

## CROWDS CHEER DE VALERA

---

Irish Visitor Greeted With  
Applause Wherever He Goes.

Official Reception at City Hall,  
Parades, Addresses and Resolutions  
at Freebody Park.

---

President Eamon De Valera of the Irish republic was a Newport visitor Saturday afternoon and Sunday, impressing that considerable portion of the local population which is in sympathy with Ireland's cause in its struggle for freedom against the British empire. With the exception of minor changes caused by the late arrival of the official party from Providence, and the absence of one speaker at the Freebody Park mass meeting, the entire program was carried on as scheduled, both President De Valera and his secretary, Harry J. Boland, being busy about every minute during their stay here.

Outstanding features Saturday were the mass meeting at Freebody park, which about 4,000 attended, and the greetings given the Irish president when he arrived at the City Hall to pay an official call to Mayor Mahoney and the Board of Aldermen. Hundreds at the City Hall broke the police lines in their enthusiasm to be near the man who is carrying Ireland's hopes for a free nation. The green, white and orange flag of the new republic was noticeable during the day, while stretched across Broadway in front of the City Hall was a huge sign read-

ing, "Welcome President De Valera."

At Kingsley's wharf, shortly before 1 o'clock, the official welcoming party, together with 100 American war veterans under Lieutenant Alfred Clark, assembled and waited patiently for the arrival of Mrs. John H. Hanan's yacht Editha which brought the party from Providence. Owing to the length of the exercises at the state capital, the arrival was delayed about an hour, while scores lined West Pelham Street and other places along the march.

A group on an adjoining wharf was the first to see the yacht, and gave three cheers, which were quickly carried on by others. The guard of honor stood at attention as the boat landed and President De Valera was escorted up the plank walk by President Corneilus C. Moore of the Friends of Irish Freedom. At the landing, the St. Mary's band of Fall River sounded a ruffle, and the president was presented with two large and handsome floral flags of Americal and Ireland by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

President De Valera seemed pleased to meet all to whom he was introduced, including prominent Newport citizens of Irish sympathies. He made a short speech in Gaelic, at the request of the small girl who gave him the floral flags. Among those who came down on the yacht with him were Mr. Thomas F. Cooney of Providence, Mr. John J. Fitzgerald of Pawtucket, and Mr. Patrick H. O'Donnell of Chicago as well as his private secretary, Harry J. Boland who is the secretary of state in the Irish Cabinet.

Forming immediately, the parade moved up West Pelham

Street. Messrs John Halpim, Jerome Kirby, Ronald O'Hanley, John Horgan, F. A. Kelly, Michael McCarthy, Edward P. Dunn, Frank M. Sullivan, Frank Conheeny, Allie Edes, Albert Bowley and Timothy Z. Dwyer, acting as President De Valera's bodyguard. In the rear of the American war veterans who followed the band and carried American and Irish flags, were other Irish marchers.

In the first automobile with President De Valera were Mr. Moore, Mr. James S. O'Brien and Lieutenant James A. Dwyer of this city. In the second machine were Secretary Harry J. Boland and Mr. Frank F. Nolan. Others in the party followed.

Cheering commenced as soon as the crowd on West Pelham Street caught its first sight of President De Valera, who was quick to bow and acknowledge their greetings. Several excited women chose to walk close by the automobiles to be as near him as possible. The crowd was largest near Thames Street, and then gathered in clusters at various corners. An outstanding feature was that no one was on the piazza of the Newport Reading Room, although the entrance to the Hill Top Inn was crowded.

At Washington Square the crowd was large again. As the parade came down Touro Street and started rounding into the square, the various automobilists began blowing their horns in greeting, and the president smiled and waved. The band at this point began playing such familiar Irish tunes as "Come Back to Erin" and "Killarney". Machinists crowded windows of their hall in the Weaver building and applauded so loudly that the Irish leader waved at them.

The crowd had formed about the City Hall and there was a

roar of greeting there with women's shrill voices predominating. As his automobile stopped for him to alight, the enthusiasm knew no bounds and the people soon shot by the police and crowded about the car cheering while Mr. De Valera smiled.

The band played "The Star Spangled Banner" and all stood at attention while Organist Archie McDonald of St. Joseph's Church led hundreds of school children on the north lawn of the City Hall in the singing of the national anthem. The president and his party then passed through lines of war veterans, who flanked both sides of the steps, and went into the City Hall proper, where he had to pass the reception committee, drawn up on both sides.

In the mayor's office, President De Valera told how pleased he was to accept Mayor Mahoney's official invitation. He was introduced to members of the Board of Aldermen and other city officials, and was then presented with an engrossed copy of the resolution passed unanimously by the aldermen at their meeting Thursday evening. He read it through and said: "I appreciate that very much."

Introductions were in order as President De Valera stood and shook hands with members of the clergy, prominent citizens and others. Among the latter were Nathan David, representing the Jewish colony, and Marco Russo, who appeared for the Italians.

The official party and the reception committee then passed out, after a short breathing spell. As soon as they appeared, the band struck up "God Save Ireland." President De

Valera marched to the Roll of Honor, where he placed the floral wreaths, received earlier in the day, before the names as a token of appreciation for the Newporters who made the supreme sacrifice. 'Taps' were rendered during this ceremony.

After several posings for pictures, the parade formed again, although it was with difficulty that the official party could force its way through the crowds. This time the parade went down Broadway and Washington Square to Thames Street, and up Mill Street and Bellevue Avenue to the Hill Top Inn for the official luncheon. The president was given a big cheer as he left his automobile at this point.

Those who had participated in the parade and others then wended their way towards Freebody Park for the mass meeting. The crowd in attendance was easily the biggest seen in that field, numbering about 4,000, all of whom waited patiently until the arrival of the official party, cheers greeting President De Valera along every step of the way in the park. A special speakers' platform, erected for the occasion, was placed in front of the home plate.

As soon as the party was seated, Mrs. Bradley O'Connor, representing girls of Irish birth in Newport, gave the president a large bouquet of American beauty roses.

Those seated on the specially constructed platform with the speakers were Alderman Frank J. Hughes, William Williams and Joseph M. Martin, Rev. Patrick W. McHugh of St. Joseph's Church, Rev. Bernard F. Redihan of St. Augustin's, Mr. Thomas F. Cooney of Providence, Mr. John J. Fitzgerald of Pawtucket, Mr. Daniel

Morrissey of Warren, Postmaster McPike of Warren, Lieutenant James A. Dwyer, Lieutenant Alfred Clark, former Mayor F. J. Boyle, Dr. Philip E. Clark, Representative Fletcher W. Lawton, Dr. David E. Flynn, Mr. John H. Greene, Mrs. Ellen Ryan Jolly, Mr. John J. Conron, Representative James J. Martin, Mr. Daniel E. Doherty, Mr. Thomas Moriarty, Mr. James Devine and Mr. Thomas Bric.

Mr. Thomas B. Connolly acting as song leader, all sang "The Star Spangled Banner." Then Mr. Connolly as chairman of the committee introduced President Corneilus C. Moore of the Friends of Irish Freedom, under whose auspices the whole affair was held, as a 100 per cent American who had to go back four generations for his Irish blood. Three cheers for "Corneilus" Moore were called for and given.

Mr. Moore said he would forever cherish the memory of serving as chairman of the meeting. His first mention of Eamonn De Valera's name brought a cheer, the chairman saying he had come to this country, the cradle of liberty, and pleads for the government of Ireland. In behalf of the Irish race of Newport, the speaker welcomed President De Valera and assured him that Newport will stand by the efforts for a free and independent Ireland. He quoted from the message of George Washington regarding liberty, and asked if we should say "No" to Ireland.

We have paid France for the debt we owe to Lafayette, and now Ireland turns to us as the land of the free, and we cannot honorably refuse to recognize the Irish republic. (Cheers) The speaker reviewed the history of English oppression and brought

out a wild cheer as he said: "Ireland is lost to England, forever." He expressed himself against the league of nations, and the replies from the crowd were: "No," "Never." "Down with it." Mr. Moore then shouted that there will be no peace until Ireland is free and in his enthusiasm shattered a pitcher of ice water on the stand.

When Mayor Mahoney was presented, Mr. Connolly, the cheer leader, called for three cheers, which were given with a will. The mayor's first words were: "Mr. President, I bid you welcome." (Cheers) He said the great mass of people bespeaks hearty and cordial greetings to the president and the all-enduring and time-defying Irish republic. The Liberty-loving people of this community are first, last and always with Ireland and Ireland's cause.

The big reception tendered the Irish leader was no surprise to the speaker, as Newport has always championed liberty. Its sons have shed their blood in every war. In the Revolution it did its share, and in the War of 1812 gave the world the immortal Oliver Hazard Perry, who dragged down the colors of the haughty British empire. Newport's sons lie buried in the South, when they fought to free four million black men, and during the last war hundreds went from this city to save the world.

As official head of the city, true to its past and present ideals and traditions, he desired to greet the Irish nation, embodied in its president, Eamon De Valera. (Cheers) America has never yet turned a deaf ear, and as an American who yields to no one in patriotism and love of America,, and as mayor of an

American city, no ventured the belief that Ireland will soon receive the backing and support of the United States of America. Mayor Mahoney extended, in conclusion, the hearty welcome and freedom of the city of Newport.

Secretary Harry J. Boland of the Irish republic, elected to the Irish parliament from South Roscommon, was introduced as a patriot who reached this country when he was wanted in an English jail. Mr. Boland was greeted with cheers and opened his speech in the Gaelic tongue. He declared that his party is not in America to plead a new cause but that Ireland has ever turned to America to support the Irish republic established by the will of the Irish people. Mr. Boland did not ask America to go to war for Ireland's freedom, because Ireland is free today, free from the moment President Wilson enunciated his 14 points.

There were laughs at this point at the mention of President Wilson, and hisses later when Lloyd George's name was mentioned. The speaker declared that the present Army of Occupation in Ireland is as brutal as the German forces in Belgium. Trial by jury has been abolished, the liberty of the press destroyed, and the sanctity of the home violated. He had been a witness to atrocities which would make Von Bissing blush.

Mr. Boland said it was a question of evacuation or extermination in Ireland, and told how 1,000 soldiers fought 40,000 Englishmen for eight days, and how 16 Irish patriots were shot and burned in quick time after being captured, these men being singled out because they had signed the declaration of Irish independence. A reign of terror still stalks through Ireland,

which has to answer to the race all over the world. There will be no peace until the last British soldier has left. In conclusion he said that President De Valera is a brand snatched from the Easter Week burning and the greatest leader of a century.

Mr. Frank F. Nolan was introduced and presented the following resolutions which were unanimously adopted:

"Whereas It is a matter of American history that the people of Irish blood and birth have contributed largely and in full measure to every event that has helped to found and preserve the Union, and"

"Whereas, The United States has not forgotten the deeds of <sup>f?</sup>Berry, Moylan, Sullivan, Montgomery and a host of others who dared to give their all in the cause of American independence, and,"

"Whereas, History stands a living witness to the bravery and wisdom of that son of Irish parents, Andrew Jackson, hero of the Battle of New Orleans and President of the United States, and"

"Whereas, The great war between the North and the South showed the Irish to the forefront in defense of the Union, having as their representatives those great leaders of men, Sheridan, Meade, and Meagher of the Sword, and"

"Whereas, In the terrible war that has just been brought to a close, men of Irish birth and descent gave their all in the great battles on the western front thus showing for all time their devotion to the Union and their unswerving allegiance to the Stars and Stripes, now therefore be it,"

"Resolved. That we, American citizens in mass meeting

assembled in the city of Newport, RI, on September 13, 1919, do hereby declare ourselves unreservedly and unequivocally in favor of the independence of Ireland and in view of the justice of the cause of the Irish people, we demand that our government, these United States, for which the Irish have fought and died, recognize the Irish republic, and,

"Resolved, That we emphatically register our protest against the proposed league of nations because it abandons American rights and ideas and binds us irrevocably to defend the territorial integrity of the British, Japanese and other empires, and worse than that, undoes the great work of the glorious revolution by making possible the assimilation and absorption by Great Britain, a league of nations in itself of this great and free nation, and,

"Resolved, That we, citizens of Newport, enter our solemn protest against the suppression of the Irish parliament by brute force.

"Be it further Resolved, That the <sup>Chairman</sup> chairman of this meeting be directed to transmit a copy of these resolutions to Hon. LeBaron B. Colt and Hon. Peter G. Gerry, United States Senators from the state of Rhode Island.

Mr. Patrick H. O'Donnell, who spoke here before, at the mass meeting in the convention hall at the beach, was also greeted with cheers as he was introduced. His speech was along much the same lines as that previously given here, being a masterly attack, from an international law expert, on the proposed league of nations. He said he was here to assist Rhode

Island in welcoming a cause and a man; he believes in the isolation of the United States, defended the Monroe Doctrine, spoke of the key of the Bastille at Mount Vernon, narrated how he had modelled the constitution of the United States for the Chinese to adopt, and from then on spoke for many minutes in detail against the league.

He answered President Wilson's argument that the vote in the council of the league of nations would have to be adopted unanimously before being passed, by saying that such powers as Japan, Spain and Great Britain would oppose various moves aimed at the interest of Ireland. When the Senate realizes what battles are in store for the future, he knew it would give hope to the world by beating the league of nations.

<sup>Mr</sup> M. Moore then said he had always prayed to have the honor and privilege of welcoming the first president of the Irish republic. When President De Valera stepped up there was a burst of cheering, sustained for a full minute, and just as the noise was about to subside, Mr. Connolly shouted "De Valera," and the name acted like magic, as the hundreds cheered for another half-minute.

President De Valera began in the Gaelic tongue, and said he had come to this great country as the representative of that little Ireland from which so many loyal Irish citizens had come. He desired the support of all Americans true to the traditions of liberty. Ireland's fight for independence has been helped by the assistance of people of the Irish race here, who are not unmindful of the causes which drove them forth, and who could not

be otherwise than symnathetic. He asked these people to go forth and act as missionaries to tell what they know of Irish history, and what is happening today.

Events of the past few days made him feel that he should now appeal especially to the Irish to band themselves together, and tell England she is not going to continue her injustice to Ireland. He appealed to America, because the cause is not unworthy of American traditions. America helped to give freedom to the Latin races of South America and went into the recent war pledged by the words of President Wilson to bring liberty to the world.

In Ireland, the English military authorities reign as supreme as did Von Bissing in Belgium. Even when the American commissioners were in Dublin, the bed chamber of the lady mayoress was violated. America did not go into the war to save the English empire. (Cries of "No," "No") He thanked God this country had never called England an ally, but an associate.

Of the 73 representatives elected by the republic of Ireland to repudiate England, 37 were in prison at the time of their election, not because they were criminals but because they represented the ideals of Ireland. Lloyd George (hisses) had no right to sign the peace treaty so far as Ireland is concerned. Ireland's cause was not discussed at the peace conference, because it did not suit the autocrats there to have it discussed, and he had now come to the court of the American people. (Applause).

When President De Valera asked if America is going to insist upon keeping Ireland under the heel of the same power

from which it pried itself loose, there were cries of "No, No." Americans do not now what it is to live under alien rule. Any citizen of the United States who is not with Ireland in its fight is not there because he does not understand. The women of ~~IRELAND~~ <sup>IRELAND CRY</sup> for their breadwinners every time they hear a raid is on.

It is life or death for the Irish people. He was not begging in their behalf. There is no fear in the nation which defied England's power to force conscription. He appealed for the same liberty and pursuit of happiness which Americans enjoy. Why do you deny them to Ireland? He characterized international law as canons of expediency, which give the right to powerful nations to grab what they can. Ireland now has the sympathy of every nation against the English and if the question were put to a plebiscite of the American people, they would vote to give Ireland liberty.

In conclusion, he attacked article X of the proposed league, and said Ireland will resist England's power as long as the spirit of manhood is left in us. (Cheers) His last words were an extract from President Wilson's speech on the right of nations to be governed by the will of their own people.

According to program, the party went to the site of the Battle of Rhode Island in Portsmouth, although it was well after 6 o'clock when the mass meeting terminated. There, Mr. John H. Greene, a descendant of Irish forefathers, spoke briefly on General John Sullivan and other Irishmen who fought against England. President De Valera placed a wreath on the stone which

marks the site.

Saturday evening a public banquet in President De Valera's honor was given at the Newport Beach dining room where Manager McGowan presented a special menu. The official party included the Irish leaders, speakers, city officials and members of the reception committee, with American and Irish flags much in evidence. Irish airs were rendered by a quintet from Fort Adams and Miss Anne Driscoll rendered "Believe Me

All Those Endearing Young Charms", accompanied by Miss Stella Moran. The menu cards at the tables were autographed as a memento of the occasion.

While at the Hill Top Inn, President De Valera was presented with a bouquet of Killarney roses by Miss Mary A. Sullivan and Master J. Nicholas Kelly, responding in Gaelic when he thanked them both.

At 10:30 Sunday morning, Mr. Corneilus C. Moore escorted ~~as~~ President De Valera and Secretary Boland to St. Mary's rectory, where they were received by Rev. James T. Ward, pastor of that church, and later escorted to the front pew at 11 o'clock solemn high mass celebrated by Rev. Father Hines with Father Ryan as deacon and Father Henry as sub-deacon. Rev. Father Ward sat in the sanctuary and preached the sermon. At the conclusion of the mass, all in the church, which was crowded to its capacity, stood while President De Valera, Secretary Boland and Mr. Moore were escorted out. The party then immediately went to Mrs. Hanan's yacht, the Editha, which conveyed them to Providence. Mr. Moore accompanied President De Valera on this trip and turned him over to the Providence committee for the exercises there yesterday.