

Lieutenant Ames, all of the British Intelligence Service. Thus it would seem that at least three of the British officers slain were part of the Imperial Secret Service in Ireland, and their discriminate assassination seems to indicate a planned attack by Irish Republicans on the British Secret Service.

Miscellaneous Assassinations.—Mr. Morgan, Commissioner of Thurles, testified that a member of the R.I.C. had been slain there. He disclaimed all knowledge of the cause and of the perpetrators of this assassination. There is also record, though meagre, of the assassination of another member of the British forces at Thurles; and of similar incidents at Galway (one), at Feakle (two), at Cork (one), at Abbeyfeale (one), and at Miltown-Malbay (one). At the last-mentioned village a Captain Lendrum was arrested, put to death, and sent back to the local British Headquarters in a coffin. We learned from testimony regarding the killing of John Sherlock, of Skerries, an Irish Republican, by British agents, that one Penstraw, who is alleged to have acted as guide to the British at the sack of Balbriggan, had been assassinated there about a month later. Altogether we have been able to trace 30 assassinations of members of the Imperial British forces, presumably at the hands of the Irish (five accused with Swanzy of the murder of Lord Mayor MacCurtain, Smyth, 14 officers in Dublin, two in Thurles, and the others noted).

Spies.—"Among the Royal Irish Constabulary," testified Miss MacSweeney, "was a division known as the G Division. Their work was purely detective work. Since 1916 the police in that G Division were very active. They were Irishmen, but that only makes them greater sinners. The information that they gathered—from girls they met and others—led very often to the arrest and imprisonment of their fellow-countrymen. Therefore they were spies. No unarmed policeman has been shot in Ireland unless he has been proven a spy. The private correspondence of Lord French, captured from time to time, has been conclusive evidence that there are spies at work among us." The "overt act" which led to the war on them was "the extraordinary activity of the English Secret Service, when they started to get information about our people and running them down and gathering information about our courts." Miss Wilkinson also spoke concerning these spies, and Mrs. Michael Mohan reported the detection by Irish Volunteers of "one spy who was getting £30 for sending information. And then at night there were police going around with rubber soles on their shoes and slipping circulars under the doors offering rewards for information. They put them under the doors while the people are in bed. They can give their own private code, and if the information proves satisfactory they are paid for it."

Tangney, an ex-member of the R.I.C., testified to being shot at for refusal to guide a "Black-and-Tan" to the house of an Irish Republican marked down for assassination. Penstraw was said to have been shot as a spy. 48,474 raids were made by armed British forces in 1920 on Irish homes, and such activity connotes a very active British espionage system.

(To be continued.)

By an interesting coincidence (writes a correspondent to the *London Tablet*) the Irish truce began on the anniversary of the death of Blessed Oliver Plunket, Archbishop of Armagh, who on July 11, 1681, was hanged, drawn, and quartered at Tyburn, and was the last to die there for the Faith; so this, the first celebration since the martyr's beatification, was held under happy auspices.

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THE "WORKER" (SYDNEY) ON THE IRISH SITUATION

The editor of the *Worker* writes in his own column:—Ireland's rejection of Lloyd George's "terms" is only what students of the Irish situation expected.

What right has the British Government to submit "terms"?

Once the fundamental principle of self-determination is conceded, no outsider has the smallest title to interfere in the affairs of a nation, and any attempt by the rulers of another country to impose upon that nation a form of government of which it does not approve can only be regarded as wanton aggression.

Self-determination has the plainest of plain meanings. By no verbal ingenuity, by no casuistical tricks, can it be made to mean the right of one nation to meddle in the domestic concerns of another.

The Irish people alone must determine Ireland's destiny. Nobody else has even a fractional claim to do so.

For my part, I never had any belief in the professed love of the British ruling class for self-determination.

They assured us, they assured the whole world, that self-determination was such an article of faith with them that they were prepared, if necessary to sacrifice the Empire in that holy cause; that they were resolved to shed the blood of millions, and fling their fortunes into the flames of war, in order to vindicate the right of every nation to govern itself as it pleases.

And all the time there was never an atom of sincerity in their protestations. What we listened to, while the great conflict raged, were the accents of hypocrisy. The ruling class of Great Britain, then as always, were a gang of posturing humbugs, pretending to be animated by the highest moral motives, when a keen regard for their own status and their own safety was the spring of all their actions.

They laid down sacred principles, in accordance with which it was their duty as soon as the war was won to unconditionally liberate Ireland, India, and Egypt.

They have not done so. Nor for a moment had they the slightest intention of doing so.

Instead they entered on a policy of ruthless repression in those countries, and in the case of Ireland it was only the failure of their bomb and bayonet atrocities that moved Lloyd George to try more Machiavellian methods.

Those, too, failed.

Ireland was promised self-determination. Fifty thousand of her sons laid down their lives on the battlefields of Europe for the self-determination of the land they loved. The Irish people have made up their minds that self-determination they will have. They have made up their minds that the British Government shall not be permitted, by so-called concessions, to wriggle out of the solemn obligation into which they entered before all mankind when the war for self-determination was begun.

Irish Protestants Thank the U.S.A.

One might imagine from our cables and the comments thereon that Protestant Ireland is out of the great fight for liberty (says the *Tribune*, Melbourne). This is far from the case. A notable illustration is afforded by a recent incident from Washington. There was recently received in that city at the Republican headquarters a message of appreciation to the American people, etc., signed by 1000 Irish Protestants, representing 26 of the 32 counties in Ireland, thanking them for the support given the American Committee for Relief in the campaign to raise \$10,240,000 on behalf of Irish sufferers. Of these 1000 non-Catholics, 228 live in Ulster; 13 are clergymen, representing such various denominations as Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, Jews, Quakers, and Christian Scientists; while the remaining laymen are distinguished members of all professions, being lawyers, doctors, naval and military officers, engineers, college professors, county magistrates, architects, and bankers. Among them are J. Annan Bryce (brother of Viscount Bryce, ex-Ambassador to the United States), Professor Oldham, Colonel Sir Nugent Talbot Everard, Charles Jacobs (a Quaker of the Jacobs Biscuit Co., the leading biscuit maker), Lord O'Neill (Deputy-Lieutenant of Co. Antrim), and others.