

AN T-OGLACH

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THE TRUCE

The greater part of this issue of AN T-OGLACH was in type prior to the ratification of a truce between the Irish and the English Army. The terms of this truce were agreed to at a conference held on July 9th at the British Military Headquarters. between General Macready, Col. J. Brind, G. S., and Mr. A. W. Cope, Assistant Under-Secretary, acting for the British Army, and Commandant R. C. Barton, T.D., and Commandant E. J. Duggan, T.D., acting for the Army of the Republic. The terms are officially announced by the Irish Republican Government as follows:—

On behalf of the British Army is agreed the following:—

1. No incoming troops, R.I.C., and Auxiliary Police and munitions, and no movements for military purposes of troops and munitions, except maintenance drafts.
2. No provocative display of forces, armed or unarmed.
3. It is understood that all provisions of this truce apply to the martial law area equally with the rest of Ireland.
4. No pursuit of Irish officers or men or war material or military stores.
5. No secret agents, noting descriptions or movements, and no interference with the movements of Irish persons, military or civil, and no attempt to discover the haunts or habits of Irish officers and men.

Note—This supposes the abandonment of curfew restrictions

6. No pursuit or observance of lines of communication or connection.

Note—There are other details connected with courts martial, motor permits, and R.O.I.R., to be agreed to later.

On behalf of the Irish Army, it is agreed that:—

- (a) Attacks on Crown forces and civilians to cease.
- (b) No provocative displays of forces armed or unarmed.

(c) No interference with British Government or private property.

(d) To discountenance and prevent any action likely to cause disturbance of the peace which might necessitate military interference.

The following General Order has been issued by Commandant Ristead O Maolchatha, Chief of Staff, to officers commanding all units:—

“In view of the conversations now being entered into by our Government with the Government of Great Britain, and in pursuance of mutual understandings to suspend hostilities during these conversations, active operations by our troops will be suspended as from Noon, Monday, July Eleventh.”

The time at which we go to Press renders it impossible for us to deal in detail with the terms of the truce. It is unnecessary to warn Volunteers to abide strictly by the terms of the truce. It is also unnecessary to warn them of the paramount importance of keeping their discipline, efficiency and organisation unimpaired during the suspension of hostilities. In the words of the President of Ireland's Proclamation:—

“During the period of the truce each individual soldier and citizen must regard himself as a custodian of the nation's honour Should force be resumed against our nation, YOU MUST BE READY ONCE MORE TO RESIST.”

ALDIS LAMPS

A recently-captured British Army Order states that a considerable number of Aldis Lamps have been distributed among their outlying units. These are a powerful type of signalling lamp which can be used as search lights on lorries and in the defence of isolated Barracks.

These lamps require to have their batteries re-charged once a week. The re-charging is done at a wireless station as a rule, but there may be local facilities which would serve also.

The following is a description of what these lamps are capable of:

- (a) Can be carried by one man—batteries being carried in a box strapped on the shoulder

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- (b) Can be carried in vehicles on the move.
 (c) Can signal 16 miles by night and 8 miles by day in clear weather.
 (d) Can light up a man by night at 400 yards so as to distinguish between mufti and uniform.

IRISH FISHERIES

The following letter has been addressed by the Minister of the Fisheries department of the Irish Republic to the chairmen of all Irish public bodies:—

It is essential to the well-being of the Irish Fisheries that existing home markets be organised and additional markets established.

The people of Ireland are spoken of as the "Worst fish-eating people in the world" and this notwithstanding their position as citizens of an island nation.

Urgent reasons demanding home support for the Irish fisheries are:—

- (1) The necessity for maintaining the fishermen of Ireland and preventing their emigration to foreign lands. From the fishing population will come the material to man the future Irish Mercantile Marine.
- (2) The value of fish as food should commend its more general use in the homes of the people.
- (3) The slump in foreign markets to which Irish fish dealers looked in the past and the excessive cost of transit by rail and sea renders it all the more necessary that markets should be secured at home.

The effort now being made to organise the sale of fish caught by Irish fishermen by the reorganisation of existing fish markets and the establishment of new markets in Irish towns is one that commands the support of all our people.

The Irish public boards can render invaluable aid by

- (1) Calling public attention to its necessity.
- (2) Taking the necessary action to ensure that public institutions at present obtaining their fish supplies from England divert their support to Irish markets.
- (3) Encouraging in every possible way the fostering of the Irish fishing industry.

By so doing they will be carrying out a work of national importance.

The protection of the inland fisheries is, under existing conditions, a duty devolving on our people

and the public bodies can, and will, use all their influence to this desirable end.

Under an Irish Government freely functioning in the interests of the nation the Irish Salmon fisheries will be developed to four times their present value, by the introduction of hatcheries and the destruction of the many pests that destroy the immature fish.

The Cormorant is one of the most destructive of these pests and the boys along our rivers and the shores of our lakes should be encouraged to destroy them.

That poaching is engaged in by bodies of the Army of Occupation should not be an inducement to Irish boys to follow it as a worthy example, and the public will work to foster a public opinion to condemn illegal fishing.

The inland fisheries of Ireland are a national asset, they can, and will, provide a means of livelihood to large numbers of our people, but their success must ever remain the people's trust, and the people must realise their responsibility.

June 2nd 1921.

THE "MOTHER COUNTRY"

Sir George Croydon Marks, Coalition-Liberal member of the British Parliament for North Cornwall, has made a remarkable ethnological discovery. He has evidently satisfied himself that the Irish Nation consists of a colony of English settlers in a previously uninhabited country. This is the only interpretation we can give to the phrase used by him in an interview in Chicago, as reported in an Exchange telegram.

"The English Government," he said, "is anxious to see a united Ireland, governed by an Irish Parliament, living under as free a government as any of the associated nations of the Empire with the sole condition that the ties with the *"Mother Country"* cannot, and will not be broken."

This picture of a "Mother Country" anxious to retain her connection with a wilful and undutiful offspring is touching, but the American people are too well-informed to swallow it. They know that England is not the "mother country" of Ireland, and that the Irish nation existed as a separate, complete and unified national entity, long before the English



A MESSAGE

At this critical period in our country's history the Army of the Irish Republic stands as ever "ready and steady" to guard the nation's rights. Realising the solemn responsibility devolving on them, the soldiers of Ireland will maintain that high standard of organisation and efficiency developed during the struggle. A few words of cheer and encouragement from a well-known Irishman "of the older generation" is here published, conveying the point of view of the non-combatant citizens of Ireland who have shared with its fighting men in sufferings and vicissitudes for Ireland's sake and have vied with them in cheerful fortitude:—

"Men of the Irish Republican Army, it is one of the older generation that is writing this message to you from outside the fighting line. It is not a boast but a simple belief I utter when I tell you that I can speak for the mind of most Irish people, and for what they are thinking about you. Perhaps you take it for granted that they trust you as you trust them and that Ireland loves you as you love Ireland. Still it is no harm to be told about it. The maiden or the wife you love likes you to tell her that you love her, and you like to hear from her that she loves you. Ireland knows you love her, you prove it by your actions. I know I can speak for Ireland in this, and I want to tell you for Ireland that Ireland loves you, loves and honours you. The stand that you have made, that you are making now, and that you mean to make right through, for Ireland's honour and Ireland's right—you may hardly realise it, but it is and will evermore be ONE OF THE MEMORABLE THINGS IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD. Other countries do not yet understand it, but they are beginning to understand it. The longer this war lasts, the better they will understand it, and once they understand it fully, many a tyranny in many a land will begin to tremble and totter. Ireland will once again be the teacher of the nations. It is you that are drawing up the lesson. Do not imagine that your deeds will be unknown or unobserved. Already they are spoken of in distant lands and in other continents.

"In taking up arms in this cause, you have more on your side than the matchless courage of your race.

You have right and justice on your side. You know you have. Think what that means. It means that you have God on your side and that you are fighting on the side of God. You fight in the spirit of self-sacrifice, giving up ease and comfort and facing danger and privation and wounds and death for no selfish end. You do not fight for vengeance, nor to satisfy hatred, nor for gain, nor for dominion over others, nor because a false code of honour or duty compels or induces you to fight. Your victory may be dreaded by those whose hearts are corrupted by the lust of power or the lust of gain, it can harm no just and honest man. When victory comes, as sooner or later it must come, you will either be numbered among the glorious and blessed dead, or you will return to the ways of peace with the same spirit of unselfish devotion to your country's honour and welfare, to right and equal justice for all men that has inspired your noble warfare. You have taken up the Cross for Ireland. In this sign you shall conquer.

"That is the message that the men and women of Ireland, and the children too, would like to send you, if they had a way of making it known to you."

MALLOW BARRACKS RAID

The Press of the 15th. June contained a signed statement from Liam O Loingsigh, Commandant of Cork No. 2 Brigade I.R.A., declaring that four men reported to have been condemned to death for having taken part in the attack on Mallow Barracks on September 28th. 1920 had not in fact taken any part in the attack and that he, the Commandant, was responsible for the operation. We are now informed that the name of a fifth man, David Buckley of Farran, Mourne Abbey, also reported to have been condemned to death on the same charge, was accidentally omitted. Buckley is not a member of the I.R.A. and had nothing to do with the attack on Mallow Barracks.

PROMPT REPORTS

Officers of the Irish Republican Army must not imagine that this suspension of the publication of events reported by them absolves them from the necessity of sending prompt and accurate reports of all events of military importance and interest which have occurred within their area. They must be dealt with in due course.

NIGHT WORK

Practice in night work is an important part in training, both for Scouts and Patrols. It is night which gives a trained man his opportunity. With practice he gains confidence. Once he has confidence in the dark he has a great advantage over untrained men who imagine danger in every shadow or noise.

There is no better training for any form of night work than experience gained on NIGHT PATROLLING. As many men as possible should be given this experience, but it is work which requires careful organising if failures are to be avoided. Men should be trained in night work before they go into "night operations" and they should be in charge of some experienced leader.

NIGHT PATROLS

1. Night Patrols may be divided into three classes:—
 - (a) Patrols sent out to gain information.
 - (b) Patrols sent to kill, capture or harass the enemy.
 - (c) Patrols for protection.
2. The following points are applicable to all patrols:—
 - (1) Each man must know the object of the patrol and his own individual duty.
 - (2) The ground should be carefully studied by day.
 - (3) Patrols should not go out until they have their "night eyes"
 - (4) While the value of cover and the need for caution should be fully understood, men should also realise what liberties can be safely taken and avoid unnecessary crawling and delay.
 - (5) The whole Patrol should not be moving at the same time; at least one man should always be listening.
 - (6) Movement should be on a prearranged programme men keeping touch with their neighbours.
 - (7) The Patrol should be motionless the moment a flare goes up. The best time to move is when it has just gone up.
 - (8) A Patrol is as easily seen and ambushed when returning as when going out. The return journey, therefore, should be made with caution and by a different route.
 - (9) All concerned should be notified of the place and time of the departure and return of the Patrol.
 - (10) Men going out on patrol should have nothing on them which would assist the enemy if they were captured.

A very large quantity of war news, summaries of Brigade reports etc. have been held over in view of the ratification of a truce with the British Army.

ATTACK IN CLOSE COUNTRY

1. Advantages—Close country enables the attacker to approach his enemy with less loss than would be experienced in the open ground, gives him facilities for screening his movements and allows him favourable opportunities for surprising his opponent. To reap these advantages the attacker must be accustomed to manoeuvring in close country, and must realise and make careful preparation to overcome the difficulties likely to be met. A thorough reconnaissance is of more than usual importance.

2. Development.—Troops detailed for attack should not be deployed prematurely. In close country affording cover from view the advance may be carried out safely in close formation provided the service of protection is properly performed.

3. Direction.—It is rarely possible in close country to keep the objective in constant view. Special care is therefore necessary if the direction of the attack is to be preserved. Even when the objective is clearly visible at the beginning of an attack it is advisable to take precautions in case it may disappear from view. The desire to make the best use of cover or to pass an obstacle at the easiest place frequently causes infantry to lose direction. The simplest way of maintaining direction is by guides, or by a compass.

4. Fire—Owing to the short range to which the firing line may be able to approach before fire is opened, it must be prepared to meet with strong opposition directly its position is discovered, and must itself be ready to develop a big volume of fire at any moment.

5. Re-organisation of units is especially important in close country. All commanders, however subordinate, must endeavour to minimise the difficulties of control by taking every opportunity to get men well in hand.

HEALTH REGULATIONS

1. Feet will be inspected twice a week.
2. Hair will be cut close and will be frequently washed.
3. Water will be taken at meals.
4. Socks and shirts will be washed frequently and changed as often as possible.
5. Men will not drink on the march without permission from an officer.
6. Men will report promptly all ailments to O.C. Unit.
7. Boots must be well fitting and rendered as waterproof as possible.
8. Wet clothes will be dried before going to bed.
9. Baths must be taken at least once a week and feet must be washed at least once a day.
10. Teeth must be cleaned at NIGHT and after each meal.