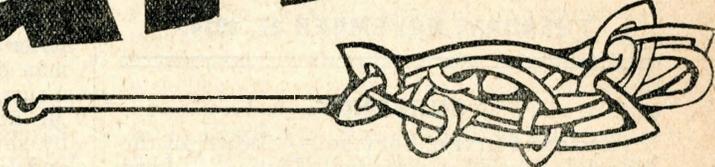


Éire

Irishman



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Tuesday, November 17, 1914.

Leac-írisinn.
One Halfpenny.

THE FIGHT FOR THE PROVOSTSHIP.

T.C.D. Gaelic Society Suppressed.

The fight between Dr. Mahaffy and Dr. Starkie for the Provostship of T.C.D. entered on its sixth round, when Dr. Mahaffy scored a complete victory, Dr. Starkie being compelled to vote approval of his action.

When the battle began a few weeks ago, Dr. Starkie led off by turning the opening of a school at Foxrock into a political meeting, at which he denounced Germany and exuded Imperialism at every pore.

Dr. Mahaffy countered by taking the train to Templemore, where he interviewed some of the German prisoners, assuring them that the Kaiser was, or had been, a particular friend of his. Whether he obtained any information of value is unknown. But Dr. Starkie's wife published some recruiting articles in the Castle Journal.

Dr. Mahaffy has no wife, so he responded by ordering the Gaelic Society not to permit Mr. Pearse, B.L., to speak because of his anti-recruiting views. Dr. Mahaffy had known long previously that Mr. Pearse was to speak.

Following up this he has secured the suppression of the Society. This reduces the college betting from 10 to 2 on Mahaffy to 10 to 1.

WHY BULGARIA IS NEUTRAL.

Writing from Sofia to the Brooklyn "Standard Union," a prominent and influential educator and publicist, says: "England is the party most responsible for the conflict. The pity is that France and Russia failed to see in time the fearful calamities into which the skilful diplomacy of Albion threw them. It is as clear to me as anything can be that England so managed things as to bring about this grand imbroglio, the effect of which will be a weaker Europe and a stronger England.

Should Russia come out the victor now she will have soon to face another combat prepared for her by the same England, who would not like to see the Bosphorus and Constantinople in Russia's hands. And how deftly is England playing the game!

"Mr. Noel Buxton, the President of the London Balkan Committee, is our guest of honour. He comes unofficially, he says, but I am sure, being a near friend of Sir Edward Grey, he must carry an official mission with him. He promises much, but is not positive or concrete in his statements.

"England is trying hard to win Bulgaria and Roumania toward the Entente. I doubt it as far as Bulgaria is concerned. Bulgaria will stick to strict neutrality. The Entente did not bring her any good a year ago."

ESCAPING THE HINDUS.

Owing to the numerous threats against his life, Malcolm Reid, immigration agent at Vancouver, who deported the Hindus on the Komagata Maru, has been transferred to Ottawa. His assistant, Hopkinson, and two others have been assassinated since the deportation.

PANAMA CANAL OPENED TO WARSHIPS.

President Wilson on Saturday proclaimed that warships of all nations, belligerent or otherwise, upon payment of tolls, may now use the Panama Canal for purposes of transit from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, or vice versa. Belligerent warships will be allowed to take on in the Canal only those supplies which are absolutely necessary. A warship will be allowed to use the Canal only after the commanding officer of the same has made a written application for a passage to the governor of the Canal.

Belligerent vessels using the Canal will not be allowed to delay their passage or remain at the entrances in neutral waters longer than necessary. Warships of one belligerent will not be allowed to enter the Canal until twenty-four hours after the departure of the warships of another belligerent nation.

Not more than three warships of a belligerent shall pass through the Canal at one time, and the same number may await passage at either of the entrances to the Canal. Otherwise there shall not be more than six warships of any one belligerent in the Canal waters at any one time.

Only in the case of actual distress may the repair steamers of the Canal be used by belligerent warships. Wireless apparatus on board belligerent warships shall not be used while the vessels are in the Canal waters.

BRITAIN'S MILITARY STRENGTH.

The military expert of the New York "Times" makes this comment on Britain's military strength:—"Great Britain is now paying the penalty for putting her trust in the fallacious but seductive idea that numbers mean military strength. She can get the numbers, and has already enrolled an army of 1,200,000. Her numbers, however, are so far a military burden to the State, as the value of newly-recruited regiments for field operations is practically nil. During these last two weeks, when 200,000 men might have saved Antwerp and turned the tide of battle for the Allies, Britain had to look on while her opponents gained an important victory. Though she had 600,000 men in her training camps, they were of less immediate value to her than 100,000 would have been on the Continent. The loss of 1,146 British officers during the first seven weeks of fighting is a serious matter for Great Britain. She has no large reserve of trained men like the Continental nations."

BRITISH WAR VOTE.

The British Premier stated yesterday that £225,000,000 additional credit for the war would be raised. £30,250,000 was for the self-governing Dominions, ten millions would be lent to Belgium, and a further sum to Servia.

In the parish of Ballinasreen, South Derry, the local Volunteer Corps, 400 strong, disbanded as soon as it became clear that the movement was being used for recruiting purposes. Similar reports come from various parts of Derry and Antrim.

TURKS IN PERSIA.

Turkish troops have entered the Persian province of Azerboijon, utterly defeating the Russians, who fled.

The Russian loss at the battle of Kuprukeni is stated to have been 8,000 killed and wounded and 500 prisoners. The Turks captured 10,000 rifles and other materials of war.

ENGLAND AND THE AMERICAN COPPER INDUSTRY.

The American Smelting and Refining Company, in its statement to the American Government on the seizure of five American steamers laden with copper by English warships at Gibraltar, declares that the British Government has aimed a serious blow at the American copper industry by including that metal in the list of contraband. England's action is declared to be "a clear case of restraint of trade by a foreign Government."

While the greater part of the copper included in the cargoes of the five ships has been refined, the statement says, some of it is "bessemerized" or unrefined copper, which is used in large quantities in Italy for the manufacture of sulphate of copper. This sulphate is used in making what is said to be the only substance which effectively destroys the phylloxera which infest the great Italian vineyards.

The statement asserts that large quantities of copper are exported by England.

ENGLAND AND EGYPT.

The Khedive of Egypt was in Constantinople when the war broke out, says an American paper, and it is said he was "requested" by the British to remain there for the time being.

ENGLAND TO DOMINATE THE WORLD If the Allies Win.

Signor Ferrero, writing in the Italian "Messaggero," declares that a result of victory by the Allies will be to restore England her former influence over the Continent of Europe.

CHINA AND JAPAN. Violation of Neutrality.

It now transpires that in attacking Tsing-tau Japan requested permission from China to land troops at Lungkow. China, as a neutral power, refused, whereupon Japan landed the troops. China has informed Germany that she had no force to resist the breach of neutrality.

SVEN HEDIN'S VIEW.

Dr. Sven Hedin, the famous Swedish traveller, declares that the defeat of Germany would be the defeat of liberty and real peace. Germany is fighting for existence, and England, which has secured yellow, black and brown men to assist her, is fighting to destroy the wealth that the Germans have acquired through hard and honest work.

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In sending matter for publication the writer must enclose real name and address; otherwise it will receive no attention.

IRELAND.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1914.

CURRENCY.

CURRENT CHINESE COPYING.—"Bearer of the Pointed Sword of Spiritual Justice."—Lord Roberts' designation at George's Coronation.

CURRENT WONDERFUL VISION RANGE.—"Eye-witness" sees everything along the battle front!

CURRENT SHOPKEEPING SENTIMENT.—"A sentiment in favour of English-made goods has been created and carefully nurtured by British merchants, manufacturers, politicians, and periodicals. That sentiment is worth billions of dollars to England."—"Collier's Weekly," New York.

CURRENT BUSINESS.—"But it is to the interest of English business to continue the war as long as possible. Compared with the other combatants, Great Britain is risking very few of her men."—The American "Outlook."

CURRENT SERVILITY.—If Ireland was absolutely independent sooner or later its fate would be one of desolation.—Rev. Fr. Shipick, C.C., Co. Cork.

CURRENT CHIVALRY.—" . . . A foreign enemy's desire to crush small nations like our own, which England was bound, in honour, to protect."—John Bolger, Chairman Wexford County Council.

CURRENT COURAGE.—This, our first year of freedom.—John O'Dowd, M.P.

CURRENT SUBLETY.—He was proud to belong to the great British Empire, which professed to stand forth as the champion of liberty, right, and justice.—Most Rev. Dr. Foley.

THE "IRISH TIMES."

The level of the "Castle Journal" and the "Independent" is the level of the Liffey mud. The "Irish Times" stands higher. But unless it has some explanation for its statement in yesterday's issue that a paragraph was suppressed in the correspondence between the T.C.D. Gaelic Society and Dr. Mahaffy by the Society it must stick in the mud too. The suppression of the paragraph was one of the excuses put forward by Dr. Mahaffy for suppressing the Society. The "Irish Times" unctuously hints dishonour at the Society for suppressing the paragraph.

Now the Society did not suppress it. It occurred in the copies of the correspondence sent to all the daily papers. It appeared in IRELAND. It was suppressed in the "Irish Times" by the Editor himself.

Perhaps the Editor has an explanation. We shall wait and see.

"NEWS" FROM IRELAND.

According to the London papers Ireland is plunged in the depths of woe. "A wave of sorrow," says one of them, has submerged us. Ireland is in "profound sorrow," according to the London "Times." The death of the gentleman who, in conjunction with Sir Edward Carson and Lord Londonderry, arranged "the Curragh mutiny," is the cause—Lord Roberts. Yet people in Ireland who smile at this distortion of fact, obvious to everybody in the country, will accept as true what the same newspapers publish as "news" about the Germans.

BRITISH CULTURE.

How It Sounds.

On the occupation of New Britain by the British, the following proclamation was officially issued by the British authorities to the natives (Sept. 13):—

All boys belongina all place, you savvy. Big feller master, he come now. He new feller

master, He strong feller. All ship stop place. He small feller ship belongina him; plenty more big feller. He stop place belongina him now. He come here. He take him all place. He look out good you feller. He like you feller. Look out good alonga him. Supposing other feller master, he been speak you, "you no work alonga new feller master." He gammon. Supposing you work good with this new feller master, he look out good alonga with you. He look out you get plenty good feller kaikai food. He no fighting black feller boy along nothing. You look him new feller flag. You savvy him, he belong British English. He more better than other feller. Suppose you been making paper before this new feller master come, you finish time belonging him first. You like make him new feller paper. Long man belongina new feller master he look out good along with you. He give you more money, and more good feller kaikai. You no fight other feller black man other feller place. You no kaikai man. You no steal Mary belongina other feller man. Me finish talk along with you now. By and by ship belongina new feller master he come and look out place along with you. Now you give three feller cheers belongina new feller master.

RHYMES FOR THE TIMES.

The English Patriot.

I wouldn't give my football game
For all the bally wars
That ever won undying fame
For Tommies or for Tars;
I want my beefsteak and my beer,
My fags, my picture show,
And thoughts of fighting make me queer,
It's dangerous work, you know.

The battles in the "Daily Sketch"
Are good enough for me,
Don't ask me, sir, my legs to stretch
In camps beyond the sea.
Get all the Paddies you can find,
And send them to be shot,
But leave the bulldog breed behind—
Being killed is tommy rot!

England's Manly Millions.

We don't want to work, but by Jingo! if we do,
We'll capture all the German trade from
Paisley to Peru,
We'll sweep it from the sea, and we'll wipe it
from the land,
If only in the factories our boys united stand.
The Irish and the Scotch, they were born to be
killed,
The Belgians and the Frenchy chaps for the
same bright fate are billed;
But the gallant Hearts of Oak, for whose Ma
the earth was made,
Are to dodge the fight in war time and to capture
all the trade!

BLATCHFORD ON "THE GOVERNMENT
CONSCRIPTION PLOT."

Than Robert Blatchford there is no greater Jingo in England. He was a Jingo at the time of the Boer war, and three years ago he urged England to make war on Germany. His opinion of the present British Government, delivered this week, is therefore interesting. This is it: "Do not trust the Government. They are as weak, as disingenuous and as incompetent in this matter of Army recruiting as they were in the Ulster trouble. They intend to saddle the burden of the war upon the workers and fighters, and they do not intend to provide for disabled men or widows. They are ready to make the people fight, but they are unwilling to make the slackers pay. I believe myself that sooner than put upon the income-tax payers the first charge for the wives and widows of our sailors and soldiers, our precious Government will attempt to force conscription on the nation."

THE PIOUS "INDEPENDENT."

It will gratify parents of Irishmen serving in the British Army to observe our "National" Press so delicately appreciative of the humours of the battlefields, or else so on the alert to protect their sons from slanderous misrepresentation, according to their reading of the following paragraph in the "Independent":—

"Impeachment Denied."—A letter from Private Wallace to his mother at Trim, says: "It is funny about the Irish Guards praying before charging. It appears in the papers, but we never did it."

It is also possible that some parents, whose sons have died on the occasion referred to, may think the humour of the letter inserted and its heading debatable.

DAWN OF HUMOUR.

A meeting of Dublin teachers was held recently in Banba Hall. A half-dozen ancient men attended. After resolving in favour of perpetuating disunion among Dublin teachers, the official report tells us that—

"Owing to the war-cloud that, at present, overshadows the world, it was not considered desirable to have any other resolution on that day.—JOHN J. KEAVENEY, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer."

THE DEAD WHO DIED FOR IRELAND.

By JOHN BOYLE O'REILLY.

An Irish Priest asks us do we not think the republication of these verses would be timely? We do:—

The dead who died for Ireland! Oh, these are living words,
To nerve the hearts of Patriots—to steel avenging swords—
They thrill the soul when spoken, and lowly bends the head
With reverence for the memories of all our martyred dead.

The dead who died for Ireland—the noble ones—the best,

Who gave their lives for Motherland, who poured upon her breast,
In freedom's cause the blood she gave—who with their dying breath
Sent prayers to God to heal her woes—then sealed their love in death.

The dead who died for Ireland! how hallowed are their graves!

With all the memories fresh and green, oh! how could we be slaves?
How could we patient clang the chain, how could we fawn and bow?
How could we crouch like mongrels 'neath the keeper's frowning brow?

Ye dare not, men of Ireland! Ye dare not thus disgrace

The dead who died for Ireland! the guardians of your race.

'Twas the blackest sin to bear the yoke, 'twas crime to kiss the rod—

Their very blood would rise and cry for vengeance up to God!

The dead who died for Ireland! Ah, what a sea of woes,

What depths of foul depression do those sacred words disclose.

In the field and on the scaffold, and wherever men could die—

They gave their priceless lives without a murmur or a sigh.

The dead who died for Ireland! Oh! were they now alive!

They'd trample on the fetters, they'd break th' accursed gyve!

They'd fight for home and altar, they'd fight for name and race,

But they're dead! they died for Ireland. Who? oh, who will take their place?

Be proud ye men of Ireland! Be proud of those who died;

Never men o'er all the earth had greater nobler cause for pride.

Hope and strive and league for freedom, and again the souls will rise

Of the dead who died for Ireland to cheer you to the prize.

These inspiring lines should be read carefully, meditated upon daily, and recited intelligently by every Irish Irelander to-day. They are the life-breath of our country's soul; their pulsations help to purify our hearts and to raise our minds far above the platitudes of paid politicians.

"CIARAN."

MANŒUVRES IN FIFTEEN ACRES.

Some interesting manœuvres were carried out in the Fifteen Acres on Sunday, when several companies of the 1st Battalion of the Dublin Regiment, Irish Volunteers, under the command of Captains Judge and Daly, attacked a position occupied by companies of the 2nd Battalion, under the command of Capt. MacDonagh. The most interesting feature of the assailants' work was the reconnaissance, which was carried out on a large scale, the results showing the extreme importance of scouting and the necessity of a thorough training in this part of the work.

THE WAR DAY BY DAY.

The Prophets at Work.

In the absence of definite news from the war I have been glancing over the English papers, and I find therein the whole programme for the future arranged. Here it is. The Germans are to be hurled back on the Rhine by the English and the French. The Russians are to drive the Germans before them on the other front, capture the German fortresses, and when that is done the English and the French are to cross the Rhine on one side and the Russians to cross in force the German eastern frontier via Poland on the other side, and a few months hence the English, the French, and the Russians are to meet and shake hands in Berlin. In the meantime Germany will be starved out, her industries ruined, her fleet completely destroyed, her forts dismantled, her big Krupp factory erased, and she will have to pay an enormous indemnity. Austria-Hungary will be demolished, the Empire broken up, all Galicia is to go to Russia, Bosnia and Herzegovina to Servia, the Trentino to Italy. Turkey is to be wiped off the map, the Russians are to get Constantinople, and England's occupation of Egypt is to be converted into permanent possession. France is to get as far as the Rhine valley, and Montenegro is to get portion of Albania, including an outlet on the Adriatic.

Will It Work Out In Order?

The whole programme is arranged in advance and is expected to work automatically. The victories on land and on sea are to follow as a matter of course. So widespread is this belief in England and so carefully fostered is it by the newspapers that it would be a sort of sin to suggest in any way that things may not possibly work out as the prophets have arranged. I am not going to say they won't. I do not believe in prophesy as applied to war. On the contrary, I believe that the person who allows his prejudices in favour of one side or the other to interfere with his judgment, as the fortunes of war vary from day to day, is going to be a sadder if a wiser man. All I do wish to point out is a simile from history. In the time of Frederick the Great, Prussia, then a very small State, was at war at the one time with Russia, Austria, and France, and despite terrific sacrifices, came out victorious. I don't say she is going to do the same this time, but I do say that it is much too early yet to assume either that she is going to be supremely victorious or supremely defeated in this war.

Differences Among Allies.

The English Press has been making a good deal lately of alleged differences between Germany and Austria. For differences between two nations engaged as allies in war to become fatal to common action the ultimate interests of these countries must be divergent. The interests of Germany and Austria are absolutely at one. It is vital to Austria to stick to Germany if she is not to be dismembered by her rapacious Russian and Servian and Italian neighbours. On the other hand the interests of Russia and England are by no means identical. As a matter of fact it needs no very wide knowledge of geography or of history to realise that they are widely divergent. Plain hints to this effect are beginning already to appear in the English Press, and England is being told that Russia considers she has done her share on the Eastern frontier and relies upon England and France doing theirs on the western side. The reason why Russia feels this is, of course, obvious. She wants to concentrate at once against Austria, and especially against Turkey, whose capital, Constantinople, it is her dream to possess. As the days go by there will be developments in this respect and I should not be surprised to find Roumania and Bulgaria finding the developments very serious. In the meantime all the considerations make the task of prophesy all the more risky and profitless. One thing is certain. If the Allies do succeed in driving the Germans back by overwhelming force of numbers nobody will be surprised, because the French and the Russians have the numbers, and England, too, if they are willing to fight. But if by any chance the Germans succeed in face of every difficulty the people who are at present gloating at the prospect of the victorious entry into Berlin will be dumb-founded, and will have cause to curse the very newspapers they now delight in reading.

C.

The 47th Anniversary of the execution of Allan, Larkin, and O'Brien, will be commemorated on Wednesday night at 6 Harcourt St. The commemoration address will be given by Sean O Dubhghaill, and songs will be rendered by Messrs. Wm. Sheehan and T. MacCarthy.

THE GERMAN SUBMARINES.

Mr. Simon Lake, an American inventor of submarines, says in an interview in an American paper:—

"The long serial story of the annihilation of big war craft by little submarines has only started. As torpedo craft, the submarines are invisible, invulnerable, and invincible.

"London and all England have good reason for a submarine alarm if Germany is in the condition I think she is.

"In a consultation with the German Minister of Marine, Admiral von Tirpitz, I was told Germany was not so much interested in submarines for defensive purposes as for offence against a foreign country, which was not named.

"At this time I had a large technical office in Berlin, where I employed many German engineers and draughtsmen in my designing of large cruising submarines for Russia. The Germans had some little submarines, which did not fission submerged. I advised them how to overcome the subtle troubles.

"The result was that I made an agreement with Krupps, who were to build my type in Russia and Germany. I placed in German hands my plans, copies of patents and technical data.

"The German submarines in principle are practically duplicates of the Lake type in regard to submarine torpedo characteristics.

"I do not care to state that the German submarines have my mine-destroying features or bottom wheels and a diving compartment. But, if the Germans have also adopted my features in regard to mine destruction, the German submarines can run on the bottom of the English coast, send out divers to cut the cables of the mines guarding the English naval bases, pass into those bases submerged, and torpedo the big English war craft at anchor within harbour, where they are supposed to be safe behind mine fields and fortifications.

"There is no question about the Lake type boat's ability to do this, because practical tests have been made in Russia and the United States by Government officials. My craft can destroy practically any mine field. I imagine this mine destruction feature in submarines is the surprise Germany is said to have in store for England.

"No naval power can be mistress of the seas, because the submarines can unconditionally send every deadnought and cruiser to the bottom of the sea to keep silent company with the Pathfinder, Aboukir, Cressy, Hogue, Pallada and Hawke.

"The submarines will dictate the terms of peace whenever they begin to destroy supply and troop ships. One country cannot invade another where submarines exist."

VANISHING VOLUNTEERS.

At the beginning of September there were 467 active Irish Volunteers in Lisburn, Co. Antrim. Some weeks later the battalion, at the dictation of Mr. Devlin, repudiated the constitution of the movement, and as a result there are now scarcely 100 men drilling. While the Volunteers are vanishing, their leaders are being awarded for their services to Mr. Devlin. The treasurer—a local J.P., who advised Irishmen to act as German bullet-stoppers, though he himself, like others of his ilk, elected to remain at home, has received a War Office contract; while one of the secretaries has been appointed to succeed Martin Burke, of Belfast, as registration agent for Mr. Devlin. J.P.-ships and other "jobs" are freely spoken of. So far the efforts of a member of the Committee, who described Mr. MacNeill and his colleagues as "a pack of Castle hacks," have not been officially acknowledged.

In Belfast 300 Devlinites are reported to have **promised** to enlist. Last week 60 of these were passed by the military authorities. It is certain that a large proportion of the sixty was made up of Volunteers, but fully one-third are men who never took any part in the movement.

Amongst the Devlinites there has been strong opposition to this course. Since the decision to distribute enlistment forms was come to hundreds of Volunteers, all good party men, some of whom fought the proposal tooth and nail, have withdrawn from the Volunteers. The defections have been particularly numerous in East and West Belfast. This new split has put an end to the Devlinites wing of the Volunteers in the city.

CAPT. MONTEITH'S REMOVAL.

MEETING OF PROTEST.

On Sunday night a great meeting was held in Stephen's Green, under the auspices of the Citizen Army, to protest against the tyrannical outrage of which the British Government were guilty in ordering Capt. Monteith, of the Irish Volunteers, to leave Dublin within 24 hours. Despite the fact that rain was falling almost continually, some three thousand people assembled in the neighbourhood of the site of the Wolfe Tone Monument. The Citizen Army attended, carrying rifles, and there were also a number of Volunteers, many in uniform. The assemblage was a thoroughly representative one, and the orderly behaviour of the large assemblage was beyond praise. A huge force of police were present. The Castle Authorities had also a body of 250 Lancers held in readiness in the Castle Yard during the time the meeting was in progress, and large bodies of military were confined to barracks.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. Wm. O'Brien, Chairman of the Dublin Trades Council, and vigorous speeches were delivered.

Mr. James Connolly said he was well aware that the holding of that meeting might entail bloodshed; but he had made his arrangements and he promised the British Government that if there was a massacre of the people of Dublin, before a week was over, every Irish soldier at the front would know of it. It was the duty of every Irishman, in answer to the action of the British Military Authorities with regard to Capt. Monteith, to go on the following day and join either the Irish Volunteers or the Citizen Army. He proposed: "That we, the people of Dublin, assembled here to-night, as our answer to this attack of the British Government on Capt. Monteith, pledge ourselves here and now to carry on this work, to register ourselves as fighters for Ireland, and never to desist from our efforts until we are privileged to see a free and independent Republic in Ireland."

Every man present raised his hand in support of the resolution, and the proceedings concluded with the singing of "A Nation Once Again."

During part of the proceedings the rain descended in a perfect deluge, but it had not the slightest effect in lessening the attendance at the meeting.

ZEEBRUGGE AND THE FIGHTING ON THE YSER.

Discussing Zeebrugge as a submarine base, the "Algemeen Handelsblad" says that it is the port, or mouth, of the maritime canal, eight miles long, which connects the city of Bruges, now in possession of the Germans, with the sea. This canal was constructed by the Belgians, in 1895-1907, at a cost of 42,000,000 francs. It is 230 feet wide and 26 feet deep, and allows sea-going vessels to reach Bruges, where a harbour has been constructed.

At its extremity, which is Zee-Brugge, a great crescent-shaped mole has been erected, constituting a perfect harbour. This mole, built of concrete blocks, is a mile and a half long, and is covered with elevators, warehouses and railway tracks.

Zee-Brugge is a much better harbour than Ostend. It has the further advantage for the Germans of being but seven miles from the neutral Dutch coast, which is here practically an extension of the shores of the Scheldt. The Dutch have placed mines in the Scheldt, and it is probable that the Germans will be able, by mine planting of their own, to exclude the British warships from the vicinity of Zee-Brugge, and that they will thus obtain a degree of immunity for their operations with the submarines which they are bringing in sections to Bruges.

To obtain this base, however, they must be able to hold Ostend, the rail line from Ostend to Thorout, and the ground from Thorout through Thielt to the River Lys, against the military operations of the Allies. The recapture of Bruges is consequently of the utmost importance to the Allies—and especially to the British. We may regard the fighting on the Yser as in reality a struggle for the possession of Bruges and Zee-Brugge.

SPAIN AND GERMANY.

Despite the utmost efforts of the Allies the current of sympathy in the present war runs, in Spain, with Austria-Hungary and Germany. A fierce riot followed a theatrical entertainment in Barcelona in sympathy with England, France, and Belgium. In the course of the conflict a policeman was shot.

THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

Arms Available.

The Central Executive of the Irish Volunteers is anxious that it should be generally understood that rifles and ammunition are available for all duly affiliated Volunteer Companies. Rifles of any desired pattern which takes the regulation ammunition will be despatched practically by return against a remittance from the Company's Treasurer. Company officers are to consider it their first duty to provide arms and ammunition for the men under their charge. The Executive feels that it cannot too strongly insist upon the urgency of this duty at the present juncture.

Military Organisation.

The Executive is at present busying itself with a scheme of definite military organisation for the Irish Volunteers and with a programme of training adapted to the immediate needs and limitations of the force. It recognises that the Volunteers, as a military body, will, from the nature of the case, have to specialise in irregular and guerilla fighting; that all Volunteers' strategy, tactics, and training ought to be based upon this fact; and that the Boer commando, rather than the English battalion, forms the true model of a Volunteer corps. The Executive's scheme will accordingly provide that each company shall be, as far as possible, a self-contained unit, with its own cyclist, scouting, signalling, engineering, transport, and ambulance sections; each of which must be so trained as to be capable of acting either within the company, or, in conjunction with similar sections of other companies, within the battalion. And in training the points to be aimed at are efficient rifle work, efficient scouting, and mobility.

Training.

An important series of General Orders issued by the Executive at its last meeting deals with various points in this programme. We have now reached a stage in which mere parade-ground work and ceremonial drill may be largely discontinued and every effort bent to securing mastery over the real essentials of Volunteers' training. Musketry work must come first. Every company ought now to have at least two sections armed with rifles: the Company which has not got at least so far can hardly justify its existence. Where capable instructors are not available a member of the company should be sent to the nearest centre for special training, and on his return he can undertake the training of his comrades. There is no reason why every company (or battalion) in large centres should not have its miniature range. The expenditure of a few shillings will convert any fair-sized barn or hayloft into a capital range. Bayonet fighting comes next in importance: where bayonets are not available pikes form an excellent substitute.

Skirmishing and Scouting.

Every company should take to the hills or fields at least once a week for skirmishing practice. There the most important thing to be looked to is the scouting. Scouting so far has been one of our weakest points, and if we are undone when it comes to action it will probably be through bad scouting. A selected member of each company should be appointed Scout-master, with a section of at least eight under him. But all the men should be given practice in scouting.

Mobility.

An important General Order make a new departure in the matter of cycles. It lays down that not merely the cycle section, but as many as possible of the men of a company are to use cycles. The intention is obvious. The Volunteer has all the advantages of an infantryman with the mobility of a cavalryman. The cycle should be to the Irish Volunteer what the horse is to the Boer. City companies will find it much easier to get out into the country for skirmishing when it is recognised that every man that can is to use a cycle.

Care of the Rifles.

The Executive has found it necessary to issue an order reminding officers and men of the importance of properly caring rifles. A leaflet giving hints on the cleaning of the rifle is now sent out with every rifle despatched by the Executive. Rifles are to be inspected at every parade, and, in any event, at least once a fortnight.

WILL VOLUNTEER who took wrong overcoat at manoeuvres on Sunday kindly communicate with T. Mac Ruaidri, 3 Elm Park Terrace, Terenure.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

An After-the-War-Prophecy.

TO THE EDITOR OF "ÉIRE."

Sir,—Will you allow me to make a prophecy founded on my knowledge of Irish history and England's dealing with Ireland during the past six hundred years. I believe if England wins this war decisively a semblance will be made of offering the present wretched Home Rule Bill to Ireland minus the whole of Ulster. If any hesitation is shown about accepting the miserable thing I believe, by an arrangement with the Unionists, the Liberals will go out of office, leaving to the Unionists the task of repealing the Home Rule Bill, even as applied to only three provinces of Ireland. With no powerful enemy to fear on the Continent, once Germany is gone, England will be able to deal just as she pleases with Ireland. We will have another batch of resolutions then by United Irish League branches, protesting against this fresh betrayal. England will smile and consign them to the waste-paper basket. That will be all. I make this prophecy on Sunday, November 15th, 1914, and I ask every reader of this paper to cut it out and paste it in a scrap book. Time will show it will be true in every detail. I know England.—Yours faithfully,

IRISHMAN.

"WHERE MEN ARE FREE."

TO THE EDITOR OF "ÉIRE."

Sir,—On Saturday evening I went into the Belfast Public Library Reference Department. After filling the form, as usual, for the book I wanted, I handed it to the assistant. I was told that I would have to write my name in English, which I promptly refused to do, remarking that "I thought this was a free country." "But this is Irish," was the assistant's rejoinder.

Yes! Where the Union Jack flies all men are free; provided they shake the dust of Irish Nationality from their feet.

A few years ago a deputation was sent from the Belfast Municipal Technical Institution students to have a class for the study of Irish, which the Corporation refused. At the same time classes for the study of German were in full swing.

SEAGHAN O PEATAIN.

DIVISION 86.—A.O.H.

TO THE EDITOR OF "ÉIRE."

17 Parliament St.,
November 15, 1914.

A Chara,—Would you please insert enclosed resolution unanimously adopted by the above Division at meeting to-day in your issue of to-morrow, and oblige,

J. J. SCALLAN, Chairman.

"That we, the members of the Clan-na-Gael Division of the A.O.H. (Irish-American Alliance) in meeting assembled, protest in the strongest possible manner against the forcible expatriation of Capt. Monteith, of "A" Company, Irish Volunteers, by the military junta at present ruling Dublin, and that we pledge our moral and material support in any action that may be taken by those associated with him in compelling the powers that be to revoke their harsh and brutal mandate."

THE BRITISH ARMY.

Total of 2,186,400 Men.

In accordance with the British Prime Minister's announcement in the House of Commons, particulars have been issued of a further Supplementary Estimate of 1,000,000 men required for the Regular Army in the year ending on March 31 next. "This number," says the White Paper, "represents the probable excess beyond the numbers already voted for 1914-15, in consequence of further enlistments."

With this addition the total of all ranks for service in the Regular Army—including the peace strength of 186,400 voted early in the year—is brought up to 2,186,400, as shown in the appended table:

	All Ranks.
Original Estimate	186,400
Supplementary Estimate, Aug. 5	500,000
Supplementary Estimate, Sept. 9	500,000
Supplementary Estimate now presented	1,000,000

Revised total ... 2,186,000

These figures are exclusive of the Territorial Force.

DR. CROKE MEMORIAL CRUX.

A meeting was held in Thurles on Sunday, between representatives of the Central Council of the G.A.A., Tipperary County Board, local clergy, and Urban Council, for the purpose of fixing on a site for the erection of a memorial (costing over £1,000) to the memory of the late Archbishop Croke, a patron of the G.A.A. The clergy present advocated that the money allotted for the purpose be devoted to the erection of a hall. Mr. A. Mason, the only delegate from the County Board present, vigorously objected. It was eventually decided that the question of deciding whether the memorial take the shape of a monument in the street or the building of a hall be submitted to a meeting of the Tipperary County Board. This body, in the event of the decision being in favour of the former, will then endeavour to procure a site from the Urban Council.

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