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Mc B R I D E, Joseph.

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# Speeches on the Ratification by McBRIDE, Joseph.

'INDEPENDENT.' 20-12-21.

## THEIR IDEALS ATTAINED

Mr. Joseph M'Bride said he supported the ratification of the Treaty, because he believed it was to the best interests of the country. He supported the ratification because the ideals for which he worked, and for which others listening to him worked, would be attained. He

(speaker) had met a good many men who suffered not only in this, but in another generation, and it was a lamentable thing that their labours and their sufferings should be simply used for purposes of argument or controversy in this question. Unity seemed



Mr. Jos. M'Bride.

to be the desire of many, while others feared a split might lead to the degradations of the Parnell split, but he would be much surprised if Mr. de Valera would conduct any controversy which might arise there that day other than in a dignified manner.

He knew Arthur Griffith for a good number of years, and he knew he would not stoop to anything undignified. "Whom did you send to London?" Mr. M'Bride asked. "Was it a bevy of foolish children without sense of responsibility, or did you send men of honesty and ability? They were honourable men you sent to London, and they arrived at an honourable Treaty.

"That Treaty I am prepared to vote for, because I believe it will serve the best interests of this country."

The House adjourned for lunch at 1 p.m., and resumed at 3.30.

'FREEMAN'S.' 1-2-22.

## SELECTING DELEGATES

### More Monaghan Clubs Declare for the Treaty

It is learned that out of a possible 1,485 Cumann in Ireland, over 770 have selected their delegates for the Ard Fheis.

The Comhairle Ceantair of West Mayo unanimously selected the Rev. M. Conroy, P.P., of Kilmeena, Westport, an ex-prisoner, as their delegate to the Ard Fheis next week.

Father Conroy declared himself a supporter of the Treaty, and a suggestion that he should be given a mandate was not proceeded with. It was decided to allow him a free hand.

Short addresses were delivered by Mr. McBride, T.D., who supported the Treaty in the Dail, and Mr. Derrig, T.D., who voted against it.



SPEECHES MADE BY JOSEPH McBRIDE AT THE  
FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRD DAIL HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 9th. 1922.

"Freeman's Journal"  
11-9-22.

"Irish Times"  
14-9-22.

**"NOT A GOOD PRINCIPLE"**

Mr. J. MacBride (Mayo N. and W.) said he had every confidence in the capacity of Mr. Mulcahy. He thought he could fill both those posts with satisfaction to the country. But he objected to any man being Minister of Defence and Commander-in-Chief at the same time. The commander of an army, if he was any good, must be a dictator in some sense. And they had a dictatorship when they had the positions of Commander-in-Chief and Minister of Defence occupied by the same person. He objected to such an arrangement.

Mr. Johnson (Labour) said they believed that there should be a civil head of the Government and of the Ministry of Defence. The suggestion of the Commander-in-Chief being made Minister of Defence reminded one too much of General Kitchener and certain of the commanders of other armies in other countries, which lead, probably in certain circumstances, possibly in all circumstances, to a dictatorship. He thought there was not much of that in the present personnel. But the principle was not a good one to adopt in the beginning. The military man at the head of the army had to obey on questions of policy. The Minister of Defence should be a Minister of Defence for that policy. There was another aspect of this arrangement in reference to which they should have some information.

**THE CIVIC GUARD**

That was, what force was responsible for the keeping of order, and to whom were they responsible? They were quite in the dark, he thought, as to the relation of such police as there were in the country and the Minister of Defence. Was it contemplated that the Civic Guard, which was in course of formation, perhaps in some small degree in active operation, should be responsible to the Minister of Home Affairs or to the Minister of Defence, and had the Minister of Defence and the Commander-in-Chief power to order the Civic Guard to do his will? Was it a civil force or a military force? These were questions that ought to be discussed. That was one reason why the Minister of Defence ought to be a civilian and not a military man. It would, perhaps, facilitate matters and save another discussion at a later time if they had some information on the relations between the civil police and the military forces. It was an important matter and should be cleared up very early.

Mr. Joseph MacBride asked the Minister of Defence whether, having regard to the fact that the claims for malicious injuries in Co. Mayo amounted to almost a quarter of a million pounds, and to the fact that a large proportion of these claims had arisen since the entry of the national troops into the county, it was possible to extend such protection to life and property as would ensure no further addition to the claims in question.

The Minister of Defence replied that everything possible was being done to prevent the loss of life or damage to property in Mayo, and the re-setting of forces in that area was intended more effectively to secure this.

The same Minister, replying to a further question—whether he would be prepared to allow permits to farmers for shotguns to enable them to protect their crops from the depredations of wild birds and vermin—stated that the matter had been constantly before the minds of the military authorities, and the necessity for issuing permits at the earliest possible moment was recognised. Machinery had been completed to control the issue of permits to hold guns, and the present restrictions would be withdrawn at the earliest possible moment either generally or in particular areas.

Asked by Mr. MacBride whether he proposed to introduce in the near future any legislation for the encouragement of trade and commerce, and by so doing to aid in the development of the country and the relief of unemployment, the Minister for Industry and Commerce said that the restoration of an ordered condition in the country would do much more to restore trade and commerce than any possible legislation, but the Government was considering what legislation might be necessary in that regard in the near future.



McBRIDE. Joseph. Westport Quay, Co. Mayo.  
Croagh Mor, Killandangan, Westport, Co. Mayo.

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Age 30.

Small Farmer.

ELECTED SINN FEIN M.P. FOR NORTH AND WEST MAYO, MAY 1921.

Prior to May 1921 Election, was a Member of "Foreign Affairs", "Fisheries", "Trade", and "Commerce" Committees, Dail Eireann.

Member of Select Committee enquiring into the resources of Ireland for Dail Eireann.

*Voted for Treaty 4-1-22.*

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His brother, Major John McBRIDE, was 2nd in Command of the "Irish Brigade" who fought against the British Forces in the South African War, and who took part in the 1916 Rebellion and was executed.

His wife is a cousin of Mrs Gonne McBRIDE.

He has two other brothers, Dr A. McBRIDE, a surgeon of the County Infirmary, Castlebar; and Patrick McBRIDE, a merchant at Westport Quay.

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Commandant, West Mayo Brigade, I.R.A. (prior to internment).

At the beginning of 1916 he identified himself with the Irish Volunteer Movement at Westport and assisted William MELLOWES.

Took part in the 1916 Rebellion, was arrested, and deported to England. Released in December 1916.

Appointed to Westport Harbour Board as Secretary in succession to Major John McBRIDE. (executed).

Re-arrested 22-2-17 in connection with the German Plot, and again deported to England. Escaped in June 1917.

In December 1917 he was appointed Treasurer to the West Mayo Sinn Fein Executive.

Again arrested on 18th May 1918 and deported to Gloucester Prison. Was granted parole to visit his mother in August 1918 and returned after seven days. In January 1919 he was again granted parole in consequence of his mother's death, and returned 14-2-19. Released in March 1919.

A number of seditious documents were found in his house on 1st April 1919.

Mentioned in Epitome 53/2567, and in McGRANE's and MULCAHY's documents.

Attended a Meeting of Dail Eireann in Dublin 17-7-19 and returned to Westport 28-7-19.

Arrested in October 1920 and interned at Curragh 3-3-21.

Released as a T.D. to attend the Peace Conference at the Mansion House, Dublin.

Voted in favour of ratification of the Treaty on 7th January 1922.



McBRIDE Joseph.

Westport Quay, Co: Mayo.

Nominated Treaty Candidate for North & West Mayo. (Ext. "Irish Times" 2-6-22).

*Returned unopposed for 3rd Dail.*

Sent message of condolence to Mrs. Arthur Griffith on the death of her husband the President of the P.Govt. (Ext. "Freeman's Journal" 15-8-22).

*Reported to have been kidnapped on Achill Island. Now released.  
(F. J. 29. 1. 23.)*



