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K E M T, David.

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KENT. David. Bawnard House, Castlelyons, Nr Fermoy, Cork.

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Description:- Height 5'10". Slim built. Blue grey eyes.  
Wavy grey hair. Moustache. Pale complexion.

Age, 55. (1921).

Occupation, Farmer.

ELECTED SINN FEIN M.P. FOR EAST AND NORTH-EAST CORK, MAY 1921.

*Member of "Fisheries" Dail Eireann (6 Div)*

Prior to May 1921 Election, was a Member of "Fisheries" and "Agriculture" Committees, Dail Eireann.

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Commandant, I.R.A.

Chief Sinn Fein Organiser in his district.

Arrested in May 1916 and sentenced to death. Sentence commuted to penal servitude for life.

Released at the General Amnesty, June 17th 1917. *Active ever since.*

Re-arrested on April 5th 1918 and sentenced to 6 months imprisonment for seditious speech.

Again arrested on 17th January 1921 and interned.

Released from Spike Island 18th April 1921. (Div.343/191 11-4-21).

NOT an extremist. *9/26/811/i*

His brother Thomas was executed 1916, and Richard died of wounds.

Ext. "Irish Bulletin" Vol.5. No.20. dated 29-6-21. "Death Sentence 1916 commuted to P.S. for life. Imprisoned 1918 for speech. Wanted since 1918".

Voted against ratification of Treaty, 7th January 1922.

Nominated as ~~can~~ candidate for the Republican Party in his old constituency in forthcoming elections. (Ref. I.X.~~1111~~.)//34  
*DATED 2-5-22.)*

*Elected member of 3rd Dail.*

IRISH TIMES' 3-10-20.

## MISS MCSWINEY AND BLUFF.

### WINNING AGAINST A COMPROMISE.

Mr. D. Kent, M.P., addressing a large meeting in Youghal yesterday, warned the people against being too optimistic regarding the outcome of the conference.

Miss Mary McSwiney, sister of the late Lord Mayor of Cork, said that until the fight was won and the enemy cleared out they must still consider themselves soldiers. She urged them to continue on, for they might have to begin again. Perhaps, Lloyd George and his Government had learned their lesson, but they were ever "bluffers." The Irish nation must convince them that their martyrs had not died for Dominion Home Rule—whatever that meant—and that the tragedy of Brixton must not result in allegiance to the British Crown.

To-day they had victory in their grasp, and if they compromised anything less than their Republic they would for the first time in seven hundred years willingly accept the position of slaves. They would fight England all over the world—Canada, Australia, and elsewhere—and teach what freedom meant. They would stir up disaffection in every corner of the Empire.

Mrs. Fitzgerald, M.P., denounced the false notions prevailing regarding Sinn Fein's policy and actions.

*Speeches on Ratification  
by  
KENT. David.*

'FREEMANS' 22-12-21.

### "AS TRUE AS EVER"

#### Deputy Ceannt Declares His Republicanism

Mr. David Ceannt, whose remarks were heard with extreme difficulty, said he was there as a Republican to support a Republic established by the free will and choice of the people who sent him. He was sent there by the people of his constituency to truly represent them and there he would remain as true to the Republic as ever until he was told he was not needed there.

He had, during the past couple of days, listened to a great many silly arguments as to why they should sign the Treaty. One of the great arguments given was because what So-and-so said and did, but he respectfully submitted that it was but waste of time listening to such nonsense.

All these arguments used by these people should, he suggested, be put into pamphlet form, but he would not like to be one who would do it (laughter and hear, hear).

#### "ALL INCORRECT."

They had been told in speeches there, before England would give up Ireland, she would first give up India and Egypt; that she would lose her last man and her last cartridge, but that was, he submitted, all incorrect, and should never have been used. When he was asked to represent his constituency he consented to do so on the conditions that when they did not require him they would put a soldier in his place.

Having dealt with what had occurred from 1916 to the present time, and also with what had occurred at their meetings in the Man-

sion House, Mr. Ceannt asked was it for the benefit of the cinema companies that that meeting was held, for he saw at these meetings a formidable array of operators there. At that time they were all for the Republic; now it was otherwise.

#### "DEAD ALREADY."

Dealing with what the people had suffered for the Republic, Mr. Ceannt said hundreds mourned the loss of fathers and husbands, thousands of parents mourned the loss of their sons; goods and property had been destroyed; the persecution suffered by the people had never been exceeded in any other country in the world, and after all they were told there that they should now give up the Republican idea.

"I say no," said Mr. Ceannt, "I will never do it. This so-called Treaty is dead already. It only wants an indecent burial, because it is not worthy of anything else."

Dealing with the amount to be paid to England, he said that they had not been told what that approximate amount was going to be. It was to be settled by arbitration, but England would trip them again if they were not careful.

#### BRINK OF A PRECIPICE.

They were standing on the brink of precipice. The men who were trying to filch away the freedom of their country would be haunted by shadows.

He had been doing his duty to his country for forty years, and, perhaps, he had been in prison uniform before some of the young men were born.

He would remain in that assembly no matter what pretended Government would be put in power, until it was dissolved by the will of the people of Ireland, and he would give his vote to reject the Treaty.

*Freeman's Journal*

*20-5-22.*

*Debate on peace.*

**TO HINDER THE PEOPLE.**

Mr. D. Kent asserted that the people should have a free and unhampered choice. If that was conceded, he said, he and those with him were prepared to face an election immediately. The Irish people had inviolable rights which should be safeguarded. He could not understand why 98 per cent. of the people were not able to govern the remaining two per cent.; but Mr. Griffith said that the majority were brave and determined men. If the conditions demanded by his side were not conceded he declared that he would use all his endeavours to hinder the Irish people from going into the British Empire with their heads up.

