

# Partition in Ireland: Partition of Ulster

Antrim  
Armagh  
Cavan  
Clare  
Cork  
Donegal  
Down  
Dublin  
Fermanagh  
Galway  
Kerry  
Kildare  
Kilkenny  
King’s County (Laois)  
Leitrim  
Limerick  
Londonderry  
Longford  
Louth  
Mayo  
Meath  
Monaghan  
Offaly  
Queen’s County (Carlow)  
Roscommon  
Sligo  
Tipperary  
Tyrone  
Waterford  
Westmeath  
Wexford  
Wicklow

1919

January Irish War of Independence/  
Anglo-Irish War starts  
Early Irish Volunteer Force reorganises  
with others to form Irish Republican Army  
June 28 Versailles Treaty marks official end of WWI

## After the Deluge

### In Flanders Fields

By October 1918 the Allies were winning World War One. The signing of the Armistice ended hostilities on November 11, 1918 with the Peace Conference convened in Paris on January 18, 1919. War was officially declared over on June 28, 1919 with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, at which United States President Woodrow Wilson proposed a new world order with the creation of a League of Nations, later to become the United Nations.



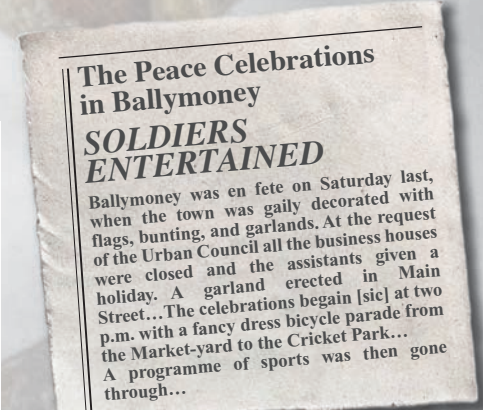
'Signing of Peace in the Hall of Mirrors, Versailles, June 28th, 1919' by William Orpen. 5th in from the left in the middle row is President Woodrow Wilson (United States) then M Georges Clemenceau (France); Mr D Lloyd George and Mr A Bonar Law.

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'Peace Procession July 19, 1919 (The VADS)' by George Harcourt.

© IWM (Art. IWM ART 4027)



At the Peace Celebrations in Ballymoney, ex- servicemen and women were entertained in Ballymoney Town Hall. Robert Quigg V.C. was amongst the guests.

Courtesy of Coleraine Chronicle July 26th, 1919.



1919 Peace Medal  
Distribution began in March 1919. School children received their medals on Friday 18 July and on 'Peace Day' Saturday 19 July.

Courtesy of private collection.



Across Europe, United Kingdom and elsewhere, towns, cities and countryside had been decimated by the War, their physical infrastructure destroyed. The ruins of the medieval Cloth Hall Ypres 1919' by E.M.Paterson.

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1920

January Recruitment for 'Black and Tans' begins  
July Belfast shipyard expulsions of Catholics and 'disloyal Protestants'  
August Belfast trade boycott of British interests  
October Ulster Special Constabulary established  
November 21 'Bloody Sunday' Dublin  
December 23 Government of Ireland Act 1920

### The Soldier's Return

Discharged and demobilised service personnel returned with many traumatised and in need of medical treatment. Traditional life was changed forever with the loss of loved ones across all social, economic and political classes.



Returned soldiers convalescing in Portrush at the War Memorial, 1925. The men are wearing 'hospital blues' uniform, also known as 'the blue invalid' uniform, 'convalescent blues' or 'hospital undress'.

Courtesy of H. McGrattan.



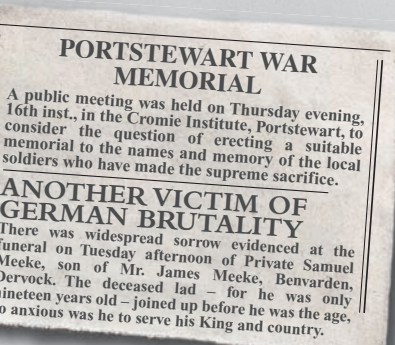
Limavady Welcome Home for returned soldiers organised by Catherine Anne Swetenham Trench MBE.

Courtesy of Limavady Museum.



Unveiling of Portstewart War Memorial 1924.

Courtesy of Coleraine Museum.



Courtesy of Coleraine Chronicle January 25th, 1919.

Villages, towns and cities were altered evermore with formalised memorials commemorating the War. In May 1921, the British Legion charity was established to provide financial, social and emotional support to ex- servicemen. The Flanders Field Memorial Poppy became internationally recognised as a symbol of remembrance.

In a time of post war depression many women had to carry the burden of economic responsibility. Thousands raised their families without the support of a partner and widowhood was a common societal feature. Social and economic tensions were intensified by rationing and influenza. Strikes were prevalent. In January 1919 workers in Belfast organised strike action to demand better conditions.

### Coleraine Mace

The signing of the Peace Treaty was commemorated in Coleraine by The Honourable The Irish Society re-gilding the town mace.

Courtesy of Coleraine Museum.



### Farewell to Arms

Over 210,100 Irish men served in World War One but in a transformed political climate Nationalist soldiers found themselves in a complex situation with the end of moderate Nationalism. The 16th Irish Division and 36th Ulster Division had fought side by side at Messines but returned home to see their countrymen on the brink of conflict.



A selection of badges from some of the units serving at the Front.

1. The Royal Irish Dragoon Guards
2. The Connaught Rangers
3. The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers
4. The Royal Munster Fusiliers
5. The Royal Irish Regiment
6. The Royal Artillery



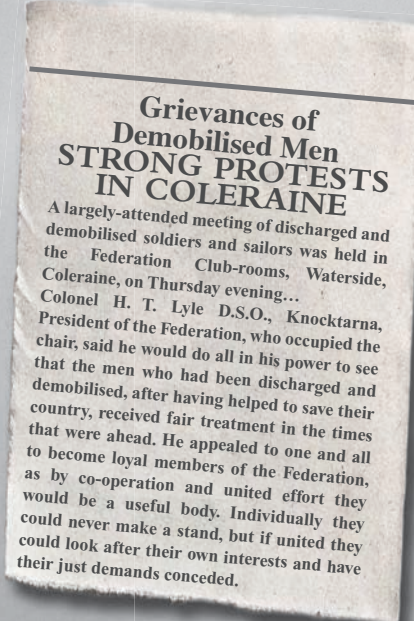
Flanders Field Memorial Poppy.

Courtesy of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council.

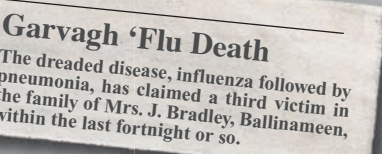


Standing is Mrs Annie Simpson from Coleraine who lost her husband when he was killed on the first day of the battle of the Somme in 1916. He left behind a widow and a young child of two years, Hester. Seated is Mrs Simpson in mourning dress.

Courtesy of Mrs J. McMillan.



Courtesy of Coleraine Chronicle April 12th, 1919.



Courtesy of Coleraine Chronicle April 12th, 1919.

1921

May 3 Temporary partition of Northern Ireland  
June 22 King George V opens first session of Northern Ireland parliament  
July 8-11 End of Irish War of Independence/  
Anglo-Irish War  
December 6 Anglo-Irish Treaty signed in London

### Political Transformation



'Sir Edward Carson, MP' by Sir John Lavery (1916).

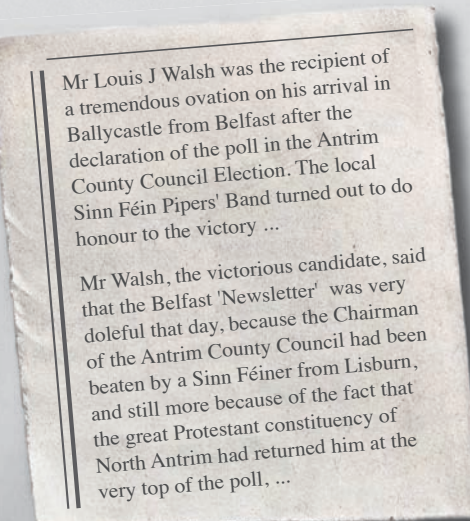
© Hugh Lane Gallery, Dublin (Reg. No. 252).

David Lloyd George was Prime Minister of the Coalition Government but depended on support from the Conservatives. Andrew Bonar Law was leader of the Conservatives who in turn had political support from the Irish Unionists led by Sir Edward Carson.



Portrait of Andrew Bonar Law by James Guthrie.

Courtesy of National Galleries Scotland. Presented by W.G. Gardiner and Sir Frederick C. Gardiner 1950.



Courtesy of Dublin Evening Telegraph June 11th, 1920.

1922

January 7 Anglo-Irish Treaty narrowly ratified in Dublin  
June 1 Royal Ulster Constabulary established  
June 28 Irish Civil War begins  
Ends in May 1923

The General Election of December 1918 saw victory for David Lloyd George, leader of the Liberal Party and his Coalition partners, the Conservatives led by Andrew Bonar Law. The election was a turning point for Irish politics. Sinn Féin returned an overwhelming majority with 73 of the available 105 Irish seats at Westminster. The Irish Parliamentary Party were reduced to six seats with the Unionists taking the remaining 26.

Sinn Féin abstained from taking their seats at Westminster as a form of civil resistance, including the first woman elected to the House of Commons, Constance Markievicz. They asked all elected Irish representatives to attend an assembly in the Mansion House in Dublin on January 21, 1919; Dáil Éireann. The Irish Unionists and the IPP declined to attend.

This first Dáil delivered a 'Message to the Free Nations of the World' calling on every free nation to vindicate the Irish Republic at the Paris Peace Conference 1919 - 1920.

### Lighting the Tinderbox

On the same day January 21, 1919, in Soloheadbeg, County Tipperary, two members of the Royal Irish Constabulary (RIC) were ambushed. This event marks the start of the Anglo-Irish War/Irish War of Independence.

Reactions to the attack, including those of Dáil members, were hostile as both policemen were Catholic. The 3rd Tipperary Brigade Irish Volunteers had independently carried out the attack. Many Irish Volunteers (IV) now believed that physical force was the only way to achieve independence.



Buckle

Irish Volunteers ammunition belt.

Courtesy of S Mac Nicholl.

The Irish Volunteers reorganised with several other militias to create the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and began to orchestrate a military campaign to paralyse British administration in Ireland.

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Galway  
Kerry  
Kildare  
Kilkenny  
Laois  
Leitrim  
Limerick  
Longford  
Louth  
Mayo  
Meath  
Monaghan  
Offaly  
Roscommon  
Sligo  
Tipperary  
Waterford  
Westmeath  
Wexford  
Wicklow