-and-file, led by Cronin or O'Duffy, but the ranchers backed by the disgruntled imperialists.

And a rancher without a ranch is, logically, not a rancher. Then, Mr. Kennedy, let the I.R.A. veterans alone and tell your Government that they were elected by a disillusioned people to keep pledges. They weren't elected to put present or ex-members of the I.R.A. into Arbour Hill.

They told us often enough that the "lawfully elected Government was there to deal with disorder." Or did you lose anything, Mr. Kennedy?

countries being lost. A "damned good bargain" maybe, it was considered.

To-day the same hopeless, slavish dependence on the "Free State" government prevails across the border. "De Valera will save us" they say, just as they said Collins and Cosgrave would save them.

Having said all these hard things about Northern Nationalists let me say something which in a way redeems the North. All the time since '98 there have been small groups of active, conscious Republicans who have never wavered in their loyalty; who have followed the hard path, never daunted by the apathy and hostility of their neighbours.

Loyal Groups

These groups have been the main-spring of every worth while activity in the North. They bore the brunt of the fight in the North from 1916 and are still the centres of potential revolutionary struggle. Around their activities lies any hope there is for National resistance to the conquest in the partitioned area itself.

Now comes the news that Nationalists in the North are to organise again to prevent Gerrymandering. Resolutions and protests (vocal) will descend on the Stormont Junta and will receive the attention which they deserve.

After all the weary agonising years of "Constitutional" futility these people have learned nothing.

It is hard to give advice in a situation so difficult but there is one advice which nothing in Irish history has yet disproved and that is: have swords to back your words or you will get nothing from the enemy.

Nationalists of the North is it not time ye woke up?

Connolly's Relations With Volunteers

INCIDENT BEFORE RISING

SOME allusions have been made in public lately to the relations existing between James Connolly and the Irish Volunteers before 1916. It is only fair to give some explanation of certain events that led up to the Rising, lest the true explanation be forgotten and some false history be believed by people who either had no connection with the Volunteer Movement of that time, or who for any other reason might not have an opportunity of hearing the truth.

About the month of December, 1915, James Connolly was taken prisoner by the Volunteers and kept for three days, firstly, to prevent a premature Rising that would spoil their plans, and, secondly, to convince him that they were out for the same object as he was, and to get his co-operation in those plans.

James Connolly realised then that the Volunteers did really mean to fight.

He came back from that meeting with the most tremendous admiration for the men who had captured him and completely conquered him by their arguments.

He said to a friend on his return: "I have been beaten on my own ground." He saw that National Independence was his first necessity, (as it was the first necessity of the Volunteers) and that without National Independence he could not achieve his social programme.

His social programme was discussed at that meeting, and a common agreement came to. The result of that common agreement is shown in the wording of the Proclamation of the Irish Republic.

After that meeting, there was no further hostility between James Connolly and the Volunteer leaders. When Connolly fought in the G.P.O.

he placed the Volunteers on the same level as the Citizen Army, and had a common munition supply. He had no reservation in his co-operation.

Although these latter facts are well known, the whole spirit of the 1916 Rising seems to be forgotten, which may lead to a false interpretation of history on the part of the young generation.

—ONE OF HIS MEN.

STUDENTS DRILLED BY 'FREE' STATE SOLDIERS

A Chara,—With regard to your recent exposure of the imperialising of young boys through drilling in 'Free' State barracks, I would like to make known that 'Free' State soldiers are employed in training students in Coláiste Caoimhghin and St. Patrick's, Drumcondra, in athletic drill.

I was trained in Drumcondra five years ago.

At that time professors with a Gaelic outlook taught us Swedish drill and taught it well. There was no need of 'Free' State soldiers.

There are many National teachers who took part in the independence movement. Personally, I know many teachers, old and young, who are adept at such drill.

It would seem as if no effort was made to get in touch with men such as these.

By the way, the students of St. Patrick's, Drumcondra, must differ very much in calibre from their predecessors of a few years ago. I do not believe that the majority of the students of 1927, '28 and '29, would have submitted to be drilled by a British Dominion Army-man. Thanking you, "HEDGER."

THIS LANDLORD TYRANNY

ALIEN IN LAW

TO THE EDITOR, AN PHOBLAIGHT
MIGRATORY as birds, ground landlords are the continental tourists, who on a business proposition revisit our shores for annual payments collected by their agents and then bid a hasty retreat in order to lodge the total received out of rents in the coffers of the Bank of England. As titled descendants of Cromwellian soldiery they are empowered by the Lords Protectorate of England to exact from our people in towns, and cities, a high percentage of tribute on every square foot of confiscated soil, said tribute to be paid to their executors, administrators, and permitted assigns, during his Majesty's pleasure, and failing to pay those imposition by law established, involves the reconfiscation of the citizens property without compensation or award. The very voice of nature herself, cries out against such odious codes, which being an insult to the Nation, the spontaneous voice of nature condemns, and calls for political wisdom on the part of a "native" parliament.

A distinctive feature marks the difference between town tenants and ground tenants, and the former must not be confused with the latter. One is a domestic question, the other a foreign one.

Town tenants have had their grievances redressed more or less, are free to live in the centre of their choice, free from the burden of repairs, and desiring to remain in a certain locality cannot be dispossessed without due compensation. Ground tenants on the other hand, whose ancestors blood may be in the very stone, and brick of the house,

are governed by a landlord law, a masterful domination that offers no consideration whatsoever for past, present, or perspective losses, and in addition, being alien in character, is an injustice.

You kindly published my suggestion for the setting up of arbitration courts through the columns of AN PHOBLAIGHT some time ago and I am glad to see that progress has since been made. From the trend of events relative to the tenants of Cogh, it is some gratification to learn that the landlord acceded to their request through the intermediary of such a procedure to have their position eased.

This should be a fillip for others to do likewise, and no apology need be made to any landlord, as arbitration is not enough, it merely sets the machinery in motion.

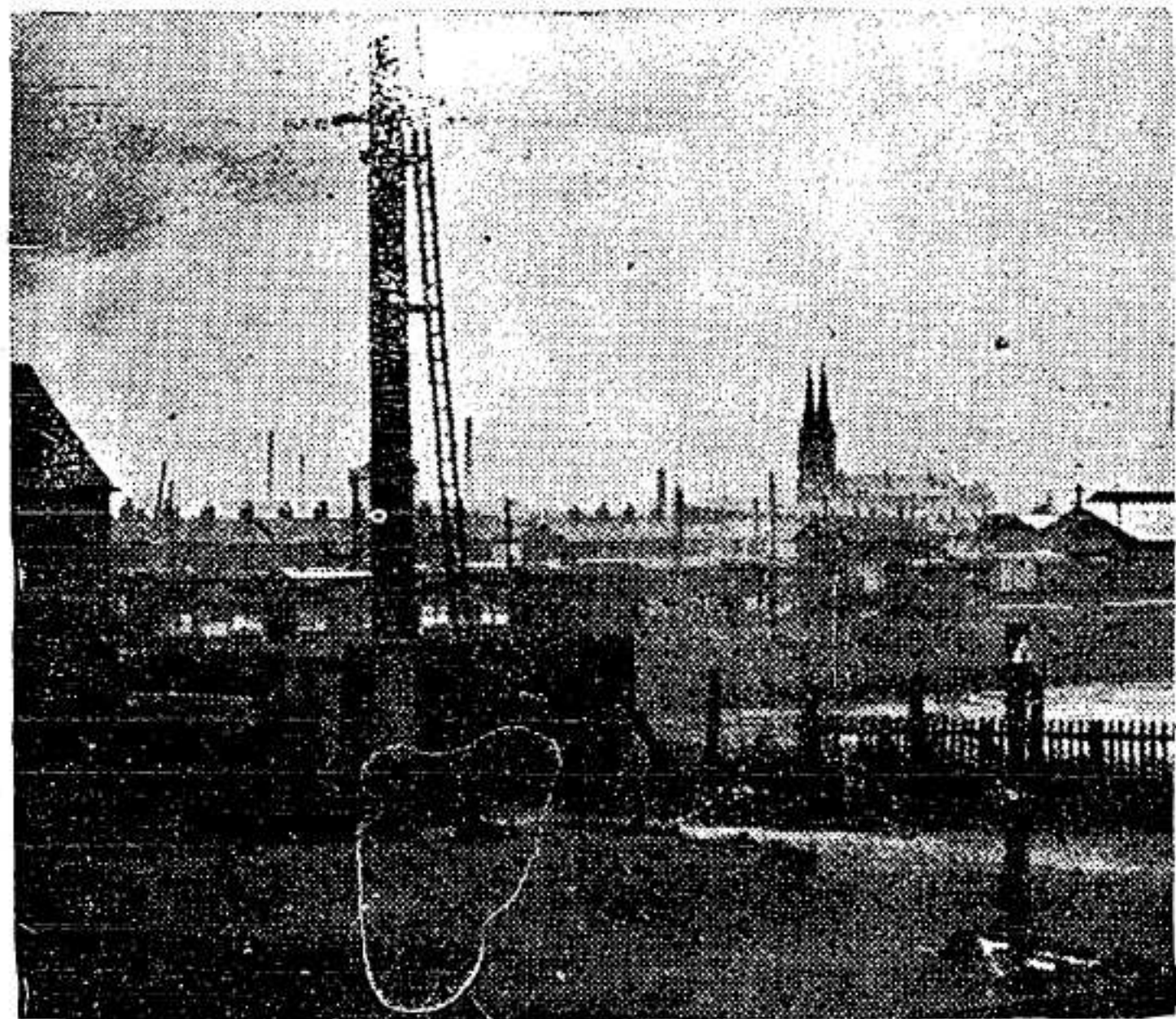
As the interest of the peoples moral right is at stake to use the language of the lawyer "we await developments."

JAMES O'DONOVAN,
King St., Mitchelstown.

PRISONER'S RELEASE

We are informed by our local correspondent that members of the Charlestown Fianna Fail Club are stating that the release of Jim Gallagher from Arbour Hill was due to their efforts. This is scarcely credible seeing that this club is well known for its anti-I.R.A. tendencies.

sors of a few years ago. I do not believe that the majority of the students of 1927, '28 and '29, would have submitted to be drilled by a British Dominion Army-man. Thanking you, "HEDGER."



Dock Scene in Belfast.

vided for the exclusion of four Ulster Counties, be accepted. And by virtue of a number of bullies which he brought to the Conference he secured a majority for his surrender proposal.

Now these bullies did not come from the South, or the East, or the West; they were from Belfast. And the delegates who allowed themselves to be so bullied were from some of the nine Counties of Ulster.

Who let the North down here? Then when the rest of Ireland revolted against the corruption of Devlin, Redmond and the others and when their power was broken they were yet cute enough in the Six Counties to make the best of a bad job and secured Six Seats in the 1918 election. Again the Nationalist people must be indicted for conniving at this shameful compromise.

Self Defence

Up to the early part of 1920 the number of active Volunteers in the North-East was infinitesimal. It was only the sectarian riots which took place in Belfast and Derry which drove large numbers into the ranks of the Republican Army. It was a gesture of self defence and nothing more.

the Saints threw up their hands in horror at those who dared oppose it.

Clerical and other denunciations of those who resisted the "Treaty" which provided for partition, were as numerous in the partitioned counties as in any other part of Ireland.

And to crown all, the number which joined the "Free State" Army from the North-East was far in excess (in proportion to the relative geographical dimensions) of those who joined in the rest of Ireland.

Again, who let down the North?

Boundary Commission

When the Boundary Commission farce took place an atmosphere was created to prepare the way for the consolidation of partition. The rumour was widely spread that Donegal was to be annexed by the Six Counties. Northern "Nationalist" leaders were in daily Conference with Blythe and Cosgrave. They were privy to the conspiracy which resulted in maintaining the status quo. But this was claimed as a victory.

"Donegal is saved" cried the Derry Journal. Not a word about Derry or Tyrone or Fermanagh or the other

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