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IRISH WAR NEWS

THE IRISH REPUBLIC

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DUBLIN, EASTER SUNDAY, 1924.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

Message to the Irish Nation FROM ACTING-PRESIDENT P. J. RUTLEDGE

DAIL EIREANN.

(Government of the Republic of Ireland).

To Every Member of the Irish Race, Greetings.

Easter, season of rejoicing throughout Christendom, synchronises with the Anniversary of the opening of one of the most glorious epochs in the centuries old struggle of this Nation to reach its destiny. On April 24th, 1916, Pearse and Connolly, interpreting the message bequeathed by Emmet and Tone, Davis, Lalor and Mitchell, rallied our generation to a realisation of the work ahead and laid the foundation of that work by proclaiming to the world the Sovereignty and Independence of the Irish Nation. When the flag of the Republic of Ireland dropped from their lifeless hands, the Nation, with an awakened sense of Nationality and duty, bore it aloft again, and faced with ever increasing determination the path of freedom. The Proclamation of the Republic of Ireland, read in the streets of Dublin in Easter Week, 1916, and sealed with the blood of those whose belief it enshrined and marking the re-birth of the Nation and re-affirmation of the National faith, was a year later read to and accepted by the people of Clare. The elections of 1918 found it read and proclaimed throughout the land as the policy and bond of all who professed faithful adherence to the principles of National Sovereignty and complete Independence. The people of Ireland accepted that policy and that bond and the representatives so chosen at their First Session, and as their first act embodied that policy in the Declaration of Independence and thus securely and constitutionally established the Republic of Ireland. External and internal

war, in their worst forms, persecution and suffering, the weakness and treachery of former comrades have miserably failed to overthrow the Republic and to secure the repudiation of the policy and principles proclaimed in Easter 1916, and which faithful soldiers and loyal citizens have combated unceasingly to maintain and uphold. The Republic of Ireland has survived and lives and, again, we reaffirm "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."

As Irish history will interpret the events of the past eight years, there have been no defeats. Ireland knows defeat only when the spirit of Freedom has been definitely crushed in a generation. To-day the spirit of the Nation is stronger, more determined and more virile than ever in our country's history.

With the experience of the past two years the Nation realises, as never before, that the peace and tranquility for which it has longed and suffered, can come only with freedom. In the light of that fact it views and examines the continued imprisonment of President De Valera and a thousand equally unselfish and high-minded Irishmen.

The day of Unity of the Nation under the banner raised in 1916 will usher in the day of freedom and of peace. To speed that day Ireland needs the services of those who accepted, as sacred, the trust reposed in them; who by wisdom and courage brought the Nation to the verge of freedom; and who are still spared to conclude the task.

May Easter 1925 find our aspirations realised.

PADRAIG O'RUIHLEIS,

Acting President.

Easter, 1924.

EASTER, 1916—1924

Easter, 1924.

Comrades of the Republican Vanguard.

We celebrate to-day the Eighth Anniversary of the foundation of our Republic. We begin to-day the celebration of the anniversaries of the deaths of great heroes who freely sacrificed their lives in the hallowed cause of Irish Sovereign Independence. While daily we offer prayers for the repose of the souls of our martyrs, let us at the same time rejoice for the cause whose greatness and sublimity demanded and obtained their supreme sacrifice. PADRAIG PEARSE, JAMES CONNOLLY, TOM CLARKE, with their thirteen comrades, and O'RAHILLY, SEAN CONNOLLY, and all the other soldiers of EASTER WEEK, died that the REPUBLIC might live and be honoured amongst the nations. Thank God the Republic, baptized with their hearts' blood, and with the blood and tears of so many martyrs since their day, lives to-day. The Republic lives in the hearts and hopes of the Irish—the real Irish—that have been the true possessors of our national heritage throughout centuries of oppression. The Republic lives more firmly rooted than ever in their hearts; more solidly founded on the rock of confidence because of the sufferings through which they have loyally passed in the last eight years.

Many of the children of the Republic have fallen in the struggle; some have proved faint-hearted, and have left the ranks, and some have deserted to the enemy, including a few of the gallant handful that faced the might of the English Empire this day eight years ago. We

are, however, but experiencing that which has been the lot of every nation "rightly struggling to be free" against the might of Empire throughout the world's history. Such is the story of every army that ever fought and won a battle.

But the VANGUARD is here still, faithful and determined. If it has lost a few, its ranks have been rejuvenated and strengthened by the addition of many, many of the bravest of brave young Ireland.

The REPUBLIC of EASTER, 1916, still lives, and its hour of triumph is here. There is no force in Ireland, or out of it, strong enough to stay its onward march.

A place is waiting in our ranks for all in Ireland, young and old, and every man and woman who treasures Ireland's Freedom can give a helping hand now to float the Tricolour banner on the breezes of the IRISH REPUBLIC of Pearse and Connolly's dreams.

SEAN T. O CEALLAIGH, Captain,
Staff of Commandt.-Gen. P. Pearse, 1916.

The following is the resolution that will be put to the monster meeting in O'Connell Street at 1 p.m. to-day:—

"That this meeting of the Citizens of Dublin reaffirms its allegiance to the existing Republican Government of Ireland, proclaimed in 1916, and constitutionally established in 1919, and calls on all the men and women of the Nation to rally to its support."

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.

Reduced Facsimile of the Proclamation of the "Irish Republic."
 Promulgated on Easter Sunday, 23rd April, 1916, at Liberty Hall, Dublin.
 The seven signatories to this document were all executed.

"Irish War News."

The first number of "Irish War News" was sold on the streets of Dublin during the historic days of Easter Week, 1916. It brought the glad news to the people of Ireland, that the nation's flag had, once more, been raised up in battle against the foreigners, that men had been found to brave the might of the British Empire and to declare, in arms, the right of the Irish people to the full control of Irish destiny.

The first number of this paper marked the beginning of the last great fight for the liberty of this nation. The second number is published to-day when that fight is nearing its completion. There has been a gap of eight years between both issues, eight years that have been crammed full of incidents that will live for ever in the annals of our race. Those years saw the Irish Republic established and its establishment endorsed by the people. They saw the magnificent fight made by the I.R.A. against the hordes of armed ruffians whom England sent to maintain her supremacy here. They saw the defeat of the English forces and the truce of 1921. They saw the negotiations for peace conducted with splendid skill by President Eamon de Valera. But they saw also the results of the efforts of our President and our army bartered for a miserable half-measure of Freedom—they saw the treachery of the Treaty and the infamy of the civil war. They saw the broken Pact and the violated Truce, they saw Irishmen, with English guns in their hands, at England's orders, attack their fellow-countrymen in the Four Courts. They saw the desperate efforts of a loyal few to stem the tide of treason. They saw the soldiers of the Legion of the Rearguard fighting the last grim battle on the hills and fields of Ireland, keeping the flag aloft, in the hope that the Irish people would perceive their error, and would return to their true allegiance.

That hope is now being realised. The people have, at last, shaken off their doubts and their fears, and are uniting again in the old cause. We can look forward to the next twelve months in the confidence of Victory. When the third number of "Irish War News" makes its appearance it will be in a free and united Ireland, an Ireland in which the Republican Government will rule unhindered, under the safe and steady leadership of President de Valera.

LUAM CASGA. 1916-1924.

Tá oét mbliana caoite againn, oét mbliana fada, cruada ón lá glóimhar úd a cuairtream beas oíslac amae, Pádraig Mac Piarais agus Séamus Ó Conaite ós a gcionn cum Poblaic na hÉireann do cur ar bun. Ní raib ann aic vóileam beas bíodac aic do veimead gníom an lá saí—Luam Casga, 1916—go mberó trac air i nÉirinn an fáro agus go mberó Saedac beo san tÉir.

Do cumead an Poblaic ar bun an t-seactmáim sin agus do baiscead é le fuil na bpeac báo uaisle i nÉirinn ó sóim i leic. Do veimead iarrac taroir an Poblaic san do cur cum bás aic buídeacas mór le Dia tá sé beo briogmar fós i gcoróitib na nsoaine agus níl cumaic i nÉirinn nó taob amuis De taroir a doctam cum é cur pé cois.

Tá oét mbliana caoite ón lá gur árouigead an bratac agus tá muimicir na hÉireann tar éis a lán t'íobdairc ar fead na hamsire sin cum an bratac do coimead i náirde. Tá sé i náirde fós agus lá agus beró oraimn é coimead mar sin. Feitiró anois agus arís roimne beas soaine do meallad agus do brabanná an namair aic is cuma sin tá furmór na nsoaine vóitib i gcomnuirde agus tá sé veimniicte nac slatopróis riám ven troiró go mberó veire te cumaic na nShall san tÉir. Tá síad misneamair taroir fós agus a naigne socair aca go bfuil an lá timn a bpeiciró an Saedac in usctar ma éir fém agus Poblaic an Piarais mar riagaltas ós cionn sae órlac de talam beannuicte na hÉireann.

seán t. ó ceallaig.