

METHODS OF IRISH REPUBLIC ARE BARED

Propaganda of 'Foreign Department' Revealed in Documents; Support of France Asked; Distrust of England Is Spread; French Press Bureau Plan Is Abandoned

By CARL W. ACKERMAN Special Cable Dispatch Copyright, 1920, by Public Ledger Co.

(Reprinted from today's Public Ledger) London, Aug. 10.—The methods of Irish Republican propaganda throughout the world and further light on the dispute between President Eamon De Valera and Irish-Americans, headed by Daniel T. Cohalan, of the New York Supreme Court, are disclosed in the "report of the Department of Foreign Affairs" of the Irish republic, found among the photographic copies of the secret papers of the Irish cabinet which are now in the possession of the Pencil Lenses foreign service. It shows that the Irish bond drive for \$10,000,000 in the United States was launched by President De Valera, in spite of Judge Cohalan's opposition. Another point of importance is that President De Valera himself proposed Sinn Fein negotiations with Russia.

The co-ordination of Irish opinion in the United States, as well as in Canada and Australia, has received attention from the President, and certain proposals in this connection will be put before you. You will also be asked to take certain steps in connection with the campaign for the recognition of the Irish republic in the United States.

This paragraph in the report of the Sinn Fein acting minister for foreign affairs is believed to refer to De Valera's request for \$1,500,000, to be used in America during the presidential campaign, a request which was approved by the Sinn Fein parliament, the Dail Eireann.

Report of Foreign Minister The report itself, which deals also with efforts of Irish republicans to gain official recognition in France, Italy, the United States and South America, is a three-page typewritten document. I quote from photographs of these pages:

"Dail Eireann, Dublin. Report of the department of foreign affairs. The work of the department of foreign affairs does not lend itself easily to presentation in a detailed report. The following articles are a brief summary of the most important of its activities since the last session, and any further information which members may desire would be given verbally."

"Paris: The work of dilution in Paris has for the most part consisted of propaganda work among the French press and people. The strongest force in France at present is that of Germany, and although England's actions in connection with the treaty of Versailles and negotiations following upon the armistice have aroused distrust of her in the French mind, Germany is so great that France is very anxious not to break with England."

"Hence, official France is not prepared to take the side of Ireland in her present struggle. The Paris press is for the most part governed in its outlook by the prevailing official point of view, and is accordingly very guarded in its expressions on Irish questions. In the provinces the press exercises enormous influences. The views of the press are largely derived from the newspapers. Generally speaking, the French peasant knows very little about Ireland. Your delegation has been engaged by means of special articles, by supplying items of news interest, the correction of false reports by English propagandists and interviews with journalists, editors, etc., in an endeavor to induce the French press to adopt a friendly tone toward Ireland. Their efforts have so far been attended with considerable success. A number of influential Paris and provincial papers from time to time have been induced to publish articles of very useful and informative character, and the general tendency to accept British slanders as correct, is rapidly decreasing. The delegation has attempted to meet the international situation by supply needed information, and to attack the source of English misrepresentations by getting at the representa-

tives of the foreign press in London. This activity, however, comes more properly under the head of propaganda. "An ambitious scheme of establishing a press bureau in Paris in connection with the French delegation was suggested by Mr. Duffy, but it has not been found practicable to undertake this, mainly owing to the difficulty of securing suitable French assistance for the purpose. "It was reported to the Dail Eireann at its last session that the president was anxious that both Mr. Sean T. O'Kelly and Mr. Gavin Duffy should remain at Paris. It was also reported that both were anxious to get home. The ministry had agreed to O'Kelly's return about the end of November last, but he became ill about that time. Shortly after his convalescence he proceeded to Rome and while he has somewhat recovered, he is still in very poor health. I regret to have to report that Mr. Duffy has been very ill of late, but he is now convalescent. I fear that the strain of the last year and a half is telling upon both men, and it may be tended today.

Campaign in Italy "Italy—Mr. D. Hales, the counsel in Italy, has done a very large amount of propaganda work in the Italian press. The tone of the press of Italy is very friendly, and the papers are very willing to publish material about Ireland. But there, as in France, false statements about our course are introduced under cover of news, and are contested daily by Mr. Hales. On the occasion of the visit of the president to Rome, a delegation consisting of Count O'Hara, Professor Stockley and Art O'Brien and I, as a member of the ministry, went to Rome on behalf of the Dail, to represent the government of the republic. Sean T. O'Kelly and D. Hales also took part in the delegation. The effect of this official visit was very useful, and was of great assistance in countering a very strong British campaign, which was for some time being carried on in the Vatican circles. Members will already have realized from the British press that high hopes had been placed upon this campaign, and that very great disappointment has been felt by the enemy in its failure.

Propaganda Unsuccessful in Germany "Other European countries—So far, the endeavor to secure an favorable press for Ireland has been more or less successful in Switzerland, Spain and other countries. No great progress has been made in Germany, where conditions have been such that it is very difficult to make any headway. A number of our most suitable pamphlets have been translated into German for the purpose of circulation in Austria, Germany, Switzerland and other German-speaking countries. The ministry are of the opinion that the time has now come for appointing consuls and diplomatic agents in various European countries, with a view to preparing the way for the presentation of a formal demand for recognition, and acting on the advice of the president, the ministry will ask you to select a number of suitable persons for such posts and to make the necessary appropriations for the appointment of such persons."

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agents in Russia, France, Spain, Italy, Austria, Switzerland and Denmark. "The president is very anxious that the delegation should proceed at once to Russia, and a proposal in connection with this matter will be laid before the house. De Valera in United States "United States—The president, as members are aware, is still in the United States. He made a tour of practically the entire country and has been received everywhere with great enthusiasm. In addition to his tours he has been making the bond drive, he has busied himself in keeping the Irish Claim before the Congress of the United States. The presidential election is now in full swing and is claiming his attention. He attended the Republican convention, held in Chicago a few weeks ago, and laid before them the Irish demands. He will also present the claim of Ireland to the Democratic party convention, and will endeavor to secure the adoption of a plank in the platform of the party to bind them to recognition of the Republic of Ireland. The result of his appearance at the Republican convention has not yet been officially communicated to us, but it is clear that so far that party are not prepared to declare themselves definitely for recognition. "The purpose of my report would be incomplete if I did not refer to the attitude of Supreme Court Judge Daniel F. Cohalan and John Devoy toward the return of the president to Ireland. The ministry learns that these two men have never given their wholehearted support to the president in his campaign, and the very outset they used their utmost endeavor to prevent a launching of the bond drive, and they attempted to force the president into the position of accepting their dictation in all matters of policy connected with his mission. The president has definitely refused to allow his judgment or his action to be dictated by these men, and the success of his tour and of the bond drive are proof of his wisdom in the matter. Must Be Decided in Ireland "The stand taken by President De Valera is that the policy and action of the Irish people must be decided in Ireland. "The co-ordination of Irish opinion in the United States, as well as in Canada and Australia, has received attention from the president, and certain proposals in this connection will be put before you. You will also be asked to take certain steps in connection with the campaign for the recognition of the republic in the United States. "Your representative in the Argentine Republic was, shortly after his arrival there, conscripted under the military service acts of that country. He has now, however, been released from service and is endeavoring to organize Irish opinion there. He is much handicapped by the want of a suitable paper with which to educate public opinion. He has laid before the Argentine ministry a proposal for the establishment of a review to be printed in Spanish. The ministry is in communication with the president regarding this project. "In conclusion, I wish to say that the president has expressed himself as extremely satisfied with the manner in which the light has been carried on in Ireland during his absence. The constructive side of the activities of the Dail and the ever-increasing extent to which they are assuming the functions of a de facto government, is the greatest argument for recognition. So far a formal demand has not been presented to any country, but opportunity for this may occur very shortly. They rumorous resolutions of local public bodies pledging their allegiance to the

Dail will be of great value in support of such a demand. DE VALERA ADMITS BIG POLITICAL FUND Washington, Aug. 10.—Eamon de Valera, "president of Ireland," in an interview here today admitted in detail the charges contained in London cables to the PUBLIC LEDGER regarding the use of "Irish republic" funds in American politics. Mr. De Valera said he has not seen the documents which "purport" to contain his official authorization to spend \$1,500,000 in the United States. Mr. De Valera then prepared for the PUBLIC LEDGER the following statement: "I have seen the dispatches you refer to. I am unable to make certain from internal evidence whether they are genuine or not. I have not so far myself received the official minutes of that session of our congress. As a rule the congress does not publish a full report of its transactions. Copies of these in the past have been eagerly sought out by the British in order to be destroyed. The difficulty for us was to procure the desired publicity. "The last session was secret—not because the congress desired it to be so, but because its meeting place, or the fact the names of its members, were not made public without its deliberations being interfered with by the British army of occupation. However, as I have said, I must wait before I can tell for certain whether the dispatch is a genuine record of the proceedings or not. "Your same correspondent recently filled columns of your paper with a document which the British claimed as the present constitution of the Irish Republic Brotherhood. Internal evidence proved, as I showed on the day on which it appeared here, that if it ever was the constitution of that body it could only have been its constitution prior to the ratification of the republic by the vote of the people. That I was right in this conclusion was subsequently corroborated when I secured a copy of the existing constitution which obliged every member and every one of the heads of the brotherhood to take an oath of allegiance to the people's elected government. Similar tricks may have been played upon him this time. "The British are so hard set at the present moment that they catch at a straw. They see that Northcliffe's admitted expenditure of \$150,000,000 in British propaganda here might as well never have been made. They are beginning to realize that instinctive love of liberty in the breasts of Americans has

made them proof against the prejudice which he sought to create here. "My colleagues, however, may have made those allegations you refer to. They were aware even before the Chicago happenings that owing to the presence of what I may call a certain insulating material at the point of contact between me and the Friends of Irish Freedom executive I could not, with certainty, rely on the support of that executive to the extent which might be necessary if valuable opportunities for furthering the enlightenment of the American people on the rights of the Irish government to recognition were not to be lost. "The case of the Republican convention is a good illustration as a concrete case in point. I wanted the Irish cause brought forward there in the most public manner possible. Ireland's by publicity. All that is necessary is to get the people to understand it—to understand that at this moment by continuing to give official recognition to the British Government or called Ireland they are siding with the English against Ireland—helping might against right. "As a matter of fact, such an opportunity as the convention afforded for getting our case before the public would be a calamity when our people are engaged in a life-and-death struggle with a petty autocracy as they are at present. "At the last moment, when I discovered that the executive heads of the Friends of Irish Freedom did not intend to act in the manner which I felt duty to our cause dictated, I acted myself, though at the eleventh hour, through those friends whose vision included with mine. I was enabled to do this because I had seen to it that provision was made in advance for just such a contingency. I had seen to it that the American people would not be deprived of the opportunity of judging and recording their verdict on our case by the inability of Ireland's counsel to reimburse the railway or out-of-pocket expenses of those who were willing to come to Chicago or elsewhere to testify on her behalf. "As a matter of fact, however, quite a large number of those who came to Chicago, and even those who came to the farther distance to San Francisco, to use their legitimate influence in Ireland's behalf, refused to accept reimbursement for those out of pocket expenses. "These are the only expenditures that have so far been necessary. The Irish congress probably wanted to make sure that should the insulation from the Friends of Irish Freedom organization continue, whatever steps of a similar nature I might deem it necessary to take in the future, I should not be harassed by lack of funds—nor be placed

in a position in which the power of the purse might be used against me. The time was too critical for my nation to take any risks of that sort. "These money votes of congress if they are genuine are simply concrete votes of confidence so to speak. They show, too, the importance the Irish people's representatives attach to the question of recognition by the United States, for in making allocations they had to weigh the relative importance of the various proposed undertakings of the government and set the maximum that might be expended on each in accordance with their estimation of the value of each project to the nation and the total sum available in the treasury. "Were the moneys referred to as expenditures for the presidential campaign disbursed exclusively in connection with the conventions of the two great parties, or do you intend spending money during the presidential campaign now in progress?" De Valera was asked. "I think I have answered those questions," said Mr. De Valera. "In far, the only disbursements have been as I have said, those in connection with the conventions where, we have gone impartially before all parties."

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