

BRITISH SUPPRESSION OF IRISH NEWSPAPER RAISED GREAT STORM OF PROTEST

Thousands of Copies of American Papers With Articles About De Valera Seized — Freeman's Journal Raided by Dublin Castle and Shut Down for Many Days.

Editor's Note.—This is the fifth of a series of articles dealing with conditions in Ireland as seen thru unbiassed American eyes. Mr. Guest made an eight week tour of the island.

By HARRY F. GUEST.
Under authority of the Defense of the Realm act, the British government, thru Dublin Castle, exercises a strict censorship not only over dispatches sent from Ireland but foreign news sent to Ireland as well. On January 18 and 19, last, thousands of copies of American newspapers containing articles about De Valera and the success of the "Irish republic" loan campaign in the United States were seized at the Dublin postoffice and carried off to Dublin Castle. Among the newspapers seized were copies of the New York American, the Irish World and the Gaelic American.

While no official announcement or explanation was made regarding the seizure, the Dublin Castle authorities took the position that the newspapers contained seditious matter calculated to lead to disorder and imperil the safety of the government in Ireland. This was not the first seizure of its kind in Ireland and it probably will not be the last.

During the year 1919 there were twenty-six suppressions of newspapers in Ireland and twenty-eight Irish newspapers had their foreign circulation banned. Some of the suppressions lasted only a few days, others were for longer periods.

Being the editor of a newspaper in Ireland is a ticklish job. If you publish something which offends Dublin Castle, the police or military raid your offices and carry away vital parts of the press. If you criticize Sinn Fein too severely, your office is likely to be stormed and the presses smashed.

Comes Out With Blast.
As a newspaper man, I have great admiration for Irish newspapers. When one which has been oppressed receives permission to resume publication, it is the custom to come out in the next issue with a blast against

troved under the Defense of the Realm act and the Dublin Corridor act. The document was left at the office.

Declined to Sign.
The following day one of the proprietors of the Freeman addressed this letter to the competent military authority:

It having been intimated to me that it is your desire to restore to the machinery removed from our premises upon our giving an undertaking that the Freeman's Journal and National Press will not publish any matter in contravention of the law, I am perfectly prepared to give such undertaking on behalf of the Freeman's Journal (1919) Ltd. and I hereby do so.

Two days later the superintendent of police notified the publishers that the authorities would insist upon the original undertaking marked "Secret" being signed in its original form. The proprietors declined to sign the "secret" document, notifying the authorities that they considered it "coarse" by language anonymous and offensive.

Since you took away certain very important portions of our machinery on the 12th of December, we have repeatedly requested the return of it for the purpose of printing our publications. All the documents in connection with the matter from your end are marked "Secret" but owing to the action of whoever is in authority I wish to inform you on behalf of myself and Mr. Hamilton Howard that no more ourselves entirely at liberty to publish any correspondence that has taken place in the past. We also wish to draw any undertaking given, as in our opinion the suppression of the Freeman's Journal is a scandal.

By this time the newspapers of Great Britain had taken notice of the situation and, regardless of party protests were made by papers in England, Scotland and Wales against the expediency of the proceeding. The Newspaper Proprietors' association and the National Union of Journalists both took up the matter.

The London Daily Express said editorially:
At the time of the suppression the Daily Express found no justification for the conduct of the authorities, regarding it as a blunder: it can now claim they find no justification for the term of the punishment inflicted on the proprietors.

Called a Blunder.
The London Daily Express said editorially:
At the time of the suppression the Daily Express found no justification for the conduct of the authorities, regarding it as a blunder: it can now claim they find no justification for the term of the punishment inflicted on the proprietors. Whether the case has been adjudicated on by the courts.

The star chamber is out of date. Other English newspapers contained similar utterances. Dublin castle suddenly discovered that the original undertaking signed by the Freeman's Journal on Jan. 19 was all sufficient, and on the night of Jan. 24, the police returned the seized parts of the newspaper presses. Two days later—exactly twenty days after the letter which the government ultimately accepted—no apology was made by Dublin castle for keeping the newspaper suppressed twenty days longer than ultimately thru its action it admitted was justifiable.

Marked Defiance.
The first issue of the Freeman's

Journal, after it resumed publication, chastened and humbled? It was not. It hurled defiance and scorn at Dublin Castle and printed a cartoon on the first page depicting Lord French being swamped under a tidal wave of copies of the newspaper, and calling to Ian MacPherson, secretary for Ireland, for help. I quote some excerpts from its leading editorial on that date:

That the forcible suppression of the paper, without legal trial or process, was an outrage on the liberty of the press as hitherto understood in these countries, the history of the Journal itself is sufficient to prove.

It was left for the representatives of a government that has spent the blood of Ireland in "making the world see" for democracy to arrest and carry out the method of arbitrary and unlimited suppression.

Our offense was alleged to be seditious, and an Irish judge has said that we were seditious, and the Irish judges are all honorable men. Sedition is sometimes like that!

A CONDITION THAT CALLS FOR A TONIC

When the health is run down from overwork, overstudy, lack of exercise or from any other cause, a tonic is needed. Sometimes what is thought to be simple debility, is a symptom of a more serious disorder. Perhaps that tired feeling, weakness, repeated attacks of indigestion, headaches and the breaking down of the nervous system. By taking a tonic that is a specific for many disorders of the blood and nerves threatened invalidism can be prevented. That is what happened in the case of Mrs. E. C. Daily who lives at No. 39 West Second street, Mansfield, Ohio.

Mrs. Daily is only too glad to discuss her case for she hopes that others may be saved a great deal of unnecessary suffering. "It seemed to me," she said, "that I was sick all over. Every part of my body was sore and I was so weak that I didn't want to step outside doors. Excretion of any kind caused exhaustion, shortness of breath and dizziness. My appetite was poor and I suffered repeatedly from attacks of indigestion. Sometimes it seemed as though I would smother after eating."

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greater the truth the greater the hope without saying. Among other newspapers which have been suppressed in Ireland are the Mayo News, the Clare Champion, the Newcastle-West Weekly Observer, Rings County Independent, Belfast Evening Telegraph, Dublin Evening Herald, Meath Chronicle, Galway Express, Ballina Herald, the Kilkenny People, the Irish Republic, and the Southern Star.

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HF Guest.Freeman

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