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ENGLAND'S BRUTALITY EXPOSED

American Commission of Irish Independence Find Political Offenders in Ireland Are Treated Worse Than Lowest Criminals—Numerous Assaults on Public Streets With Bayonets and Clubbed Rifles.

BRITISH ARMY OF OCCUPATION OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND MEN

Universal Service herewith presents the complete report on conditions in Ireland, made to the Peace Conference by the American Commission—Frank P. Walsh, formerly of the War Trade Board; former Gov. Edward F. Dunne, of Illinois, and Michael J. Ryan, of Philadelphia. The publication of this report in London has created a furor of excitement and has resulted in a demand from some leading English newspapers for an adequate reply from the British Government.

The full text follows:

"Upon May 2, 1919, the American Commission on Irish Independence, appointed by authority of the Irish Race Convention, held in Philadelphia on the 22nd and 23rd days of February, 1919, consisting of Frank P. Walsh, Chairman; Edward F. Dunne and Michael J. Ryan, under passports issued by the American and English Embassies in Paris, departed for Ireland for the purpose of conferring with President De Valera and other officials of the Irish Republican Government, and to make a first-hand study of actual conditions in that country."

"When the passports were handed to the American Commissioners on the morning of their departure for Ireland, Sir William Wiseman stated that Mr. Lloyd George wished the Commission to go to all parts of Ireland, if possible, and to make an especial request that they should visit Belfast. Upon repeating Sir William Wiseman's request to Messrs. Sean T. O'Connell and George Gavan Duffy, the envoys of the Irish Republican Government at Paris, and to the Prime Minister, we stated that we should make a close investigation of conditions in Ireland, and especially urged that we should visit the jails, particularly those in the larger cities, where, they asserted, hundreds of men and women were confined under circumstances of the most shocking nature."

"Crossing the Irish Sea from Holyhead to Dunlary we came upon the first evidence of the military occupation of Ireland. The vessel and wharves swarmed with soldiers, fully equipped for the field, going to and coming from Ireland. When we arrived in Ireland we found soldiers everywhere. A careful investigation, made on the day before we left Ireland, showed that the Army of Occupation numbers considerably over 100,000 men, to which accessories are being added daily. The troops are equipped with machine guns, bombing planes, light and heavy artillery, and in fact all of the engines of war lately employed against the Central Powers."

"In addition to this, there are approximately 15,000 members of the Royal Irish Constabulary. The constabulary is a branch of the military forces. They are armed with rifles, as well as small side arms, engage in regular drill and field maneuvers, and are being used as troops of the district while they occupy, and have quarters in regular Government barracks. After our arrival in Ireland we conferred with President De Valera as to the prisons which we should visit, and Mounjoey Jail, the City of Dublin, was selected, for the reason it contained a large number of political prisoners, many of them men of the highest character and standing. Mounjoey, so far as physical equipment and brutality of conduct goes, is not as bad as many of the other jails in Ireland."

"We made our demand for permission to visit this jail through the municipal authorities of the city of Dublin. The Governor of the prison, a resident of England, who had been in office but a few weeks, refused our admission. He was then explained to Sir John Irwin, Chairman of the Visiting Justices of Mounjoey Prison, that the commission was traveling on diplomatic passports and was investigating conditions in Ireland partly at the solicitation of the Prime Minister. With this explanation, Sir John Irwin, who is in supreme authority of the jail, overruled the decision of the Governor, and we were admitted to Mounjoey. When we appeared at the gate we were ushered into the office of the Governor, where we found Sir John Irwin. The Governor told us that we were to be admitted to the prison, but with the understanding that we should not speak to any prisoner, nor to seek to fix the identity of any prisoner exhibited. Although Mounjoey is called a jail, it is as a matter of fact, a combination of jail and penitentiary. It is surrounded by a stone wall twenty feet in height and is larger than any of the mid-Western American penitentiaries, such as Jefferson City or Joliet, Kentucky, as large as Sing Sing. It has immense cell houses, built to accommodate approximately 1,000 prisoners. It is equipped with workshops, where men convicted of serious crimes are confined at hard labor. It is also used for the confinement of persons awaiting trial, as well as misdemeanants serving sentences for petty offenses."

"Exclusive of the political prisoners, there were but twelve persons in confinement, all of them undergoing sentences for petty infractions of law. One of the men who accompanied us upon the visit was an official of the City of Dublin, well

acquainted with all the political prisoners, so that we had no difficulty in identifying them. They were confined for the most part in groups, the majority of them being locked up in steel cages built in the yards of the prison, entirely outside the buildings proper. These cages are exact duplicates of those used for wild animals in the larger zoological gardens, such as Lincoln Park and the Bronx, in New York City."

"Statements had been made that unspeakable outrages were being committed against the persons of these men, and the most barbarous cruelties inflicted upon them. That they had been starved, beaten, confined in dark and noisome underground cells, otherwise mistreated, and kept for days with their hands handcuffed behind their backs. We attempted to secure statements from the officers, either confirming or denying the charges. We were permitted to talk to no one inside the prison except the Governor. He stated that no such barbarities had been committed since he had taken charge of the prison, a week or two before. He refused to speak for any time prior to that. He at first denied that there were underground cells in the prison, but when he was finished, however, with a plan showing their location, and upon our insistence we were allowed entrance. We found a great number of cells underground, too narrow for human occupation, without beds or covering, and the atmosphere was so dark and extremely cold, although the weather at the time was not severe. The Chief Warden admitted that these cells were at times occupied by prisoners."

"Our information well authenticated, was to the effect that a large number of political prisoners were taken out of the underground cells after we had demanded admission the night previous. We found one of the political prisoners still in solitary confinement. He presented a pitiable spectacle. The miserable cell was so dark and so hot, and so highly nervous, palpably unendurable, and had a wild glare in his eyes, indicating an extremely dangerous mental state. He tried to speak to us, but was quickly silenced by the presence of the political prisoners in this jail, without exception, are men of the highest standing, journalists, lawyers, business men, skilled tradesmen and laborers. Many of them, confined for months, have not been informed of the charges against them, and a crowd of soldiers upon the walls of the prison, often of the most trivial character—ball is denied. They were all emaciated and appeared to be suffering from malnutrition. Of the thousands of German prisoners we have seen in France since the armistice, we had counted none so marked with pain as the prisoners in Mounjoey. As we were leaving the prison we were attracted by shouts in the rear of the main hall of the prison. Looking around we saw Pierce Beasley, an Irish nationalist of the highest standing, and one of the most beloved men in Ireland, being hustled through the back doorway by a burly prison guard."

"Beasley cried out: 'Attention to the fact that this brute who has me in charge is about to punish me for saying: "Long Live the Republic." We immediately protested against the assault on Mr. Beasley. The Governor of the prison hastened to the window, and the political prisoners hurriedly whispered conversation with the guard, returned and said that we could be assured that no punishment would be inflicted upon Mr. Beasley. Upon our return from the prison we were furnished with detailed statements of other prisoners confined in prison, exposing the vilest atrocities committed against prisoners. Having received information that there was a large number of prisoners confined in a smaller prison in the town of Westport, County Mayo, which place was invested by troops, and that cruelties and barbarities were being practiced upon them, we announced our intention, after leaving Mounjoey Jail, of visiting Westport."

"Shortly before the departure of our train upon the following evening two policemen appeared at our apartments and handed us an unsigned typewritten letter, notifying us that we would not be permitted to enter the town of Westport, the only reason given being that it was within the military area." We proceeded, nevertheless, to Westport. As we approached the town a company of soldiers met us about three miles out, and the Lieutenant announced in a surly tone, that under no circumstances would we be permitted to enter. We demanded to see the colonel, to whom we showed our passports, repeated the message of Mr. Lloyd George delivered through Sir William Wiseman, to the effect that he wanted us to visit all of Ireland, explained that we were conducting an investigation under the authority of the Prime Minister. We advised him that we understood that revolting conditions existed in Westport. The Colonel, however, declared that he would take the full responsibility of not complying with the request of even so high

a personage as the Prime Minister of England, though he stated that he was acting on orders from the Government officials at Dublin. "Many of the persons we met in the vicinity corroborated the stories of brutal treatment to which prisoners in the Westport jail were being subjected, the details being horrible beyond belief."

"During our visit to Ireland we witnessed numerous assaults in public streets and highways with bayonets and clubbed rifles, upon men and women known to be Republicans, or suspected of being in favor of a republican form of government. Many of the outraged persons were men and women of exemplary character, and occupying high positions in the business and professional life of the country. We took statements covering hundreds of cases of outrage and violence committed by the officers and representatives of the British Government in Ireland, the details of which we set forth herein. The excesses and atrocities detailed are either being actually committed at the present time or have been committed within the recent past, as a part of a scheme and plan to crush out and repress the effort of the Irish people to establish a republican form of government in Ireland."

"Among the leaders of the Republican movement in Ireland, many of whom have had these atrocities practiced upon their persons, are lawyers, such as Edward Duggan, George Nichols and John Hanrahan, who rank relatively with such men in the United States as Morgan J. O'Brien, John B. Stanchfield, Levi Mayer, or a Mitchell Palmer. Some of the men whom we actually saw in jail, in a pitiable condition, were newspaper men who rank with Henry Watterson, or the late Col. William R. Nelson, of Kansas City. This comparison is made because two of the prisoners in Mounjoey, Messrs. Pierce Beasley and William Sears, are the owners or principal stockholders of papers which they edit themselves. Many others saw actively in prison are working newspaper men and correspondents of high class publications, such as Charles H. Grasty, Frank H. Simonds and Herbert Bayard Swopes. Among the men we saw a prison soldier upon the persons, business men of affairs, and literary men of brilliant parts and of the highest character."

"We witnessed while in Ireland a brutal and unprovoked assault by an English colonel and a crowd of soldiers upon the person of Professor John MacNeill, Professor MacNeill is a member of the faculty of the National University, is an educator and publicist of the highest type, and occupies relatively the same position in Ireland that William Howard Taft or Nicholas Murray Butler does in the United States. If England ever had an educational system in Ireland it has completely broken down. The Irish people are taxed more for the support of a labor union organization, although the country is practically crimeless in the ordinary sense—than they are for the maintenance of the whole educational system of Ireland, including the upkeep of the National University and Trinity College, as well as all primary and other schools in the land. School teachers in the primary schools are paid as low as \$4 per week. No system of hygiene or sanitation has been installed. The teeth of practically all the children are in decay, and respiratory and throat troubles exist to an alarming degree. Lack of decent clothing and under-nourishment is keeping thousands of children out of school."

"In the City of Dublin alone there are 20,000 families, and an average of five to each family, living in one room tenements. Infant mortality is appalling. Destitution and hunger is rife. Municipal bodies and private persons are attempting to extend relief, but all such activities must have the sanction of the British Government, which is difficult, if not impossible, to obtain."

"We sincerely urge that if the Peace Conference refuses a hearing to the people of Ireland, in these circumstances, the guilt for the commission of these monstrous crimes and atrocities, as well as for the bloody revolution which may follow, must, from this time forward, be shared with Great Britain by the members of the Peace Conference, if not by the peoples whom they represent."

"Respectfully submitted,
AMERICAN COMMISSION ON IRISH INDEPENDENCE.



A NEW SCENE IN CAIRO. Women of the harem haranguing street crowds and demanding liberty for Egypt.

EARL FLYNN IN FRANCE.

Corporal Earl Flynn, of Company 443 M, Eleventh Marines, and son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Flynn, of West Chestnut street, writes as follows to the Kentucky Irish American: "I have been reading the Twin City League scores with much interest and would like to be back in the States to get in the line-up for the A. O. H. team. Have played over here with a team consisting of major league players, among whom are Big Clarke, of the Athletics; Cathwell and Paskerella, of the Giants; Miller, of St. Louis; Yockey, of St. Paul, and Paul Cobb, brother of Ty Cobb. Have been in France since October 25, and am hoping to get the order to come home soon. Had a seven-day leave of absence in May and saw Paris, Bordeaux, Tours, Biarritz, Bayonne, Pau and last but not least Lourdes, the most interesting to me of all. While at Lourdes saw a woman recover her sight who had been blind for twenty-five years. Today, June 7, we were issued forest green uniforms and campaign hats, so it looks like we are going to move one way or the other, which I hope will be 'toot sweet,' as it is growing monotonous here. With best wishes for continued success for the Kentucky Irish American, I remain, Sincerely yours,
CORPORAL EARL J. FLYNN,
 Company 7, Eleventh Marines, Governors, France."

"ROUNDTUP" ROUNDED UP.

Sheriff William Ross put the final touch to the cowboy and Wild West roundup at the State Fair Grounds Saturday night when he attached seventeen steers and twenty-one ponies for debts incurred by the show. The show was given for the purpose of building a home for one of our local Junior Order branches and every paper in Louisville, weekly and daily, EXCEPT THE KENTUCKY IRISH AMERICAN, advertised and boosted the show to the skies, yet not a cent of the amount raised ever got to the amusement park here. In justice to the cowboys and others in the show, they say they didn't know they were booked by an anti-Catholic society and thought the Junior Order was some kind of a labor union organization. Despite the efforts of the traffic sergeant who acts as agent for the Menace and the circulation of Junior Order applications, which go with every application for a city or county position, the society does not make much of a showing when a public appearance is required."

MADDEN-WEBER.

Magistrate John M. Madden, of Jeffersonville, and Miss Christine Agnes Weber, daughter of Peter Weber, 205 North Nineteenth street, were married by the Rev. Father Sarahin Schlang, pastor of St. Anthony's church, with nuptial mass early Sunday morning. Although one of the marrying Squires of the Hoosier, Gretta Green, Justice Madden decided to have his own wedding ceremony performed by a priest in Louisville. He was accompanied to the marriage license office in the court house Saturday by Miss Weber. The mass was quite a surprise to his Jeffersonville friends, who have been filling his office daily to extend congratulations."

WELCOME SOLDIERS.

The Columbia Athletic Club, which furnished many men to the army and navy, had the biggest night in its home coming celebration for those who did service took place. President Beckmann and the members did every honor possible and feasted generously the returned heroes and scored another record for this popular organization."

FAVORS THE LEAGUE.

Resolutions urging ratification of the league of nations covenant, which is described "as the end for which the youth of the allied nations were laying down their lives," the year. In the afternoon these children and seventy-eight first communicants of last year were confirmed by Bishop O'Donoghue, who in a happy fatherly talk impressed on their young minds the significance of the day and its bearing on their future life."

SHE TELLS WHY

Pathetic Words of Simple Old Irish Woman Accentuate Why Erin Should Be Free.

Heartbreaking Crying of Parents When Boys and Girls Were Leaving.

Was Lonely When She Thought of Those She Was Never to See.

AND IRELAND WILL BE FREE.

ONE REASON WHY "Why should Ireland be free? That question was rather frequent five years ago; today, however, it drops from the lips of those who are either incapable of appreciating an argument or are afraid of offending the Protestants of liberal views with whom they associate." Both these classes of people are hopeless, whenever principle is involved, but for different reasons, the former from invincible ignorance, the latter from lack of manhood. To neither can any appeal be taken, but to the great throng of thinking men and women who value justice more than sycophancy these pathetic words of a simple, aged old Irishwoman will serve to accentuate one reason why Ireland should be free: "There were eleven of us children. Most of us had to go away. There was nothing we could do at home. So we had to go to America. We lived on the Shannon, and across the river there was a station where the train would be taking the people to Quebec. Two of us were our heart to hear the fathers and mothers all crying and moaning, and the boys and girls that were going to America crying too. We could hear them in our house. Often when I was a little girl, when I didn't know what it all meant, I would go off and cry by myself. Sometimes when we would be playing about our mother would of a sudden throw her apron over her head, and we'd know she would be crying. We did not what it was for, why she knew what it all meant. I went to America I said to my sister who had come over before me that I knew why she would be crying, thinking of the day when all her boys and girls would be far from her. And we all did leave save only one and that was my brother. I never saw them, my youngest brother and sister. I think my mother died of a broken heart, for she always wept for her children, far away in America, she would never see again. And my father died and left three small children and times were very hard. My father never had much schooling, but I think he was an intelligent man. He was a contractor and a farmer, both in a small way, and he found it bitter hard to get on, trying to feed us and give us some schooling, for he'd no capital. He never drank, but he'd have no man give him the pledge, for he'd say, 'A man is no man that can't take it or leave it as he wishes.' He never smoked a pipe unless he was in trouble and when he'd take out the pipe we children would know his trouble was past bearing. And then, likely, he'd walk the floor all night. When we were little, of a Sunday afternoon, he'd repeat most of the Gospel and the sermon to us, and when we were bigger we had to tell him the same. He did not try to stir up bitterness, but he would say, 'God is good, and 'twill all be the same.' But just to encourage us to use what schooling he could give us he would tell us that when he was a wee boy there were no schools, only the hedge-schools, where they'd creep out to the hedge of a night and if they were caught on the way home it's a hard beating they'd get."

(Continued on Fifth Page.)



MAJOR GEN. WYNN BEING DECORATED. Admiral Moreau, of the French navy and da member of his staff placing about the neck of Major Gen. Wynne, U. A. A., the grand cordon of the Legion of Honor.

"REFORM"

Administration Hears the Voice of the Colored Politicians and Needs.

City Officials Give Hert's Company Whole Thoroughfare for Advertisement.

Burlingame Meets Practical Demonstration of His Police Efficiency.

KEYSTONE STORY TRAVELED.

Once again is "it" demonstrated that the colored Republicans have taken the reins in their own hands and forced near Mayor Smith and the local Republican machine to take a back seat while they drive. The latest instance is the case of the young negro Whitebe, who was arrested on May 9 by Patrolman Sullivan. Detectives Clark and Stultz, the accused being captured running through the streets with a bundle of clothes, and when captured by the officers became very abusive and was taken to jail. Whitebe is the son of Dr. Whitebe, an appointee of near Mayor Smith in the Health Office and a prominent politician with the colored Republicans. In the Police Court a two-hour trial was held and the young negro was fined \$10. His mother was also fined \$10 but suspended later. It developed that the mother and son pretty near started a rough house at the police station, the testimony showing that the woman had threatened that through political influence and strength with Col. Petty she would have the officers "fired." The young negro acknowledged that he cursed the officers and Station-keepers Hermes and Jacques. In the latter, a Republican appointee, testified that force was needed to subdue the unruly negroes. Jacques said the prisoner was the worst he had seen in years and the mother had dared the arresting officers to put her in jail, and if they did she and her folks would have them "fired." This testimony was borne out by seven policemen present and a Deputy Bailiff.

Here is the sequel, and the sequel shows the negro politicians made their threat good even though it took six weeks to do it. Wednesday the Board of Safety fined Station-keeper Hermes and reprimanded Patrolman Sullivan and Detective Clark. The colored Republicans who follow the wishes of the machine come into their own and the negroes throughout town have begun to assert themselves with a vengeance. There are but few arrests in the negro sections—the Chestnut and Walnut street cars have been taken over, negro high-waysmen and gamblers frequent our streets and display the utmost contempt for the Keystone police. The ordinary colored residents who have always lived here are not responsible for this situation, but it is caused by the advent of negro crooks and leaders from all parts of the country to take part in the harvest of crime. The only return needed is support of the Searey machine. Negro dives and saloons are running full blast day and night and Sunday, and right here we want to point Sunday. When the Chief assumed office he hastily announced that he would see that Pete Ritter's place would be closed if liquor was sold. Any Sunday dives of negroes may be seen coming in and out of Pete's place of business. This past Sunday additional help was needed to meet the wants of the large army of colored Republicans paying Pete a social call. So much for the Chief's boast.

A striking proof of the subterfuge of the present "reform" administration is Hert, the Republican boss and dispenser of the campaign

(Continued on Fifth Page.)