

A TIMELINE OF THE CIVIL WAR IN COUNTY KILDARE, 1922-1924



**Mario Corrigan, James Durney,
Karel Kiely, Kevin Murphy with Kevin O Kelly**

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Kildare Library Services, 2022

This booklet is published as part of the
Co. Kildare Decade of Commemorations Programme for 2022.
It is supported by the
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
under the Decade of Centenaries 2013-2023 initiative.



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

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Front cover photo:

Old I.R.A. Easter Commemoration, Newbridge.
All sides are represented: pro-Treaty, anti-Treaty and neutral I.R.A.

ISBN: 978-1-8382680-5-3

Printed in Ireland
Naas Printing Ltd., Naas, Co. Kildare
Tel: (045) 872092
Email: naasprinting@gmail.com

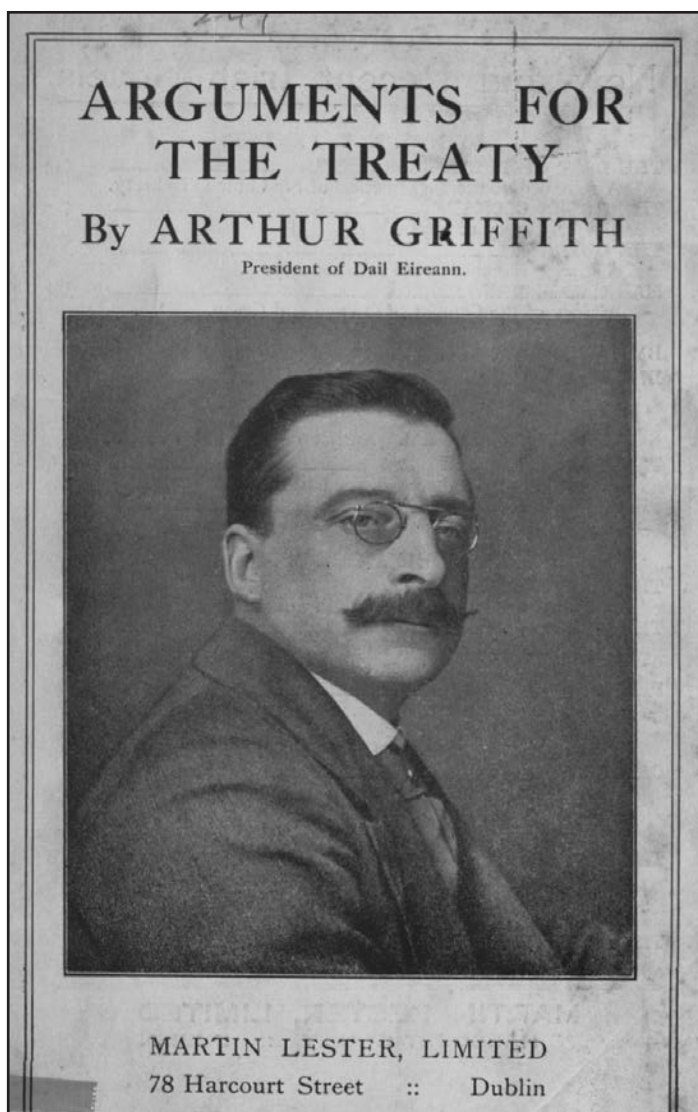
Dedication

*To all those who sacrificed so much
so that we might have a better life*

Glossary

Adj.	Adjutant
Batt.	Battalion
Capt.	Captain
Cllr.	Councillor
Co. C.	County Councillor
Comdt.	Commandant
Cpl.	Corporal
C.I.	County Inspector
D.C.	District Councillor
D.M.P.	Dublin Metropolitan Police
D.O.R.A.	Defence of the Realm Act
D.S.O.	Distinguished Service Order
G.A.A.	Gaelic Athletic Association
Gen.	General
G.H.Q.	General Headquarters
G.O.C.	General Officer Commanding
G.S. & W.R.	Great Southern and Western Railway Company
H.Q.	Headquarters
I.R.A.	Irish Republican Army
I.R.B.	Irish Republican Brotherhood
I.T.G.W.U.	Irish Transport and General Workers' Union
J.P.	Justice of the Peace (Magistrate or Judge)
K.C.B.	Knight Commander of the Bath
Lbs.	Pounds (weight)
Lt.	Lieutenant
Lt.	Col. Lieutenant-Colonel
Lt.	Gen. Lieutenant-General
M.G.W.R. Co.	Midlands Great Western Railway Company
M.P.	Member of Parliament
N.T.	National teacher
N.I.	Northern Ireland
O.B.E.	Order of the British Empire
O.C.	Officer Commanding
P.M.	Prime Minister
P.P.	Parish Priest

Pte.	Private
Regt.	Regiment
R.D.S.	Royal Dublin Society
R.H.A.	Royal Horse Artillery
R.I.C.	Royal Irish Constabulary
R.U.C.	Royal Ulster Constabulary
Sgt.	Sergeant
T.D.	Teachta Dála
U.D.C.	Urban District Council
U.K.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland
U.S.C.	Ulster Special Constabulary
W.W.I.	World War One



Arguments for the Treaty by Arthur Griffith

Acknowledgements:

All photos courtesy of Local Studies, Genealogy and Archives
Department of Kildare Library Services; Military Archives of Ireland;
James Durney; Mario Corrigan.

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Introduction

*'War with the foreigner brings to the fore all that is
best and noblest in a nation –
civil war brings out all that is mean and base.'*

Frank Aiken, August 1922

The danger when we look at the Irish Civil War is that we feel a need to define it, understand it, compartmentalise it. We theorise and explain, we compare and contrast and we offer educated analysis. Our truth is in the sources in the witness statements and the oral histories, poems, songs and generations of fiction and non-fiction. We put great emphasis on the first-hand accounts available to us, the primary documents and the written histories of participants and noted players on the stage.

When it comes to the War of Independence it is at first glance far simpler a task, the radical Irish nationalists fighting the ancient foe for the independence of their country, this statement in itself unsustainable once we dig deeper. For beyond the republican drive for independence was a drive toward real social revolution, where labourers and women would be assured of their rightful place within the new regime, a guarantee not delivered, an opportunity ignored.

There is a victory of sorts, a truce and treaty and an independent nation, sort of, and suddenly within a few pages of a trusted text a degeneration to division, death and abomination. We measure the depredation by numbers executed and now compare our eighty-three executions in the period with the lack of resolve on the part of the British during the War of Independence to this form of sentence having so glaringly botched it back in 1916. We look to summary justice meted out to civilians, Protestants, spies and informers and measure against the virulent violence on both sides as they out-did each other, equally in pursuit of their own noble cause. And of course, this is crucial to our understanding, two sides, tritely explained as brother against

brother, as both sides chose to believe they had the rightful mandate from the republican martyrs of Easter 1916. Both claimed their cause to be just and soon the vote of the people became just ammunition for the rhetoric as the men on both sides fought to win their war. A terrible, unjustifiable war which was inevitable as the ink dried on the Anglo-Irish Treaty.

Each county looks to their own in exploration of history, memory and commemoration and we compare the levels of violence and engagement with the enemy to measure our worth on the national stage. Kildare can be dismissed in terms of numbers of battles and nightmarish violent incidents, but we cannot say Kildare was quiet and any attempt to score the county as the scene of the single largest execution in the entire war should remain morally questionable. But then facts sometimes are just facts and cannot be ignored; nor should we spend too much time apologising or explaining them away. Dreadful things happened and we need to deal with it in our own, 100 years distant, way.

We cannot say the county did not suffer or did not feel burden in the aftermath of hostilities. This short book is a testament to the disturbed nature of Co. Kildare in the period 1922 to 1923 and beyond. Of course, Kildare was home to some of the biggest internment camps at Newbridge and the Curragh, a secondary birth-place for the new police force, the Civic Guard, and the route south and west from, and to, Dublin, via road, rail or canal. Kildare men and women had their part to play! The disruptions were a cause of concern for the new administration and the threat of arms from men from Kildare in the Ballymore/Blessington area and along the Dublin/Meath/Kildare borders was real.

What is not apparent at first is the effect the violence and the raiding parties, National Army or anti-Treaty I.R.A., had upon the local population – a loud knock on the door or shots fired through the window in the early hours of your house, or your neighbours, had a fearful effect on the civilian population. Dreadful ‘accidental’ deaths among civilians and participants due to shooting and explosives sadly also stand out among the raids and rallies. There is a feeling that a vast majority of the civilian population chose to get on with their

lives as if they ignored what was happening and the races at Punchestown, the Curragh, as well as the new Naas racecourse, largely went undisturbed. Dances and football matches, the new County Kildare Rugby Club, cinema and hunts, all now seemed to function and grow, and in particular in 1923, as the war came to a climax. Through the entire conflict the national social tension among labourers was replicated in Kildare as the farming, land-owning, horse-owning class and the local authorities sought accommodation with the unions, while some agreed to employ only union labour.

Without trying to quantify how the general population felt, there was support for the Treaty, or maybe more truthfully, an end to war. Within republican circles some were drawn to the fight from belief, or obligation, or from loyalty to their comrades, as much as to their ideals. The vitriol that we would expect from a 'civil' war was evident and particularly is evident in the accounts of those who lost loved ones and ended up on the losing side. There were those no doubt who found it hard to find work in the aftermath. The difference during hostilities and beyond is that the participants were recognisable, they were known, and they lacked the general support that they had previously. Small traders and business people carved a mountainous bill in the form of claims for losses, levied against the local authorities and the nation and quite often would have recognised the men behind the masks who they may have supplied or sheltered in the previous campaign.

And after all of it, when the order to dump arms finally came – the silence. Little was spoken but for some small efforts to memorialise those who died and the republican dead in particular. They remained isolated and confined until at last the entire debacle became a thing of whispers.

We must remember that there were indeed things worthy of celebration – the new Naas Racecourse as mentioned but also the end of the Workhouses and the founding of the Kildare Board of Health, fights over the need for District Councils, a county football team which was revitalising since the All-Ireland win in 1919, still a force to be reckoned with, if unable to deliver.

This book we hope will be of interest to anyone curious about the history of Co. Kildare, particularly local history groups and secondary school students. It will help them navigate the period of the Irish Civil War as it happened in Co. Kildare. Much of the information comes from the local and national newspapers of the day, the military archives and national archives and every effort has been taken to try and decipher dates and events from the often contradicting or vague accounts on offer. Every effort has been made to corroborate events with major published sources, but even then, sometimes dates chosen might disagree with published sources when checked against the yearly calendar. Researchers are encouraged to go back to the sources and history books to cross check and look for other information. It is a Timeline, a listing of notable events by date, not a comprehensive history, but it will bring new events and information to light which hopefully will lead to further research.

The Co. Kildare Decade of Commemorations Committee has been active in its work since 2015. The aim of its programme is to establish the most appropriate way in which to mark the centenaries within the county. The nature of the programme is extensive, delivering a series of commemorative events, school programmes, publications, etc., but with the unique intention of creating a legacy of research and cultural and artistic material for future generations. The delivery of the programme has been inclusive, appropriate, and sensitive, to take account of all aspects of life in Co. Kildare in the period 1913–1923. From the outset, it has proudly worked to create a legacy of research and material for future generations. We hope that students and researchers find this latest publication worthy.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Chair and members of the County Kildare Decade of Commemorations Committee and the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Decade of Centenaries 2021-2023 initiative, Kildare County Council and Kildare Library Services.

Mario Corrigan
8 August 2022

1922

January 1

North Kildare Sinn Féin Executive at Naas unanimously adopted a resolution in support of the Anglo-Irish Treaty.

January 3

Dáil Éireann resumed the debate on the Anglo-Irish Treaty in the Council Chamber, Earlsfort Terrace (now the National Concert Hall), Dublin. Outside crowds chanted: 'Ratify! Ratify!'

January 5

Sir Ernest Shackleton, the Kildare-born Antarctic explorer, died onboard the *Quest* off the island of South Georgia, southern Atlantic.

January 7

Dáil Éireann approved the Anglo-Irish Treaty, by 64 to 57.

The *Kildare Observer* carried reports from public bodies, Sinn Féin Clubs, and the Farmers' Union in support of the ratification of the Treaty.

January 8

Lt. Beven, King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, was fired on while travelling on his motorcycle through Suncroft; a bullet went through his coat. The incident was condemned by republican authorities, while Intelligence Staff of the I.R.A. investigated the episode.

Shop goods taken at the premises of Frank McFadden, Claregate Street, Kildare Town, by armed men.

January 9

Éamon de Valera resigned as president of Dáil Éireann and stood for re-election. He lost by 60-58 on the motion for his re-election.

January 10

Arthur Griffith was elected President of Dáil Éireann; de Valera and his supporters walked out.

The first Kildare Hunt Ball since 1914 was held in the Town Hall, Naas. Over 200 attended the highly successful evening. The Volunteer Police kept order outside the hall.

January 13

Motor car containing the members of the Grattan Kelly Band fired on by armed men at Monread Cross, Naas; the car did not stop on being called to halt.

January 14

Meeting of members elected to sit in the House of Commons representing Southern Ireland; attended by 60 pro-Treaty T.D.s and four (Unionist) M.P.s for Dublin University; boycotted by anti-Treaty T.D.s; resolutions were passed approving the Treaty.

Provisional government for the Irish Free State elected by members of Southern Ireland parliament; Michael Collins, chairman.

January 14-19

Joyous scenes in Naas with the arrival home of well-known G.A.A. cyclist Jack Mitchell, Caragh Road, after fifteen months imprisonment in Gloucester Jail, England. He arrived by motor and was met by the Naas Workingmen's Band and a large and enthusiastic gathering which included a local company of Volunteers, Republican Police and Fianna Éireann. Tar barrels blazed at several points and a torchlight procession was headed by the band playing national airs.

Bonfires blazed in the Market Square and on 'Garrison Hill,' Ballymore-Eustace, to welcome home Richard O'Brien from Mountjoy Jail, Dublin, and Arthur Doran who had served a term of two years in Canterbury Prison, England. The Staff Officers and men of the 3rd Battalion (of which both men were officers prior to their arrest) turned out in full strength headed by the local band.

Michael Smyth, Athgarvan, received a warm reception on arrival home from Mountjoy Jail, from friends and the men of the Transport Workers' Union of which he was the secretary for Co. Kildare. Also released were William Jones and Matthew Cardiff, Athgarvan (the latter was sentenced to 2 years), Michael Duffy, Kilgowan (2 years), Michael Carpenter, Kildare Post Office (5 years).

Volunteers from Monasterevin welcomed Fintan Brennan, and Hugh E. McNally, home from Parkhurst Prison, England. Houses were illuminated, there were torchlights on the streets, bonfires blazed, and the local fife and drum band played national airs. Patrick Duffy, Gurteenoon, Monasterevin, also arrived home from prison.

January 16

General Michael Collins took possession of Dublin Castle from the Viceroy, Lord FitzAlan, under the terms of the Treaty.

Evacuation of British troops proceeded, as did the disbanding of the R.I.C.

January 18

General meeting of the Sinn Féin Club, Naas in support of the Anglo-Irish Treaty. Fr. Doyle presided. Delegates chosen for the Ard Fheis in Dublin in February were Fr. Doyle and J. Maher.

January 19

At a meeting of Unionists in Dublin called by the Earl of Mayo a vote on a resolution of support for the new government was passed. Letters of support from those absent were read out, including George Mansfield, Lord Walter Fitzgerald, and A. Aylmer from Co. Kildare.

January 20

Many of the Black and Tans stationed in Naas left the town. They held a farewell dance on Wednesday January 18 and a smoking concert on Thursday.

January 21

Michael Collins agreed to end the 'Belfast Boycott'; N.I. Prime Minister Craig undertook to stop the attacks on Ulster Catholics and to protect Catholic workers in the Belfast shipyards; they also agreed to accept the findings of the Boundary Commission although they later altered their positions.

Louth captain Tom Burke formerly of Rath Internment Camp, the Curragh, Co. Kildare, challenged a team of ex-internees from Ballykinlar Internment Camp, Co. Down, to a match in Croke Park, Dublin, on Easter Sunday 1922.

The Irish Race Congress met from 21-28 January 1922 in Paris. Over 100 delegates from 22 countries attended the event that was planned to mobilise the political and cultural influence of the global Irish diaspora. It was marred by disunity amongst delegates over the Treaty.

January 22

Meeting in Prosperous of North Kildare Sinn Féin Comhairle Ceanntair to appoint a delegate to the Ard Fheis to vote on accepting the Treaty. 11 clubs were represented. Domhnall Ua Buachalla, Erskine Childers and Robert Barton attended; Ua Buachalla was mandated to oppose the Treaty.

January 25

Domhnall Ua Buachalla, T.D., addressed a meeting of the Naas Sinn Féin Club on the subject of the Anglo-Irish Treaty and explained why he voted against it.

Public meeting in the Town Hall, Newbridge, to discuss the unemployment issue in the Curragh area which was estimated at 700 men due to dismissal and businesses affected by the withdrawal of British troops.

January 30

First meeting of the committee to draft an Irish constitution under the chairmanship of Michael Collins.

January 31

The National Army was officially established in Beggars Bush Barracks, Dublin, and began training troops to be despatched around the country.

Report in the *Freeman's Journal* on the meeting of Newbridge Sinn Féin Club for the purpose of selecting delegates to the Ard Fheis. Addressed by Domhnall Ua Buachalla who outlined his reasons for opposing the Treaty. Jack Fitzgerald declared himself for the Treaty and he and Ua Buachalla hoped that while they might disagree on points of policy they would remain friends and there would never be any division or ill feeling.

February 1

Minister for Education in the Provisional Government assumed the powers of the Commissioners of National Education and confirmed that Irish was to be taught at least one hour daily in national schools.

Newly uniformed troops of the National Army, from Celbridge Barracks, took possession of Beggars Bush, Barrack's, Dublin.

The Co. Kildare Golf Club took possession of new Links at Monread, Naas, on a 21-year lease.

February 2

Death in New York of painter John Butler Yeats, father of poet, William Butler Yeats and artist, Jack Butler Yeats.

James Joyce's *Ulysses* was published in Paris.

Deputation from the Curragh, Newbridge and Kildare received by Michael Collins and Kevin O'Higgins in Dublin, regarding the economic loss on the pending evacuation of the military in those areas.

The Voice of Labour reported that I.T.G.W.U. members who worked on the Grand Canal were on strike. The dispute was settled between the workers and the Grand Canal Company in March.

February 4

Death of Maurice FitzGerald, 6th Duke of Leinster. Succeeded by Edward FitzGerald who sold his inheritance to financier Sir Harry Mallaby-Deeley.

February 5

At a special convention in the Round Room of Dublin's Mansion House. Cumann na mBan was the first republican organisation to reject the Treaty.

Newbridge Military Barracks and the Curragh Camp were visited by Gen. Richard Mulcahy, Minister of Defence; Gen. Eoin O'Duffy, Chief of Staff; Gearoid O'Sullivan, Adjutant General; and Joseph McGrath, Minister of Labour.

A review of 5th Battalion, Carlow Brigade, I.R.A., took place at the Show Grounds, Athy. Two men from each company were selected as recruits for the new Irish Army.

Sinn Féin dance in Naas. All the ex-internees in the area invited.

February 6

Republican Police formally took over the Town Hall premises at Newbridge Military Barracks as a temporary barracks and inquiry office.

The Royal Dublin Fusiliers (R.D.F.) marched through the town of Naas singing 'The Wearin' of the Green.'

Farm labourers in the Maynooth area returned to work after the resolution of a six-week strike. Over 50 men had been on strike on the Duke of Leinster's estate.

February 7

The last detachment of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers left Naas Barracks, for Bordon, Hampshire, England, where they joined the 1st Battalion, R.D.F.

February 7-8

I.R.A. kidnapped 42 prominent loyalists and Ulster Special Constabulary (U.S.C.) constables in counties Fermanagh and Tyrone (Northern territory).

February 8

Last detachment of the Black and Tans left Naas by evening train. They marched down the Main Street, one wrapped in a Union Jack, singing, 'Good-bye-e-e' and 'Auld Lang Syne.'

February 9

A meeting to set up a new police force took place in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin, attended by Gen. Michael Collins, Gen. Richard Mulcahy, Comdt. Martin Lynch, Gen. Michael Ring, and T.D.s Eamonn Duggan, Michael Staines, and Col. Patrick Brennan. Collins invited several former members of the R.I.C. who had assisted him during the War of Independence to the meeting, including Sergeant Jeremiah Maher of Naas R.I.C.

February 10

Lt. John Hubert Wogan-Browne was shot dead while returning, to Kildare Barracks from the Hibernian Bank (now Bank of Ireland), Kildare, with the regimental pay. Soldiers demonstrated in the town that night. The cinema managed by republican John J. Breslin was attacked and three soldiers slightly wounded by a shot-gun blast. Soldiers were subsequently confined to barracks. A coroner's inquest at the Curragh Military Hospital returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown.

February 11

Local newspapers carried notices for sale of 250 huts, kitchen ranges, boilers, timber, galvanised sheeting, etc., at French Furze and Rath Camps on Thursday and Friday, 16 and 17 February.

The Voice of Labour reported that the Curragh stable workers were resisting plans by trainers to reduce their wages and that unnamed people sought the closure of the National Stud and the lands divided. It also reported that the Rathangan branch of the I.T.G.W.U. was unhappy with the local I.R.A. officer, who had refused to follow its demand that only trade union labour be employed on County Council schemes.



National troops from Celbridge Barracks took over Beggars Bush Barracks, February 1922





Harry Boland with Kildare mascot Peter Conlan, Croke Park, Dublin, 1922



5 April 1922, National forces takeover the R.I.C. Barracks, Kildare Town

February 12

A quantity of hay was burned at Craddockstown, Naas, property of William McCormack, South Main Street, Naas.

February 13

Michael Collins telegraphed Secretary of State for the Colonies, Winston Churchill, to say 3 men had been arrested for the murder of Lt. Wogan-Browne. Republican police, I.R.A., R.I.C., and British military were involved in operations to bring the perpetrators to justice.

February 14

Funeral of Lt. Wogan-Browne to St. Corban's, Naas. Headed by a band, the coffin was drawn on a gun-carriage, and covered with the Union Jack, with the cap and sword of the dead officer placed on top. Behind it, his charger was led by a trooper and his father, Col. Wogan-Browne, and representatives of the principal residents of Co. Kildare.

February 16-17

Military Court of Enquiry at Kildare Barracks into the circumstances surrounding the death of Lt. Wogan-Browne. It was noted there was negligence on behalf of the officer and military while collecting the barracks pay, being unarmed and without a security escort.

February 17

First day of issue of British postage stamps overprinted 'Rialtas Sealadach na hÉireann' ('Provisional Government of Ireland').

February 20

Shots fired at military lorries on the road from the Curragh to Dublin forcing British authorities to re-instate pre-Truce precautions.

February 21

Free State government began recruitment for the Civic Guard, later renamed An Garda Síochána. First commissioner of the new unarmed police force was Michael Staines. First recruit



Mrs. Kathleen Clarke, T.D., presenting the Republican Prisoners' Dependents' Fund Cup to Kildare captain George Higgins (Naas) after Kildare beat Tipperary, at Croke Park, 25 February 1922



Lt. John Hubert Wogan Browne, shot dead in a payroll robbery, 10 February 1922



Co. footballer Gus Fitzpatrick was interned in Newbridge Barracks and Hare Park Camp, the Curragh

was Patrick Joseph Kerrigan (Co. Mayo) and first serving member was Patrick McAvinia (Co. Cavan).

At a special convention in the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, of the Irish Labour Party and Trade Union Congress, it was agreed that the Labour Party would contest the forthcoming election to Dáil Éireann, for the first time.

February 22

The final act in the dissolution of Naas Poor Law Union took place when notice was given by the Board of Guardians to terminate the employment of all officials. The only portion of the workhouse building still in use was the hospital.

February 23

Gen. Richard Mulcahy, Minister of Defence, inspected the Curragh Camp.

February 24

Malicious burning of Ryebrook House, Leixlip, residence of James and Georgina Fagan.

February 24-25

Meeting in Kildare Town between trainers and stable boys resulted in an amended proposal to reduce stable staff wages. This was voted down the following night by stable staff.

February 25

The newspaper *An Saorstát – The Free State* was first published for those who endorsed the Treaty, while the anti-Treaty newspaper *Poblacht na hÉireann – The Republic* had been launched in January. The propaganda war between pro and anti-Treaty sides had begun.

Kildare (0-5) beat Tipperary (0-1) in Croke Park; 12,000 spectators attended. Alderman Mrs. Tom Clarke started the game and presented the National Assurance Cup to the winners in aid of the Prisoners' Dependents' Fund.

The *Leinster Leader* reported that schools at Churchtown, Athy, were to close for two weeks due to an influenza outbreak, by order of the Medical Health Officer.

March

A car belonging to George Graham, owner of a bakery in Kildare Town, was burned out by armed men.

March 3

The Voice of Labour reported that a delegation from the Newbridge branch of the I.T.G.W.U., including its recently released secretary Michael Smyth, had met with representatives of the Curragh trainers, including J. J. Parkinson, in relation to the ongoing stable boys' dispute. No resolution was forthcoming as the union refused the planned reduction in wages.

March 4

The *Kildare Observer* reported that the Town Hall in Newbridge had been taken over by Republican Police who were on duty in the town.

March 5

William Brennan, Quartermaster Carlow Brigade, died after taking ill at Beggars Bush Barracks, Dublin. His address was given as Johnstown, Maganey, Co. Kildare. After Mass at Levitstown Church his funeral, followed by all members of 5th and 6th Carlow Battalion, took place to the Republican Plot, Carlow Cemetery.

Six houses in Kill, where several former R.I.C. men resided, were attacked by stone-throwers in the early hours of the morning. Two people were injured by stones, while an ex-R.I.C. man named Minahan discharged a revolver to disperse the crowd. The telephone at the nearby Dew Drop Inn was disconnected prior to the attacks. All occupants subsequently left the badly damaged houses.

March 10

Evacuation of R.I.C. Barracks, Athy.

March 11

The *Leinster Leader* reported the death of three members of a well-known Athy family from influenza – Christopher



St. Patrick's Fife & Drum Band, Newbridge, at an IRA Sports Day, 17 March 1922

Murphy, his married daughter, Mary Gibbons, and her baby, who all died within a fortnight.

Kildare Gaelic Football Club purchased one of the Rath Camp huts for a clubhouse and secured a site from Mr. Watson for its erection near the railway station, Kildare Town.

March 13

The Appointments Office for Counties Kildare and Carlow was opened at the Courthouse, Naas to manage recruitment to the Civic Guard.

First meeting of the Kildare County Board of Health

March 14

Treaty electoral campaign for Kildare-Wicklow was launched at a special meeting in the Gresham Hotel, Dublin. Naas was designated campaign H.Q.; organiser for North Kildare, was Thomas Patterson and South Kildare was Fintan Brennan.

March 15

Anti-Treaty minority formed Cumann na Poblachta (League of the Republic) under the leadership of Éamon de Valera.

Over 200 roadworkers, members of the I.T.G.W.U., assembled at Liberty Hall, Naas, and marched behind a red flag to a special meeting of Kildare Co. Council, to resist any cuts in wages or increase in working hours over 47 hours per week. They interrupted the meeting during discussion of a motion from Sinn Féin Councillors, Tom Harris and Joseph Cusack, that road workers wages be reduced to 30 shillings the same as farm labourers. The 8 Labour members of the Council voted to protect wages at the existing level of 42 shillings per week, with 7 votes cast against by the other councillors present.

March 17

Éamon de Valera warned in a speech in Thurles, Co. Tipperary, that the anti-Treaty Volunteers might have to 'wade through Irish blood, through the blood of the soldiers of the Irish Government, and through, perhaps, the blood of some of the members of the Government in order to get Irish freedom'.

I.R.A. leaders met in Dublin and set up a temporary council with Liam Lynch as chief of staff.

Cottage burned at Furryhill, Rathmore, property of Patrick Brady.

March 18

An unoccupied cottage at Dreenane, Carbury, property of Dr. Wheeler, Drummin House, was destroyed by fire.

March 21

General Officer Commanding 5th Division, Sir Hugh S. Jeudwine, K.C.B., consolidated his force of 12,500 troops into the barracks at the Curragh Camp, Kildare, Naas, and Newbridge.

At the height of W.W.I. the Curragh had employed up to 900 civilians, but by 1922 there were 150 on the payroll, nearly all of whom had requested retention by the Provisional Government. The British secured these employees three months guaranteed employment by the incoming government, after which their contracts would be subject to review.

March 24

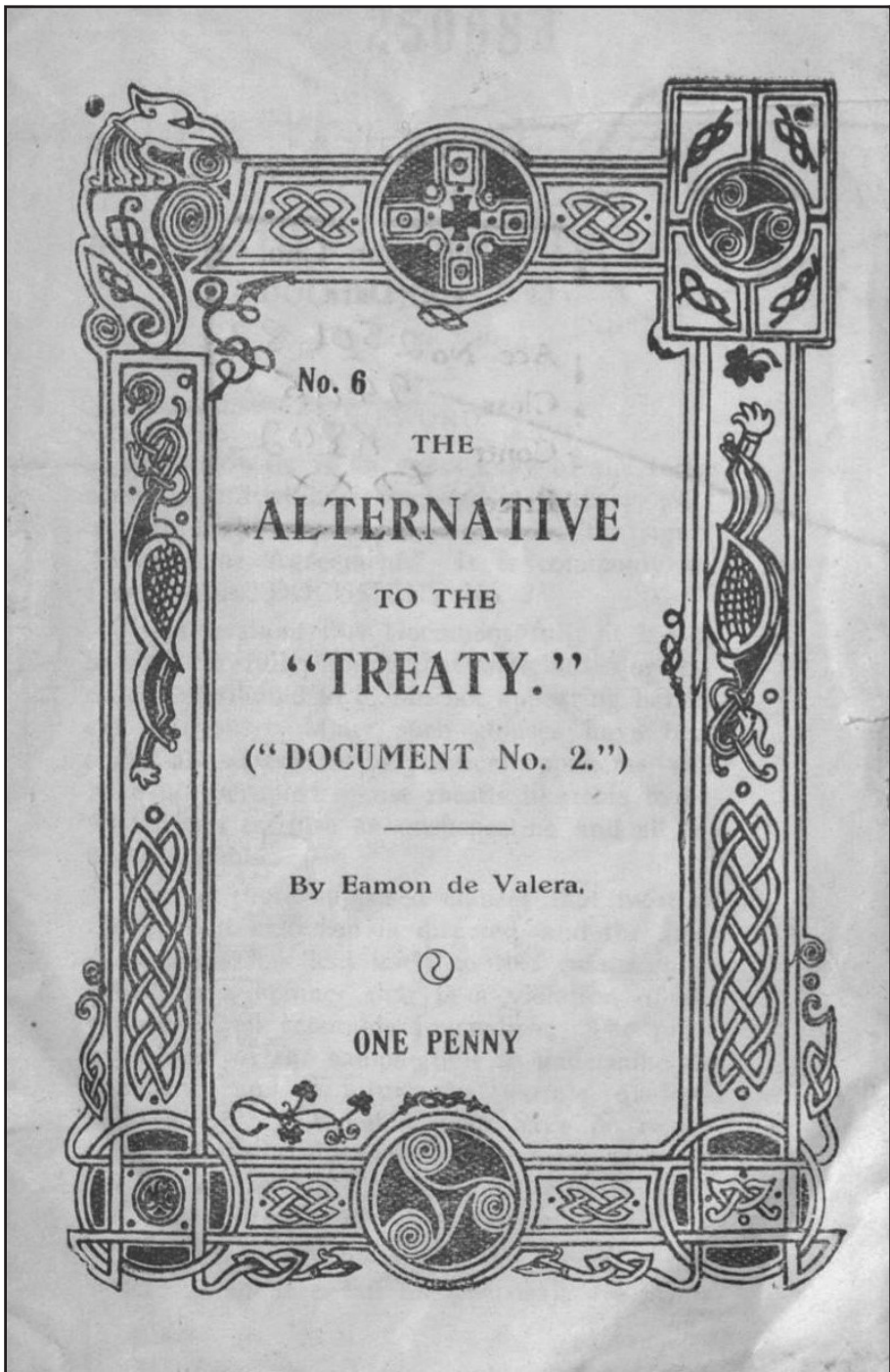
Naas police barracks, the headquarters of the R.I.C. in the county, along with Maynooth and Kildare were evacuated. All R.I.C. stations in the county were now vacated.

March 25

After 6 Catholic civilians were shot dead at the home of the McMahon family in Belfast by members of the U.S.C., Celbridge No. 2 District Council unanimously adopted a resolution that the Belfast Boycott be reimposed by Dáil Éireann.

March 26

Challenge match in Croke Park in front of 10,000 spectators between Mayo (1-6) and Kildare (0-5) in aid of the Irish Republican Prisoners' Dependents' Fund.



The alternative to the Anglo-Irish Treaty 'Document No. 2'

Meeting of the Co. Kildare Trades' Council in the Town Hall, Newbridge, to prepare for the upcoming elections. The decision to run candidates in the elections was approved.

March 26-27

At an Army Convention held at the Mansion House and attended by 220 delegates representing 49 brigades of the I.R.A., the anti-Treaty faction formed an Executive Council under Oscar Traynor. It reasserted allegiance to the Republic and repudiated the authority of Dáil Éireann and the Provisional Government.

March 28

British General Dudley was held up by three armed men and his car stolen at Limerick Bridge, between Naas and Newbridge. Two staff cars were also stolen from the Curragh Camp.

Cottage burned at Ardkill, Carbury, property of Charlotte Potterton.

March 29

Anti-Treaty I.R.A. units in Cork raided the British tug *Upnor*, taking hundreds of rifles, machine guns, handguns and over 25,000 rounds of ammunition, which they distributed to anti-Treaty units.

March 30

James Craig agreed to recruit Catholics into the Special Constabulary and to reinstate Catholics in jobs in Belfast shipyards. Michael Collins, Chairman of the Provisional Government, agreed to act against I.R.A. units operating against the North from the South. Neither side delivered on its undertakings.

March 31

Irish Free State (Agreement) Act, 1922, gave force of law to the Treaty articles, and provided for the transfer of powers to the Provisional Government and for the dissolution of the parliament of Southern Ireland within 4 months.

April 1

Transfer of power to the Free State authority from Britain was officially signed by Collins and Churchill.

April 2

Kildare All-Ireland medallist George Magan won the annual G.A.A. National Cross-Country Championship. M. J. Kennedy, of Kildare, came second.

April 3

A quantity of hay, property of Thomas Curtis, Newbridge, was destroyed at Newbridge Railway Station.

April 5

The Master of Naas Workhouse was held up by an armed force who commandeered 24 blankets and 8 feather bed ticks in the name of the I.R.A., for which they gave a receipt and took away in the motor ambulance which was returned the following morning.

April 6

Shots exchanged between armed men and Republican Police occupying the former R.I.C. Barracks in Newbridge.

Dwelling house known as 'The Hut' and coach house, property of Margret Chaplin, burned at Leinster Lodge, Kildare Town, by a number of men. Motor car, property of George Graham, also burned.

Dew Drop Inn, Kill, raided by armed men. Richard Lowe, Poplar Square Naas, later claimed for goods taken on various dates between 6 April and 2 July 1922.

April 7

The home of Henry Mullaly, Blackrath, Athgarvan, was raided by armed men looking for weapons. Four of his sons, Christopher, Henry, Robert, and Thomas were republican activists. Christopher later joined the National Army.

April 8

Naas police barracks raided by anti-Treaty armed men and shotguns and revolvers taken.

The *Leinster Leader* reported that a consignment of soap from Belfast was seized and dumped into the Barrow River at Athy. Locals hauled out some of the soap in buckets for their own use. A wagonload of straw from Belfast was burned near Kildare Railway Station by anti-Treaty forces.

April 9

At a reconvened Army Convention, the anti-Treaty I.R.A. appointed a seven-man Army Executive with Liam Lynch as Chief of Staff.

Front page of the *Sunday Independent* carried a warning from the I.R.A.

With regard to the recent burnings of houses of Protestants in Kildare district, a statement has been issued on behalf of the local I.R.A. pointing out that they had nothing to do with these outrages, and stating that if the perpetrators are apprehended, "they will be punished in such a manner as to prevent such cowardly outrages taking place in future." Protestants in the area are informed, "that should they require any protection whatever for person or property," they will be afforded it on making application."

April 10

Eamonn Duggan, T.D., suggested that the Artillery Barracks in Kildare might be suitable as a depot for the new Civic Guard, who were at the time housed in the Royal Dublin Society (R.D.S.) showgrounds.

British troops at Newbridge Barracks were put on 'stand-to' with revolvers and swords drawn in expectation of an attack.

April 12

Between 11.30 and midnight the public house of Art Doran, Ballymore Eustace, a prominent Volunteer and pro-Treaty man, was raided by a number of armed men who were in search

of arms and ammunition. Doran stated that five shots were discharged in the tap room by the raiders, who threatened to arrest him. No arms or ammunition were found. The houses of Joe Winder and Christy Byrne, Ballymore-Eustace, were also raided.

The County Kildare Board of Health resolved that in accordance with the Approved Amalgamation Scheme, May 1 1922, would be fixed as the appointed day for the Abolition of the Poor Law Unions as administrative areas, and for the Boards of Guardians functions to cease.

April 14

An anti-Treaty force under Rory O'Connor seized the Four Courts and several other public buildings around Dublin in a show of defiance calculated to provoke a response by the British troops still stationed in the city.

April 15

The last of the Curragh garrison's families left the Camp. All the patients of the Curragh Hospital were evacuated to the King George V Hospital (now St. Bricin's), Dublin.

Kildare Barracks was evacuated. 300 I.R.A. arrived in Kildare Town by road and rail from Celbridge Barracks to occupy Kildare Barracks, the Protestant School, the R.I.C. Barracks, and the Club House.

The *Leinster Leader* reported that: 'Much dissatisfaction is expressed at the closing of the hospital at Celbridge...'

A warrant was issued for the arrest of William Howe, Patrick Kelly, and Patrick Byrne for the murder of Lt. Wogan-Browne.

The *Kildare Observer* reported Kilcullen Post Office was raided by a number of men with revolvers who arrived by motor car. The paper also carried a notice to the officers and men under the command of Thomas Harris, Officer Commanding 7th Brigade, which warned against any interference with persons or property of individuals holding pro-Treaty views.

**SAORSCÁT NA
hÉIREANN.**

**COME TO THE
GREAT LEINSTER RALLY
IN SUPPORT OF THE
FREE STATE,
AT
NAAS
On SUNDAY, APRIL 16th,
At 3 p.m. (Summer Time).**

MR. MICHAEL COLLINS

WILL SPEAK; also
Mr. JOSEPH McGRATH, T.D.; Alderman M. J. STAINES,
T.D.; Mr. C. M. BYRNE, T.D.; Mr. KEVIN C. HIGGINS, T.D.;
Mr. GEAROID O'SULLIVAN, T.D.

*Special Trains for Naas, at greatly Reduced Fares, will leave—
Tullow at 11.15 a.m.
Maryborough at 11.5 a.m.
Bagenalstown at 11.10 a.m.
Calling at various other Stations.
Return Trains will leave Naas at about 7 p.m. For full time-tables see Railway Department
posters.*

SO SAORAIÓ DIA ÉIRE

Poster for the 'Great Leinster Rally', Naas, 16 April 1922

April 16

The Great Leinster Rally in support of the Free State was held in Naas; Michael Collins was the principal speaker. On a platform erected outside the Hibernian Bank (now the Bank of Ireland) with Collins were, Joe McGrath, Minister for Labour, Kevin O'Higgins, Minister for Economic Affairs, Michael Staines, T.D., Christopher Byrne, T.D., and Gearóid O'Sullivan, T.D.

Later that evening Collins, and others were entertained in the Town Hall, with dinner subscribed for by the residents of several districts in North Kildare. About 100 guests attended and the event was hosted by Fr. P. J. Doyle, C.C., chairman of Naas Sinn Féin Club.

April 17

The home of Capt. Ernest Northern, Connaught Lodge, burned at Kildare Town by armed men.

April 18

At the meeting of Naas Urban District Council, a row ensued over the delivery of an address by some members of the Council to Michael Collins on the occasion of his visit to Naas on 16 April. The actions were described as a disgrace and an insult to Naas. The row erupted again at the following meeting, on April 25.

April 18-19

Reported by the *Kildare Observer* that canal boats and a goods train were held up at Sallins by order of the Four Courts Executive in search of Belfast banned goods.

April 19

First running of the Irish 1,000 Guineas at the Curragh, which was won by 'Lady Violette', ridden by M. A. 'Morny' Wing, and trained by S. Jeffrey, The Heath House, Maryborough. General Sir Bryan Mahon was appointed a Steward of the Turf Club.

William Howe, Patrick Kelly, and Patrick Byrne arrested and held in Mountjoy Jail, Dublin, for the murder of Lt. Wogan-Browne.

April 20

Cattle driven off lands at Parsonstown and Kilkeaskin in Carbury.

April 21

The residence of P. Murray at Lowtown, agent of the Grand Canal Company, was raided and £50, wages of the company employees, taken.

April 22

The Voice of Labour reported that an industrial dispute involving farm and plant workers at Ummeras Peat Works had been resolved to the satisfaction of the I.T.G.W.U.

April 24

A general strike called by the Labour Party, and supported by 75,000 workers, took place against the prospect of civil war.

National Army H.Q. at Celbridge Barracks attacked at 11.30 p.m. and fire returned. An attempt was made to scale the walls.

April 25

A large force of Civic Guards arrived from the R.D.S. Showgrounds, Ballsbridge, Dublin to set up a new H.Q. in the former Artillery Barracks, Kildare.

At 2 a.m. a line of men advancing to the rear of Kildare Barracks was dispersed when fired on by a sentry. Later that day, at 13.45 p.m., a sentry at the front gate was fired upon.

April 26

A letter signed by Comdt. James Dunne, and John Rafferty, H.Q., 1st Battalion, 7th Brigade, to the editor of the *Kildare Observer* denounced rumours of I.R.A. involvement in the shooting of cattle in the Kill area.

Cattle driven off lands at Hodgestown and Courtduff.

April 26-27

Punchestown Races had to be delayed by a day due to the general strike, which disrupted the preparations and arrival of trainers, horses, etc.

At Punchestown two armed men held up the driver and stole the Crossley saloon of the Lord Lieutenant, Lord FitzAlan, who was in attendance at the races.

April 26-28

After the fatal shooting of an I.R.A. officer in a dispute over a car which he had tried to commandeer, 13 Protestant loyalists were killed in revenge, in and around Dunmanway, Co. Cork.

April 28

Final meeting of Naas Board of Guardians, held in the Boardroom, County Hospital, Naas.

April 30

Leinster Football Championship, Quarter Final: Kildare (2-5) beat Wexford (1-1), at Croke Park.

At a pro-Treaty meeting in Castledermot, local speakers were heckled, and a flag seized from their motor car by anti-Treaty supporters.

At the monthly meeting of Kildare Trades Council, typographical workers complained that a Dublin firm was now printing the race cards for Punchestown and Curragh race meetings. A resolution was passed asking that this work be given to the two printing offices in the county.

May 1

Cattle were driven from the farm of Mr. Ivers, Parsonstown, Carbury.

National Army occupied Annesboro House, property of Harry E. de Courcy Wheeler, Robertstown, Naas.

May 3

Pro- and anti-Treaty leaders announced a 'truce' in the Dáil to try to prevent civil war.

May 4

Both factions of the I.R.A. declared a truce at a conference in the Mansion House from May 4 at 4 p.m. to May 8 at 4 p.m. The order signed by Eoin O'Duffy and Liam Lynch appeared in the newspapers.

May 6

The *Leinster Leader* reported that the old R.I.C. Barracks at Robertstown, had been taken over by 45 members of the I.R.A. The paper also reported that material for the new Civic Guards uniforms had been stolen in a robbery near Lucan railway station. Between £800 and £1000 of railway staff wages was stolen in a robbery of a train near Leixlip station.

A motor lorry, property of Minch Norton Co., Athy, was damaged at Monasterevin, by republican forces.

May 7

In the early hours of the morning cattle were driven off land at Woodvale, Staplestown, property of Miss Aylmer, Donadea Castle. Threatening notices signed 'Captain Moonlight' and 'Rory of the Hill,' were posted locally. Two Protestant owned farms at Hodgestown, Donadea, were later cleared of cattle.

May 10

The final orders for the evacuation of the Curragh Camp were issued.

Armed men demanded admittance to the house of Co. Councillor Joseph Cusack at Blackwood, Robertstown, which was refused. Cllr. Cusack contacted Naas Barracks and raids were subsequently carried out on six homes in the surrounding area in relation to this and cattle driving.

May 13

Hayshed and dwelling house damaged by fire at the farm of Edward Condell, Russellstown, Athy, by armed men.

May 15

At 2 a.m. at Blackwood, Robertstown, another attack was



The Worcestershire Regiment marching out of Portobello Barracks, Rathmines, Dublin, 17 May 1922



Civic Guard recruits, Kildare Depot, 1922

carried out on the property of Cllr. Cusack; out-buildings and stables were destroyed by arson.

Troops of the 30th Brigade, R.H.A., and 2nd Royal Welsh Fusiliers marched to the Curragh Railway Siding for their removal to Arbour Hill and Phoenix Park Barracks, Dublin.

Most of the Curragh Camp, including the abattoir, bakery, and electric-generating station, was already in the control of caretaker civilian employees.

An advance party of 80 Irish troops, under the command of Comdt. Patrick Cronin, arrived from Beggars Bush Barracks, Dublin, and occupied Hare Park outside the Curragh Camp.

Unrest in Kildare Barracks, from ill-feeling caused by perceived favouritism toward ex-R.I.C. and D.M.P. over new republican recruits, developed into the Civic Guard Mutiny.

May 16

Irish and British officers met at the Staff House, Curragh Camp, and proceeded to formalise the transfer of the camp from British control to the Provisional Government. There was no exchange of compliments between both groups, and the British soldiers marched off as the Irish troops approached. The Last Post was sounded and the hand-over was completed. Hester Dooley, Athy, secretary to Lt.-Gen. O'Connell, was the only woman present.

The Curragh fire engine was removed as part of the evacuation by the British from the Camp leaving Naas, Newbridge, Kildare and the surrounding areas without an effective firefighting apparatus.

Newbridge Cavalry Barracks was taken over by Capt. O'Kelly and Capt. J. Rowan (Newbridge). After the hand-over, 200 trainee Civic Guards from Kildare Barracks were billeted there.

Naas Military Barracks was taken over by Irish troops headed by Colonel-Commandant Seán Boylan, Brigadier Thomas Lawler (Halverstown, Naas), and Capt. John Joyce.

A party of republican troops under the command of Comdt. Tom Harris took up quarters in a vacant house at Timahoe to

protect public property due to continued cattle driving and lawlessness in the locality.

May 17

One of the houses attacked at Kill on 5 March was bombed. It was the property of the Countess of Mayo.

May 18

Irish Republican police cleared cattle, which had been driven on to the lands of the Earl of Mayo at Rathgorrah, Kill, to the North Kildare Farming Society's holdings at Naas and later returned the stock to their owners.

May 19

Five I.R.A. volunteers from Naas and Kill held up the mail train at Sallins and confiscated £1,145 in bank and Treasury notes.

May 20

Michael Collins and Éamon de Valera signed a pact in which the pro- and anti-Treaty wings of Sinn Féin agreed to jointly contest the upcoming first election of the new state.

A shot was fired into Drummin House, Carbury, residence of Dr. Wheeler, Monkstown, Co. Dublin. The occupants, Mr. H. Andrews, steward and caretaker, and his wife, had a narrow escape, when a bullet was fired through the window of the kitchen in which they were seated. Some nights previously a party of men had called and warned Andrews against remaining in occupation of the house and keeping another man out of a job.

The newly reconstructed Ulster Bank premises at Kilcock, was occupied by a party of National Army troops.

May 22

About 100 men marched under a red flag to Naas Courthouse urging action for relief of unemployment. A deputation was sent to lobby Kildare County Council which subsequently passed a resolution demanding a share of the special grant for the relief of distress passed by Dáil Éireann.

May 26

Michael Collins visited Kildare Barracks to try to reach a resolution of the Civic Guard Mutiny. The newly appointed Commissioner, Michael Staines, resigned over the controversy.

May 28

An I.R.A. unit of 100 men occupied Pettigo, Co. Donegal. In a resultant gun fight one U.S.C. man was killed. A battalion of British troops and an artillery battery of six field guns was then mobilised to dislodge the I.R.A. party.

May 31

The house of Maurice Flynn, Knockanally, Donadea, was burned. He had received a letter warning him not to take up residence after he had purchased the house.

A meeting of the Farmers and Ratepayers Party in Naas unanimously agreed to put forward two candidates in the forthcoming General Election; John James Bergin, Athy, and Patrick Phelan, Donadea.

June 1922

Michael Collins repudiated the election pact with de Valera in Cork. The Neutral I.R.A. Association was formed to try to re-unite pro- and anti-Treaty factions of the I.R.A.

June 1

A meeting of the Newbridge branch I.T.G.W.U. was informed that a trade union deputation, including W. Cummins, H. Colohan, M. Smyth, T. Farren and P. Grogan, had visited the Curragh Camp recently. They received undertakings that only trade union labour would be employed there. The recent strike on Miss McCalmont's stud farm, Moorefield, Newbridge, had been resolved after eleven men had been on strike for four days. Further industrial disputes in Athy, Newbridge and elsewhere were ongoing.

The newly created Royal Ulster Constabulary (R.U.C.) took over the policing of Northern Ireland.

Six men were arrested for alleged cattle driving at Donadea and conveyed to Naas police barracks.

To the Electors

OF

Kildare and Wicklow.

The National Sinn Fein Coalition Panel is

**Barton, Buckley, Byrne,
Childers, O'Connor.**

WHY you should Vote for the National Panel—

BECAUSE

- 1—It secures the National Position.
- 2—It is the way to hold what we've got.
- 3—It provides for a Stable Government.
- 4—It ensures peace and security in the country.
- 5—It is our only protection against England or other foreign foes.
- 6—It makes possible a common policy to save our people in the North.
- 7—Ireland's enemies are still active—remember the adage :
“ Don't change horses crossing a stream.”
- 8—Messrs. COLLINS and De VALERA and their Colleagues of the Coalition Panel are the men who have brought you so far on the road to Freedom ; they bore the dangers of the battle—will you endanger all by deserting them now ?
- 9—National interests are greater than Class interests—Ireland over all.

“The Leinster Leader, Ltd.,” Printing Works, Naas.

June 3

The *Kildare Observer* carried an official report from the H.Q. 7th Brigade, 1st Eastern Division, I.R.A., Four Courts Executive, which stated five men had been arrested for the recent mail train robbery at Sallins station. A sum of £1,130 and a quantity of jewellery had been recovered.

June 3-10

The Battle of Pettigo, Co. Donegal and Belleek, Co. Fermanagh, involving the Ulster Special Constabulary, British Army troops and Irish forces was the last time that pro- and anti-Treaty forces fought together before the Civil War.

June 8

Windows of a dwelling house were broken at Gallows Hill, Athy, property of Anthony Reeves, Reevemount, Athy, by stones thrown by a number of men.

June 9

In a challenge gaelic football match the Newbridge Civic Guard team beat Naas Garrison team at Naas Military Barracks, 4-4 to 2-0.

June 10

Property of A. J. Hanbridge, Silliott Hill, Kilcullen, burned by unidentified men.

June 12

The Royal Irish Regiment, Connaught Rangers, South Irish Horse, Prince of Wales's Leinster Regiment (Royal Canadians), Royal Munster Fusiliers and Royal Dublin Fusiliers were formally disbanded at Windsor Castle, England, in the presence of King George V.

June 14

Éamon de Valera spoke at Athy and Kildare Town where many of the new Civic Guards were among the spectators. An estimated 3,000 attended a meeting in Naas where addresses were delivered by Éamon de Valera, Harry Boland,

Austin Stack, Robert Barton, Eamon Aylward, Domhnall Ua Buachalla and Art O'Connor.

June 15

Large crowds attended a four-day bazaar and fête in aid of the Presentation Convent, Maynooth. Among the attractions were stalls, side shows, swing boats, donkey races, a spacious ballroom, tea garden, café chantant, a mountain slide, and a hobby horse. The Artane Band was present, with special train services from Dublin.

June 16

Despite the Collins/de Valera Pact stating the general election was not to be decided on the issue of the Treaty, the pro-Treaty Sinn Féin party won, with 239,193 votes to 133,864 for anti-Treaty Sinn Féin. A further 247,226 people voted for other parties, all of whom supported the Treaty (except Unionist Party).

Castledermot Sinn Féin Hall, which was being used as an election room, was occupied by four anti-Treaty republicans. National troops, under Brigade-Adj. Lillis, arrived in Castledermot on election duty. In an ensuing skirmish anti-Treaty Volunteer Thomas Dunne, was mortally wounded by a bullet from a revolver discharged accidentally.

House of William White, Blackrath, the Curragh, burned by unidentified men.

June 17

Thomas Daly, president of the disgruntled faction in Kildare Barracks known as the Men's Committee, met a force of anti-Treaty men from Dublin outside Kildare Town, who accompanied him to the barracks. They gained entrance using the password, tied up the guards on duty and commandeered 167 rifles and 243 revolvers, and ammunition. A small number of the mutineers joined the anti-Treaty I.R.A. men and went to the Four Courts, Dublin. Most guards remained in the depot and loyal to the government.

June 18

At the Third Army Convention, held in Dublin, a proposal by Tom Barry to restart hostilities with the British was narrowly defeated in the face of opposition by Liam Lynch. Rory O'Connor and Liam Mellows led a walk out from the convention. About half the delegates reconvened in the Four Courts and replaced Liam Lynch with Joe McKelvey as chief of staff.

June 19-22

The election count took place in the Agricultural Buildings, Basin Street, Naas. Result: pro-Treaty Sinn Féin 58, anti-Treaty Sinn Féin 36, Labour 17, Farmers' and Ratepayers' Party 7, Independents 10. Kildare-Wicklow constituency returned five seats: Christopher Byrne, pro-Treaty; Robert Barton, anti-Treaty; Hugh Colohan and James Everett, Labour; Richard Wilson, Farmers' and Ratepayers' Party; Domhnall Ua Buachalla, Art O'Connor and Erskine Childers lost their seats.

June 21

Farrell Liddy, a member of the Civic Guard stationed in Newbridge, was accidentally wounded by a gunshot fired by fellow guard, Michael McKenna, who was also wounded. Liddy died despite the quick attendance of Dr. Roantree.

At the annual meeting of Kildare Co. Council, Domhnall Ua Buachalla and Éamonn Ó Modhráin were re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively.

June 22

Field Marshal Sir Henry Wilson, who had been official adviser to the Stormont Minister of Home Affairs on organisation and control of the Special Constabulary, was assassinated outside his home in London. Two members of London Battalion I.R.A., Reginald Dunne and Joseph O'Sullivan, were later hanged for his murder. Winston Churchill assumed that the anti-Treaty Four Courts garrison, Dublin, was responsible, and warned Collins that if he did not act against the anti-Treaty faction, British troops would be used to re-take the Four Courts.

June 23

Motorcycle stolen at Ballysax, from Wilfred H. James, Central Road, Curragh Camp.

June 24

President Arthur Griffith and Minister Eamonn Duggan visited Kildare Barracks to try to resolve the Civic Guard Mutiny.

June 25

Armed men attacked the house of ex-Sergeant Murphy, Offaly Street, Athy. A shot was fired through a window slightly injuring a child. Murphy was not at home.

Three separate pilgrimages were held on the 124th anniversary of death of Wolfe Tone to his burial place at Bodenstown, Sallins. 400 Fianna marched from Dublin under Comdt. General Barney Mellows and camped overnight at Ardclogh. They were led to the graveyard by Constance Markiewicz, Mrs. Pearse and Mrs. Áine Ceannt. Liam Mellows gave the address. They were followed by 450 Cumann na mBan who arrived by special train and were joined by local units, and addressed by Áine Ceannt and Constance Markiewicz.

300 men in National Army uniform attended 12 noon Mass in Naas and marched to the graveyard where they met a large body of troops and the Wolfe Tone Memorial Committee. The oration was given by P. S. O'Hegarty. Hundreds more attended through the day.

June 26

The Four Courts garrison kidnapped National Army General, J. J. 'Ginger' O'Connell, in retaliation for the detention of Leo Henderson, an anti-Treaty officer arrested while enforcing the Belfast Boycott, in Dublin.

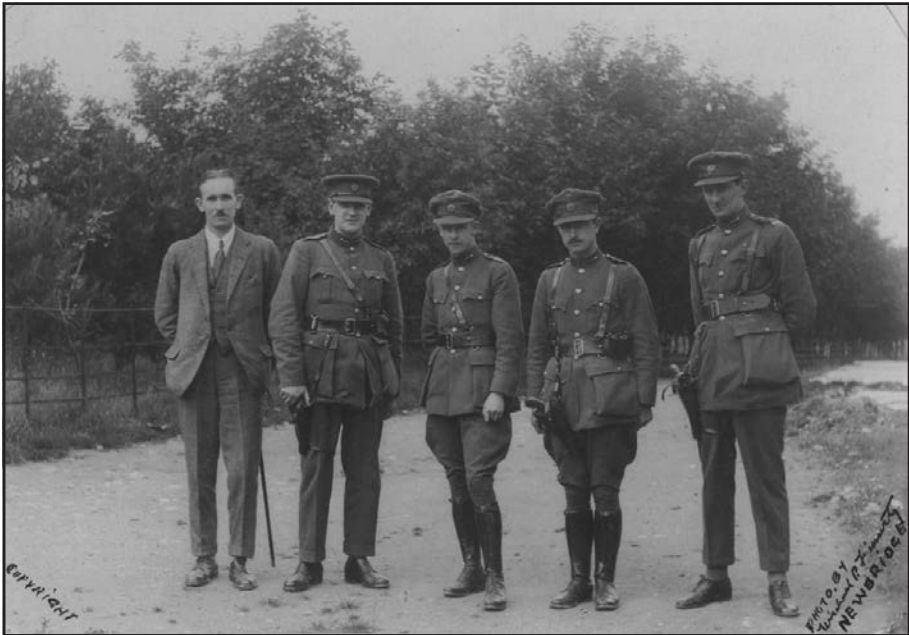
June 27

Collins gave a final ultimatum to the Four Courts garrison to surrender or be attacked.

Military funeral in Naas of Lt. James Whelan (18), A Company,



On June 30 1922, a huge explosion of stored munitions destroyed the Public Records Office, Four Courts, Dublin



Col. Dempsey, Michael Collins, Emmet Dalton, Peadar McMahon and D. O'Hegarty, on a visit to the Curragh Camp, June 1922

1st Battalion, Kildare Brigade, Fianna Éireann, who died of illness.

Motor car stolen from Dr. James A. McKenna, Monasterevin.

June 28

The National Army bombarded the Four Courts with borrowed British 18-pounder field guns, marking the start of the Civil War.

Tom Harris was arrested in Naas with Cllr. Joseph P. Cusack on his way to a Kildare Co. Board of Health meeting; Cusack was later released. Alf Metcalfe, Battalion Adjutant, and M. Quish, Naas Company, were arrested and released the next day.

Domhnall Ua Buachalla, Comdt. Paddy Mullaney and Vice-Comdt. Michael O'Neill were arrested at a National Army roadblock in Kilcock.

Trees were felled at Celbridge, Castlesize and Sallins Hill. Railway Line damaged at Moortown, Curragh, Barrettstown and Common, Newbridge.

Motor car taken from Thomas Gisborne Gordon, Knocknagran, Curragh Camp, by armed men.

Motor car, property of James Dowdall, merchant, taken at Jacobs Yard, Leixlip by armed men.

June 29-30

Railway line damaged at Kildangan; railway bridges damaged near the Curragh and at Kylebeg, Sallins. Railway line between Newbridge and Kildare was cut. Shots fired around Clane and Robertstown.

Motor cars stolen at Kilcullen, property of Denis B. Brennan and Prumplestown House, Castledermot, property of James Frederick Wright.

June 29

Motor cars commandeered at Racefield, Ballyshannon, Kilcullen, property of William Jackson, farmer and at Sunnyhill, Kilcullen, property of Kathleen Walsh.

June 30

Assault on the Four Courts ended after three days of bombardment when the Republican garrison surrendered. Members of the I.R.A. Army Executive, Liam Mellows, Rory O'Connor, Joe McKelvey and Dick Barrett were among the prisoners. Ernie O'Malley escaped. The Public Record Office, part of the Four Courts complex, was blown up; seven centuries of irreplaceable Irish historical and genealogical records were destroyed.

Motor car taken from Frank Burke, Kildare Town, by unidentified men.

July 1

Anti-Treaty republicans, which included 120 men of the Kildare Column, captured Blessington, Co. Wicklow.

A National Army armoured car was slightly damaged by a landmine at Blackchurch, Kill, with no casualties.

Canal bridge damaged at Clogheen, Monasterevin; railway bridge damaged at Togherorymore, Lackagh.

Shots were fired as republicans commandeered property from the premises of Mr. Hanbidge, Dunlavin. With the result Maud Coleborn, post office assistant, Dunlavin, and sister of Mabel Coleborn, Naas, collapsed and died from heart failure. Two of her young nephews had been accidentally shot in Dublin, during Easter Week, 1916, one of whom died.

Republicans opened fire on the Curragh Magazine from a motor car. Fire was returned, there were no casualties.

House of G. J. F. Verschoyle burned at Kilberry, Athy; motor car stolen from James Mangan, Monasterevin; railway line damaged at Blakestown, Cloncurry; railway line damaged at Maynooth; Grand Canal Co., property damaged at Monasterevin.

A motor car and bicycle property of Frank Burke, Kildare Town, taken by republican forces.

The *Leinster Leader* reported that five children had died in the past week in Athy from an outbreak of measles. It noted:

'This outbreak brings home to the minds of all the seriousness of the closing of the hospital.'

July 3

An attempt by anti-Treaty republicans to commandeer a motor car at Mountarmstrong House, Donadea, failed when the owner Peter Moore deterred the attackers with his shotgun.

July 4

Frank Aiken wrote to Richard Mulcahy stating the 4th Northern Division of the I.R.A. intended to stay neutral. He called for an end to the fighting and for the removal of the Oath of Allegiance (Ireland) from the Free State Constitution.

National Army garrison at the former police barracks at Rathangan, was attacked around 10 p.m. by a large force of republicans. A vigorous exchange of gunfire took place for about 2½ hours. Rifle grenades were used by the attackers, part of the roof of the barracks was destroyed and the garrison was overpowered. Five wounded soldiers were removed to Kildare Hospital.

Small garrison at Ballymore-Eustace attacked by republicans; National troops retreated to Naas. Later, National Army troops from the Curragh attacked the republican position at Ballymore Eustace but were forced to retreat with 3 killed and 8 wounded.

Anti-Treaty I.R.A. Volunteers Sylvester Sheppard (also Shepherd), Kill Cottage, Monasterevin, and Laurence Sweeney, Dublin, were killed in an engagement with National forces at Rosetown, near Ballitore; 21 republicans were captured.

A motor car, property of Edward John Kelly, was commandeered at Ballitore by National Army forces.

National forces took up positions in Poplar Square, the Technical Schools and Water Tower, Naas in expectation of an attack, which did not materialise.

Railway line damaged at Elm Hall, Celbridge; house of Maurice Higgins, Landenstown, Sallins, burned; Canal bridge damaged, at Clogheen, Monasterevin.

A motor lorry and goods commandeered by armed men at Castledermot, property of Reginald R. Hannon, Athy Mills.

It was reported in the *Kildare Observer* that the Duke of Leinster won £3,000 in private wager by driving from London to Aberdeen in under 15 hours.

July 4-5

Foodstuffs and provisions property of Samuel Cope, merchant, Castledermot, taken by republicans.

July 5

As fighting ended in Dublin, the remainder of Oscar Traynor's anti-Treaty force either slipped away or surrendered. Many regrouped at Blessington. Waving a white flag, Art O'Connor, former T.D., led a small contingent of republicans from the rear of the burning Granville Hotel to surrender. Cathal Brugha was mortally wounded nearby.

Coolcarrigan House, Blackwood, home of Mr. L. A. Wright, occupied by republicans.

July 5-6

Vice-Commandant Seán Nolan (23), Hospital Street, Kildare, was killed in action during the siege of a fortified house at Curraghtown, Trim, Co. Meath. He had served with distinction throughout W.W.I. and later joined the I.R.A. His funeral to Grey Abbey, Kildare Town, included units of the Civic Guard and Military.

Thomas Cooney, Athgarvan, was arrested and sentenced to three months' imprisonment at a special court at the Curragh Camp, on a charge of verbally abusing the troops while in the execution of their duty.

July 6

The Provisional Government issued a national call to arms to enlist new recruits; five recruiting centres were opened in Dublin, where many Kildare men attested.

Official bulletins from G.H.Q. reported 14-20 armed republicans were arrested at Maynooth; 2 more were arrested in the Carbury area with grenades and revolvers.

Houses belonging to Domhnall Ua Buachalla and others, damaged in Maynooth. Residence and shop, property of Alice Blake on Main Street, among those damaged.

A motor cycle and side car commandeered at the Curragh by National Army forces, property of Joseph McElveen, Bernard Lodge, Curragh.

July 7

National forces broke up the anti-Treaty concentration at Blessington, taking 60 republican prisoners at Brittas and 13 more at Ballymore-Eustace. Oscar Traynor and the anti-Treaty force from Dublin abandoned Blessington, Co. Wicklow; one man on either side was killed and two National Army troops were wounded.

House belonging to Lord Mayo, Kill, and property belonging to Elizabeth and Patrick Connolly, Railway Hotel, Kildare Town, damaged

House and premises, property of James Green, bootmaker, Main St., Maynooth, damaged due to armed conflict.

July 8

Wires were cut on the Curragh road, near Newbridge.

Former police barracks at Kill was set on fire and destroyed.

In Monasterevin, a railway bridge at Passlands, and railway line at Oghill, were damaged.

House of John Keogh, Ballymore Eustace, was damaged.

Armed men attacked Mount Evans House at Rathangan, property of Mrs. K. Clements.

July 9

Monasterevin police barracks held by anti-Treaty forces was evacuated and burned.



National Army group with Michael Brady, Bishopscourt, Kill, on right, 1923



Bristol Fighter F2B of the Irish Air Force which crash landed at Ballycane, Naas, on 17 July 1922

Thomas Harris conveyed from Naas Barracks to the Curragh Camp. Others transported to the Curragh included Paddy Mullaney N.T., Leixlip, Mr. Regan, Maynooth and P. Conroy, Irish Teacher, Maynooth.

House of T. P. Le Fanu and Earl of Drogheda, at Monasterevin, destroyed. Trees, etc., property of Lord Cloncurry, destroyed at Ballyvoneen.

July 10

Railway line damaged at Oghill.

Peter and Mrs. Moore, of Mountarmstrong, Donadea, were arrested by republicans, and conveyed by armed men to Coolcarrigan House. Moore was charged with resisting the taking of his car and firing on republicans. His shotgun was confiscated, and the couple were released.

July 10-11

Thomas Reilly, Vallemount, Co. Wicklow, was shot dead at Coolcarrigan, Timahoe, and Patrick Tierney, Newbridge, was wounded. They were on their way to join the republicans when fire was opened in mistake by an outpost. Tierney was shot through both lungs, and was conveyed to Naas Hospital, where he was later rescued. The mansion of Mr. L. A. Wright, Coolcarrigan, Co. Kildare, which had been occupied by republicans for some time, was surrounded by large numbers of National Army troops, but the republicans had vacated the house by the time they arrived. They found the men lying on the road not far from the entrance to the house, along with two abandoned motors, rifles, bombs, and provisions. The republicans, whose strength was estimated at upwards of 100, had seized motor cars and bicycles, and raided most of the shops in the district. Clane and Donadea post offices were also robbed. All roads leading to the mansion were blocked by fallen trees and roads trenched. The inquest found that Reilly died by gunshot from a person or persons unknown but that the National Army were not involved.

Frank Purcell, official and organiser of the I.T.G.W.U., was

arrested by National forces at Lucan on his way from Carbury to his home in Dublin and lodged in Dundalk Jail, Co. Louth.

July 12

Michael Collins became Commander-in-Chief of the National Army.

Motor car damaged at Grangemellon House, Athy, property of Thomas J. Yates.

July 13

Around 1 a.m. shots were fired in the direction of the Military Barracks, Naas. Fire returned; there were no casualties or damage.

Railway bridge damaged at Oghill

Jack Grehan, Naas, was arrested at Lucan by Joe Ledwidge; they had been prisoners in the same hut in the Rath Internment Camp, in 1921.

It was reported in the *Freeman's Journal* (17 July) that a large number of the Civic Guard had enrolled in the local branch of the Newbridge Committee of the Gaelic League.

July 14

Around 2 a.m. shots were fired at Naas Military Barracks and the police barracks, Main Street, Naas. Fire returned, no casualties or damage.

Railway line damaged at Ballylea, Colbinstown; railway apparatus damaged at Kildare.

July 15

Recent arrests in the county, by National forces, reported in the *Kildare Observer* were of: Eamon Moran, Co. C., Ballysax, arrested and conveyed to the Curragh Camp; Daniel Brennan, D.C., arrested at Brownstown, Kilcullen; Thomas Doran, D.C., Milemill, arrested and conveyed to the Curragh Camp; Phil Hade, well-known in football circles in Kildare and Thomas Harris, Co. C., Prosperous.

Chaplains recently appointed to the Curragh were Fr. Donnelly, Fr. Mahon and Fr. Connolly, from Carlow.

The canal bridge was damaged at Rathangan.

July 16

The Duke of Leinster, Edward Fitzgerald, announced at a luncheon in his honour in London, that he intended to offer his military services to the Irish Government. Edward reportedly believed that he was called on 'to do his bit for his country'. He arrived in Dublin two days later. Edward had succeeded his brother Gerald in February 1922.

An Irish Army Air Service Bristol Fighter F2B crewed by a pilot and observer crash-landed in a field of Mr. S. J. Brown at Ballycane, Naas, after developing engine trouble. The crew escaped serious injury though initially the unconscious observer was pinned in the wreckage.

Quantity of hay burned at Kilberry, Athy, property of Thomas Hickey, Milltown House, Athy.

July 17

The National Army attacked Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow, from Donard. The fight lasted 3 hours and aeroplanes flew overhead during the attack. One National Army soldier was killed. Baltinglass, was evacuated by the anti-Treaty forces. Among those captured were John Rafferty and Peter Gill, Naas, and John and Michael Breslin, Kildare Town, who formed part of a rear-guard action.

Railway bridge was damaged at Yeomanstown, Naas; railway river bridge was damaged at Killeenmore, Kill.

July 18

A signal cabin at Straffan was destroyed.

Total of claims for malicious losses/damages to property for mid-April to end of June was £10,764; for the three weeks from the outbreak of War to July 18 was £25,200. The total for 3 months was £35,964.

July 19

Two carloads of republicans were pursued through Naas after refusing to stop at a checkpoint. One car was captured near Clane; five men were arrested, and a quantity of gelignite, bombs and small arms were seized.

Three anti-Treaty republicans were arrested, after commandeering a car and raiding several shops and houses in Kilcullen for foodstuffs.

Caragh bridge was damaged by explosives.

A Ford lorry with sixteen men under Cadet Hamilton overturned coming over Ploopluck Bridge near Naas. Pte. Peter Roche (24), a native of Newbridge died the following day at the military hospital as a result of his injuries. Private Jack Tierney who suffered slight injury was a brother of republican Paddy Tierney who was severely wounded at Coolcarrigan House on July 11.

A truck, property of Denis B. Brennan, Kilcullen, taken at Kilcullen by National Army forces.

July 20

Trees felled to block roads on approach roads to Naas.

A delivery van and goods, property of Thomas Ahern, victualler, Celbridge, taken at Sherlockstown, Sallins, by armed men.

July 22

In the early hours of the morning some 18-20 shots were fired at the Civic Guard Barracks in Newbridge; the occupants of the barracks returned fire.

July 23

Two-Mile-House Annual Sports day was held in front of over 1,000 spectators. George Magan, Celbridge, who had won an All-Ireland Medal with Kildare in 1919, won the 440 Yards but was pipped on the line by Robert Crone, Leixlip, for the Mile.

July 24

Two despatch riders from the Curragh were held up and motorcycles and revolvers taken by 6 armed men near Kill.

Large round up of republicans in Celbridge District. Among those arrested were Michael Fay and Alex Dwyer, members of Celbridge District Council; Fay was also a member of Co. Kildare Board of Health. John (Jack) O'Connor, the younger brother of Art O'Connor, was taken to Naas Military Hospital. Also arrested was Cathal Buckley, Kilcock.

July 24-25

Circuit sitting of North Kildare District Republican Court, was held at Naas Courthouse.

July 26

George Gavan Duffy, Minister of Foreign Affairs, resigned from the government saying:

'While I am entirely at one with the Government in its military policy, I find myself so much opposed to the official policy on certain other grave and urgent issues that I can no longer honourably remain in the ministry, and I have accordingly resigned my office.'

Around 40 ex-soldiers (previously not accepted as recruits at Naas) were enlisted for a special unit and despatched to Dublin.

July 27

The Marconi radio station in Westport, Mayo, was burned by republicans.

Anti-Treaty I.R.A. attacked Dundalk and dynamited the prison wall freeing republican prisoners, including Frank Aiken.

Oscar Traynor, commander of the anti-Treaty IRA's Dublin Brigade, was arrested by National troops in Dublin.

A party of 10-12 republicans were surprised by National forces at Knockinally, near Donadea. Five men eventually surrendered after an exchange of fire, and a Ford delivery

van and motor bike they had in their possession seized. Another republican was subsequently captured. The captives were among those who were involved in the occupation of Coolcarrigan House.

Rathangan Barracks re-taken by National Army and arrests made in the district and conveyed to Naas.

Civic Guard Hugh Brennan (27), stationed at Newbridge, died of illness.

July 28

A motor car and shop goods taken at the premises of James Byrne, merchant, Kilcullen, by republican forces.

July 29

The *Kildare Observer* reported the Civic Guard had taken up the ordinary police duties in Newbridge district.

A motor car, property of Percy Brooks, damaged by gunfire at the Curragh.

31 July

Anti-Treaty T.D. Harry Boland, mortally wounded in a raid at Skerries Grand Hotel, Co. Dublin; he died on August 1.

A cockfight at Garrisker near Carbury between Queen's County (Laois) and Kildare birds was very well attended; Queen's County won by five battles to three, the other being disputed.

August 1

In the House of Commons Sir J. Butcher called on the British Minister for Agriculture, to remove the valuable horses in the Irish National Stud for their safety. His proposal was denied.

A car was found abandoned at Millicent crossroads by a military patrol. It contained 70 lbs of explosives known as 'Cheddar' or 'War-flour.'

At Naas, Michael Byrne, Kilcullen Road, Joseph Rafferty and John Perkins, Basin Street, were arrested by National Army

soldiers. Byrne had a Mills bomb and was detained. The others were released on parole.

August 2

A cyclist patrol under the command of Brigadier Tom Lawler and Lt. Hamilton, from Naas, captured a party of republicans at Devonshire Bridge, at Killeenmore, led by James Dunne, Kill. Rifles, ammunition, bombs, wire and exploders were found in their possession. They were conveyed to Naas Military Barracks and afterwards to Dundalk Jail.

Five republicans were arrested in Newbridge; three more arrested at Clongorey. All were brought to the Curragh Camp.

August 3

T. J. Williams, *Leinster Leader* reporter, was arrested and detained in Naas Military Barracks. His brother, Dr. Joseph Williams, was also arrested, but released.

William Jones was arrested at Athgarvan and interned in the Military Prison, the Curragh.

August 4

The Constabulary (Ireland) Act, 1922, provided for disbandment of the R.I.C. by August 31.

Three prisoners from Co. Kildare, Laurence O'Toole, Patrick Martin and Dunne, were wounded by gunfire after a failed escape attempt from the Curragh Camp. A guard was seriously injured by a blow to the head.

August 5

Notes in the *Kildare Observer* asserted that the Canal Workers section of the I.T.G.W.U. for Kildare had 250 members and that all the stable and stud staff were now organised.

August 7

A railway bridge on the line between Kildare and Kildangan was blown up by republicans.

August 9

Republicans attacked National troops at Ferrycarrig bridge, Wexford. Amongst the casualties sustained by National troops at Ferrycarrig were:

Vol. Terence Gorey, Derryvoher, Co. Kildare (wound in back).

Vol. P. Whelan, Brownstown, Co. Kildare (injury to head).

Vol. J. McGarvin, Athgarvan, Co. Kildare (wound in chest).

Vol. Jas. McArdle, Kildare (wound in chest).

The military evacuated Celbridge Workhouse and the key to the front entrance was handed over after a brief inspection of the premises.

August 10

IRA members Reginald Dunne and Joseph O'Sullivan, who assassinated Sir Henry Wilson on 22 June, were hanged in London.

Republicans abandoned Cork city and burned the barracks they had been holding, including Charles Fort. The National Army took the city unopposed.

Robertstown Post Office robbed by armed men; old age pension money taken.

August 11

Liam Lynch, the anti-Treaty IRA's Chief of Staff, abandoned Fermoy, the last major Republican held town. Lynch ordered republican forces to abandon the policy of holding towns and to form flying columns and pursue guerrilla warfare. End of the war's conventional phase.

August 12

Arthur Griffith, political leader, and founder of Sinn Féin, died from a cerebral haemorrhage. He was replaced by W. T. Cosgrave.

The *Leinster Leader* reported that John Mitchell (Naas), the well-known GAA cyclist, was arrested in Dublin.

The *Kildare Observer* reported a number of claims relating to June and July were received by Kildare Co. Council: John

Dowling, dwelling house burned at Ballyshannon; Grand Canal Co. Lock House damaged at Glenaree, Rathangan; Michael Hennessy, goods taken at Castledermot; James Murray, cow killed at Ballitore; M.G.W. Railway Co., permanent way damaged at Blakestown, Leixlip and at Confey; General Store Co., goods taken at Monasterevin; G.S. & W. R. Co., property damaged at the Curragh; Peter Brookes, Curragh, motor car damaged; Walter Coleborn, Dunlavin, goods and motors taken; J. W. Hanbidge, Dunlavin, goods taken.

Catherine Keefe, John Lawler, Peter Hutchinson, Patrick Owens and Thomas Owens all later claimed for donkeys shot at Kilberry.

August 13

Meeting of the Co. Kildare Labour Party and Worker's Council in Liberty Hall, Newbridge, presided over by Hugh Colohan, T.D. It was agreed at the meeting to publish a 'Black List' of firms who employed workers who were not trade unionists and called on workers not to handle their goods.

August 14

Men from the 4th Northern Division under Frank Aiken attacked Dundalk and captured the military barracks and the jail. About 240 Republican prisoners were freed from the prison, including seventy-three men from Co. Kildare. The Kildare prisoners set out for home but most of them were re-captured at Skreen, Co. Meath, by a strong force of National troops. Aiken did not try to hold Dundalk, and while in possession of it, called for a truce at a meeting in the town square.

August 15

Motor car taken by armed men, property of Reginald Alvey, Rock House, Fontstown, Athy.

August 16

Funeral of Arthur Griffith to Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin. Civic Guard station at Rathangan burned by armed men.

August 18

Death of the late County Inspector R.I.C., Kerry Supple, aged 59, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, England. A Celtic Cross was later erected over his grave, funded by his former friends in Co. Kildare where he had served and was a well-known personality and recognised sportsman.

August 19

National Army Volunteer Patrick Behan (17), a native of Martinstown, Curragh Camp, Co. Kildare, died in St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin from gunshot wounds accidentally sustained on 12 August 1922 at Ferrycarrig, Co. Wexford.

The *Kildare Observer* reported that Robertstown and Coolcarrigan post offices were robbed by armed men during the week; no money was found but stamps were taken.

A Volunteer Reserve was formed at a meeting in Newbridge, presided over by Jack Fitzgerald, Co. C.

Final of Civic Guard boxing tournament held in the Riding School, Civic Guard Training Depot, Kildare, attended by Col. Commandant P. Brennan, T.D.

August 20

Gen. Michael Collins set out from Portobello Barracks, Dublin, in a convoy of vehicles 'to visit his old home place and his relatives and friends in West Cork'. The convoy stopped at Naas Military Barracks, where bugler Larry McGarr sounded the general salute. It then proceeded to Newbridge and the Curragh Camp, where Collins carried out an inspection. The convoy continued to Kildare, Monasterevin and Maryborough (Portlaoise), where Collins visited the prison.

Mrs. Mary Blakely (50), who had returned to Newbridge from a visit to a relative who was a prisoner at the Curragh, died of a heart attack at her Market Square home.

Mill weir damaged at River Barrow, Athy, property of John A. Hannon, Ardreich, Athy.

August 21

At a quarterly meeting of Kildare County Council, a motion of sympathy on the death of President Griffith was passed. A second motion called for a vote of sympathy on the deaths of Cathal Brugha and Harry Boland. A motion to defend all malicious injury claims was passed unanimously.

August 22

Gen. Michael Collins was mortally wounded when his convoy was ambushed by republicans at Béal na mBláth, between Macroom and Bandon, Co. Cork. Richard Mulcahy succeeded him as National Army commander in chief

The Criminal Investigation Department (CID), a police intelligence unit, was formed under direct control of the Minister for Home Affairs. It was based at Oriel House, Westland Row, Dublin. Effectively a counter-insurgency corps the unit was accused of the assassination of many republicans during the conflict.

August 23

Four local republicans, Fred Noone, William Butterfield, Michael Perkins, and Edward Kelly were arrested and detained in Naas.

The clerk of Celbridge No. 1 District Council visited the workhouse to find it had been looted. Copies of his report were ordered to be sent to the military authorities and a stock-take recommended.

August 24

Around 2 a.m. five armed men broke into Kill Post Office and took postal orders and money to the value of £22.

Five-man party of National forces travelling in an open touring car from Naas under Comdt. Daly was ambushed while in the vicinity of Harristown Demesne. Two bombs were thrown at the car and gunfire exchanged. No casualties were reported. In a follow-up search a large quantity of arms and ammunition were recovered.

A gun attack on Athy Barracks lasted for an hour with no casualties or damage.

J. Kelly who had been released from Dundalk Gaol was re-arrested in Rathangan. He had been one of the 13 men arrested by National forces at Devonshire Bridge, Naas, in August 1922.

At a meeting of Cumann na Saoirse, Naas Branch, a resolution of sympathy was passed on the death of Michael Collins.

The final day of the August meeting at the Curragh was cancelled as a mark of respect for the death of Michael Collins.

August 25

William T. Cosgrave was appointed chairman of the Provisional Government.

Remains of Michael Collins lay in state in City Hall, Dublin.

August 26

The *Kildare Observer* reported a number of further compensation claims received by Kildare Co. Council, including a railway bridge, Oghill; property of George Hendy, Thomastown; railway company property, Barrettstown; Richard Dillon's cottage, Cooleragh; Messrs. Lawler, Owens, Keeffe, Hutchinson for donkeys shot at Kilberry, Athy; Hazelhatch canal bridge; Minch Norton lorry damaged at Monasterevin; hay burned at Kilcoo, Athy; canal boat damaged at Clogheen, Monasterevin.

Thomas Gaffney, Naas, was arrested by National forces.

August 27

12 o'clock Sunday Mass in Naas was offered for the repose of the soul of Gen. Michael Collins by his friend Fr. Doyle who spoke with great emotion.

The *Freeman's Journal* reported that Newbridge Town Commissioners passed a resolution of sympathy on the death of General Michael Collins on the motion of Hugh Colohan, T.D. seconded by Michael Smyth, Co. C.

A notice in the *Leinster Leader* the previous day announced that all G. A. A. fixtures arranged for Naas and Newbridge had been postponed until 3 September by order of the Kildare County Board, 'owing to the lamented death of Commander-in-Chief, General Collins.'

August 28

Funeral of Michael Collins to Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin. Kildare County Council was represented by Jack Fitzgerald, Patrick Phelan, Nicholas Travers, Henry Fay and William Coffey. The journey of many passengers travelling to Michael Collins' funeral from the south of the country was interrupted owing to a break on the main line between Kildare and Cherryville Junction. They were driven from Cherryville to Kildare to resume their journey and most succeeded in reaching the city on time.

All businesses remained closed in Naas from 11-12 p.m. as Mass was held for Michael Collins; The Church was filled to capacity and people knelt outside. After a parade by troops led by the Naas Workman's Brass Band, a volley of three shots was fired in the Main Street while a bugler sounded the Last Post.

A former internee, Thomas Callaghan, Main Street, Naas, was arrested and released the following day.

August 29

Prisoner Richard Monks (35), Kilkenny, shot dead by sentry at the Curragh Internment Camp as he allegedly tried to escape. This was the first fatality in the Curragh Camp since the outbreak of the Civil War.

August 31

Art O'Connor, imprisoned in Mountjoy Jail, wrote a letter to the Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Byrne, asking for religious ministrations from an 'unprejudiced priest'.

Meeting of I.T.G.W.U. Newbridge Branch. Among the matters dealt with was a notification that Capt. Greer had ordered that all his employees must be members of the union; there

were 300 members in the canal section; railway workers at Newbridge, Monasterevin, Kildare, Sallins and Harristown had also joined.

September 1

At 5 a.m. the signal cabin at Hazelhatch Station, Celbridge, was burned by a number of armed men and railway lines were torn up in the vicinity.

September 2

The barracks at Newbridge, until recently occupied by the Civic Guard, was converted into a prison. Lt.-Comdt. Seán Kavanagh was appointed deputy military governor.

The *Kildare Observer* reported: M.G.W. Railway Co. Bridge blown up at Leixlip; canal boats raided at Baronrath and Goatstown; John Gallagher, hay burned at Rathgorrah, Kill; William Jackson, Rosefield, Ballyshannon, motor car taken; S. E. Holmes, Monasterevin, motor tyres and petrol stolen.

Thomas Connolly, of 3 James's Street, Newbridge, was arrested in Naas and interned at Newbridge Barracks.

A patrol of National troops from Naas discovered 310 tins of petrol in a shed at Brockagh, between Blackwood and Robertstown.

September 4

At the monthly meeting of Athy Urban District Council, a letter of thanks was read from Maud Griffith, Clontarf, for the message of sympathy on the death of her husband, Arthur.

September 5

A secret meeting between Richard Mulcahy and Éamon de Valera, political leader of the republicans, failed to negotiate a truce.

Post offices at Robertstown and Kill raided. Grand Canal Co. stores, Robertstown, broken into and quantity of foodstuffs taken.

Sixteen men imprisoned in Naas were removed to Newbridge Internment Barracks.

September 6

Post office in Robertstown closed because of raids and contents removed to Naas.

Residence of Mr. H. B. Alexander of Osberstown which was occupied by the caretaker, was raided by republicans, and items stolen.

A motor car stolen from John Downes, Newtown Great, Eadestown, was used in a raid on Ballymore Eustace the following day.

September 8

Anthony Coughlin, canal agent was robbed of £29 11s by four armed men on the Sallins Road near the de Burgh estate, Naas.

Later that day four armed men raided Furness House, residence of Mrs. Synnott, demanding the car but taking three bicycles when they found it was not there. They broke the telephone to prevent communication with Naas.

Republicans in motor cars raided shops in Ballymore Eustace for foodstuffs and clothing.

September 9

The third Dáil assembled and elected W. T. Cosgrave head of the Provisional Government; anti-Treaty deputies were absent.

Four republicans were arrested after an ambush near the Church of Our Lady, Leixlip. Three National Army soldiers and one of the republicans were wounded.

The *Kildare Observer* reported the following malicious injury claims had been received by Kildare Co. Council: G.S. & W. R. Co., bridge blown up at Moorestown and Cherryville, and signal cabin burned at Cherryville; Michael Horan's house at Maynooth damaged.

Naas Post Office closed as all staff went on strike except for the postmaster.

Fortnightly meeting of Celbridge Union with Major Dease presiding, received claims for damages including M.G.W.R. Co. for rails, Aylmer Bridge and the Canal Bridge, between Easton and Leixlip; house of Domhnall Ua Buachalla; canal at Kearneystown; Lord Cloncurry's trees at Ballyvoneen; and property of Thomas O'Keeffe, Harbour View, Kilcock.

A reaper and binding machine burned, property of Annie Butterfield, Blackrath Gate, Ballitore.

September 10

National postal strike began in Dublin.

The Traveller's Rest, Robertstown, premises of J. W. Wilkinson, was raided by a group of armed men; shots were fired through the door. His son, John, drove off the raiders by firing a revolver. He was later arrested by National forces.

September 11

General Eoin O'Duffy was appointed the first Commissioner of the Civic Guard.

Local Government Act (Northern Ireland), 1922, abolished proportional representation in local government elections and required declaration of allegiance from persons elected to, or employed by, local authorities.

Denis Whelan, labourer, Dublin Road, Monread, Naas, arrested and detained.

National Army Comdt. Bishop's car was fired on from the ruins at Jigginstown, Naas. There were no casualties or arrests.

September 13

At a meeting of Athy No. 1 District Council, Christy Supple reminded the Council of the resolution that all work carried out should be done by trade union labour and the clerk was directed to include the clause when advertising works.

September 14

Naas Post Office was opened under the protection of a National Army guard, although there were no picketers present. Army pensioners were paid; mail was received, but not delivered.

Mrs. Sarah Wilson, private secretary to Lord Cloncurry, and her driver, William Kerr, were held up between Kill and Straffan in a pony and trap and robbed of a sum of money. A Crossley tender vehicle with three C.I.D. men arrived at the scene and Patrick Domican, railway porter and James Kelly, farm labourer, both of Kill, were arrested.

September 15

The Free State's Lord Chief Justice ruled that the country was in a state of war and *habeas corpus* was suspended. He rejected an application to free two of the 5,000 prisoners taken by National forces since the outbreak of the civil war.

Gate receipts at the Kildare Hunt Horse Show held at the de Burgh Estate, Oldtown, Naas, were in excess of 1921; there was a record number of entries for the jumping competitions. The event had been postponed from July.

A group of republicans commandeered a bicycle from James Dowling, Dr. Blake's car and Mr. Wilkinson's pony and trap, in Robertstown. On arrival at a local dance, they arrested a young man from Lullymore. When the congregation arrived the next morning, they found him tied to the railings of Allen Church with a placard bearing: 'Robbers, looters and unofficial raiders, beware.' Six men stood guard on the opposite side of the road. The prisoner was released when Mass was about to commence.

September 16

Quantity of hay burned, property of William Murray, Hallahoise, Castledermot.

September 17

Just after midnight, firing was heard in the vicinity of the Military Barracks and on Main Street, Naas. No casualties were reported.

Priests at masses in Allen and Staplestown condemned the recent robberies which had taken place and appealed to the perpetrators to cease or leave the parish.

September 18

Civic Guard Thomas Bolton, a serving member of the C.I.D., died at Rathangan Barracks, from an accidental self-inflicted gunshot wound.

September 19

The house of Mrs. Mills, Painstown, Donadea, was raided by the National forces who found and removed stolen goods to Naas barracks. Her son, Christopher was 'on the run' and another son, Peter, was interned at Newbridge Barracks.

September 20

The meeting of the Co. Kildare Board of Health discussed its decision to stop the payment of wages to ambulance driver Michael Byrne who had been incarcerated by the National forces. Thomas Patterson said the wages should not be paid as the driver had been found in possession of a bomb while driving under the Red Cross, and also claimed Byrne drove the ambulance in a raid on Naas Hospital where blankets and bedding were taken.

Miss Furlong and Mary Jordan who worked at Naas Post Office during the strike were both warned to cease work. A stone was thrown at the Postmaster, Mr. Fisher, as he entered his lodgings in Poplar Square, Naas.

Margaret Collins (18), daughter of a republican, was killed instantly on a visit to her grandfather's house, Grangemore, Brannockstown, when she picked up a bomb in a potato field and pulled the pin.

Colbinstown signal cabin was destroyed by fire set by armed men.

September 21

'Royal Lancer' won the Irish St. Leger at the Curragh races.

Bred at the National Stud, Tully, Kildare Town, he had won the English St. Leger at Doncaster on September 13.

A large meeting at Blackwood discussed the idea of establishing electric works in the area was called by C. A. Bury, of Downings.

Dwelling-house burned, property of William Rea, Burtown, Athy.

September 22

Two bicycles taken from James Dunne and T. V. Dowling, Allenwood.

September 23

The Irish champion George Magan, Celbridge, was beaten by the English champion C. E. Blewitt, in the One Mile race at Clonliffe Harriers Sports at Croke Park. Larry Stanley, Blacktrench, won the high-jump and came third in the 120 yards hurdle race.

The *Kildare Observer* reported that Christy Supple, Secretary, Transport Workers' Union, South Kildare, condemned the destruction of reapers and binders of two farmers in the Ballitore area, as well as the warning to another farmer not to use a machine purchased for the cutting of corn for anybody but himself in the same area.

Andrew Nolan, Robertstown, and Frank Dempsey, Newtown Donore, were arrested at their homes by National troops.

September 24

The car in which General O'Duffy, Commissioner of the Civic Guard, and other officers were travelling from Dublin to the Civic Guards' Sports in Kildare, was ambushed by men with revolvers on the Naas Road near Inchicore, Dublin. No casualties occurred.

The inaugural Civic Guards' Sports was held in a field adjacent to Kildare town. The judges were a mixture of Civic Guard and local business and professional classes. It was well attended and hosted a large field of competitors. Challenge Cups were presented by Gen. O'Duffy and Mr. Murphy, Bishopsland.



Moore's cottage at Rathbride, Kildare, where 10 members of the Rathbride Column were arrested



Hackney cars bringing National Army soldiers' home from the Curragh races, 26 September 1922

Lt. General Ginger O'Connell was also in attendance. J. J. O'Grady, Limerick, champion weight-thrower, broke a world record. George Magan, Celbridge, won the Mile flat and 880 yards, while Larry Stanley, Blacktrench, won the High Jump.

September 26

Cash taken from the house of Daniel Daly, bog rent collector, at Killinthomas, Rathangan, by armed men.

September 27

The Public Safety Bill was introduced into the Dáil. It called for the establishment of military courts, allowed for the execution of men captured bearing arms against the state, and aiding and abetting attacks on state forces. The Labour Party opposed it.

Four prisoners, escaped from Naas Military Barracks by scaling the eastern wall. Two were quickly re-arrested. Michael Mills, from Kill, was one of the two who evaded capture.

The *Irish Independent* reported trees had been felled on the Rathangan to Portarlinton road but had been cleared away.

Five armed men had raided a shop at Allenwood and took a bicycle, cigarettes and sweets. National troops later arrested Andrew Nolan and Frank Dempsey, near Robertstown.

September 28

The Public Safety Bill was passed in the Dáil by 48 votes to 18.

25 unarmed Civic Guards took possession of the Naas police barrack. They attracted considerable attention on their arrival in full uniform. Supt. Hanlon was in charge of the district, and Sgt. Hughes the senior sergeant at the barracks.

Harristown signal cabin destroyed by fire.

September 29

The National Postal Strike ended after 19 days.

Shots were fired from the Railway Bridge on the Dublin Road at a National Army patrol near Poplar Square, Naas. Fire was returned. There were no casualties or arrests.

September 30

The *Kildare Observer* reported the following additional malicious injury claims lodged with Kildare County Council, bringing the total claims since May to £55,190. G.S. & W.R. Co.: - Railway damaged at Stacumney, Celbridge, and a signal cabin burned at Straleek, Celbridge; Patrick Fox, reaper and binder destroyed at Annesboro; property of J. P. Cusack damaged at Blackwood, Robertstown; W.H.F. Verschoyle, reaper burned at Kilberry, Athy; D.E. Williams, Ltd., tobacco, etc., value of £357, taken at Goatstown, Downings.

October 1

Dublin beat Kildare 2-5 to 0-2 in the Leinster Football Semi-Final Championship at Croke Park, Dublin.

Kildangan bridge between Kildare and Athy was destroyed by armed men.

October 2

Patrick Tierney, Allenwood, and Luke Curley, Newtown-Donore, Caragh, were arrested by National troops and detained in Naas Military Barracks.

October 3

A government proclamation offered an amnesty to all of those in arms, provided they surrendered their weapons on or before October 15. Prisoners were freed if they agreed to take the following oath 'that I will not use arms against the Parliament elected by the Irish people or Government for the time being responsible to that Parliament.'

October 4

The Executive Council of the Free State Government decided to seek the support of the Catholic hierarchy in defeating the I.R.A.

Robert Barton, anti-Treaty T.D. for Kildare-Wicklow, was arrested in Dublin having previously escaped detention from Portobello Barracks.

The signal cabin at Maynooth was destroyed by fire, the telephone apparatus first being demolished by armed men.

A quantity of hay burned, property of Joseph Nevitt, Killeague.

October 5

National troops discovered a bandolier and 30 rounds of .303 ammunition in a cottage at Cromwellstown, Killeel, owned by Mrs. Ann Hill, of Arthurstown, and occupied by a caretaker.

October 6

Thirty republican prisoners escaped through a tunnel from the Curragh internment camp. Fifteen of them from the west and north of Ireland were brought to the Naas area for transportation back to their home counties.

Canal boats raided and goods taken at Devonshire Bridge, near Kill, and at Waterstown, Sallins.

October 7

Patrick J. Cosgrave, uncle of the President of the Irish Government, was shot dead by raiders at a grocery bar at 174 James's Street, Dublin. He was born in Castledermot, Co. Kildare and went to work in Dublin as a teenager in 1877.

October 8

A series of inter-county football matches amongst the republican prisoners at Newbridge Barracks was ended when Kildare met Dublin. Final score was Kildare 3-6, Dublin 1-5. Among those who played for Kildare was William 'Squires' Gannon, the first man to lift the Sam Maguire Cup.

Kildare: Jer Dooley (capt.), Michael Byrne (goal), Bill Gannon, Ml. Breslin, Tom Lynam, Francis Lynam, Stephen Gorey, Paddy Kavanagh, Maurice Lamb, Tom Gaffney, Jim Brady, Joe Smith, Joe Martin, Peter Lamb, Jim Dempsey.

A motor car, the property of Lord Cloncurry, and a motorcycle were recovered by National forces in a shed at Betaghstown, Clane and brought to Naas.

I.R.A. Brigade Quartermaster Thomas Murphy, of Landenstown, and Denis Hannon, Newtown-Donore, were

arrested at Blackwood by National forces from Naas and conveyed to Naas Military Barracks.

A quantity of barley was destroyed at Ballycullane, Athy, property of John Owens, Nicholastown, Athy.

October 10

The Catholic hierarchy issued a pastoral letter, supporting the Free State as the lawful and democratic government of the people, condemning republicans and warning them that they would not be absolved in confession and would be denied the sacraments.

A shed and goods burned at Kineagh, County Kildare, property of Col. Frederick Blacker, Castlemartin, Newbridge. Col. Blacker had previously received a threatening letter.

October 11

At a Special Meeting of Kildare Co. Council, permission was granted to hear an application for a transmission line to aid the proposed new industrial ventures at Poulaphuca and the Bog of Allen, subject to the agreement of the Co. Surveyor.

Around 2 a.m. a bridge over the railway outside Kildare, on the road to Rathangan, was almost completely destroyed by an explosion. After the destruction of the bridge, armed men started two engines from Kildare along the blocked line. One became derailed at the scene of the damage, but the other on the second line did not stop until it reached Portarlinton, Co. Laois.

Edward Treacy, of Newtown-Donore, Caragh, was arrested near Caragh by National forces from Naas, and brought to Naas Military Barracks.

At 1.30 a.m. a canal boat was raided at Eleven-Mile Bridge (Ponsonby Bridge), near Sallins

October 12

Goods taken from Grangemellon House, Athy, residence of Thomas J. Yates farmer.

A rick of hay burned, property of M. Lyons.



A republican prisoner under escort in the southwest, 22 July 1922

MAYNOOTH BAZAAR
June 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th.
NOW ON
Hobby Horses, Mountain Slide,
Donkey Race, Field Sports,
Numerous Side Shows, &c.
ARTANE BAND (by kind permission) will provide
a selection of high-class Music
during the Bazaar.

Maynooth Bazaar *Leinster Leader* 17 June 1922

October 13

Hay rick of about 50 tons belonging to Joseph Nevitte, Kilmeague, Robertstown, was set alight. The fire was extinguished after 4 hours; 14 tons of hay was burned.

October 14

Straffan Post Office was raided and the telephone apparatus destroyed.

The *Kildare Observer* reprinted, in both Irish and English, the Government Proclamation offering amnesty to those in arms against the State.

John Ennis and Patrick Hannigan were arrested at Kildare by National forces from Naas, in connection with republican activities. They were conveyed to Naas Military Barracks. During the week two shops in Robertstown had a large amount of property plundered by raiders in a large Rover car.

The *Kildare Observer* reported that a hay rick, property of a farmer named Behan of Kyle, Kildare, was burned.

The *Leinster Leader* reported there were 950 republican prisoners at Newbridge Barracks.

October 14-15

On the night of 14 October around twenty prisoners escaped from Newbridge Barracks through a tunnel into a sewerage drain to the river Liffey, a short distance away. Their absence was not detected and on the following night (Sunday) about 130 other prisoners also made an escape attempt. The escape was detected, and thirty-seven men were recaptured in and around the tunnel exit, but a further ninety-two escaped successfully. Among the thirty-six men from Co. Kildare who escaped were Tom Harris, Bill Gannon and T. J. Williams. One escapee was wounded by gunfire. Newbridge Barracks housed around 1,200 republican prisoners. This was the largest prison break in Irish penal history.

October 15

The Public Safety Bill came into effect. The bill called for a hand over of weapons in a brief amnesty, after which time

the possession of arms could be punishable by execution. This led to the summary executions of captured anti-Treaty fighters.

The Free State director of communications, Piaras Béaslaí, sent directives to the press that Free State troops were to be referred to as the "National Army", the "Irish Army", or just "troops". The anti-Treaty side were to be called "Irregulars" and were not to be referred to as "Republicans", "I.R.A.", "forces", or "troops", nor were the ranks of their officers allowed to be given.

Anti-treaty forces raided the Straffan Post Office located at Clownings and destroyed the telephone apparatus.

Around 2 a.m. part of the railway line between Straffan and Hazelhatch was blown up, the explosion being heard in Naas. A railway gang repaired the line.

National forces found explosive, known as 'War-Flour' or 'Cheddar' near the railway road bridge at Caragh. Prisoners from Naas Military Barracks were brought out to remove the explosive.

October 16

Thomas McHugh, Patrick Swords, and Thomas Short were arrested at Blackwood, by National troops from Naas. They were conveyed to Naas Military Barracks.

Over 50 members were enrolled at the inaugural meeting of the Co. Kildare Rugby Football Club at Whelan's Hotel, Naas.

October 17

Train disruption led to smaller crowds than anticipated at the first day of the Curragh Race Meeting.

Straffan signal box burned.

October 18

National troops arrested Edward Sweeney, Mainham, Clongowes Woods, at Kearneystown, Hazelhatch. Sweeney

had deserted from the National Army, and joined the anti-Treaty I.R.A. In a follow-up house search troops found a .45 revolver and ammunition, and a quantity of stolen drapery goods.

October 19

David Lloyd George resigned as British Prime Minister.

Private Michael Bailey (23) died instantly after being shot when an army convoy was fired upon near Kill village. He was a native of Rhonda, Wales.

Patrick Domican and James Kelly, Kill, were sentenced at Green Street Courthouse, Dublin, to 18 months hard labour for the robbery of Mrs. Sarah Wilson, near Lyons, Straffan, in September.

Men's clothing taken from Agnes Fleming's shop in Kildare Town by armed men; shop goods commandeered at premises of James Murphy, The Square, Kildare Town, by armed men.

October 20

A canal boat was held up by three masked raiders near the 14th Lock between Straffan and Sallins: goods belonging to traders in Clane, Sallins, Prosperous and Naas, were taken.

October 21

The 5.40 p.m. passenger train from Kilkenny to Dublin was held up at Cherryville Junction, south of Kildare, by armed men, who detached the engine and sent it forward towards Kildare.

The *Kildare Observer* reprinted a large proclamation signed by Richard Mulcahy on behalf of the Army Council which outlined the punishments available to Military Courts for persons found under arms or with arms in their possession: These included death.

October 22

Four soldiers of the National Army were killed when a Lancia car they were travelling in was bombed near Ferrycarrig, Co. Wexford. Three other National Army soldiers were injured in

the attack. The dead included, Private Peter Behan (26), Great Connell, Newbridge.

October 23

Andrew Bonar Law, appointed Prime Minister of U.K.

Pte. Thomas O'Shea, National Army, was accidently shot and killed at the Curragh Camp. He was removed to the military hospital and died soon after. O'Shea had been previously employed in Guinness's Brewery and had served in WWI.

Courthouse damaged at Robertstown.

October 24

A motor party of eight National Army troops was ambushed at Graney, near Castledermot, by the Carlow Active Service Unit, led by Thomas O'Connell. Three soldiers were killed, Privates Edward Byrne (16), James Murphy (40) and Patrick Allison (31). Another soldier, Driver James Hunt (22), later died of wounds. At the inquest the following day the jury found that they were 'wilfully and brutally murdered by an ambushing party.'

October 25

Dáil Éireann approved the Constitution of the Irish Free State (Saorstát Éireann) Bill.

Éamon de Valera, at the request of the I.R.A. Army Executive, set up a 'Republican Cabinet,' formed from anti-Treaty T.D.s to, 'be temporarily the Supreme Executive of the Republic and the State, until such time as the elected Parliament of the Republic can freely assemble, or the people being rid of external aggression are at liberty to decide freely how they are to be governed'.

In the early hours of the morning an explosion destroyed the centre arch of Celbridge bridge, and rendered it impassable to traffic. About a dozen men (including some escaped internees from Newbridge Barracks), were engaged in the incident.

Since the beginning of the railway strike at Kingsbridge, mails to Naas, Kildare, Curragh, Newbridge, Celbridge, etc., were conveyed by motor lorries, with no military or police escort.

A car conveying 80 bags of mail back to the city was held up near Hazelhatch and driven away by raiders.

October 27

Shop goods taken at the premises of Stephen O'Brien, shopkeeper, Walterstown, Nurney, by armed men.

October 29

Thomas Sweetman was arrested at his Celbridge home. His younger brother, James Sweetman (15), was arrested some time previously in connection with the barricading of the road at Hazelhatch with barbed wire. Mrs Clery-Bernard, a companion of Lt. Bradshaw of British Army GHQ Parkgate St., Dublin, was seriously injured when his motor car ran into the wire entanglements.

National soldiers raided the house of Leonard Cardwell, of Beatty Park, Celbridge, and arrested him and his son, Thomas Cardwell, a National soldier who was home on leave at the time. The prisoners were conveyed to Lucan Barracks. Thomas Cardwell later escaped from Lucan Barracks.

About 50 National soldiers under Capt. Hamilton took up quarters in the fever hospital at Celbridge Workhouse. About 4.30 on the following morning the premises were subjected to a heavy attack with rifle and revolver fire; the garrison did not reply and the attackers withdrew after 20 minutes continuous firing. No casualties were reported.

October 31

Private Joseph Vincent Martin (20) was accidentally fatally shot by a fellow soldier at the Curragh Camp.

Opening Meet of the season for the Kildare Hounds, at Johnstown, Naas.

November 1

Quantity of port wine, property of Stanislaus George Glynn, 44 Duke Street, Athy, taken from a Grand Canal boat at Ummeras, Monasterevin, by armed men.

November 2

A quantity of flour was stolen from a boat at Athy, property of the Dock Milling Co.

November 3

Anti-Treaty forces cutting phone and telegraph lines near the north signal box at Sallins were surprised by a National Army patrol. In the ensuing exchange of fire Private Francis Crampton, a native of Naas and a member of the Local Reserves, was killed. Private Whittle was slightly wounded.

The first sports meeting of the National Army was held on the Beresford Sports Ground, Curragh Camp.

A thresher machine, property of George W. Henderson, farmer, Ardmore, Athy, was burned at Hodgestown, Donadea.

November 4

Ernie O'Malley, second-in-command of the anti-Treaty IRA, was captured following a shoot-out with National Army troops in a house on Ailesbury Road, Donnybrook, Dublin. O'Malley was severely wounded but survived and was taken prisoner. One soldier was killed and a civilian injured.

The *Leinster Leader* ran a report on the Dáil debates; Hugh Colohan T.D. questioned the Minister for Defence over the reported wounding of a boy named Matthew Hennegan, on 19 October at Newbridge. The Minister (Mr. Duggan for Gen. Mulcahy) denied indiscriminate firing by the military guards as there was no evidence where the shot had come from.

November 6

A party of men entered Celbridge Workhouse and set fire to the Fever Hospital building where clothing, bedding and furniture were stored. The building and contents were destroyed.

November 7

The *Irish Independent* reported that the goods service arranged by the G. S. W. R. Co. from Naas and Sallins and Limerick had been cancelled as the men at Naas, Sallins, and

Newbridge had ceased work. The only station open was Kildare, but all goods traffic with Dublin and the country was cut off due to the strike.

November 9

Clothing goods, property of Joseph Davis, Woodstock Street, Athy, taken from a Grand Canal boat at Ummeras, Monasterevin, by a number of men.

A wooden shed and a quantity of hay was burned at Maudlins, Naas, by republicans.

November 10

National forces raided the house of Matthew Halligan, Dublin Road, Naas, and arrested his youngest son, Christopher Halligan (17), and Whelan, a native of Dublin. They were taken to the military barracks but were later released. The Halligans were a local republican family.

November 11

Republican head of propaganda Erskine Childers was captured by National troops at the house of Robert Barton, Annamoe, Co. Wicklow.

A fire at Kilnamoragh farm, near Donadea, belonging to Miss C. Aylmer, Donadea Castle, was thought to be malicious; damage was estimated at £1,200.

Two ricks of hay and one of straw burned, property of M. Gray, Athy, valued at £257.

National forces raided the residence of Michael O'Kelly, Glenn-na-Gréine, Naas, and arrested Gus Fitzpatrick and Walter Halligan, both natives of the town, who had escaped from Dundalk Jail in August. Michael O'Kelly was also arrested and interned in Newbridge Barracks.

November 12-13

A census of the National Army took place. There were 7 locations in Co. Kildare – the Curragh Camp, Naas Barracks, Newbridge Barracks, Kildare Barracks and garrisons at Ballyfair House, the Curragh; Monasterevin, and Athy – with 3699 personnel recorded. The Curragh accounted for 3045.

November 12

Kildare defeated Dublin at Croke Park in a challenge match for a set of gold medals in aid of the new Church and Hall at Church Road, Dublin.

November 13

Patrick Mulrennan died at the Curragh Military Hospital, from a gunshot wound inflicted by a member of the National Army while a prisoner in Athlone Military Barracks. He had served with the East Mayo Brigade, and was a native of Co. Roscommon.

A quantity of hay burned, property of John Harold, Baltracey, Naas.

November 14

The *Freeman's Journal* reported a raid on the premises of James McGuinness at Kilteel by four armed men. Foodstuffs and clothing to the value of £80 taken.

November 15

Several roads around Newbridge were blocked by trees which were later removed by the military. During the night the military posts at Newbridge Barracks were fired on.

Tobacco goods commandeered from shop premises of Lily Malone, Claregate Street, Kildare Town, by republicans.

November 17

Four Dublin Volunteers were shot by firing squad in the first 'official' state executions. They were tried and convicted by a military court for the unauthorised possession of revolvers. One of them, Peter Cassidy (21), had Co. Kildare connections as his parents, Peter Cassidy and Bridget Grogan, were from Donadea.

Armed men raided 6 premises in Kildare Town; tobacco, clothing, boots, and provisions were taken away in waiting motor cars. These included goods taken at the premises of Frank McFadden, Claregate Street.

A special goods train was boarded as it arrived at Cherryville

Junction by a number of armed men who forced the driver, fireman and guard to dismount. One of the men set the train in motion and sent it at speed down the line into an obstruction previously built. The engine and 14 wagons were derailed, blocking the main lines south. The staff at Cherryville were able to prevent disaster and trains were diverted via other routes from Kingsbridge. The G.S. & W.R. Co. later claimed £460 for the derailed train.

A large crowd attended the opening of Naas National Army Club in the Boardroom of the Co. Committee of Agriculture, Basin Street, Naas; Rev. P. J. Doyle was elected President.

November 18

The *Kildare Observer* reported on the following: John W. Wilkinson, a medical student, from Littletown, Robertstown, arrested in September by National forces, was released during the week from Dundalk Jail.

National forces arrested William Pender at Ticknevin, Carbury, in possession of a quantity of rifle and revolver ammunition. He was later brought to Newbridge Barracks.

It was reported in the Maynooth and Kilcock districts that a boycott was carried on against workers who refused to join the I.T.G.W.U.

November 21

The first sitting of the new District Court took place in Naas, with District Justices G. P. Cussen (presiding) and E. Little.

A motor cycle, property of Joseph Breslin, Kildare Town, was taken by National Army forces.

November 21-22

A party of men broke the lock on the front gate of Celbridge Workhouse and carried away two drums of carbide of calcium and other goods.

November 23

Hazelhatch Post Office was raided by five armed men who took away cash and stamps.

In the early hours of the morning, Major Andrew Tait's residence Lumville House, Handley Cross, the Curragh, was burned down. The courthouse adjoining the residence was also set on fire. It had been intended for use by the new District Courts

November 24

The former Anglo-Irish Treaty negotiator, Erskine Childers, was executed by the Provisional Government, having been captured in possession of a pistol given to him by Michael Collins.

About 50 sick and wounded National Army soldiers were brought by ambulance train from hospitals in Limerick to the Curragh Military Hospital.

Two armed men raided Straffan Post Office, dismantled the telephone and carried off a sum of money.

About 50 tons of hay, the property of Patrick Berney, Silliot Hill, Kilcullen, was burned maliciously; the damage was estimated at £450. The new fire engine from the Curragh attended the blaze.

Goods, the property of Frank McFadden, Claregate Street, Kildare Town, taken from Kildare Railway Station goods store.

November 25

A gun and grenade attack on Athy Barracks lasted about half an hour. National troops returned fire, but there were no casualties.

The premises of John W. Coote, Athy, was raided by 4-5 armed men who took trench coats, shirts, boots, and riding breeches.

National forces from Naas surrounded Broughall's house, Kill, and captured two Naas men, James Whyte and John Rafferty, who had escaped the previous month from Newbridge Barracks. The men, who were unarmed at the time of their arrest, were brought to Naas Military Barracks.

The *Kildare Observer* reported that the telephone wire in Donadea Post Office had been cut during the week.

The *Kildare Observer* reported on a meeting of Celbridge No. 1 Council where claims for malicious damage were referred to Kildare County Council: M.G.W.R. Co. for signal cabin destroyed at Maynooth, damage to permanent way and damage to Louisa Bridge.

November 26

Adara House, Ladytown, between Naas and Newbridge, was destroyed by fire. The house, with adjoining land, was the property of Mrs. Margaret Donnelly, but had been untenanted for some years.

The sale of postal orders and distribution of old-age pensions was temporarily transferred to Lucan following another raid on Celbridge Post Office.

The house of Sarah Murphy, Crookstown, Ballitore was damaged, and cash taken by armed men.

November 27

The Kildare County Council Quarterly Meeting discussed the possibility of erecting a footpath over the damaged Celbridge Liffey Bridge for the safety of the public and a footbridge at the Clogheen Canal Bridge.

At the conclusion of the meeting there was a discussion on the recent executions in Dublin of Erskine Childers and 4 other anti-Treaty men. A resolution to protest the executions was modified to express regret at the Government's decision, and to call for peace, and the release of Mary MacSwiney, T.D.

November 28

Sale of 500 lots at Conyngham Lodge, the Curragh, by Goff and Co., on the expiration of a 25-year lease held by Captain Bald.

A train conveyed 150 prisoners to the Curragh siding for internment at the Curragh Camp. On its return journey republicans opened fire on the escorting soldiers at Pollardstown, wounding 4. Two who were seriously wounded, were taken out at Newbridge station for medical treatment.

"All I ask of you is, that wherever you may be you will remember me at Holy Communion, and at the foot of the Altar."

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be loved everywhere.—100 days, once a day.



My Sweetest Jesus, be not my Judge, but my Saviour.—50 days each time.

In Sad and Ever Loving Memory

OF

THOMAS BEHAN,

I.O., 1st. EASTERN DIVISION,
KILDARE BRIGADE, I.R.A.,

Late of Rathangan,

Murdered at The Curragh, 13th Dec., 1922.

Aged 31 Years. R.I.P.

But oh! it was for Ireland's love,
And Ireland's faith he died;
And to his soul in Heav'n above
We raise our heads with pride.

The voice is now silent, the heart is now cold;
The smile and the welcome that met us of old.
We miss him and mourn him in sorrow unseen,
And dwell on the memories of days that have been.

Memorial card for Tom Behan, Rathangan,
killed in controversial circumstances, 13 December 1922

Maynooth Post Office raided, and cash and stamps stolen. Bicycle and other goods taken from the house of Joseph Dawson, Maynooth by republicans.

November 29

G.S. & W.R. Co. Bridge 56 damaged near Athy.

Shop goods taken from the premises of Denis J. Brennan, Old Kilcullen, by armed raiders.

November 30

In reprisal for the government executions, Liam Lynch, anti-Treaty I.R.A. commander, issued a general order to kill members of the Dáil (T.D.s) and senators who had voted for the Emergency Powers legislation. He also ordered the killing of hostile judges and newspaper editors.

A quantity of boots and shoes, the property of William Hederman, merchant, Naas, were commandeered from a canal boat at Straffan by armed men,

December 1

Two National Army soldiers were seriously injured when a mine exploded under their lorry as they were returning to Wexford from duty at an out-post on Wellington Bridge. One of the seriously injured Driver John Dooley (19), Loughbrown, Co. Kildare, died from his injuries two days later. Pte. Washington, also of Newbridge, was blown into the air by the explosion, and escaped with a sprained ankle.

A military lorry carrying rations to troops at Maynooth was held up by the North Kildare Active Service Unit (A.S.U.) or Mullaney Column, near Pike Bridge, on the Leixlip-Maynooth road. The occupants were taken prisoner to nearby Grangewilliam House, while their lorry was burned. In the afternoon, a large number of National Army reinforcements advanced towards Grangewilliam House, and a running fight developed in which Private Joseph Moran, Kilcock, was mortally wounded. The Mullaney Column was finally surrounded near Ballygoran, some miles away and 22 men,

including their commander, Patrick Mullaney, were captured. Five of the Mullaney Column, who had previously deserted from the National Army, were executed in Dublin on 8 January 1923 for 'treachery'.

A Fancy Dress Ball was held in the Town Hall, Naas, the first of its kind for some years with around 90 couples dancing.

December 2

The *Kildare Observer* reported that Civic Guard stations had opened at Kilcullen and Clane. Sgt. Griffin was in charge of the Kilcullen station and Sgt. Finn of the Clane station; each station was occupied with a sergeant and four men.

Cash was taken from the premises of John Kelly, Ballitore, by armed men. The premises had been raided for foodstuffs and provisions between 24 June and 7 July.

December 3

Cpl. George McGlynn, 1st Eastern Division, National Army, was mortally wounded in an ambush at Ballyvourney, Co. Cork. McGlynn, from The Forge, New Row, Naas, died of his wounds the next day at the Mercy Hospital, Cork.

December 4

Shop goods taken at the premises of Stephen O'Brien, shopkeeper, Walterstown, Nurney, by republicans.

December 5

Irish Free State Constitution Act, 1922, ratified the constitution as approved by the Dáil and the Treaty.

December 6

The Irish Free State was formally established by the British House of Commons.

The *Irish Independent* reported that National troops had arrested James Kenny, Dunbrin, Athy.

December 7

Seán Hales, T.D., was shot dead as he left the Ormond Hotel,

Dublin, on his way to the Dáil. His companion, Pádraic Ó Máille, deputy speaker, was seriously wounded. Both men had voted for the Special Powers Bill

Annie Cardwell (18) was accidentally shot dead in her father's house, at Beatty Park, Celbridge. The Cardwell family were anti-Treaty republicans.

December 8

Four Republican prisoners, Dick Barrett, Rory O'Connor, Joe McKelvey and Liam Mellows were executed in Mountjoy Jail, Dublin, in retaliation for the fatal shooting of Dáil deputy, Seán Hales, in Dublin, the previous day.

December 9

Irish Senate set up for the first time. It comprised sixty members, thirty of whom were elected by Dáil Éireann and the remainder, mainly from the Protestant landlord class, nominated by the President of the Executive Council. Three of those nominated by the government were from Kildare: the Earl of Mayo, Palmerstown House; Captain Greer, Curragh Grange, Director of the National Stud, Tully, Kildare; Sir Bryan Mahon, Mullaboden, Director of the National Hunt and the Turf Club.

A bomb was thrown from behind the demesne wall near Johnstown, Naas, at a Ford car containing 5 National Army soldiers. No damage or casualties occurred.

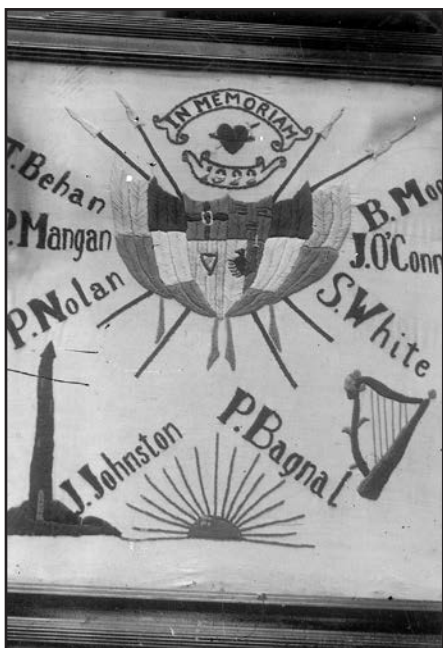
A National Army despatch rider was held up between Clane and Mainham and deprived of his motorcycle, uniform, and despatches.

Post Office at Donadea raided by armed men and the telephone apparatus dismantled.

The meeting of Celbridge No. 1 Council reported claims to be referred to Kildare Co. Council: Imperial Tobacco Co. Ltd., for 22,500 Woodbine cigarettes seized on the Grand Canal valued at £34 11s. 11d.; W. Lawlor for goods seized at Straffan, £18 6s.



The coffins of seven men executed in the Curragh in 1922 lay in state in Kildare Courthouse, October 1924



Memorial banner for the executed men of the Rathbride Column



Annie Moore, arrested at Rathbride, Kildare, December 1922, in possession of a revolver

December 10

Five armed men took blankets and food from Donadea Castle, home of Miss Aylmer.

Two telephone poles were cut down at Donadea.

December 11

A party of armed men took two train engines from the engine shed at Kildare Railway Station and sent them down the rails. Both engines were derailed and badly damaged between Kildare and Cherryville Junction, blocking the main line. A third engine, and a wagon of coal, were driven into the turntable pit. Damage to the train engines was valued at £12,100.

Five National soldiers found guilty of treachery at a general court martial held in Kilmainham Jail, were sentenced to death. They were amongst the twenty-two prisoners taken in the engagement at Leixlip.

December 12-13

A detachment of National Army troops raided a farmhouse at Mooresbridge about one-and-a-half miles from the Curragh Camp. 10 members of the Rathbride Column were found in a dugout and arrested along with Annie Moore, who was armed with a revolver. 10 rifles, a quantity of ammunition, 1 exploder, cable and about 3 tons of food supplies were also secured. One of the men, Thomas Behan, Rathangan, was later shot dead when 'trying to escape' from custody. The Rathbride Column operated close to Kildare town, blowing up bridges, derailing trains, and wagons.

December 13

Several peace resolutions from external organisations were adopted at a meeting of Athy No. 1 District Council. The Council also unanimously passed a resolution by P. Moore and seconded by A. Murphy: 'That the sympathy of the Council be extended to the relatives and friends of the men executed, and also to the relatives of the men assassinated.'

December 16

The *Kildare Observer* reported that National Army Private Joseph Bracken, Naas, lost an eye as result of an attack in Wexford.

Reginald Griffin, from Monasterevin, was arrested by National forces in Wexford carrying important documents.

December 17

The last British troops left the Free State. They were the remnants of a 5,000 strong garrison maintained up to that point in Dublin, commanded by Gen. Nevil Macready.

Lt. John Keogh (22), Dublin Guards, National Army, was shot dead during a joint raid by the C.I.D. and National Army forces on a dance hall in Johnstown. The party had just left the dance hall when they were ambushed.

December 18

The *Leinster Leader* reported that Kildangan bridge had been blown up.

December 19

Seven men from the Rathbride Column were executed, and later buried, in the grounds of the Military Prison, Curragh Camp. They were Patrick Bagnall, Fairgreen, Kildare, labourer; Patrick Mangan, Fairgreen, Kildare, railway worker; Joseph 'Jackie' Johnston, Station Road, Kildare, railway worker; Bryan Moore, Rathbride, Kildare, labourer; Patrick Nolan, Rathbride, Kildare, railway worker; Stephen White, Abbey Street, Kildare labourer; and James O'Connor, Bansha, Co. Tipperary, railway worker. This was the largest (single day) official execution of the Civil War.

December 20

Train damaged by fire at Clownings, Straffan.

December 22

Dwelling house burned on the farm of Michael Harris, Kilberry, Athy.

December 23

The Free State government released 300 republican prisoners who were no longer considered a threat to national security.

December 24

Hay and implements destroyed, valued at £250, property of James Murphy, Athy.

December 25

Joseph MacDonagh, T.D., who had been deputy Minister for Labour and brother of Proclamation signatory and 1916 leader Thomas MacDonagh, died on hunger strike at a hospital in Eccles Street, Dublin.

December 28

Donadea Post Office raided by several men; letters and a sum of money were taken.

A quantity of hay burned at the farm of John C. Bergin, Maybrook, Athy. There was a labour dispute, and the labourers were on strike at the time.

December 29

Quantity of hay burned at Shean, Athy, property of Michael Mara, shopkeeper and farmer, Market Square, Athy. Mara was a member of the local farmers union and there was a labour dispute in the area.



The wall at the Military Detention Barracks, Curragh Camp,
where 7 men of the Rathbride Column were executed



The Military Detention Barracks, commonly known as the Glasshouse, because of its glass roof

1923

January 1

Driver Thomas McEvoy (18), National Army, was accidentally shot and killed at Graney Cross, Castledermot, Co. Kildare, by Capt. T. Dempsey. His father, Denis McEvoy, was also a member of the National Army.

Stephen Telford, Barrowford, Athy, claimed for sheds, barley, etc., burned; damage valued at £1,000.

January 2

The *Freeman's Journal* reported that 380 prisoners arrived by train at Newbridge and were interned in the Barracks, which was already home to over 1,000 prisoners.

G.S. & W.R. Co. office damaged at Athy, by raiders.

Quantity of hay burned at the farm of Frank V. Plewman, Woodstock, Athy. He was a member of the local farmers union and there was a labour dispute in the area.

January 3

Margaret Hayden, Churchtown, Athy, claimed for hay, barley, oats, and straw destroyed by fire, valued at £1,100. Michael Kinsella, Ballyfoyle, Athy, hay burned, £70.

January 5

Volunteer Christopher Sweeny (19), National Army, from Athy, was shot dead in an ambush by anti-Treaty republicans at the Labour Exchange, O'Connell Street, Waterford City, while escorting money from the Bank of Ireland to the exchange. No money was taken in the raid. He had resided at Nelson Street, Athy, and had been previously employed on the Grand Canal.

Three armed, masked raiders visited the residence of James Johnston, land steward to L. A. Wright, Coolcarrigan. They

demanded money but the wages had been paid to the labourers the previous evening. They fired a revolver shot into the kitchen, threatened Johnston and robbed his son, Cecil, of about £6 and his watch and chain, firing shots close to him.

A rick of hay valued at £70, property of Michael Kinsella, was destroyed.

January 6

There were 60 people in the County Hospital and 8 in the Fever Hospital according to the Report of the Hospital Committee read at the subsequent Co. Board of Health meeting in Naas.

The *Nationalist and Leinster Times* reported on a recent football match amongst the prisoners in Newbridge Internment Camp. Carlow (1-2) defeated Wexford (1-1) in front of 'a large crowd of spectators.'

January 7

Grocery premises of Mrs. O'Keeffe, Rathcoffey, residences of P. Moore, Mountarmstrong, Donadea, and E. A. Coonan, Rathcoffey, visited by armed raiders.

Seven telephone poles cut down between Clongowes and Donadea.

January 8

Creditors assembled at the London Bankruptcy Court in relation to the debts of the Duke of Leinster who was in America. A cablegram had asked for a stay of the proceedings promising that the Duke would return in mid-January and all debts would be settled. Trustee and committee of inspection appointed.

Five men from the Mullaney Column, captured at Ballygoran in December were executed for 'treachery'. They were:

Cpl. Leo Dowling, Yew Tree House, Askinran, Carna, Curragh Camp.

Cpl. Sylvester Heaney, Dillonstown, Dunleer, Co. Louth.

Pte. Lawrence Sheehy, Braytown, Co. Meath.

Pte. Anthony Reilly, Simonstown, Celbridge.

Pte. Terence Brady, Wilkinstown, Navan, Co. Meath.

The *Freeman's Journal* reported on a meeting of the Co. Kildare Labour Party in Newbridge, chaired by W. Cummins, which protested the recent executions and the poor efforts to bring peace. A letter was read condemning the execution of seven workers and calling on the Labour T.D.'s to withdraw from Parliament.

January 9

Over 200 attended the Co. Kildare Golf Club dance in Naas Town Hall.

Caretaker of Confey Burial Ground, S. Collison, claimed £14 5s. in burial fees had been taken from his house by armed men.

January 11

The G.S. & W.R. Co. released a report detailing the damage anti-Treaty forces had caused to its property over the previous six months; 375 lines damaged, 42 engines derailed, 51 over-bridges and 207 under-bridges destroyed, 83 signal cabins and 13 other buildings destroyed.

Children's Fancy Dress Dance and Dansant in Naas Town Hall organised by the Countess Mayo in aid of the Kill District Nursing Association.

The *Irish Independent* reported on the arrival of 500 prisoners at Newbridge Railway Station, who were marched to the internment camp (military barracks).

January 12

Pte. Patrick Lynch, A Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Western Division, National Army, died at the Curragh Military Hospital, from gunshot wounds received at Geashill, Co. Offaly on January 7 1923.

January 13

Co. Kildare G.A.A. Dance in Naas Town Hall, catered for by Mrs. Lawlor, Nás na Riogh Hotel.

The *Kildare Observer* referenced malicious injury claims before Kildare Co. Council in the previous 6 months totalled £104,453 14s. 9d. – an average of £17,560 a month. Claims in the year preceding the Truce amounted to £25,000. Since September claims had amounted to £47,465: G.S. & W. R. Co. claimed £10,467; M.G.W.R. Co. £1,685. It included a long list of other properties damaged.

The *Kildare Observer* reported on shops raided and telephone wires cut in the Donadea district the previous week.

National troops arrested Thomas Telford and Thomas Murphy near the residence of the latter at Clonshambo. Murphy was stated to be a deserter.

The *Kildare Observer*, reported that five tons of coal were distributed to the poor at Newbridge by the Coal Fund Committee.

Dwelling house damaged by armed men at Lipstown, Narraghmore, property of Thomas J. Yates, Grangemellon house, Athy.

January 15

Execution of James Lillis at Carlow Barracks for having a rifle in his possession when arrested and for having taken part in the Graney Ambush.

Colonel E. A. Maude, Tinode House, claimed for straw and a shed burned, estimated value at £115.

Sheds and crops burned at Belview, Athy, property of Stephen Telford, Barrowford, Athy. There was a labour dispute in the area.

January 17

Christopher Farrell, commercial traveller for Power & Sons Whiskey Distillers, was killed, and his companion seriously injured in an ambush meant for National troops near

Swinford, Co. Mayo. He was a brother of Miss Ellie Farrell, 33 North Main Street, Naas.

A.G.M. of Co. Kildare Farmer's Union, held at Naas Union offices. On application from the Athy branch, 8 of whose members had property burned during the recent strike, it was agreed to start a special fund to indemnify those who suffered. A resolution was passed to ask the National Executive to do so.

January 18

Republican leader Liam Deasy was captured by National troops in the Galtee Mountains. He called for the men under his command to surrender.

January 19

Celbridge No. 1 Rural District Council meeting dealt with malicious injury claims which were ordered to be defended: E. C. Biggar, damage to a house, Celbridge £10; Mrs. L. Cary-Barnard, personal injuries, £5,000; M. G. W. R. Co. damage to Louisa Bridge, £450, damage to permanent way £35 2s. 3d., burning of signal cabin at Maynooth, £1,200; Miss Aylmer, hay, machinery, etc., burned, £1,300; Imperial Tobacco Co. Ltd., 22,500 Woodbine cigarettes, £34 11s. 11d.

January 21

Thatched cottage and goods, property of Patrick Kelly, farmer, were burned at Cloney, Athy.

January 22

22 millworkers including three drivers, members of the I.T.G.W.U., went on strike at Odlums Mills at Leinster Grove, Naas.

A.G.M. of the governors and subscribers of the Drogheda Memorial Hospital was held in the institution.

Premises damaged and drapery goods taken at the property of Maria O'Toole, Ballitore, by armed raiders.

January 22-23

£135 taken in a robbery at the house of Art Doran, Ballymore Eustace.

January 23

The United Council of Christian Churches and Religious Communions in Ireland met for the first time; 8 protestant churches (Presbyterian, Methodist & Church of Ireland) were present.

Robbery of money and goods from Maurice Toole, Ballitore valued at £224 10s.

January 24

About 11.30 p.m. National Army troops from Naas Barracks removed around 4 dozen large stones from the railway line from Harristown, at Broadfield, Naas, before a goods train was due to pass through.

A.G.M. of the Co. Kildare Archaeological Society was held in the Town Hall, Naas; chaired by Senator, the Earl of Mayo in the Chair.

January 25

Scout Daniel D. Foley (20), Tralee Battalion, 1st Kerry Brigade, Fianna Éireann, died from illness at the Curragh Military Hospital. He was a prisoner at Hare Park Camp, the Curragh.

January 26

Barley and straw, property of Thomas Hickey, Milltown House, was burned at Milltown, Athy. There was a labour dispute in the area.

January 27

The *Kildare Observer* carried an advertisement for recruitment to the National Army which listed locations and conditions of service. Vacancies for units in Co. Kildare: Curragh 29th, 43rd, 54th Garrison Battalions and 59th-65th Reserve Battalions; Naas, 33rd Battalion.

The *Kildare Observer* updated the cost of the previous 6

months malicious injury claims before Kildare Co. Council previously reported to be £104,453 14s 9d – new claims lodged in the previous week brought the total to £107,092. It included claims for damages to premises, crops and personal property but also included the burning of Rathangan police barracks in August and the G.S. & W.R. Co. office in Athy in January 1923.

The *Leinster Leader* reported that Commandant-General Seán Boylan, O.C. 1st Eastern Brigade, was appointed Military Governor at the Curragh.

January 28

The *Irish Independent* (30 January) reported that Christy Supple of the I.T.G.W.U Athy branch was arrested by the military and conveyed to Carlow. The offices of the union were searched.

January 29

Around thirty armed and masked Volunteers from Naas, Kill and Killeel, arrived at Palmerstown House, Naas. An officer of the I.R.A. told the Earl of Mayo that they were going to burn down his house in reprisal for the execution of seven anti-Treatyites at the Curragh in December. Lord Mayo may have been targeted for being a senator in response to Liam Lynch's order that all senators' houses should be burned. He was given fifteen minutes to remove what he could and then the house was saturated with petrol and set alight.

The Damage to Property (Compensation) Act 1923 allowed landlords whose houses were burned during the Civil War, to claim for compensation. Lord Mayo claimed £15,000 for furniture and the total cost of reconstruction of Palmerstown House was estimated at £38,378 6s 2d although Mayo chose not to rebuild the upper storey.

January 30

Leinster Leader Athy regional reporter, Francis Lalor Gibbons, died of illness. Two of his sons, Joe and Frank, were imprisoned for their political activities in the summer of 1922. Another

son, Paddy, was arrested at the family home in Woodstock Street the following April and interned.

The *Irish Independent* reported that Art O'Connor, ex-T.D., was among prisoners who arrived at Newbridge Barracks.

January 31

Stout commandeered from canal boat at Ticknevin by armed men, property of Timothy F. O'Toole, Coolayna, Carbury.

February 2

Shop goods taken at shop of Francis P. Jackson, Leinster Street, Athy, by republican forces.

February 3

Quantity of porter, property of James Kelly, shopkeeper, Youngstown, Athy, taken at the Railway Goods Store, Colbinstown, by armed raiders.

February 4

Great War memorial dedicated by Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Gregg, in the porch of St. David's Church, Naas.

February 6

Goods taken at Walterstown, Nurney, by republican forces, property of Stephen O'Brien, shopkeeper.

February 8

The Provisional Government suspended executions until 18 February, offering an amnesty to anyone who surrendered before that day.

February 9

Brendan Behan, writer and wit, born in Dublin. Famous for his autobiography, *Borstal Boy* (1958) and for plays *The Quare Fellow* (1954) and *The Hostage* (1959).

February 10

Tom Barry, after contacts with some former I.R.A. comrades



Souvenir of ex-internees re-union, 1950

on the Free State side, proposed that the anti-Treaty I.R.A. call a truce. Liam Lynch turned down the idea.

Strike at Odlums Mills, Naas, in connection with the proposal to reduce millers' wages by 12s. The average wage of Irish millers was 65s.

Clonee Bridge, Monasterevin, was again destroyed. The bridge was demolished the previous June and had been rebuilt by the Civic Guards.

A large quantity of hay, cowhouses and stabling were destroyed by fire at Harristown House.

A quantity of hay and straw was burned, property of Denis Morrin, Ballyroe, Athy.

February 11

Dr. Thomas O'Higgins, father of Government minister Kevin O'Higgins, was shot dead by republicans at the family home in Stradbally, Co. Laois. The house was also burnt down.

February 12

W. T. Cosgrave signed an agreement in London to pay land annuities to the British Treasury.

At Blessington seventy-two tins of petrol and the lorry on which it was transported, property of the Anglo-Mexican Petroleum Co., Naas, was confiscated by four armed raiders, dressed in National Army uniforms,

February 13

The 2nd Northern Division, Curragh Camp, held a military dance in Newbridge Town Hall.

February 15

Mrs. Mary Supple (58) died suddenly at the I.T.G.W.U. Hall, Duke Street, Athy. She was the mother of labour activist Christy Supple, who had been arrested at the hall by the National Army on 28 January 1923. He was refused parole to attend the funeral.

February 16

The home of Sir Bryan Mahon, at Mullaboden, near Ballymore Eustace, was burned down by a party of anti-Treaty men. In the remainder of the month, a total of 37 houses of senators were destroyed by the anti-Treaty I.R.A. Mahon later claimed £60,000 for the house and furniture and £1,171 for clothing, suitcases, and other property. Mahon had commanded the 10th Irish Division during W.W.I. and later served as General Officer Commanding Ireland, retiring in 1921. He was nominated to the Free State senate in 1922.

February 17

The *Leinster Leader* reported that a well-attended meeting was held at Newbridge Town Hall to select a representative from neutral 7th Brigade I.R.A. men to the national convention in Dublin to try to find a way to end the Civil War. Michael Smyth, Co. C., was selected to represent Kildare ex-I.R.A. men.

House and plough, property of Mrs. E. M. Heydon, burned at Brownstown Athy. J. A. Hannon, store house damaged at Athy.

February 18

Republican leader Dinny Lacey, the head of the I.R.A.'s 2nd Southern Division, was killed in the Glen of Aherlow, crippling the republicans' cause in the Tipperary/Waterford area.

The booking office was burned at the Kildare Railway Station. G.S. & W.R. Co. estimated the damage at £350.

February 21

A sum of money was taken at Provincial Bank of Ireland Ltd., Athy, by armed men.

February 22

According to the *Irish Independent*, there was heated debate, with accusations and counter-accusations in the Dáil between Labour T.D.'s and farmer representatives about the recent arrest of trade union official and Kildare County Councillor Christy Supple. Branches of the trade union movement across

the country continued to condemn the treatment of the councillor and his family.

Rathmore Post Office raided by 2 armed men.

Death of Mrs. Ellen Confrey, widow of the late Nicolas Confrey of Craddoxtown, at the County Home. She was the first trained nurse employed at Naas Union Hospital until her marriage and returned to nursing after the death of her husband.

February 26

Meeting of anti-Treaty I.R.A. officers assembled at Ballinageary, Co. Tipperary. Liam Lynch took the opportunity to issue a statement rejecting the possibility of a truce.

Straffan Post Office raided by armed men.

February 27

20 tons of hay, property of Michael Diamond, Bodenstown, destroyed by fire at Clonshambo, Donadea.

February 28

Hay shed, property of E. A. Coonan burned at Rathcoffey.

March 2

The total claims before Kildare County Council since June 1922 were estimated at £214,095.

Raids on Clongoweswood, Prosperous, Robertstown and Kilmeague post offices.

Celbridge Post Office was raided just after midnight by two armed men and the telephone exchange was destroyed. All official papers were taken out and destroyed in the street

March 2-3

Up to sixty armed men raided Athy Stationhouse and Post Office and destroyed goods and equipment including the telegraph and telephone apparatus. Goods store and signal box burned. Premises of Civic Guards also raided, and their

bedding burned; Guards' equipment and bicycles were taken away by the raiders.

At Athy railway goods store: Motor car taken from Duthie, Large and Co., Athy; quantity of jute wire burned belonging to Minch Norton and Co.; barbed wire, property of Lady Weldon burned; spare parts for tractor, property of J. J. Bergin, burned; tea belonging to Lipton's Ltd., burned; damage to paper, property of James Kelly; fertiliser burned, property of Archibald L. Spiers, farmer, Birtown, Athy; and boxes of butter property of Margaret and Mary Kate Langton, William Street, taken.

The premises of John W. Coote, Athy, was raided and goods taken. Foodstuffs and provisions taken from Robert Miley, merchant's premises, Duke Street and goods burned at the Athy Railway store. Motor car taken at Leinster Arms Hotel yard, Leinster Street, Athy, property of Henry J. Hosie, motor engineer, the Foundry, Athy. Drapery goods taken from shop of William Shaw, Duke Street. Tins of petrol and one motor car taken from James Stewart Maxwell, Athy

March 3

The *Leinster Leader* reported that W. Cummins N.T., Chairman of Newbridge Town Commissioners, had been elected as a member of the Senate in place of Edward Mansfield.

Clane Post Office raided by men armed with revolvers and on bicycles. Telephone wires cut beforehand at Clongowes Wood.

Battery box of Signal Cabin damaged at Kilmore property of G.S. & W. R. Co.

Hay and other crops, property of Margaret Hayden, Churchtown, Athy due to a labour dispute.

March 4-5

20 tons of hay, property of R. W. Ireland, Courtduff, near Robertstown, were destroyed by fire. Shots heard in the neighbourhood.

March 5

Miss Peg Daly, bookkeeper in Southwells, and Miss Margaret Delaney, national schoolteacher, were arrested by National Army troops at their respective homes in Kildare Town; both subsequently held at Mountjoy Jail and Kilmainham Jail, Dublin.

Entry was forced to the Clane Civic Guard Barracks and the building set on fire. The five-armed raiders took 5 Civic Guard bicycles and headed toward Timahoe. Civic Guards managed to extinguish the flames but had to set up a temporary barrack in a new premises the following day.

March 6

Hay, straw burned, property of Stanislaus J. Heydon, Milltown, Athy; gates had been destroyed on 27 November 1922.

March 7, 8 & 12

The killing of five National Army soldiers by a booby trap mine at Knocknagoshel, Co. Kerry, led to a series of retaliatory atrocities against republican prisoners at Ballyseedy, Killarney and Caherciveen; 17 prisoners were brutally murdered by members of the Dublin Guard.

March 8

Over 60 tons of hay and straw destroyed by fire at the premises of Edward A. Coonan, auctioneer, at Rathcoffey.

March 11

Annual General Meeting of the local branch of the I.T.G.W.U. was held in Newbridge. The Secretary, Michael Smyth, reported that there were 2,725 branch members on the books at the end of the year. Membership fees for the past twelve months had exceeded the previous two years combined.

March 13

Three Republican prisoners were executed in Wexford town, two in Cork and one in Dublin. The Republican 'government' issued a statement announcing a period of mourning and

forbidding all public entertainments such as sporting events while executions of their men continued.

March 14

Hazelhatch Post Office, near Hazelhatch railway station, Celbridge, was burned by three armed men, who took a sum of money, sprinkled the office and residential part of the building with petrol, ordered the occupants outside, and set it alight. The occupier was Patrick Toal, a former head constable of the R.I.C. in Naas, and subsequent collector of taxes. He later lodged a claim for £93 for clothing, household furniture, etc. The signal cabin was also burned; a claim was later made for £120 for a temporary signal cabin.

March 15

William Cummins, Newbridge (Labour Party), was sworn in as a Senator for Co. Kildare.

March 17

A light heavyweight World title boxing fight between Irish American boxer Mike McTigue and the Battling Siki took place in La Scala Theatre, Dublin, despite the anti-Treaty prohibition of public entertainments. A battalion of National troops guarded the fight. Anti-Treaty fighters detonated a mine beside the theatre and fired on the spectators after the fight. McTigue won on a decision after the fight went the full twenty rounds.

The *Leinster Leader* reported that the Curragh Camp was to be made the General Headquarters of the National Army and arrangements were being made at the headquarters block for the accommodation of Gen. Mulcahy and his staff.

General Mulcahy, accompanied by officers of the High Command inspected three battalions of troops at the Curragh Camp. The battalions were the Cadet Officers' Battalion, under the command of Commandant Byrne; 29th Infantry Battalion, under Commandant Stephenson, and a Reserve Battalion, under Commandant Moriarty. The entire parade was under

the command of Major-General Peadar MacMahon, General Officer Commanding at the Curragh.

The newspaper report noted that the Curragh was now the chief training centre for the army, and the source from which all battalions and depots were 'fed' with trained soldiers.

A strong military contingent took up quarters in the Town Hall, Athy, and preparations for the national entertainments for St. Patrick's night had to be abandoned.

March 18

Members of the car drivers section of the I.T.G.W.U. complained at a meeting of the Kildare Labour Party & Workers' Council that the Curragh military authorities had dramatically reduced fares. The drivers claimed that it was impossible to keep a horse and car on the road for the new fixed price. Members from the Athy Section noted that the ongoing farm labourers strike had entered its 18th week, with the arrest of their members ongoing. They complained that farmers were being permitted to travel around with revolvers.

The Workers' Council recommended that all future houses be built of brick.

March 19

A horse was shot dead at Pollardstown, property of Michael Nolan, Loughbrown, Curragh Camp.

March 20

Volunteer Michael James Doherty (18), 63rd Battalion, National Army, was accidentally shot and killed at the Hare Park compound, Curragh Camp, by a comrade on guard duty.

Burning of property of James Kelly at Athy Store.

March 22

Councillor Christy Supple, Secretary of the Athy Branch of the Transport Union, was released from custody from Carlow Military Barracks. The *Nationalist* noted that 'the news of

his release was received with the greatest satisfaction by the people of Athy and district where he is deservedly popular’.

March 23

Patrick O’Brien (23), a native of Woodlands, Castledermot, Co. Kildare, was shot by National forces in Talbot Street, Dublin, while attempting to blow up the Carlton Cinema in Sackville Street. O’Brien died in Jervis St. Hospital. He was buried at the Republican Plot, Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin.

Drapery goods taken from the house of Joseph Dawson, Maynooth, by republicans.

March 24

Anti-Treaty I.R.A. executive met in County Tipperary to discuss the war’s future. Tom Barry proposed a motion to end the war, but it was defeated by 6 votes to 5. After some debate, Éamon de Valera was allowed to attend, but was given no voting rights.

Three railway stations on the Sallins to Tullow branch of G.S. & W. R. Co. railway line remained standing – viz:- Naas, Harristown and Baltinglass. All the other stations had been burned down.

Frances O’Connor, sister of Art O’Connor, ex-T.D., and Molly Barnwell, of Hazelhatch, were arrested by National forces and conveyed to Naas barracks.

Dwelling house damaged due to gunfire, and two bicycles taken, property of William Morris, Boleybeg; furniture damaged, property of Thomas Waldron, Narraghmore.

Raid on premises of James McGuinness, licensed trader and grocer at Kiltel. Drink, groceries and provisions and some clothing taken along with some silver.

March 26

Pte. John Pender (21), a native of Derryoughta, Monasterevin, was mortally wounded in an ambush near Vallemount, Co. Wicklow. A military party from Naas on a routine patrol in Wicklow were attacked by members of the ‘Plunkett Column,’

led by Niall Plunkett O'Boyle, an escapee from Newbridge Barracks. Pender died from wounds the following day in St. Bricin's Hospital, while another soldier was badly injured.

March 28

Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1923, abolishing workhouse system of poor relief and providing alternatives (continued by Local Government (Temporary Provisions) Amendment) Act, 1924.

Double Taxation (Relief) Act, 1923, granting relief where there was a liability to both Irish Free State and British tax (similar provision in section 5, Irish Free State (Consequential Provisions) Act, 1922.

Gun attack on National Army sentry at Athy Town Hall, no casualties.

March 31

Customs barriers between Irish Free State and Northern Ireland became effective at midnight.

It was reported in the *Kildare Observer* that Miss Peg Daly, arrested at Kildare, had been removed to Kilmainham Jail.

The *Voice of Labour* reported that Cllr. Christy Supple had been released from Carlow Barracks the previous week by the Free State authorities. The paper noted that there were still 300 men locked out. A list of contributions to the Athy Lock-out Fund from across Leinster was also published in the paper.

A large public meeting was held in Athy in connection with the ongoing farm labourers' strike. Speakers included I.T.G.W.U. General Secretary, William O'Brien.

April 3

Motor car, mowing machine and ploughs damaged, property of H. S. Large, Castlereban, Athy.

April 4

Inaugural National Army boxing tournament held at Naas.

April 5

Civic Guard Station established in Robertstown manned by Sgt. O'Brien and four men.

April 6

Ball in aid of the Co. Infirmary, Kildare, Town Hall, Naas.

April 9-10

Ballitore House, property of Owen Cogan, was burned down. It was rumoured that the unoccupied premises was to be used as a Civic Guard Barracks. Troops from Carlow Military Barracks arrested seven men from the locality in follow-up raids.

April 10

Liam Lynch, Republican Commander in Chief, was killed in a skirmish with National Army troops in the Knockmealdown mountains, Co. Tipperary.

April 10-11

Governor-General, T.M. Healy, President Cosgrave, and members of the Cabinet attended the Punchestown Races on Tuesday; the Punchestown Races' Dance was held in the Town Hall, Naas, on Wednesday night.

April 11

A house and property of Mary Crampton was burned at Blackrath.

April 12

First performance of Seán O'Casey's *'The Shadow of a Gunman'* in the Abbey Theatre, Dublin.

Hay burned, property of Jane Broughall, Kill.

April 13

Rev. Peacocke instituted as rector of Kill and Rathmore by the Archbishop of Dublin, who was afterwards entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Kennedy of Bishops court.



John Devoy, Harry Cunningham, -, -, and Tom Lawler, outside Cunningham's Hotel, Naas, August 1924



Anthony O'Reilly (Celbridge), executed in Portobello Barracks, Dublin, 8 January 1923



Art O'Connor, T.D., lost his seat in the 1922 General Election



Eamon de Valera,
former president of Ireland



Champion jockey Algernon Anthony died
on 30 November 1923
in the Kildare Co. Infirmary and was
buried at Kildare Cathedral



Arthur Griffith, President of Ireland,
died on 12 August 1922

April 14

Austin Stack, Deputy I.R.A. Chief of Staff, was captured by National Army troops near Ballymacarbry, Co. Waterford and lodged in Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. He was carrying a document accepting a proposal by the Catholic Bishop of Cashel to end the war by calling a ceasefire and dumping arms.

Four members of the Civic Guard from Naas established a temporary barracks at Kill in one of the new houses for ex-soldiers; Sgt. Brennan and four Guards from the Depot took charge of the district.

House burned at Mylerstown, Nurney, the property of Patrick Delaney, Balkinstown, Nurney.

April 15

In the Leinster Championship Quarter Final, Kildare (2-1) lost to Kilkenny (2-3) at Maryborough (Portlaoise).

April 16

Destruction of Major J. G. North-Bomford's residence at Fern's Lock, Kilcock. He later lodged a claim for £25,000 damages with Kildare Co. Council.

April 20

The Executive of the I.R.A. met and elected Frank Aiken to succeed Liam Lynch as chief of staff, appointing him head of a three-man Army Council.

Mr. R. A. Haccius, a representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, visited Newbridge Barracks and Tintown Internment Camp, the Curragh. He issued a report favourable to the Free State government.

Straffan post office, railway station house and ticket office raided by armed men.

April 21

About seventy prisoners escaped through a tunnel from Tintown No. 1 Camp; subsequently several tunnels were discovered in Tintown No. 2 and Hare Park camps, Curragh.

April 23

A deputation from farmers and ratepayers of Co. Kildare to the Minister for Local Government, Ernest Blythe, protested the rise in taxation, road, and health expenditure. They suggested that the Minister appoint administrators to run the county or manage the budget.

Sgt. James Montgomery (25) accidentally shot dead at Moore Abbey by a fellow soldier while on patrol in Monasterevin.

Wires cut at Athy Railway Station.

April 24

A patrol of National troops was fired upon at the home of Leonard Cardwell, Celbridge. After a short engagement, the troops captured six men who had escaped from the Curragh three days earlier. Leo Cardwell (13), his son, was also arrested and suffered a bayonet injury while in custody between 24-25 April. A member of the military was subsequently arrested.

Other prisoners were recaptured in the Ballymore Eustace and Harristown areas, and at Naas.

April 26

Seven men were arrested by the National Army in Athy and taken by motor lorry to Carlow Military Barracks; two were released.

April 27

De Valera announced that offensive operations were suspended.

April 28

An all-Ireland Conference of the Evicted Tenants' and Land Settlement Association and other bodies interested in the land question was held in the Mansion House, Dublin.

April 29

Premises of Mr. Sheridan, Inland Revenue Officer, were raided at Waterstown, Sallins. A motorcycle was stolen.

April 30

Frank Aiken, the new anti-Treaty I.R.A. Commander, called for a ceasefire.

Labour leader Jim Larkin returned to Ireland after being deported from the U.S.A.

Castledermot Civic Guards Barracks attacked by armed men; a landmine caused slight damage and no injuries.

Raid on the house of Thomas Salmon, Clane Court Register, by two armed men. They demanded records and fines collected but were refused admittance and left, warning Salmon to give up his job.

Clongoweswood Post Office raided by two armed men. There was no money on the premises but a telephone receiver and official documents were taken.

May 1923

By early May 12,000 Republicans had been interned by the Free State.

Eight men who had been held in custody in relation to the Athy Farm Labourers' Strike were released from custody at Naas District Sessions according to the *Leinster Leader*. The *Voice of Labour* commended members of the local Civic Guard for raising a subscription to pay their train fare to Athy.

May 1

Hay and buildings at Johnstown-Kennedy, property of Sir Ralph Kennedy, burned.

May 1-2

Around midnight Rathmore Post Office was raided by armed men, who burned books and forms outside after stamps were taken.

May 2

Paddy McNamara arrested in Athy and taken to Carlow Military Barracks. His brother was interned at Newbridge Barracks.

Civic Guard for Celbridge and Leixlip area took up residence at Celbridge Workhouse.

May 3

Sgt. Joseph Brady (34), National Army, was accidentally shot dead at Westport Barracks, Co. Mayo. His home address was 24 Mary St., Dublin, but his next of kin was John Brady, Borehard House, Newbridge.

May 5

It was reported in the local press that civilian workers employed by the military at the Curragh Camp, Newbridge and Kildare, had received notices intimating that their services would no longer be required. Between 300 and 400 men were affected by the notices. At a meeting of the workers held in Newbridge, Senator Cummins said he believed this was the gravest matter they had to face in the history of the district. The men concerned were workers who had been employed for several years before the evacuation of the British.

May 6

Naas (1-8) defeated Caragh (1-3) in the final of the 1922 Senior County Football Championship at St. Thomas's College, Newbridge.

May 8

Troops from Naas, Blessington and Tallaght swept the Wicklow Hills in search of an active republican column around Lacken, Humphreystown and Ballyknockan.

May 10

Joseph Rooney (26), from Castledermot, died in St. Bricin's Military Hospital, Dublin. He had been arrested by National troops some weeks before and taken to Mountjoy Jail, Dublin. He had been in failing health for a considerable time previous to his arrest.

May 14

Joint meeting of the Republican Government and I.R.A. Army Executive instructed Frank Aiken to end the war.

May 15

Anti-Treaty I.R.A. column, many of whom were Newbridge Barracks escapees, were surrounded at Valkeymount, Co. Wicklow, by a contingent of National troops from Naas. Its' leader, Niall Plunkett O'Boyle, was killed and the rest surrendered. Republicans claimed O'Boyle was shot when he attempted to surrender.

May 16

Calverstown village hall was maliciously burned.

May 20

British Prime Minister, Bonar Law, resigned due to illness; he died on October 30.

May 23

Stanley Baldwin (Conservative) was appointed Prime Minister of U.K.

May 24

Frank Aiken ordered that 'the arms with which we have fought the enemies of our country are to be dumped. The foreign and domestic enemies of the Republic have for the moment prevailed.'

End of the war.

The death toll was circa 1,600: around 800 National Army soldiers; about 500 republicans, including 83 executed by firing squad; over 200 civilians; 10 policemen; 33 members of the crown forces.

May 26

The *Kildare Observer* reported that Ronald H. Brown, son of S. J. Brown, Ard Caevin, Naas, had been appointed State Solicitor for Co. Kildare.

May 31

Boyne obelisk, to commemorate the Battle of the Boyne, was blown up by unknown persons, but allegedly by members of the National Army.

June 1

James Larkin, General Secretary of the I.T.G.W.U., addressed a large meeting of workers in the Market Square, Newbridge. He was accompanied on the platform by Senator Cummins, Hugh Colohan, T.D. and Michael Doyle, Kildare. Larkin spoke for more than an hour. Free State troops were confined to barracks throughout.

June 3

James Larkin delivered a speech attacking the union executive led by William O'Brien, initiating a major split in the labour movement.

June 4

The County Convention of Unpurchased Tenants met in the Farming Society's Buildings, Naas, to discuss the new Land Bill and appoint delegates to the national convention.

Athy Urban District Council officials, including the weighmaster, refused to weigh wool in the Market Square, Athy, delivered to them from local farms. This was part of the ongoing farm labourers' dispute in the district. They were convicted of failing to do this task at Athy District Court in late July 1923.

June 7

Inaugural meeting of Cumann na nGaedheal in the Library, Town Hall, Naas. Rev P. J. Doyle, C.C., elected chairman of Naas Cumann na nGaedheal.

June 11

Sinn Féin reorganisation discussed at a meeting of its members at the Mansion House, Dublin.

June 13

Naas Criminal Sessions before Judge Drumgoole. Grand Jury sworn in. The *Kildare Observer* of 16 June recorded that the oath omitted the name of the Sovereign the King for the first time and substituted 'On behalf of Saorstát Éireann.'

June 15

Workers' Union of Ireland launched by Larkin.

About 2.30 p.m. five men raided the Castledermot Cooperative Store and stole a quantity of cigarettes, tobacco, fancy cakes, and other goods. Some hours previously, Miss Dowling's licensed premises at Bolton Hill was raided and a quantity of goods taken.

June 16

The *Kildare Observer* reported that many men who had been employed in the Curragh internment camps were now unemployed.

The *Voice of Labour* noted under the heading 'Thirty Weeks of War and Still No Surrender' that the Athy farm labourers' dispute had now exceeded in duration any previous agricultural dispute that the I.T.G.W.U. had been involved with.

June 22

Public Records Act (Northern Ireland), 1923, establishing Public Records Office of Northern Ireland (P.R.O.N.I.)

June 23

A small gathering of republicans, mainly women, laid wreaths at Wolfe Tone's tomb; they included Mrs. Pearse and the widows of James Connolly, Cathal Brugha and Liam Mellows.

June 24

The annual pilgrimage to the grave of Wolfe Tone at Bodenstown, Sallins, took place. It was attended by President Cosgrove and Richard Mulcahy, Commander-in-Chief, National Army. The occasion was marked by an imposing military review of 1,000 troops with several military bands present.

June 26

Army Pensions Act passed by Dáil Éireann.

June 26-28

Curragh June meeting. Irish Derby won by 'Waygood', ridden by Morny Wing.

June 28

Owen Boyle (20), who was interned at Newbridge Barracks for several months, died in the Curragh Military Hospital, of tuberculosis. He was a native of Burtonport, Co. Donegal.

July 1

The official number of military prisoners in the Free State was estimated at 11,316.

Feis Cille-Dara was held at Newbridge which featured among other things a football match between Kildare and Dublin

July 3

Noel Lemass, anti-Treaty I.R.A. officer, was abducted by C.I.D. plain clothesmen and killed. His body was found in the Wicklow Mountains on 12 October.

Post Office at Moyvalley raided. Three men were later charged with this offence and stealing a Ford Motor car in Leixlip.

The *Leinster Leader* announced that Mr. Haccius, a representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross, had visited several jails and camps, among them Newbridge Barracks and Tintown Internment Camp, the Curragh. He found a carefully organised medical service and no sick or wounded prisoners kept without medical treatment.

July 12

The Newbridge branch of the I.T.G.W.U. reminded members that they were not to undertake overtime work, if other members were seeking work. Complaints had been received recently of four Dublin labourers doing overtime in the area, along with Council workers saving hay for farmers after the working day.

July 15

Cumann na nGaedheal public meeting in Naas was attended by Kevin O'Higgins, T.D., Ernest Blythe, T.D., Eamonn Duggan, T.D., Christopher O'Byrne, T.D., Senator Mrs. Wyse Power, Senator J. J. Parkinson, George Woulfe, P.C., Simon J. Malone, Co. C., P.C. A dinner at Whelan's Hotel, was chaired by Rev. M. Norris, P.P.

July 16

Censorship of Films Act, 1923, passed.

July 19

Internee Denis Ryan (19) died of illness at the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp.

July 20

Announcement of appointment of Eoin O'Neill as Irish Free State representative on the Boundary Commission to decide on the precise delineation of the border between the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland.

July 23

Internee Mathew Ginnity (31) died of pneumonia at the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp.

July 24

Land Law (Commission) Act, 1923, dissolving Congested Districts Board and transferring its functions to land commission.

Army Pensions Act 1923 signed into law by the president.

July 25

Internee Peter Maher (19) died of illness at the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp.

Military football and hurling matches held at Newbridge between Limerick Command and the Works Corps; General Mulcahy and staff attended.

July 27

Cases of mineral bottles burned at the Railway Goods Store at Athy, by armed men, property of Thomas F. Bergin, merchant, Duke Street, Athy.

July 31

Lord Walter Fitzgerald died at Kilkea Castle, Maganey, Co. Kildare, and was buried in the family vault at Carton, Maynooth.

Internee Daniel Downey (22), Dundalk, died in the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp, from pneumonia. He had earlier participated in a short hunger strike.

August 1

Public Safety (Emergency Powers) Act, 1923, enabled the government to continue to detain without trial.

At a special meeting of Kildare Co. Council the following resolution was passed unanimously: 'That we, the Kildare Co. Council, call upon the Government for the immediate release of the internees in order that they will be able to exercise the franchise at the forthcoming elections'.

August 2

Internee Joseph Whitty (18), died of illness at the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp. Death cert described Whitty as a 'Released Political Prisoner.'

Co. Kildare Convention of Cumann na nGaedheal held in Naas Town Hall. The candidates chosen to stand in the national elections were Simon Malone, Rathangan, Thomas Lawler, Halverstown, and George Woulfe, Forenaughts.

August 3

John Conlan unanimously elected to represent the Farmer's and Ratepayer's Party at a meeting at the Farmer's Buildings, Naas.

Internee F. O'Keeffe died of illness at the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp.

August 4-5

Curragh Command Sports.

August 8

'An act to establish a police force to be called the Garda Síochána (commonly called Civic Guard)' was made permanent by the Garda Síochána Act, 1924.

A meeting in Naas in aid of the republican candidates addressed by Mary McSwiney, was chaired by Thomas Harris who had escaped from Newbridge Internment Camp some months previous. Harris was arrested after the meeting by two soldiers in plain clothes and conveyed to Naas Military Barracks.

August 9

Land Act, 1923, vested in the land commission all tenanted lands not already vested, and empowered the commission to take over untenanted land – 'Hogan act.'

August 12

Large meetings in favour of Labour candidates, Hugh Colohan and Michael Smyth, were held at Maynooth, Celbridge, Kildare and Prosperous.

August 12-19

Gen. Peadar McMahon opened the Kilcullen Bazaar and Carnival in aid of funds to build new schools.

August 15

Éamon de Valera arrested in Ennis, Co. Clare, when he tried to make an election speech. He was imprisoned without trial until July 16 1924 at Arbour Hill Prison, Dublin.

August 18

Co. Kildare Polo team (6 goals) beat Co. Dublin (5 goals) in the Final game of the Horse Show Tournament in the Phoenix Park after extra time.



SAORSTAT EIREANN.

Public Safety (Emergency Powers) Act, 1923.
Public Safety (Emergency Powers) No. 2 Act, 1923.

302

ORDER BY THE MINISTER FOR DEFENCE.

WHEREAS *Michael Sheehan Newbridge Kildare* (hereinafter referred to as the prisoner) was at the date of the passing of the PUBLIC SAFETY (EMERGENCY POWERS) ACT, 1923, detained in Military Custody,

AND WHEREAS the prisoner was not before the passing of the said Act sentenced to any term of imprisonment or penal servitude by any tribunal established by the Military Authorities,

AND WHEREAS I am of opinion that the public safety would be endangered by the prisoner being set at liberty,

NOW I RISTEARD UA MAOLCHATHA an Executive Minister within the meaning of the said Act do hereby order and direct that the prisoner be detained in custody under the said Act until further order but not after the expiration of the said Act.

Dated this 9th day of August, 1923.

Signed **RISTEARD UA MAOLCAHA,**
Minister for Defence.

Member of the Executive Council of
Saorstát Éireann

Internment order for Michael Sheehan, Newbridge, 9 August 1923

August 19

Cumann na nGaedheal branch formed in Athy; Peter P. Doyle, formerly of Athy Sinn Féin Club, elected president.

August 20

Quarterly meeting of Kildare Co. Council voted unanimously to accept the offer of a gift of a sledge harness belonging to the late Sir Ernest Shackleton, and the harness to be deposited in St. Thomas's College Museum, Newbridge.

August 24

Kilcock mail car raided at Coolcarrigan by two armed men.

August 27

1923 Irish general election. Cumann na nGaedheal won 63 seats; Sinn Féin 44; Independents 16; Farmers 15; Labour 14; and Independent Labour 1. About 415,00 first preference votes were given to pro-Treatyites and 286,000 to anti-Treatyites. (64% of the electorate voted.) Some of the anti-Treaty members elected were still imprisoned. Kildare was separated from Wicklow in the election. The count was concluded on Thursday 30 August.

Hugh Colohan, Labour, John Conlan, Farmers, and George Wolfe, Cumann na nGaedheal, were elected in Kildare. Anti-Treaty candidates, Domhnall Ua Buachalla, Art O'Connor and Thomas Harris failed to get elected. C. Byrne, J. Everett and R. Wilson were returned for Wicklow.

September 4

Prisoner Patrick O'Hanlon (16) died of gunshot wounds in the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp. He had been shot by a sentry at Kilkenny Jail and was brought by ambulance to the Curragh.

September 8

The *Leinster Leader* reported that General Sir W. B. Hickie, President of the Legion of Ex-servicemen in Ireland, visited the British Legion Hall in Athy.

September 10

Irish Free State admitted to membership of League of Nations.

September 15

The *Kildare Observer*, reported that the passes issued to small traders at the Curragh Camp had been renewed by the military authorities due to the efforts of Senator William Cummins, Hugh Colohan T.D. and Michael Smyth, Kildare Co. Co.

The *Leinster Leader* carried a report on the meeting of the I.T.G.W.U. Newbridge Branch which declared there were 88 canal workers on strike and in receipt of strike pay, the strike was over three weeks old.

September 22

At the Kildare Horse Show, held at Oldtown, Naas, the number of entries was up on the previous year, although attendance was down due to inclement weather.

September 26

Private James Houlihan (Hoolihan), Machine Gun Corps, National Army, was accidentally shot and killed at the Curragh Camp.

At the monthly meeting of Celbridge Union a resolution was unanimously adopted which called for the unconditional release of all political prisoners, to be pressed by the rank and file of all the national parties.

October 1

W. T. Cosgrave addressed the opening meeting of the Imperial Conference in London.

October 3

A meeting was held in in Monasterevin re. loss of trade and inconvenience due to destruction of a bridge near the town in 1922 on the main Dublin to Cork road. It was agreed to send a deputation to the Co. Surveyor who consented to erect

a temporary bridge if the town supplied trees. The Canal Co. had responsibility but were waiting on compensation.

October 8-13

Erection of temporary wooden bridge near Monasterevin to the delight of residents and motorists.

October 14-Nov 23

A mass hunger strike was launched by some 424 republican prisoners in Mountjoy Jail, Dublin, in protest at their continued detention after the end of hostilities. The strike was joined by over 7,000 republican prisoners in prisons and camps around the country.

October 17

Special meeting of Kildare Co. Council to protest the removal from office of Art O'Connor as Assistant Surveyor under sealed order of the Local Government Department. Other resolutions were passed which called for the release of political prisoners including the 500 on hunger strike in Mountjoy Jail and which condemned the brutal murder of Noel Lemass.

October 20

Laurence McEvoy, brother of P. McEvoy, was released from Tintown Camp, Curragh.

Kilmeague Hockey Club Annual Dance held at Annesboro' House courtesy of Major de Courcy Wheeler.

October 25

Athy Rural District councillor James Behan, Lughill, Monasterevin, was released from Tintown Internment Camp.

October 27

Philip Cosgrave (39), T.D., the only brother of President William Cosgrave, died at his residence, 174 James's Street, Dublin. Up to a few months before his death he was Governor of Mountjoy Jail. Mr. Cosgrave was a nephew of Mr. Philip Cosgrave, Castledermot and grandson of the late Mr. Patrick Cosgrave, Castledermot.

According to the *Kildare Observer* 175 prisoners had arrived in Newbridge the previous week, the majority in a weak condition. One fell unconscious and was removed in an ambulance; two others were brought by car to the Internment Camp.

October 29

The Oriel House C.I.D. was disbanded, and its members transferred to the Dublin Metropolitan Police. In April 1925 the D.M.P. was amalgamated with the Garda Síochána. C.I.D. was responsible for a number of killings of republicans during the Civil War.

October 30

North Kildare Farming Society Annual Show at Naas, which had been abandoned in 1922 because of the disturbed state of the country. Number of entries and general attendance down on previous years.

October 31

Marriage of Lieutenant-Colonel, Eric de Burgh, D.S.O., Oldtown, Naas, to Mary Fanshawe, Oxford, at St. David's Church, Naas.

The *Freeman's Journal* reported that 22 prisoners were released from No. 3 Tintown and Newbridge internment camps; all were in a weak state and four were described as seriously ill.

November 1

A meeting for the release of prisoners held in Monasterevin. The large attendance, was addressed by Countess Markievicz who called for the unconditional release of the interned men. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. T. Tynan.

November 3

The *Kildare Observer* reported a Civic Guard Station had been established at Donadea during the week in a farmhouse provided by Mr. Taaffe. It comprised 1 sergeant and 3 men.

November 4

A resolution was passed in favour of the release of all political prisoners in Irish and English jails at a meeting of the Co. Kildare Labour Party and Workers Council in Newbridge.

A public meeting in Newbridge in support of the release of political prisoners was proclaimed by Government and the Civic Guard prevented people from entering the town unless on legitimate business. Members of Kildare Co. Council were turned away. The meeting was not held.

November 6

Naas Urban District Council passed a resolution condemning the dismissal of Art O'Connor as Assistant Surveyor.

November 7

Naas No. 1 Rural District Council based on a resolution adopted by Macroom R.D.C., resolved to refuse to function until political prisoners were released.

November 9

In an effort to cut costs and to bring the National Army to a manageable peacetime size, many officers and men were demobilised. Seven officers refused to accept their demobilisation papers. They were arrested and court-martialled, causing the unrest to spread to other officers at the Curragh Camp.

Death of prisoner Richard Hume (25) at the Curragh Military Hospital, blamed on neglect while he was at Tintown No. 3 camp. Officially diagnosed as pernicious anaemia.

November 10

Military Dance in the Gymnasium Hall, Naas Military Barracks, with about 300 in attendance.

The *Kildare Observer* reported that a Civic Guard Station had been established in Carbury in a house near the old R.I.C. Barracks.

Large attendance at an Irish National Teachers Organisation

(I.N.T.O.) meeting at Maynooth which protested against the proposed reduction in teacher's salaries and appointed delegates to a special Congress.

November 14

W. B. Yeats awarded the Nobel Prize for literature (presented in Stockholm, Sweden, December 10).

At a Special Meeting of Naas No. 1 Rural District Council, the resolution to refuse to function until political prisoners were released, was rescinded.

November 20

Comdt. Denis 'Dinny' Barry (38), Blackrock, Cork, died at 2.45 am in the hospital wing of the Curragh Camp having been on hunger strike since October 19 in Newbridge Barracks. He was buried in the Curragh. Within five days the decision was reversed as Barry had not been convicted of a crime. His remains were handed over to relatives and his body lay in state overnight in Newbridge Town Hall. His remains were removed the following day to Cork and lay overnight in the rooms of the Cork City Executive of Sinn Féin at Grand Parade. The funeral to the Republican Plot at St. Finbarr's Cemetery, the next day was hugely attended.

November 23

The republican hunger strike was called off. Women prisoners were subsequently released, but most of the men were detained until the following year.

November 27

Death of Catherine Brophy, Herbertstown, Athgarvan, with funeral to Two-Mile-House on 29 November. Among the mourners were President Cosgrave, Major-General McMahon, Senator Cummins, and her son-in-law, Senator J. J. Parkinson.

November 28

Monthly meeting of Co. Kildare Board of Health. Resolution of the Comhairle Ceanntair of Sinn Féin for Co. Kildare called

on the Board to inspect the sanitary conditions at Newbridge and Tintown Nos. 1, 2, and 3 Internment Camps following reports of neglect, including the death of Richard Hume. This resolution had also been read at the quarterly meeting of Kildare Co. Council on 26 November. Matter was referred to the District Council as the Sanitary Authority.

November 30

Death of Algernon 'Algy' Anthony (52), a well-known racehorse trainer and former jockey at Kildare. He had won the Irish Derby on 'Oppressor' in 1899, 'Carrigavalla' in 1901 and the English Grand National on 'Ambush II' in 1900 in the colours of the Prince of Wales, the future Edward VII. Anthony went on to train the winner of the race in 1920, 'Troytown.'

December 1

The *Freeman's Journal* reported that 400 prisoners transferred from Gormanstown Camp arrived at Newbridge Barracks. They were handcuffed but raised a cheer on approaching the main gate.

In the Dáil, Mr. John Conlan, Kildare, asked the Minister for Defence if he was aware that passes were required on the Curragh roads causing serious inconvenience to residents in the area. The Minister replied as follows:- 'Vehicles and persons travelling through the camp by means of the public road do not now require passes. For the past three weeks all such are allowed to pass freely, the only inconvenience being that all such persons are escorted through by Military Police, that is as far as the public road. Only persons who wish to enter the camp on business or to use the camp roads require passes. The procedure is deemed necessary for the present.'

December 2

I.T.G.W.U. Conference of delegates from all over Co. Kildare was held at the Union Hall, Newbridge. Union Gen. Secretary William O'Brien addressed the conference.

December 6

The *Irish Independent* reported that about 27 prisoners had been released from Mountjoy, Tintown and Newbridge.

December 14

The body of Cpl. Joseph Bergin, a military policeman suspected of carrying information to republican prisoners, was found in the canal at Milltown Bridge. He was identified carrying messages in and out of Tintown No. 3 on behalf of the prisoners there. Col. M. J. Costello, director of Military Intelligence, ordered Capt. James Murray to investigate the allegations against Bergin. Cpl. Bergin was intercepted returning to the camp by several National Army officers, interrogated and tortured and, while still alive, tied to the rear of a car and dragged behind it at speed. His body was then dumped in the Grand Canal and his blood-stained cap was thrown into the hallway of his girlfriend, Peg Daly's home in Kildare town.

December 17

Peter Lambe and Leo Davis, political prisoners, were released from custody and arrived home to Athy.

December 19

Monthly meeting of the Co. Board of Health at the County Hospital, Naas. Circular read from the Local Government Dept. which reminded public bodies of their duty to provide for the demobilised officers and soldiers from the National Army.

December 20

Cpl. William Johnstone, National Army was shot dead by Pte. J. Killoran at Ponsonby Barracks, Curragh Camp. Killoran was charged with murder at a Special Court on December 22, but showed evidence of insanity.

December 22

The *Kildare Observer* carried a report from Celbridge No. 1 Rural District Council that the Civic Guard had vacated the

Workhouse, but damage had been done to the doors and an oak tree cut down for firewood. An estimate of damages was to be prepared.

It also reported that the Aga Khan had purchased Captain Greer's stud farm at Sheshoon, the Curragh.

December 23

Up to 2,000 prisoners were released from the Curragh internment camps. Before they left for their home destinations they were treated to refreshments at the Courthouse, Kildare by Miss McKenna and the Ladies' Committee.

December 24

Volunteer Joseph Lacy (27), died at the Military Hospital, Curragh Camp following a hunger strike. He was a brother of Dinny Lacey, the anti-Treaty leader killed in the Glen of Aherlow in February.

December 29

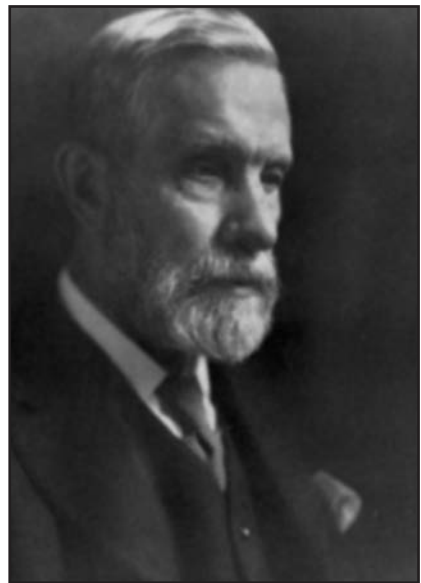
Local newspapers reported that the Civic Guard, under the direction of Chief Superintendent Maher and Inspector Kelly, had discovered the scene of the murder of Joseph Bergin in an unoccupied two-storey house on the farm of Patrick Ennis at Guidenstown, near Thomastown Cross.



National Army officers Fionán Lynch (second from the right) and Eoin O'Duffy (fourth on the left) during the early fighting



Joseph Bergin, murdered by National Army officers, 1923



Kill native and USA exile John Devoy, 'the greatest of the Fenians'



Lizzie Doran (in National Army uniform) with her sister-in-law Josephine Doran, Ballymore Eustace, 1922



John Masterson, Sallins, National Army



Drawing commemorating the 7 executed men of the Rathbirde Column, in an autograph book, Newbridge Barracks 1923



Michael O'Kelly, *Leinster Leader* editor and republican internee



Michael Smyth remained neutral during the Civil War but spoke out on prisoners' issues



Armed members of the Civic Guard, probably Criminal Investigation Division (CID), in Naas



Stephen Conway, Rathangan, National Army

1924

January 8

The *Irish Independent* carried two notices in the 'In Memoriam' section of the Births, Marriages and Deaths column in remembrance of the men who were executed on January 8 1923 at Keogh Barracks. They included Kildare men Leo Dowling and Anthony O'Reilly. The notices were inserted by 'their comrades captured with them at Leixlip,' and the 'P. H. Pearse Sinn Féin Club, Celbridge.'

January 11 & 14

Over 100 prisoners were released from Tintown No. 1 and No. 2 Camps, the Curragh.

January 12

The *Kildare Observer* recorded the results of the Co. Kildare 1923 Senior Championship: Naas (2-3) to Rathangan (2-1).

January 30

Newbridge Military Barracks was officially closed; all remaining prisoners were transferred to the Curragh Camp and Mountjoy Jail, Dublin.

February 8

Stable employee strike began at the Curragh over a plan to reduce wages. The various stables were picketed.

February 11

Pte. J. Killoran charged with the murder of Cpl. William Johnstone shot dead at the Curragh Camp, was found guilty but insane at the City Commission, Green Street, Dublin.

February 12

Civic Guard dance in Naas Town Hall. Attendees included Gen, Eoin O'Duffy, Chief Commissioner, Adj.-Gen. Gearóid

O'Sullivan, District Justice Liam Price and Chief Superintendent Jeremiah Maher.

February 16

The *Kildare Observer* reported that influenza had claimed many victims and schools were closed in Naas and Celbridge over the previous fortnight. There were at least two deaths due to the outbreak.

February 23

The *Kildare Observer* reported on the affiliation of the Curragh Trainer's Association with the Co. Kildare Farmer's Union.

February 24

Archbishop of Dublin blessed the bell at Eadestown Church.

February 25

A resolution passed at the Quarterly Meeting of Kildare Co. Council unanimously requested that the Local Government Dept. withdraw the sealed order dismissing Art O'Connor from the post of Assistant Co. Surveyor.

March 3

Deputation met with Joe McGrath, Minister for Industry, to try to progress a drainage scheme for the River Barrow. It included John Conlan, T.D., Hugh Colohan T. D. and George Woulfe, T.D., Rev. Dean Waller of Kildare and Francis Bergin, Co. Engineer among others. Efforts to progress such a scheme in 1923 had been dismissed by government.

March 8

The *Leinster Leader* reported that Tintown No. 1 Camp, the Curragh, was empty of prisoners, and that a number of military police were demobilised.

Death of Lord Frederick Fitzgerald (67) at Carton House, Maynooth.

March 9

Co. Kildare G. A. A. Convention held in the Christian Brothers' School, Naas.

March 18

Army mutineers assembled in Dublin. The army council resigned affirming the subservience of the military to the civilian government.

March 19

Richard Mulcahy resigned as Minister for Defence.

Special Meeting of Kildare Co. Council discussed the various Liffey Schemes proposed to harness and supply electricity.

April 9

At a meeting of the Finance Committee of Kildare Co. Council, a resolution was passed calling on the Directors of the *Leinster Leader* to reinstate Michael O'Kelly as editor of the paper. It was considered he was victimised because of his political views. O'Kelly was not reinstated.

April 13

Rathangan and Kildare G.A.A. teams refused to play a match in Newbridge because of the referee Tom Lawler's involvement in the Curragh Stable Boys Strike. A replacement referee was found and the match went ahead.

April 19

The *Kildare Observer* reprinted some of the names of Kildare prisoners contained in a list of over 1,000 prisoner names published in '*Sinn Féin*.'

Thomas Cardwell, Celbridge; Jas. Dempsey, Castletown Lodge, Celbridge; Patrick Mullaney, Leixlip (formerly death sentence); Sean O'Connor, Elm Hall, Celbridge; Michael O'Neill Weston Park, Leixlip (formerly death sentence); and Timothy Tyrrell, Maynooth (formerly death sentence); all sentenced to seven years' penal servitude.

Unsentenced:-

In Hare Park Camp:- J. Brady, Church St., Kilcock; P. Carroll, Sallins Road, Naas; John Cotter and Michael Murphy, Celbridge; Wm. Duffy, P. Nelligan and Joseph Martin, Monasterevin; R. Fitzgerald, Feeraun, Suncroft; Augustine Fitzpatrick, Railway View, Naas; C. Mills, Painstown; Thomas Murphy, Landenstown, Sallins; Ed. Tracey, Newtown, Naas.

In Tintown No. 2:- P. Brady, Ballymakealy, Celbridge; Peter Gill, Naas; Michael Nolan, Spratstown; P. Woods, Furryhill, Rathmore.

A. Fitzpatrick and P. Gill, both of Naas, were subsequently released.

April 21

The *Kildare Observer* reported that it had been officially stated by the secretary of the Trainers' Association that the Curragh Strike was over. Two days later, mention was made at the Naas District Sessions that an agreement had been reached and the Curragh Stable Workers' Strike was over.

April 23

At the meeting of the Finance Committee of Kildare Co. Council, on the motion of Thomas Harris, it was decided that the County Council should call a public meeting in Newbridge on May 4 to call for the release of political prisoners.

April 29-30

Punchestown races.

May 1924

Minutes of Kildare County Council contained a report from Dr. Daly, Tuberculosis Officer, who had diagnosed and treated 30 new cases the previous year.

May 3

The *Leinster Leader* reported that twelve prisoners were released from Hare Park Camp, the Curragh, at the close of the week

May 4

A public meeting called by Kildare Co. Council at Market Square, Newbridge, demanded the release of all political prisoners held in England and Ireland. Chaired by Domhnall Ua Buachalla, Thomas Harris, Hugh Colohan, T. D., and James O'Connor also spoke.

May 19

Special meeting of Kildare Co. Council. Matter of dismissal of Art O'Connor was amongst items discussed. Domhnall Ua Buachalla resigned his Chairmanship. Though he had previously resigned, it had not been accepted, but it was on this occasion, and he was succeeded by M. Fitzsimons.

June 1

Kildare (4 goals 3 points) defeated by Galway (3 goals 9 points) in the Dan Breen testimonial match in Croke Park.

June 4

At the monthly meeting of Naas No. 1 Rural District Council, a resolution was passed unanimously protesting the proposed abolition of Rural District Councils.

June 7

The *Kildare Observer* reported that Tintown No. 1. and Tintown No. 3 Camps were closed.

Unconditional release of the men of Mullaney's Column from the Curragh: Patrick Mullaney, Leixlip; Michael O'Neill, Leixlip; Jack O'Connor, Celbridge; Tom Cardwell, Celbridge; Jim Dempsey, Celbridge; Tim Tyrrell, Maynooth.

June 14

There were 275 prisoners remaining at Hare Park Camp, the Curragh.

June 19

First meeting at Naas Racecourse, Tipper Road. Naas Races Company had been formed in 1922. Stewards included Baron de Robeck, Col. Blacker and Gen. Sir Bryan Mahon.

June 20

At a special meeting of Kildare County Council a letter was read from Art O'Connor announcing his interest in the position of Assistant Engineer.

June 22

President Cosgrove reviewed 800 National Army troops at the 'official' annual Wolfe Tone commemoration, at Bodenstown, Sallins and delivered the oration. Troops from the Curragh arrived by train at Sallins.

The republican pilgrimage took place later in the day. It was one of the largest of recent years with several thousand present, including contingents of Cumann na mBan, Fianna Éireann, Sinn Féin Clubs, ex-prisoners, and 'North of Ireland' republicans. The oration was given by Brian O'Higgins.

June 29

Kildare Great County Feis held at Naas Racecourse; patron Rev. M. Norris. Kildare were beaten in a football match by a Dublin D.M.P. selection.

July 6

2,000 attended a commemoration for Vol. Sylvester Sheppard, who had been killed in action two years earlier in Monasterevin; Art O'Connor gave the oration.

July 16

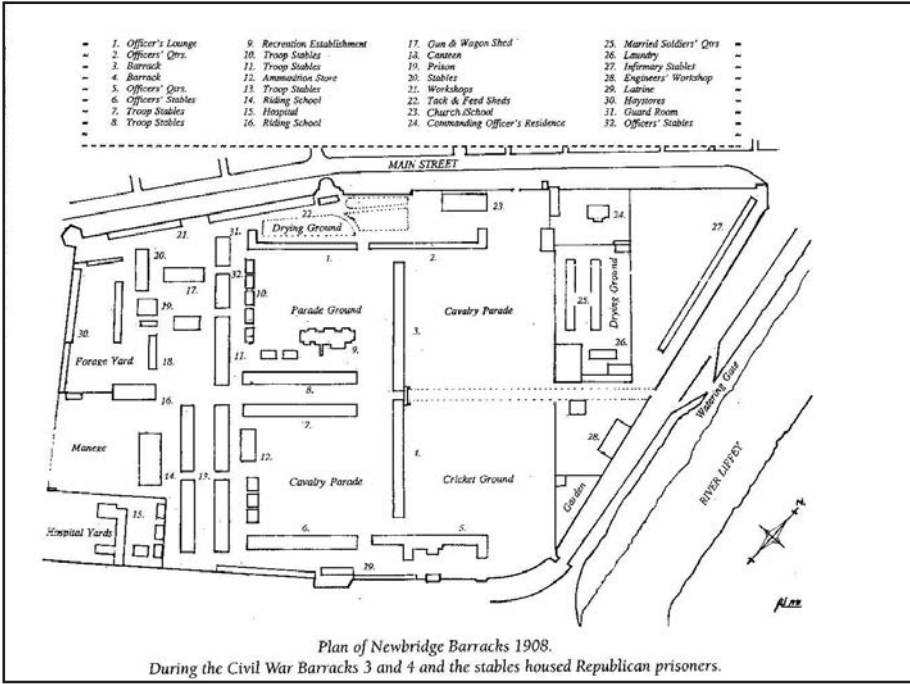
Éamon de Valera and Austin Stack released from Arbour Hill Jail, Dublin.

July 18

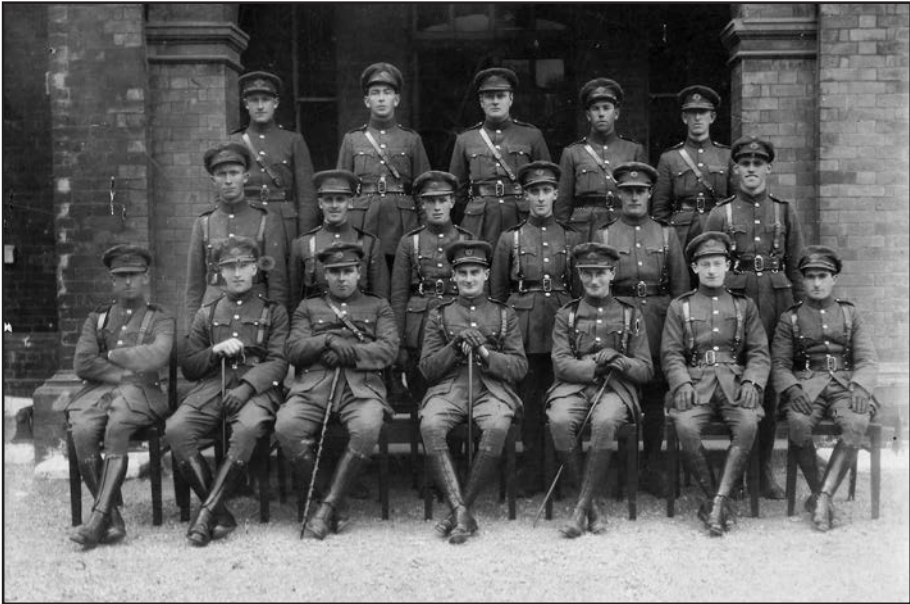
400 prisoners were released from Hare Park Internment Camp.

July 19

The *Leinster Leader* reported that sixteen sentenced prisoners had been released from Hare Park Camp, the Curragh, during the week.



Plan of Newbridge Barracks 1908



Officers of the 62nd Battalion, Curragh Camp, 1923. Lt. Myles Magee (middle right), Ballymore Eustace; Comdt. Tom Lawler (front centre), Halverstown, Naas



Presentation of prizes for the Traders Cup at the first meeting at Naas Racecourse, June 19 1924. General Waldron and Thomas Whelan (left) and Edward Kennedy, Bishopscourt (on right)



Civil War veterans Peg Daly and Tom Domican outside Daly's shop, Kildare Town, Easter 1963

July 25

Frank Henderson, former O.C. Dublin Brigade, was the last person released from Hare Park Camp.

July 27

Kildare (1-5) beat Celbridge (1-3) in the final of the 1923 '*Leinster Leader*' Cup at Naas.

August 1

Co. Kildare Hunt Horse Show held at Oldtown, Naas.

August 3

John Devoy, home from the U.S.A., visited his old homeplace at Greenhills, Kill, and also visited Naas, where he met Elizabeth Kilmurry, née Kenny, to whom he had once been engaged.

August 15

Athy Show returned after some years.

Charley Purdy of New Zealand attended a military boxing tournament in Naas Gymnasium. He had recently been crowned welterweight champion in Dublin as part of the Tailteann Games.

August 17

Griffith and Collins Commemoration held in Dublin.

August 18

Presentation of the first Scott medal for bravery to Garda James Mulroy by Colonel Walter Scott from New York, at the Garda Depot in the Phoenix Park.

August 20

There was a request before the monthly meeting of the Kildare Co. Board for a match between ex-internees in either Naas or Newbridge to raise money for their dependents. There was some dissension about bringing politics into the G.A.A.

August 31

Thomas O'Connell, Edenderry, a noted anti-Treaty leader in Carlow in 1921-23, was killed in a car crash between Athy and Maganey.

September 21

Kildare (0-1) were defeated by Wexford (1-1) in the Leinster Semi-Final in Croke Park. Kildare Juniors were beaten by 2 points by Meath on the same day.

October 5

The final of the Kildare Senior Football Championship in Newbridge resulted in a draw between Naas (1-1) and Kildare Round Towers (0-4).

Church of Our Lady of the Rosary opened at Sallins.

October 8

At the meeting of Kildare Co. Council Finance Committee, a letter dated 6 October from Art O'Connor, which declared his resignation of the position of Assistant Surveyor, was read. He acknowledged the support of the Council and its resistance to the '... arrogant assumption of control of its officials by an outside body'.

October 10

A special meeting of Co. Kildare Board of Health unanimously adopted a motion which criticised the continuation of internment of political prisoners and the exhumation of executed republicans. It demanded the repatriation and interment of their remains in consecrated ground.

October 18

The *Kildare Observer* contained a copy of a letter from the military authorities to the relatives of men executed between 1922-23 which declared that they would hand over the remains of executed republicans to their relatives if notified before October 20.

October 19

Death of Sir Kildare Dixon Borrowes, in England, aged 72 years. He had been High Sheriff of Kildare in 1902 and was the last member of the Borrowes family to live at Barrettstown Castle.

October 24

Death of Denis Kilbride, nationalist and former Irish Parliamentary Party member who stood for South Kildare until 1918. He had been educated at Clongowes Wood and was a brother of Dr. Kilbride of Athy.

October 26

Replay of Kildare Senior Football Championship Final in Newbridge resulted in a victory for Naas over Kildare Round Towers.

October 30

Bryan Moore, Stephen White, Jackie Johnston, Patrick Mangan, Paddy Nolan, Patrick Bagnall, who were executed at the Curragh on 19 December 1922, were reinterred at Grey Abbey Cemetery, Kildare. Art O'Connor gave the oration. Two men (Dick Dunne, Kill, and Mick McDonald, Ballymore Eustace) were arrested after a volley was fired over the graves. James White was also arrested and charged.

Leo Dowling reinterred at Carna Cemetery, Suncroft. He was executed by firing squad at Portobello Barracks, Dublin, on 8 January 1923. Art O'Connor gave the oration.

James O'Connor, executed at the Curragh on 19 December 1922, was reinterred at Bansha Cemetery, Co. Tipperary.

Anthony O'Reilly who had been executed by firing squad at Portobello Barracks, Dublin, on 8 January 1923, was reinterred at Donaghcumper Cemetery, Celbridge. It was one of the largest funerals ever seen in the town with over 3,000 people in attendance. Domhnall Ua Buachalla delivered the oration.

November 5

At a meeting of Naas No. 1 Rural District Council, a motion was

passed which expressed sympathy to the parents and relatives of the executed men re-interred in Kildare and condemned the 'disrespectful attitude of the Free State military at the graveside'.

November 8

A general amnesty was declared for acts committed during the Civil War, dropping all prosecutions 'for criminal offences between the signing of the Treaty on 6 December 1921 and 12 May 1923, where these arose out of the 1922-23 armed campaign against the State'. All convicted prisoners (around 200), still in custody were to be released.

The *Kildare Observer* reported that James White and Michael McDonald had been remanded in custody to Kildare District Court after a special sitting of Kildare Court where they were charged with possession of revolvers.

November 11

Armistice Day. Huge crowds witnessed the unveiling of a stone Celtic cross memorial in Dublin to the men of the 16th Irish Division who had died in W.W.I. It was later removed to Guillemont, France, where the Division had lost so many men and where Lt. John Vincent Holland of Athy had won a Victoria Cross in 1916.

November 20

Malicious injury claims hearings began in Co. Kildare before Circuit Judge Doyle.

November 22

Republican dance in Naas Town Hall organised by Sinn Féin Club. Ninety couples attended.

November 28

Judge Doyle awarded £21,115 to General and Lady Bryan Mahon for the burning of Mullaboden House with £226 costs and expenses.



Tom Murphy, Landenstown, Sallins, anti-Treaty quartermaster 7th Brigade



Comdt. Tomas O'Connell led his men in an ambush at Graney Crossroads in October 1922 when 4 National Army soldiers were killed



Domhnall Ua Buachalla, Kildare T.D.
He lost his seat in the 1922 General Election

December 7

Death in London of Major Robert Fleetwood Rynd, late of Blackhall, Sallins, Naas. He had served as Grand Juror, magistrate and High Sheriff of Kildare.

Several farmers in the Athy district received compensation from the County Kildare Malicious injuries claims session held in Naas Courthouse, for the destruction of property during the labour dispute of 1923.

December 11

Kildare County Jail auction with Governor's House, 3 acres of land and several cottages formerly occupied by warders. Prices were not realised.

December 24

James Murray, ex-National Army officer, was arrested at his home in Dublin, for the murder of Joseph Bergin, military policeman, on 14 December 1923.

December 28

Large meeting held in Prosperous called on the Land Commission to purchase Downings estate.

Appendix

Casualties

Statistics for the Civil War are incomplete. Free State government sources stated that between 540 and 800 National Army soldiers were killed in the war. Historian Michael Hopkinson, in *Green against Green*, p. 272-3, stated "There are no means by which to arrive at even approximate figures for the dead and wounded. Mulcahy stated that around 540 pro-Treaty troops were killed between the Treaty's signing and the war's end; the government referred to 800 army deaths between January 1922 and April 1924. There was no record of overall Republican deaths, which appear to have been very much higher. No figure exists for total civilian deaths."

Fatal casualties in and from Co. Kildare is estimated at 59: 16 National Army soldiers were killed; 8 more died of illness or accidents. 13 republicans died, 9 of them executed. A further 10 republicans died of illness, gunshot wounds and the effects of hunger strike as prisoners. 1 British soldier was killed. 2 civilians died.

Brigades

1 July 1922

7th Brigade, 1st Eastern Division

1st Battalion: Naas, Clane, Straffan, Kill, Killeel, Rathmore.

2nd Battalion: Newbridge, Athgarvan, Rathbride, Clongorey.

3rd Battalion: Hollywood and Cryhelp.

4th Battalion: Prosperous, Robertstown, Blackwood, Kilmeague, Newtown-Donore.

5th Battalion: Rathangan, Kilcumber, Cushina, Clonbullogue, Brackna.

6th Battalion: (Formerly part of 6th Battalion Carlow Brigade) Kildare, Kilcullen, Maddenstown, Ballysax, Suncroft.

7th Battalion: Carbury

6th Battalion, Carlow Brigade, 3rd Eastern Division

Companies: Dunlavin, Seven Stars, Ballitore, Kildoon, Kilgowan, Monasterevin.

Battalions

1st Eastern Division

In late March/early April 1921 Sean Boylan was asked to report to Barry's Hotel in Dublin where he met with some of the I.R.A. GHQ staff including Michael Collins and Richard Mulcahy. Here he was shown a map of Ireland marked in sections and he was told that ...

all brigades in the country were being divided into divisions and that I had

been appointed O/C of the First Eastern Division, which comprised counties Meath, Kildare, north Offaly, south Louth, east Cavan and part of Westmeath.

Boylan had to rearrange numerous companies under his jurisdiction into a structure of battalions and brigades that would comprise the First Eastern Division of the Irish Republican Army. He also had to appoint staff officers at every level. Meath was the nucleus of the new division which replaced the old structures that had existed for the previous 3-4 years. Initially Boylan organised the divisional area into nine brigades as follows:

- (a) First Brigade: comprised the First Battalion, old Meath Brigade area and north Kildare – headquarters, Dunboyne.
- (b) Second Brigade: comprised the old Second and Sixth Battalions – headquarters, Navan.
- (c) Third Brigade: comprised the old Fourth and Fifth Battalions, as well as east Cavan – headquarters, Kells.
- (d) Fourth Brigade: comprised the old Third Battalion and the adjoining area in Westmeath – headquarters, Delvin.
- (e) Fifth Brigade: most of the rest of Westmeath – headquarters, Mullingar.
- (f) Sixth Brigade: North Offaly – headquarters, Edenderry.
- (g) Seventh Brigade: most of the rest of Kildare – headquarters, Naas.
- (h) Eighth Brigade: north County Dublin, also known as the Fingal Brigade.
- (i) Ninth Brigade: south Louth, centred on Drogheda.

On 11 July 1921, the day the Truce came into effect, six Battalions formed the 7th (Kildare) Brigade, 1st Eastern Division. The total strength was about 1,600 men. Staff Officers: OC Tom Lawler, Halverstown, Naas; Adj. Patrick Tuite; QM Patrick Kelly.

1st Battalion – Kill, Eadestown, Naas, Sallins and Clane Companies. OC William Daly, Kill; Vice OC Jim Dunne, Kill; Adj. M. Flanagan, Sallins.

2nd Battalion – Newbridge area. OC O'Donoghue, Newbridge; Vice OC Sly Ahearne, Newbridge.

3rd Battalion – Ballymore area. OC Martin O'Neill, Ballymore; Vice OC T. Byrne; Adj. Alf Metcalfe.

4th Battalion – Prosperous area. OC Edward Treacy; Vice OC Thomas McHugh.

5th Battalion – Rathangan/Brackna area. OC M. Ryan; Vice OC Jack Kenny, Rathangan.

6th Battalion – Brownstown/Kilcullen area. OC William Byrne; Vice OC Paddy Brennan.

At the end of June 1921 the strength of 2nd (North Kildare) Battalion was reported as 453: Battalion Staff – nine; company officers – 42; men – 402.

On 11 July 1921 2nd Battalion, 7th (Kildare) Brigade, 1st Eastern Division, was 453 all ranks:

A Company, Athgarvan: 39 officers and men.

B Company, Ballymore-Eustace: 56 members (5 interned).

C Company, Hollywood: 60 members.

D Company, Kill: 50 members (12 interned).
E Company, Naas: 31 members (12 interned).
F Company, Newbridge: 66 members (5 interned).
G Company, Prosperous: 48 members.
H Company, Robertstown: 27 members (1 interned).
I Company, Two-Mile-House (Mullacash, Harristown, Newlands, Dunshane, Dowdingstown): 22 members (4 interned).
J Company, Allen: 51 members (2 members interned).
K Company, Allenwood: 28 members.
L Company, Clane: 20 members.
M Company, Eadestown: 19 members (4 interned).
N Company, Clongorey: 24 members.
O Company, Lewistown – 17 members.

C Company, Rathbride, was formed c. April 1921 (no date supplied). It consisted of 23 officers and men; the majority took the anti-Treaty side in the Civil War.

The Active Service Unit (Flying Column), formed in April 1921, consisted of two officers, Commandant Martin O'Neill (Ballymore Eustace Coy.) and Vice-Commandant Thomas Lawler (Naas Coy.) and 20 men, who were included in the Battalion and Company lists.

On 11 July 1921 3rd (Kildare) Battalion, 1st Meath Brigade, 1st Eastern Division, strength stood at 92 all ranks:

A Company, Leixlip: 23 officers and men.
B Company, Celbridge: 18 members.
C Company, Straffan: 21 members.
D Company, Maynooth: 21 members.
E Company, Dunboyne: 9 members.
By 1 July 1922 the Battalion strength was 131.

On 11 July 1921 4th (Kildare) Battalion, 1st Meath Brigade, 1st Eastern Division, strength stood at 138 all ranks. On 1 July 1922 it was 151 men:

A Company, Kilcock: 19 members (1 July 1922, 26 members).
B Company, Coole: 11 members (11 members).
C Company, Broadford: 10 members (9 members).
D Company, Clogherinka: 18 members (18 members).
E Company, Cloncurry: 20 members (20 members).
F Company, Mainham: 11 members (17 members).
G Company, Carbury: 18 members (18 members).
H Company, Enfield: 12 members (12 members).
I Company, Johnstownbridge: 21 members (20 members).

Carlow Brigade extended into parts of Kildare, Wicklow, and Laois.
11 July 1921, 1,250 members (officers and men).

Kildare companies, 5th Battalion, Carlow Brigade:

A Company, Athy had four companies on its formation in May 1914.
11 July 1921, 30 members; 1 July 1922 – 23 members.

B Company, Barrowhouse.

11 July 1921, 31 members; 1 July 1922 – 16 members.

C Company, Moone.

11 July 1921 – 53 members; 1 July 1922 – 52 members.

D Company, Ballylinan.

11 July 1921 – 21 members; 1 July 1922 – 21 members.

E Company, Moat.

11 July 1921 – 25 members; 1 July 1922 – 13 members.

F Company, Castledermot.

11 July 1921 – 66 members; 1 July 1922 – 31 members.

6th Battalion, Carlow Brigade

11 July 1921, 360 members; 1 July 1922, 200 members.

Kildare companies, 6th Battalion, Carlow Brigade:

B Company, Seven Stars and Kildoon.

11 July 1921 – 49 members; 1 July 1922 – 8 members in B Company (Seven Stars) and 10 members in D Company (Kildoon).

C Company (Suncroft, Carna, Maddenstown, Martinstown, Newtown, Mullaghmoy).

11 July 1921 – 55 members.

D Company, Kilcullen.

11 July 1921 – 51 members.

E Company, Kilgowan.

11 July 1921 – 60 members; 1 July 1922 – 25 members.

F Company, Kildare Town.

11 July 1921 – 32 members. (F Company became G Company post-Truce.)

G Company, Monasterevin.

11 July 1921 – 37 members; 1 July 1922 – 67 members.

B Company – Rathangan.

1 July 1922 – 40 members.

Rathangan and Brackna Companies were in the 4th Battalion, No.1 Offaly Brigade pre-Truce and in the 5th Battalion, 7th Brigade post-Truce.

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'We fought until we could fight no longer'

– Art O'Connor



Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

