

COUNTY OF TyroneConfidential monthly Report for
August 1914

Omagh 1 Sep 1914

- I This county is in a peaceable ^{one} state throughout. There is only ^{one} case of personal protection by patrols - 2 per day. This is the case of Ellen Goldrick who has, with others, taken the grazing of her evicted farm at Lackagh, Dungannon. Patrol protection to the Railway line and bridges was kept up during the mobilization but this in accordance with orders has now been relaxed to some extent except at Dungannon tunnel where the protection is constant.
- ii Four Indictable offences were reported during the month but none of these affect the peace of the localities concerned. Two are cases of making injury to property one case of larceny from a dwelling and one case of firing into a dwelling house. No person made amiable in any of these cases.
- iii One Eviction during the month. This was a case of for a debt due against the farm. The farm has been taken by a new tenant who paid the debt. The case was not considered one of hardship & it will produce no trouble in the locality. The relations between landlord and tenant are

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are good and rents are being well paid. No demand for reductions of rent nor is there any combination against the payment of rent. No sales under Land purchase act.

IV all the political Societies in this County are now practically merged in two Forces - the U. V. F. and the Irish Volunteers. Both Forces have been actively engaged during the month drilling and route marching. about 200 of the Ulster Volunteer Force in this County have enlisted for service during the war. Some of the National Volunteers have also enlisted but not in such large numbers as they are apparently waiting on some lead from the promoters of the organization. The war has worked a revolution in the State of Party feeling in this County. This was particularly noticeable during the General Mobilization here when the Ulster Volunteers and Irish Volunteers lined out together on different occasions with their respective bands and torchlight processions to escort the Soldiers to the trains. The State of feeling against Germany amongst all sections of the people in this

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County is intensely strong. This feeling is more in evidence in the larger towns where a good daily news supply is received, which has the effect of keeping up a sort of war fever that will be valuable as an aid to recruiting when the leaders of both parties ^{openly} encourage their followers to join the Colours, for the defence of the Empire and of Ireland. In the smaller towns & villages and in the remote county places where newspapers are only received weekly the people do not fully realize the full meaning of the present war or the dangers which beset the country. This state of affairs has a tendency to make the county people seem more or less indifferent and they lack the enthusiasm to help the Empire which is general in & about the larger centres where the people are roused by the news received daily & hourly from France & Belgium. The local & provincial papers circulated in this county

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are mainly devoted to war news and both Unionist & Nationalist papers are written and conducted in the strongest Imperialist way. The local Nationalist paper "The Ulster Herald" has started, this month, the publication of a Daily half penny edition.

The "Ulster Evening Herald" It is getting a good Telegraphic News supply and is having a large circulation amongst all parties. It is also working up a circulation in County places in this & adjoining Counties and as Party Politics are being kept out of all the newspapers to a great extent at present there is every promise that party feeling will disappear, at least during the continuance of the war and that both Volunteer bodies will come up in large numbers to be perfected in Drill & general Military Training. On Sunday 30th inst a further example was afforded in Omagh of the altered feelings

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a large meeting had been arranged to celebrate the day at Fintona. But at the request of the Police it was abandoned when it was pointed out that such a meeting would be inopportune at present. Recruiting at the Depot here has been brisk during the month. Over 1500 of the Army Reserve & Special Reserve left here on mobilization this month & since then between six and seven hundred men have joined the Colours here and many more are expected in the near future. Some of the Company Commanders & local leaders of the U. V. F. in this County have joined the Colours here and will, it is said, get commissions in a new Battalion (the Fifth) of the Irish Rifles which is now in course of formation. The general hope is, however, that both parties will come together eventually and that it will not be found necessary to have Battalions made up on denominational lines.

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V. There is no Boycotting or Intimidation in this county

VI The general condition of the people in this county from an Industrial point of view is satisfactory. There is good employment for the labouring classes—in fact—there is a great scarcity of labour owing to the number men who are absent with the colours.

Cattle and farm produce are bringing good prices and there is a prospect of an excellent harvest. The mills and factories in County are working as usual and giving good employment. Up to the present there have been no ill effects, from an Industrial point of view, caused by the war. The prices of flour sugar and other necessaries are not abnormal considering all the circumstances.

B. Conlin 107

for Co Insp on duty
The Inspector General P. T. O.

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P.S.Par. IV
continued

Since writing the foregoing I have ascertained from a most reliable source—from a gentleman who is in the councils of the Irish Volunteer movement—that there are at present 500 rifles in omagh for distribution to the Irish Volunteers and in this County the I.V. have in all 2000 rifles. My informant states they are all new magazine rifles. He has access to them and he believes they are Mauser Rifles of the Belgian pattern. They have also got a number of small rifles for marksmanship practice. He states that it is the hope of the Volunteers that Government will complete the arming of the Force throughout Ireland for National Defence & provide ranges for practice

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with large ammunition and
 officers and instructors to
 train the force. I asked him
 what he understood
 "National Defence" to mean.
 He replied "In the first
 instance I mean the defence
 of Ireland and anything
 you like after that of course
 we will never interfere
 with or do anything to hinder
 individual volunteers
 going out for foreign service
 but the great thing & the
 pressing thing is to be trained
 & made into efficient soldiers
 I take this expression of
 opinion as being representative
 opinion of the general body
 of Irish Volunteers in this
 County.

B. Conlin 1897

for C. Donnelly

The Insp General

No of persons Protected	Personal	By Patrol.
1 On 21 st July 1914	nil	1
" - August "	nil	1

Indictable Offences	Total	Agrarian or Political
2 Committed in 1914	2	nil
1 - August "	4	nil

Evicted farms writ on 31st August 1914

Evictions during month.	Total No of evicted Farms	No of such farms derelict	Evicted farms taken	
			By old tenant	By new tenant
1	19	11	—	1

Important Purchases

Name of owner of estate.	Approximate No of tenant	Auctions secured		
		Non-judicial	1 st term	2 nd term
nil	nil	nil	—	—

Dated at Dargah 1st September 1914