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H.2.

H A Y E S, John.

Speeches on Ratification
by
HAYES. Sean.

FREEMANS' 21-12-21.

A VOTE FOR THE TREATY

**Mr. Sean Hayes Speaks for
West Cork**

Mr. Sean Hayes (W. Cork) said he did not feel himself competent to go in detail into the merits or demerits of the Treaty but it occurred to him that they had got much of what the other speakers had been looking for. They got control of their own finances, they got control of education, which he held to be most essential. They secured that the British forces evacuate this country, and they had the right to raise and maintain their own army.

These provisions led him to the opinion that he should vote for that Treaty, and, further because they had no other alternative but war.

He did not think for a moment that the British Government would hesitate to make war on this country. It was well known in and outside of Ireland that the Irish Army fought with great bravery. It was also well known that the civic population gave all the support that they could have given to that Army, and they fought with the moral authority and the moral support of the world behind them, not that he attached great importance to that moral support.

MORAL SUPPORT INSUFFICIENT.

When they were looking for recognition of the Republic the moral support was not sufficient to get it for them, and that was the test he applied to it. When they agreed to a Truce with the British Government they created in the minds of the people an idea that they were going to make a bargain with the British Government, and they could not get away from that.

He spoke for West Cork, and he was prepared to say that the majority of these people would accept this Treaty, and, whatever he might think personally of it, he felt it his duty to give expression to their views so far as he could.

He held that if he did otherwise he would be acting against the principle of government by the consent of the governed.

The dead had been referred to, and he did not want to refer to them further than to say that he agreed with speakers who had said they owed a duty to the dead, but he maintained that if they owed a duty to the dead they also owed a duty to the living, and he could not see how he could cast a vote that would expose the Irish people to the risk of war.

PEOPLE SHOULD KNOW.

He thought the Irish people should be told what the alternatives were in this matter. If they went to war, if they exposed the Irish people to the risk of war, then the Irish people should be told that the Treaty was being rejected because they wanted a Republic.

Concluding, the Deputy threw out a suggestion. Seeing that there was this division of opinion in the Cabinet as well as in the Dail, he threw out the suggestion that if this great

issue were placed before the people in, let him suppose, two constituencies in Ireland, and if they all agreed to accept their decision, it might save them a lot of trouble. He suggested the two constituencies should be East Clare and South Cork (laughter and applause)

Mr. O'Keefe—A way out.

The House then adjourned until 11 o'clock this morning.

CORK TREATY MEETING.

FREEMANS' 13-3-22.

Mr. Sean Hayes, T.D., said that in every country they should have majority rule. They could not have minority rule, and they would not have it.

During Mr. Hayes' address a small number of young men forced their way through the throng, and raised cries of "Up, the Republic."

HAYES. John. Clonguggar, Drimoleague, Co. Cork. *924/8141*
and Coolowen Villas, Magazine Road, Cork.

Age, 32.

Occupation, *Manager, Insurance Co.*

ELECTED SINN FEIN M.P. FOR N. M. W. S. & S-E. CORK, MAY 1921.

Prior to May 1921 Election, was a Member of "Fisheries" Committee, Dail Eireann.

Old Black List No. 383.

Member (Centre) I.R.B.

V/Commandant, 4th Battalion, 3rd (West) Cork Brigade. (Rev.O.of B. April 1921).

Member of the Cork Asylum Committee.

Appeared in R.J.M's O.of B. as Vice Commandant, Skibbereen Batt.

An associate and close friend of Michael COLLINS.
An extremist and agitator, touring the Country and stirring up rebellion.
Agent for the Republican Loan.

One of the most dangerous men in the Country and a clever organiser. (6th Div.).

Believed to have been transferred to Dublin 30-7-20. (Fleming's Hotel).

Arrested 18th April 1921 for giving a false name and consorting with rebels. Sentenced to six months imprisonment with hard labour by S.C. on 19th April 1921.

Extract from "Irish Bulletin" Vol.5. No.20. dated 29-6-21. "Imprisoned 1916, 1919, and 1920. Re-arrested 1921. Now imprisoned".

Released unconditionally on the 8th August 1921 as a T.D. to attend the Peace Conference at the Mansion House, Dublin. (Ref. Wire No. 3919 D.A.G. 11-8-21).

At an O'Connell at Schull 30-10-21 said they were elected to get an Irish Republic and they would stand by it.
Voted in favour of ratification of the Treaty on Saturday, 7th Jan'y 1921.

Re-nominated as a Treay Candidate for his pre-sent constituency. (Ex. 'Irish Times' dated 2.6.22.)

Elected member of 3rd Dail June 1922

Attended the funeral of Arthur GRIFFITHS. (Ref. 'Irish Independent' dated 16.8.22.)

HAYES. John. T.D. (Continued.)

Said to be a paid member of the Provisional Government. (Ex.
Republican War News No.58. dated 15.9.22.)

