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H A Y E S, Richard F. Dr.  
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'INDEPENDENT' 18-10-'21.

"We are not a nation of Wild West men who love blood for its own sake," declared Dr. E. Hayes, T.D., at a Kilmallock aeridheacht. They wanted peace, but it must be a peace that would not mean betrayal of the heroic dead. "It must," he said, "be a peace consistent with the dignity of our ancient nation, and if only England could see it, she must realise that such a peace is for her interest, because anything less will mean that our men in the immediate future will again rise up to gain complete independence."

If peace came they should stand together, because attempts would be made to lead them astray. The people had been tested as no other generation were since Cromwell's time. After all the hangings, executions, and burnings, it was not they who were downhearted. For their services on the Irish battlefield, S.W. Cork, Monaghan, and E. Limerick were outstanding.

*Speeches on Ratification  
by  
HAYES. R. F. J<sup>rs</sup>*

'IRISH TIMES' 5-1-'22.

#### A COMPROMISE.

##### TREATY A GOOD BARGAIN.

Dr. Hayes supported the adoption of the Treaty. He did so because it conferred a status on this country that it had never had since the English invasion. At the same time, he recognised that it did not give them everything they wished for. To him, anyhow, it was a compromise.

It seemed to him that the signing of the Treaty was the final result and culmination of a whole series of compromises during the last four months—all necessary compromises. One of the very first acts in the negotiations was a compromise. Their army was not defeated; it had not surrendered, and, yet, the enemy's capital was the meeting place for two delegations.

As a political proposition in relation to an immediate settlement with England, it seemed to him that the Republic ceased to exist four or five months ago. He was with Deputy Mellows, that the Republican idea still existed, and was still cherished, in the hearts of those who supported the Treaty.

The criticism levelled at the delegation over the negotiations had been unfair and unjust. They were selected to make a bargain not on the Republican basis, but on the basis of association with Britain's Commonwealth. They made that compromise. They had brought back a bargain, and, considering the circumstances, it was a pretty good bargain. He was firmly convinced that only for the oath contained in the Treaty 99 per cent. of the Dail would accept it as a compromise.

The oath was just as unpalatable to those who were voting for the Treaty as it was to those who were voting against it. If he were convinced that this Treaty meant the final reconciliation of Ireland with England, he would have little hesitation in saying how his vote would go; but it was not the end. The adoption of the Treaty would enable them to rebuild in this country the old Gaelic civilisation that went down in the battle of Kinsale.

Its adoption would mean the revival and spread of Gaelic culture. It would mean leavening into Irish life the old traditions and the old heroic memories. These things were not mentioned in the Treaty clauses, but they were implied there. He supported the Treaty because it placed in the hands of the nation powerful weapons—material weapons and spiritual weapons—that would enable it to achieve its full destiny.

HAYES. Richard F. (Dr). Thomond House, Rialto, S.C.Road, Dublin.  
Now living at Knocklong, Co. Limerick.  
Memion Sq. Dublin. (IX/0113).

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Age, 45.

9/27/1871

Occupation. Doctor.

Description:- Height 5'8"-9". Slight build. Clean shaven.

ELECTED SINN FEIN M.P. FOR LIMERICK EAST AND CITY, MAY 1921.

Prior to May 1921 Election, was a Member of the Local Government Board Committee, Dail Eireann.

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His home is at Rathkeale, but he seldom visits it.

His brothers, John and Patrick, National School Teachers, and his sister Mary who is Chairman of Rathkeale Town Commission, reside at Rathkeale House.

Another brother, Father Hayes, resides in Newcastle West. All hold extreme Sinn Fein views.

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Took part in the Rebellion of 1916 and was sentenced to 20 years penal servitude.

He was then Medical Officer at Lusk, Co. Dublin.

Imprisoned 1918 and 1919.

(Ext. "Irish Bulletin" Vol.5. No.20.dated 29-6-21).

Deputed by An Dail to organise Sinn Fein Courts in East Limerick.

Held a Conference on the 14th July 1920 at the Limerick Council Chambers. 9/18/11.10.20

Arrested December 1920 and interned in January 1921. I.O.No.1160. Batch 22. Page 140.

Released as a T.D. on the 8th August 1921 to attend the Peace Conference at the Mansion House, Dublin. ("C" List 169. 15-8-21).

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Took part in the Thomas ASHE fight at Ashbourne when several R.I.C. were killed.

Not known to have taken any active part in I.R.A. activities in West Limerick. (6th Div. Record). 9/26/8/14/11

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#### ACTIVITIES SINCE THE TRUCE.

Made seditious speech at an Aerideacht at Newcastle 18-9-21.

Spoke at Kilmallock Aerideacht 16-10-21. Advocated Boycott of British & Ulster goods (IX/0070).

Made a lengthy speech at Schull 30-10-21. (IX/0448 11-11-21).

Voted for Treaty on Saturday, 7th January 1922.

*Selected as Pro-Treaty candidate for Limerick City & E. Limerick ("Independent")  
to contest in elections, June 1922. 15.5.22*  
*Returned unopposed for above constituency*

