

SINN FEIN DEMAND FREEDOM OF IRISH

Griffith Asserts People Asked Independence and He Can't Change Mandate

MACSWINEY GROWS WEAKER

By the Associated Press
 Dublin, Oct. 7.—Reports that the Sinn Fein organization has become divided against itself were vigorously denied here yesterday by Arthur Griffith, leader of the organization, during a long interview with the Associated Press. He reiterated charges he recently made that raids of reprisal were a result of a "calculated policy of British Government officials," and challenged Sir Hamar Greenwood, chief secretary for Ireland, who recently denied these charges, to submit them to an investigation by an impartial tribunal to be appointed by the British Government or the United States Supreme Court.

"There will be no settlement except upon the basis of Irish independence," Mr. Griffith said. "The British Government authorities are making a special effort to terrorize the Irish people and force them to abandon their claim for the independence before the British Parliament reassembles and the American presidential election is held."

"The government has made us no proposal, and is trying to ignore our existence. We have a mandate from our people to set up a republic, and until that mandate is withdrawn we have no authority to accept anything less than complete independence."

"Is there a state of war in Ireland?" the correspondent asked.

"Ireland in 1918," Mr. Griffith re-

plied, "peacefully and constitutionally registered its vote for independence, according to the principle of self-determination enunciated by America and accepted by England in her hour of need. Since then England has been seeking to overcome the ballot by the bullet. She is waging against Ireland an economic war, re-enforced by murder and arson."

"The fact is that in all districts where the republic's power is maintained there is perfect peace and security for all classes, but wherever English power is entrenched there is nothing but bloodshed and barbarism."

Can't Curb Irish Spirit
 The correspondent asked what effect recent reprisals would have on the people, and Mr. Griffith replied:

"Wait until next election. You cannot conquer Irish spirit by oppression. Any inconvenience the reprisals have given the Sinn Fein has been less than the difficulty occasioned to accommodate the rush of Unionists to our ranks."

One of the most sensational charges Mr. Griffith made was that many untried political prisoners had been "tormented in prison with medieval methods to force them to give false information against Irish leaders." He declared he would later make these methods public. He described a system called "planting" which he alleged had been adopted recently in night raids.

"The British Government," he asserted, "is sending on these raids men disguised as English officers or Dublin policemen. They are called 'planters.' They carry ammunition and forged documents which they place, say, under a bed and then call in soldiers to search the house where the papers have been deposited."

Lynch Marked for Death
 Mr. Griffith declared John Lynch, county councillor of Limerick, who was shot to death in a Dublin hotel on September 22, was on a list marked for assassination. He said Lynch knew he was going to be shot, but thought it was safe for him to be in Dublin.

He declined to express an opinion as to what would happen if Terence MacSwiney, lord mayor of Cork, who is

now on a hunger strike in Brixton prison, London, should die.

Asked for a statement as to the Sinn Fein attitude toward the Ulster boycott, he replied:

"The Irish parliament has decreed that any religious or political test imposed as a condition to industrial employment is illegal. It is a matter of indifference to us whether such a condition is imposed in Belfast or elsewhere in Ireland. There is no Ulster boycott."

Discussing a proposed inquiry to be held in New York city relative to the Irish situation, he said that in the event witnesses were unable to sail from here, owing to passport difficulties, he would suggest that a delegation be sent to Ireland to take depositions.

MacSwiney Very Weak
 Terence MacSwiney, lord mayor of Cork, who this morning began the fifty-sixth day of his hunger strike at Brixton prison, passed a fairly good night, but did not appear very much refreshed early today, according to a bulletin issued by the Irish Self-Determination League. He was very tired, but otherwise there was no particular change in his condition, the bulletin added.

The noon bulletin of the league read: "Except that he is very tired, there is no change in Lord Mayor MacSwiney's condition. The doctor who visited him this morning says he finds the mayor's body in a shocking state of emaciation and is unable to state how long he will live."

Prior to adjournment of Parliament, members of this council interviewed Premier Lloyd George, who told them that before submitting any scheme they must be able to assure him of sufficient support in Ireland to guarantee that the scheme would be workable. This support the council claims to have obtained, and the Mail asserts the premier will receive a deputation from the organization next week to take the initial step in the scheme. The first thing that will be done, the newspaper says, will be the creation of a constituent assembly for Ireland, in which Ulster will be given representation.

LIFE FOR BANK BANDITS

Mitchel and Adams Are Guilty in Sandy Springs Murder
 Frederick, Md., Oct. 7.—Clarence F. Adams, of Camden, N. J., and John W. Mitchell, of Philadelphia, were convicted in the Circuit Court here of murder in the first degree for the slaying of Francis M. Hallowell in the robbery of the Sandy Springs, Md., Bank, last April. Each was sentenced to the Maryland penitentiary for life.

Joseph Thomas Fendegast, also of Philadelphia, tried with them on the same charge, was acquitted.

In announcing the sentence Chief Judge Urner said that in view of the fact that one of the judges had some doubt of Adams's guilt the death penalty would not be imposed on him. It was then decided that under the circumstances the same penalty should be imposed on Mitchell, though the court was unanimous in his case.


Resolutions approving the actions of the United Business Men's Association in opposing any change in the P. R. T. fare were adopted last night at a meeting of the central Germantown avenue business men in Bank Hall, 2300 Germantown avenue.

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