

Ancient Order of Hibernians



The Dooley Dispatch

March 2022

Celebrating 43 years of Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity

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Richmond, Virginia**

Webpage <http://aohrichmond.org> Check out the web page for better pictures, events, green pages, various reports

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*All phone numbers are area
code (804) unless otherwise
indicated*

Next Meeting – Tuesday March 8, 2022 7:00 p.m. St. Michael's Church

President's Message: President's Message:

Hibernian Brothers:

Hibernian Brothers:

It's Irish-American Heritage month. We're all aware of the events going on around St. Patrick's Day, but the month is for more than that. We regularly celebrate our heroes of the past and enjoy the presentations from Brian at our monthly meetings. But additionally, this month, we celebrate those people of Irish descent that have made contributions to America in everything from politics to sports to religion. Please remember to mention this to your friends and relatives. Irish Americans have made amazing contributions and we need to alert others to increase awareness.

Our meeting will be important as it has to cover a lot of ground. I will ask for a motion to dispense with the business portion of the meeting, and move on to March events. We will need to discuss the events listed below, and will need sign up sheets for the volunteers at each event. We will have Shepherd's Pie after the conclusion, during which Brian will have his annual Irish Trivia contest.

Events as outlined in the earlier email that require staffing are:



Happy
St. Patrick's Day!

1. **Sat. March 12, 2022, Saturday, 12 to 5 pm; Montpelier Celtic Festival – Volunteers needed to sell raffle tickets & man booth.**

Thu. March 17, 2022, Thursday- St. Patrick's Day Mass at 9 am – Mass & Breakfast at St. Patrick's Church, 213 North 25th Street, Richmond, VA 23223. Volunteers needed to set-up breakfast and clean-up afterwards.

March 25, 26 and 27, 2022 – 36th Church Hill Irish Festival - Street Festival in front of St. Patrick's Church on North 25th Street and on Broad Street and will run from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. Volunteers needed for Festival set-up, setting up and manning the booth, Festival Gate (8-7; 8-6), selling Raffle tickets & recruiting new members at Booth.

March 25th, Friday – happy hour, local get together

March 26th, Saturday - St. Patrick's Day Parade (10:00 a.m.)

March 27th, Sunday - Annual Raffle Drawing at the end of day. (5:00 pm)

In Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity,

Tom Murphy

President

Major James Henry Dooley Division #1

AOH

Upcoming Events:

March 8, 2022 7 pm Business Meeting at St. Michael's followed by Shepherds Pie, Irish Trivia. Turn in your raffle tickets.

March 12, 2022 12 pm – 5 pm Sell tickets at the Montpelier Celtic Festival. Volunteers needed.

March 12, 2022 6:00 pm LAOH Mary Ryan Irish Gala St. Michael's Church

March 17, 2022 8:30 am Mass at St. Patrick's Church followed by Rosie Connelly's

March 19, 2022, Saturday at 6:30 at St. Mary's Church, 9505 Gayton Rd, Richmond, VA 23229; Irish Night (hosted by KofC 14129); contact Daniel Caffrey (kkcaffrey@hotmail.com); Order Event tickets and/or Food To-Go at Irish Night & Food-To-Go | St. Mary's Catholic Church (stmarysrichmond.org)

March 25, 2022 Irish Festival Church Hill Setup on Friday evening. Festival is starting on Friday afternoon for the neighborhood residents.

March 26, 27 2022 Irish Festival 8:00 am Parade and sell tickets at booth. **Raffle drawing on Sunday at 5:00 pm.**

AOH Dooley Division Prayer List For March 8, 2022 Meeting

Please contact Fr. Jim Arsenault if you need him to visit and pray for and with someone in the hospital. Contact him at M 804-221-1508 and/or jarsenault@stelizcc.org

From Previous Meeting and since then:

- **Melissa Atchison** – Daughter of *Mark Atchison* – Stage 3 cancer
- **Jack Griffin** – Rehab. Was dehydrated and has water around his heart
- **Helene Zaepeel** – Mother-in-law to *Steve McGann* – Covid recovery/rheumatoid arthritis pain
- **Mercedes McGann** – Mother to *Steve McGann* – Recovering from a fall
- **Mary Jeanne Canning** – Aunt of Mike Canning – Had a fall, is hospitalized, and has dementia
- **Lori Forbes** – Wife of *Tom Forbes* – Continuing blood pressure/neurological issues

From Prior Meetings:

- **Paulie McFadden** – Passed away. Funeral was February 26th.

- Temple Bayliss - Dr. Bayliss' husband - He fell and is in the hospital.
- **Bill Shelton** – *Chad Costello's* sister's father-in-law – Covid
- **Barbara Muldowney** – Wife of *Mike Muldowney* – Having knee replacement surgery in December
- **Anne Gilligan** – Wife of *Ed Gilligan* – Recovering from an operation on October 25. Want to have home by Christmas
- **Bob Boyle** – Had bypass surgery and is recovering well
- **Kelli Smith** – Wife of *Mike Smith* – Suffered a brain aneurysm on November 4. Had angiogram and under close watch
- **Jennifer Bolt** – Covid
- **Lori Sbatos** – *Tim McDonnell's* neighbor
- **Mrs. George** – Mother of *PJ George* – Having a pacemaker installed. Also pray for George family.
- **Melissa Stelman** – Daughter of *Mark Atchison* – Has Stage 3 colon cancer. Finished chemo in early Sept.
- **Phyllis Collins** - Mother of *Mark Collins* – She is currently in the hospital
- **Fr. George Zahn** – Keep our Chaplain in your prayers.
- **Siobhan Nolan** (53) – Sister of *Tom Nolan* – Having open heart surg
- **Gary McAuliffe** – Dealing with tremors in his hand
- **Jim Calpin** – Recovering from stroke
- **Edward Maynes** – is having an upcoming heart procedure (date is not yet known)
- **Rita Hastings** – *Tom Hastings' mother* – Hip operation, gallbladder removed
- **Joanne Kennedy** – Aunt of *John Kennedy* – Breast cancer. Operable. Good success for recovery.
- **Dover Harper** (Social Member, Good friend of *Jack Cassells*) – Recovering from Triple Bypass Surgery
- **Mark Atchison** – Brother **Daniel Atchison** – Quadruple bypass in August, spot on lung discovered, biopsy indicated cancer, determining treatment.
- *Hugh Naughton's* wife, **Jessie Naughton**, has lower back, migraine issues and other ailments
- *Billy Spicer's* brother-in-law, **William McCracken**, had an infection on the brain and had brain surgery to remove it.
- **Pat Saizan**, sister of *Larry Keefe*, suffering from Lymphoedema
- **Don Lattanzi**, AOH Brother, had two back surgeries, pneumonia and breathing problems

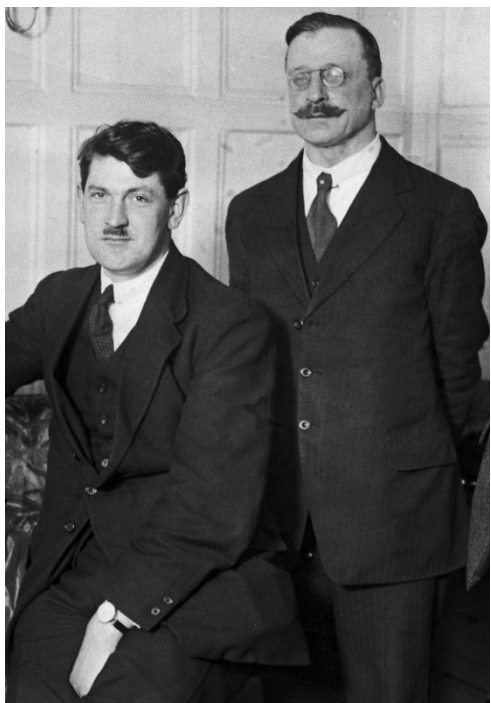
Contact Scott Nugent at 804-503-9888 or at swnugent44@yahoo.com



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Signing the Irish Treaty 1921

Contributed by Brian P. Hegarty Jr.



A hundred years ago in October 1921, the Irish leaders set out for London to achieve the impossible: They had just a few weeks to achieve the freedom Ireland had sought for seven centuries.

It all began in early summer of 1921, Jan Smuts, Prime Minister of the South African Union, a self-governing dominion of the British Empire, approached Éamon de Valera, President of Sinn Féin to accept dominion status for Ireland within the British Empire rather than insist on an Irish Republic. De Valera claimed such a question was for the Irish people to decide, and Smuts responded: “The British people will never give you this choice. You are next door to them.”

The Truce had not been two weeks old when British Prime Minister Lloyd George sent a letter to Éamon de Valera outlining British proposals for ‘An Irish Settlement’. The 20 July 1921 letter offered the status of a Dominion like Canada in which the new state would have complete autonomy – in taxation and finance, in the courts and the law, in policing, education, health, housing, local defense, mines minerals, forest, etc. This looked like the complete package. But it wasn’t. Accepting dominion status meant there would be no Republic. In addition, the treaty offer would be on a condition that the Northern Ireland Parliament was

confirmed in its existing powers and privileges, unless its people decided otherwise. After months of circling back and forth correspondence, Ireland agreed to send a delegation to London.

There was a major disparity in negotiating experience between the two sides from the start. The British negotiators were men at the top of the political class, with decades of experience negotiating treaties at the highest international level. They had spent months refining their arguments, deciding on clear strategies and goals. The Irish side had men with no such experience. They had been fighting a war, in hiding, on the run, in prison, fighting an underground war only four months earlier. The Dáil had not debated the approach to be taken with the British. To the Irish, the British presence on the Island was the problem, their withdrawal would make everything fall into place.

De Valera believed the instructions to the delegates couldn’t be clearer: sign nothing before referring back to Dublin. They were also issued with instructions that before anything was signed, the complete text of the draft treaty was to be referred to Dublin, and a reply awaited.

So why did Sinn Féin President Éamon de Valera not lead the delegation? Austin Stack said his absence would mean the delegation would make “no hasty arrangements” in London and if negotiations broke down without him there would be a last recourse for him to join the delegation.

Despite all the attention paid to 22 Hans Place (the other half of the Irish delegation resided at Cadogan Gardens), someone had found time to paint a single word, in foot-long letters in red paint on the pavement outside: MURDERERS.

The negotiations began October 11. Each side considered its red lines. The British offer to de Valera July 20 meant: (1) no sovereign entity on the island of Ireland, outside the Empire and recognizing the Crown as “external” head of the Commonwealth, and (2) Northern Ireland’s status guaranteed, unless its people decided otherwise. The Irish response: (1) Sovereignty on the island of Ireland, and (2) The six counties of Northern Ireland subordinated to a Dublin Parliament.

The British did all they could to split the Irish delegation. Lloyd George sent his secretary Tom Jones to meet Arthur Griffith with a proposal that proved to be a turning point in the talks. Would the Irish delegation consider accepting a 26-county parliament, with a boundary commission to decide the fate of the other six counties?

By mid-November Lloyd George sent a draft treaty to the delegation with the July 20 proposals with boundary commission proposal added in and the Irish delegation stuck to the basics: Sovereignty for Ireland, no allegiance to The Crown. The ‘essential unity’ of the island of Ireland. Lloyd George was furious because there was no advance at all, sticking to their demand for Irish independence, with no real safeguards for NI, and no

offer to allow that parliament contract out of an all-island parliament. In a bid to drive forward on a treat text, brought in the attorney general to meet the Irish legal team. Duffy, Chartres, Griffith, and Collins where pressed for an answer from the Irish Delegation on the key issues of sovereignty, the Commonwealth, and allegiance to the Crown.

On November 24 the Irish delegation went home to Dublin to consult with the rest of the cabinet. They returned to London with the offer that 'Ireland will agree to be associated with the British Commonwealth for all purposes of common concern, including defense, peace and war, and political treaties, and to recognize the British Crown as Head of the Association'.

Sitting at the cabinet table, Lloyd George read the letter, looked up at his ministers and said, "this means war". The ministers asked him to persevere.

Lloyd George offered the promise that Ireland would have the same national status as the Dominion of Canada, the new entity to be known as 'The Irish Free State'. The Crown had no more power in Ireland than it did in Canada; even the King's representative in the new State would be chosen by the Irish government and would be symbolic only. In other words, the Oath of Allegiance to the Crown could be watered down to something more acceptable to the Irish.

The new draft was sent to Griffith and the Irish delegation returns to Dublin for a cabinet meeting to discuss the draft. The delegates were split. Griffith was in favor of the treaty, believing allegiance to the Crown was not an issue to break on. Duggan considered the treaty to be the last offer from the British. Collins considered rejection a gamble since the British could be back at war in Ireland inside a week. Barton did not believe the treaty was Britain's last offer and did not believe them ready to go back to war over Ireland owing allegiance to the Crown. Gavan Duffy wanted the Dáil to reject the treaty. Griffith concluded that he had to tell Lloyd George the treaty could not be signed.

I believe here de Valera made an error in judgement and frustrated members of the Irish delegation when he declined to join them on their return to London. A meeting of the two sides at Downing Street ended with Lloyd George declaring that any of de Valera's counterproposals meant a straight refusal to accept membership of the Empire, and allegiance to the Crown.

Historians are divided about how the meeting between Collins and Lloyd George came about but 17 hours before the signing of the treaty the two met. Lloyd George began the meeting with Collins by stating that he had a Cabinet meeting in a few hours, at which he would announce the breakdown in negotiations. The two sides were at an impasse.

Later that day, the final session of negotiations began. On the British side of the table, Lloyd George, Birkenhead, Chamberlain, and Churchill. On the Irish side, Griffith, Collins, and Barton. Lloyd George started the final meeting by reminding Griffith that he had promised the Prime Minister that he would not "let him down" on Ulster. Griffith assured Lloyd George that Northern Ireland would be allowed, to opt out of an All-Ireland parliament. Collins said that only a united Ireland could agree to association with the Commonwealth.

The British side refused to consider a delay to a final agreement. Lloyd George was having none of it. He wanted all signatures of the Irish delegation on the treaty. The next moments of negotiations have passed into legend. Lloyd George turned and addressed Barton directly. He said those who were not for peace must take full responsibility "for the war that would immediately follow refusal by any delegate to sign the Articles of Agreement". The Prime Minister then produced two envelopes. He claimed they each contained a letter to James Craig, Prime Minister to Northern Ireland. One letter said that the Irish Delegation agreed to recommend the terms to the Dáil. The other stated that there was no agreement. Were that to be the letter sent, war would follow in three days. The deadline for the decision was 10pm, to allow a messenger to carry the letter to Belfast by special train and fast warship.

Back at Hans Place, the Irish Delegation agonized over their response. Griffith and Collins were definitely signing. Duggan gave in next, unable to support a return to war, he persuaded Barton to do the same. Gavan Duffy was the last to agree. The Irishmen stood on landings and stairs, arguing in tight tense groups, or slumped in chair in exhaustion or resignation. They argued because they had just been offered what seemed like a great prize, a prize that had eluded their countrymen for centuries, yet would come at the cost of torching an ideal that men had fought, killed, or died for.

Inside the cabinet room in 10 Downing Street waited senior members of the British government, some of the most formidable negotiators ever assembled by any great power. They had just staked their political fortunes, their reputations, and the fate of their government, on offering a treaty that would see the United Kingdom, center

of the greatest empire on earth, surrender a fifth of its own national territory to men it had condemned as traitors and murderers.

Tuesday, December 6 at 2:20am, the two delegations signed the treaty.

The British Signatories were under no illusion about the enormity of what the Irish delegates had just done. They recalled the pain, the strain on their faces. Churchill had described Collins, as he headed out the door to return to Hans place as “looking like he was going to shoot someone...I have never seen such pain and suffering in restraint”.

In a few words, the future was foretold.

Lord Birkenhead: “I may have signed my political death warrant tonight”.

Collins replied: “I may have signed my actual death warrant”.

Postscript:

There were handshakes and goodwill around the negotiating table in 10 Downing Street but looking ahead 12 months after the signing.

- Two main Irish Signatories were dead.
- The former President of the Republic was a fugitive in his own land.
- The four British Signatories were out of office, their main ‘offense’ being the signing of the treaty, that had given away so much to the Irish Negotiators.

Check the website for updates on event dates and times.

<https://aohrichmond.org>

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