



**LIAM LYNCH MEMORIAL.**—  
View of the round tower  
memorial on the slopes of the  
Knockmealdown Mountains, Co.  
Tipperary, which was unveiled  
yesterday.

13 Apr 1935

## LIAM LYNCH MEMORIAL THE UNVEILING CEREMONY PERFECT ORDER ON KNOCKMEALDOWN

Maurice Twomey on Sunday unveiled, as he had promised, the memorial to his predecessor of 1923, Liam Lynch. About seven thousand I.R.A. members and supporters roared applause when Maurice Twomey, having pulled the Tricolour from the memorial tablet, turned, removed his hat, and revealed himself. He had not been seen in public since the round-up of Republicans in Dublin, when armed police sought him several times, but without success. Twenty-seven of his followers, including members of his Army Council, now are in the Curragh "Glasshouse" awaiting trial by the Military Tribunal.

After he delivered the oration Maurice Twomey was surrounded by a company of I.R.A. men, and, marching away in their midst, he vanished from the wild Tipperary mountain-side, where the ceremony took place. There was not a Civic Guard or a detective to be seen. None of the ostentation of State force prophesied by the English newspapers had occurred. The hundred uniformed police on duty at Clonmel and Newcastle were concerned only with the direction of the huge volume of traffic that poured in from morning until late afternoon.

There was no disorder whatever. The Republicans left their trains, buses, cars and bicycles, and tramped peacefully over the six miles of rocky and boggy land that intervened between Newcastle village and the striking round tower on a slope of the Knockmealdown Mountains that now commemorates General Liam Lynch, fatally wounded there by Government troops in April, 1923. Almost continuous thunder showers and pelting hail drenched, but apparently did not dispirit, them.

There was a really remarkable gathering of I.R.A. detachments with banners, and of the uniformed Cumann na mBan and Fianna members with a pipe band.

The memorial is a sixty-foot high representation of an ancient round tower, guarded at its base by the four sculptured hounds of Banba.

### A Representative Assembly.

The ceremony began upon the arrival of those who had toiled in procession up the mountain, and were representative of almost every county in Ireland. Included were the I.R.A. men who had come in two chartered buses from Belfast. These men had begun their journey at 2 a.m.

A decade of the Rosary was said for the repose of Liam Lynch's soul, while the assembly stood bareheaded in the rainstorm.

Then Brian O'Higgins spoke. Soldiers and citizens of the Republic, he said, from far away places we have come to pay a tribute of remembrance to one of Ireland's unyielding soldiers, and in the name of the living Republic to honour every man and woman who has fought and died for the independence of Ireland through all generations. We do not come in sorrow, but with pride and joy. . . .

The man who is to unveil this memorial was a close personal friend and companion in arms of Liam Lynch. . . . The only vengeance Liam Lynch and we desire is an Ireland independent, free of the British Empire, our one enemy in the whole world.

Buglers of the Fianna Fail then sounded the "Last Post."

### The Unveiling.

Then Maurice Twomey, appearing quietly from where he had been hidden by his bodyguard of Tipperary Volunteers, formally performed the unveiling. Afterwards he said that the army, which did its utmost to uphold the Republic proclaimed in 1916, ratified by the Parliament of the Republic in 1919, around which was centred the resistance of the unbroken Irish nation, was led by Liam Lynch. When he fell in action on this mountain-side, the enemies of the Republic knew they had eliminated, not only the head of the army, but also the chief inspiration of the Republican resistance. Though he was killed, his spirit lives to-day, inspiring those who hold his faith and cherish his ideals. What he fought for we stand for to-day. . . .

The right and destiny of Ireland is to be free and one. . . . There can be no bonds of affection or common interest between Ireland and England. There can be no peace while the connection with England lasts.

With the singing of the "Soldiers' Song" the ceremony ended, and the vast crowd began to disperse. Little bands marched over sheep tracks into the misty hillsides of Waterford. The main body wound its way again to Newcastle village, to refill the 31 chartered buses that had travelled from Galway, Limerick, Tralee, Dun Laoghaire, Rathfarnham, Youghal, Clonakilly, and elsewhere; to crowd again the chartered trains from Dublin, Cork, Waterford, and Wexford. So great was the road traffic that there was a motor park more than a mile long, and one-way traffic was established by the Civic Guards on a circular system between Clonmel and Newcastle. Everything went smoothly. I.R.A. men stood beside the Guards to help in managing the traffic, and not a Guard was needed on all Knockmealdown.

[ It was Frank

Aiken, Bill Quirke and Sean Hyde who carried him under intense fire until he ordered them to leave him down as he was suffering too much to be carried further. The other members of the party were Sean O'Mara, Sean Hayes, T.D., and Michael Condon. ]