

IRISH NEWS

GENERAL.

The *Cork Examiner* announces the death, at Derrynane Abbey, Co. Kerry, of Mr. Daniel O'Connell, at the age of 84 years. Deceased was a grandson of the Liberator. He was a Deputy Lieutenant for the county and held the magistracy for 62 years.

The Lord Lieutenant is inviting the co-operation of representative persons in Ireland in support of his project for the establishment of a "great war memorial home" in Dublin. The *Independent* says: "The project has been placed before the public as a cut-and-dried Castle proposal, a method scarcely calculated to enlist popular sympathy and support in Ireland."

"A very interesting rumor is," says the Dublin correspondent of the *Universe*, "at present current in Ireland, and as it has been received with credit by men of responsibility in a position to judge its truth, I transmit it, though I have been unable (as perhaps at this stage is not unnatural) to verify it. It is that a distinguished and learned Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Ireland is about to be received into the Catholic Church."

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, at a Corporation meeting for the election of visiting justices to the Dublin prisons, said the justices had not hand, act, or part in the atrocious way Irish political prisoners were treated as far back as September, 1917. The whole responsibility rested with the Government. Anyone that stood up to him and said these prisoners were not treated barbarously was a liar. Most of the trouble now in existence in the country was due to the breach of faith on the part of the Government in the treatment of men committed to prison for political offences.

On Friday, July 4, American Independence Day, the Cork Executive of Sinn Féin organised a public procession, etc., to celebrate the United States' entrance into the family of free nations. The principal speaker was to be Mr. Liam De Roiste, M.P. Major-General Williams, however, proclaimed the celebration. The promoters of the procession decided to obey the proclamation in order to spare, in Cromwellian phrase, "the effusion of blood." A successful meeting was, however, held on the outskirts of the city, when a resolution sending fraternal greetings to the American people was proposed by Mr. De Roiste, and seconded by Professor O'Rahilly, University College.

MR. GEORGE'S BULL.

Ireland is "not a nation," declared Mr. Lloyd George, and he proceeded to deeply regret "this feud between these TWO NATIONS who are such close neighbors." Tripped up on his incautious admission, he floundered pitifully, trying to explain that he meant "the feud between the Irish people and Great Britain. . . There is no feud between the other nations of Great Britain. I am talking of the feud between the Celtic races in Ireland—the Celtic Catholic population of Ireland—and Great Britain." An amazing ineptitude on the part of a man who is regarded as a great statesman, which must have taken the breath of his audience away. His whole speech in reply to Mr. Devlin's plain and simple demand for the right of the Irish people to determine their own method of government according to President Wilson's principles was a bungling performance which would disgrace an amateur debating society. His argument that Ireland is not a nation, because "the mere fact that it is one island is no proof that it is one nation: Great Britain is one island, but it contains three nations," and therefore, that Ireland should not have Great Britain's right to govern itself, would be incredible as coming from the great Prime Minister were it not on indisputable record. More unscrupulous and really not less inept was his attempt to represent the issue between British misgovernment and Irish national right as a struggle between the Celtic CATHOLIC population of Ireland and Great Britain, as if on the question of Home Rule the Irish people had not repeatedly had the fullest support of the Protestant majority of the people of Great Britain and of a powerful minority of the Protestant people of Ireland. Mr. Lloyd George, we are well aware (says the *Irish Weekly*), has never been a friend of Ireland's, but it is the first time he has publicly let slip that HE DISLIKES THIS COUNTRY BECAUSE IT IS A CATHOLIC COUNTRY.

THE ENGLISH PRESS ON GEORGE AND CARSON

The *Times*, the *Daily News*, the *Manchester Guardian*, and other journals comment sharply on the grave disappointment caused by Mr. Lloyd George's statement in the House of Commons recently regarding the Irish question.

The *Times* regards the absence of a constructive policy for Ireland as a great national danger. The *Daily News* says: "There was nothing but a negative and hostile attitude, coupled with a denial that Ireland is a nation. And this on the morrow of a conference which has declared that Poland is a nation, that Czecho-Slovakia is a nation, that the Jugo-Slavs are a nation. Everything that has been done in Paris is to be repudiated at home, and so we drift, without guidance, without policy, with nothing but ideas of force, towards the breakers."

In view of this sinister fact it is worth recalling a statement made the other day in the *New Statesman*. It was to the effect that Sir Edward Carson still remains in touch with the Cabinet, that his outburst at Holywood was inspired, and that it was intended to create a situation that would facilitate the Cabinet in abiding by a decision already arrived at. That decision is to do nothing—in other words, to leave the military occupation to bring events to a crisis. This statement explained Mr. Bonar Law's refusal to denounce the rebel's threat. It explained the Government's refusal to take action. It explains Mr. Lloyd George's speech. Sir Edward Carson is still the master of the Government, and, if the *New Statesman* is right, made his new threat of civil war with knowledge of their intentions.

Meanwhile a serious question needs answering: Where are the Ulster rifles? "We mean to get them," said Mr. Shortt almost exactly a year ago; "if we cannot get them without trouble, we will still get them." On October 15 last he told the House of Commons: "Substantially all the rifles have been loyally handed in." This is denied in Ireland. Now that Sir Edward Carson has once more threatened us with his armed men, Englishmen, as well as Irish Nationalists, are entitled to know whether the 50,000 Ulster rifles and the eleven machine guns are safe in Dublin in the hands of Lord French.

HOW IRELAND IS RULED.

In the House of Commons on July 17 (says the *Catholic Times*) Lieutenant-Commander Kenworthy asked the Chief Secretary if he could state on whose advice or on whose instructions were large detachments of military and police brought into the town of Killarney on Sunday, June 8, to suppress the annual Gaelic League festival fixed for that date, and whether there has ever been any sort of disturbance in connection with previous celebrations of the same character, and if so, when and of what nature.

Mr. Denis Henry said the Irish Government accepted full responsibility for the action taken.

Lieutenant-Commander Kenworthy: Would it not be possible to exempt these athletic meetings on the ground that they are a useful and harmless outlet for the energies of young Irishmen?

Mr. Henry: We are always glad for athletic meetings to be held, but we find that at these meetings the energies of young Irishmen sometimes take the form of sedition. (Laughter.)

Lieutenant-Colonel Malone inquired whether troops were sent to Belfast on July 12, and if not, why not?

Lord H. Cavendish Bentinck asked what was the Attorney-General's definition of sedition.

There was no reply.

SOLDIERS GIVE OFFENCE.

In connection with the Croagh Patrick pilgrimage, an unpleasant performance was carried out by a number of soldiers attached to a Scottish regiment stationed in the town of Westport. During the evening, and whilst the Archbishop of Tuam was the guest of Father Canavan at the parochial house, a score or more of these Scottish soldiers took up a position on the wall immediately facing the parochial house and started to sing what are known as Salvation Army hymns, but in addition two or three of them howled out the words in such a way as to make it perfectly obvious that their object was to insult and if possible cause trouble. There were policemen on the bridge armed with revolvers during the passage of the pilgrims. These constables stood by and allowed without protest or prevention the military men to perform their reprehensible programme. It is a tribute to the patience of the people that serious trouble did not arise.

Think little of yourself, and you will not be injured when others think little of you.

How the repentant sinner is consoled by Christ! When sorrow touches the human heart, how it bows under the burden which often seems too great to bear. Where will sorrow find its consolation if not in the Master's Heart, which sorrow filled to overflowing with its bitterness.

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