

## IRISH FREE STATE INAUGURATED AS A DOMINION OF BRITISH EMPIRE

Governor-General Timothy Healy Takes Oath of Office; Ministers and Members Sworn in—One Deputy Shot and Another Seriously Wounded on Way to Parliament.

A despatch from Dublin says:—Inauguration of the Irish Free State as one of the Dominions of the British Empire took place on Wednesday. The ceremony was simple and unmarred by hostile demonstrations from the Republican minority.

The oath was administered to Timothy Healy as Governor-General by the Lord Chief Justice at Mr. Healy's residence in Glasnevin, on the Liffey, three miles west of Dublin, and afterwards the new Governor-General administered the oath to Professor Michael Hayes as Speaker of the Dail.

Mr. Cosgrave was the first one to be sworn and to sign the roll. The form of the oath of allegiance was primarily to the constitution of the Irish Free State and then to King George as the head of the people forming the British Commonwealth.

Mr. O'Higgins and the other Ministers took the oath in turn, followed by the members of the Dail.

The oath was administered to each man individually and most of the repetitions were audible throughout the Chamber. Some of the military members, including Defence Minister Mulcahy, were in uniform.

A later despatch from Dublin says:—Sean Hales, a deputy of the Irish Parliament, was shot and killed on Thursday as he was leaving the Ormond Hotel for Parliament accompanied by Brigadier-General Patrick O'Malley, who was sworn in as Deputy Speaker of the House on Wednesday. General O'Malley was seriously wounded, being shot in the head and arm.

When the deputies emerged from the hotel, the assassins appeared to be loitering on the porch. Nothing happened as the deputies passed the group. The shots were not fired until Hales and O'Malley entered the cab and were getting into it. Then the murderers opened fire. They operated in two groups. Eight to ten shots were fired, most of them directed at Hales. Another hotel guest who stood watching with Hales and O'Malley as they entered the cab had a narrow escape from being hit.

A lorry load of British soldiers, arriving on the scene, opened fire on the Deputies' assailants, who were scattered and pursued. It is not known whether any of the attacking party were injured.

The shooting of the Deputies is in fulfillment of a constant threat. Not only the Ministers who ordered the recent executions, but all the members of the Dail became who voted in favor of repressive measures had their names published in a black list and were warned that they would be held responsible.

Hence some of the Ministers and several of the members of the Dail have for some time past taken up their residence in the Government offices. But some were willing to risk their lives by residing outside.

Hales was a prominent supporter of the Government and had been a strenuous fighter against the British.

He was one of Michael Collins' closest personal friends.



U. S. DELEGATES TO CANADIAN CONVENTION

The International Postal Conference opened in Ottawa December 4th. The picture shows the delegates attending from the United States. Bottom row, left to right, W. Irving Glover, Third Assistant Postmaster General; Hubert Work, Postmaster General; John Edwards, Solicitor. Top row, Edwin Sands, Superintendent of Foreign Mails; Peter J. Schardt, Div. Supt., railway mail service.

### Peace-Makers Are First Victims of Rebel Plot

A despatch from Dublin says: Republican documents captured recently revealed a plot to kidnap deputies and assassinate the Ministers before the Free State was formally inaugurated. A general assassination seems now to have been substituted for the original plan. The Republicans declare that they regard all deputies supporting the Government as traitors to the Republic. Hales and O'Malley, the first victims of the campaign, were peace-makers between the rival army sections, and abandoned their peace effort only when they found it hopeless.



Jack McElveen  
Captain of Queen's University football team, which won the Dominion Championship.

Light a Christmas Candle, Neighbor.  
In your window let it shine,  
It may help to tell the story  
Of the Christ Child's love divine.

O'er ice-covered fields where the Eskimos ramble, Where blizzards are born and where polar bears scramble; O'er bare, frozen tundras, o'er bramble and brake, He speeds like the wind, till, his quick journey ending,

"Tis time," mutters Santa, "that I were descending."

Then pointing the aeroplane downward, he flies In large sweeping circles, till, dimly, he spies

The outline of houses appearing in sight.

"And now," murmurs Santa, "tis time to alight."

He turns on the motor; anon comes the whirr Of shining propeller, and then the glad stir Of the wheels as they move o'er the hard frozen snow. Now lightly they creep, then more swiftly they go, Till, spurning the earth in its effort to fly, The aeroplane rapidly mounts to the sky. As swift as the eagle, it circles and climbs The far dizzy heights of the air; and betimes St. Nicholas guides to the south as he speeds On his mission of love; for he knows of the needs And the wishes of all. "There's no chance to be late," He chuckles, then cries out, "Oh, b-o-y, this is great!"

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