



## 09.0

### The Executed

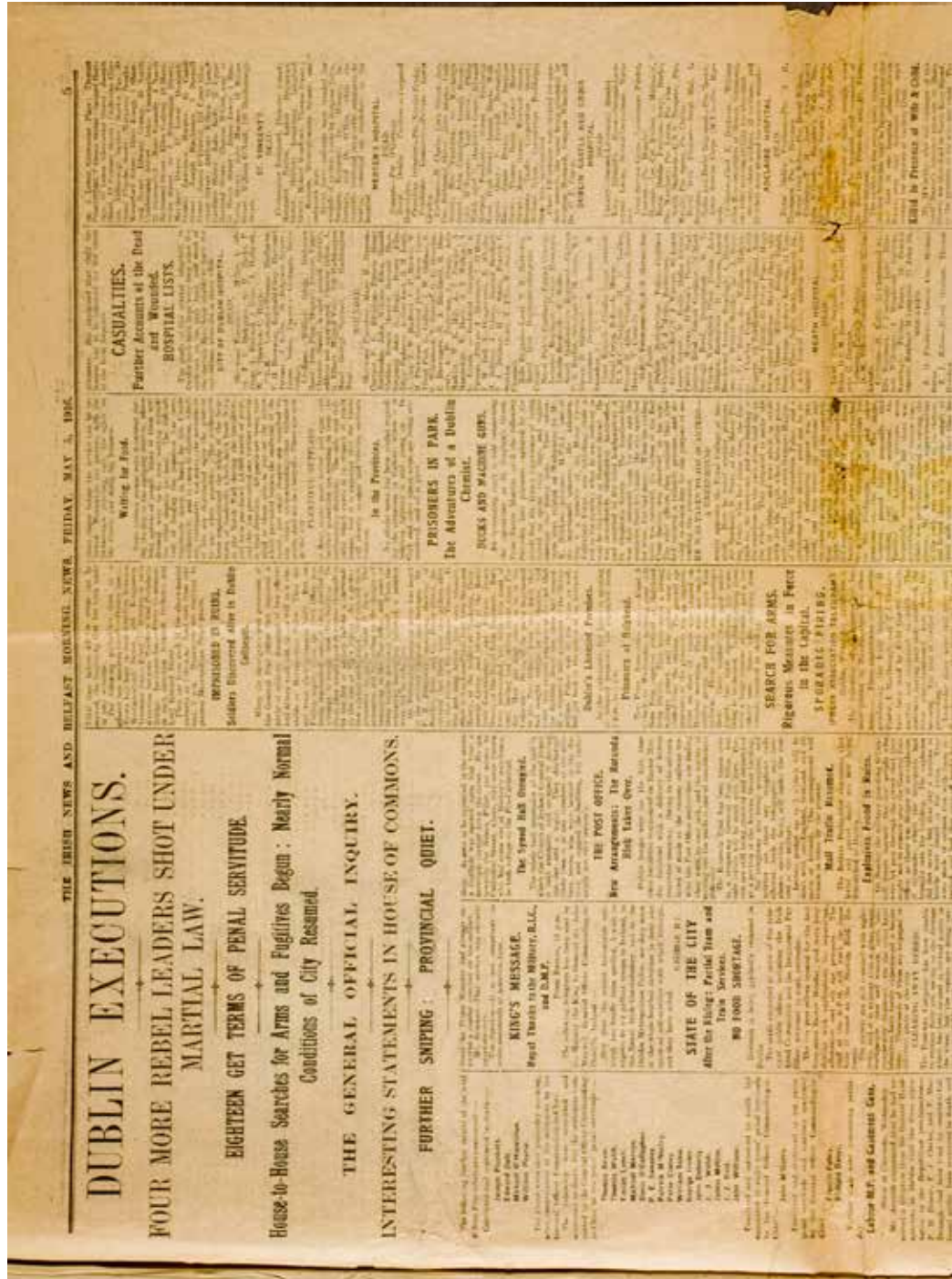
General Maxwell decided to take a hard line with the leaders of the Rising. According to a memorandum that he later sent to Asquith the factors that determined his policy were the German connection, the great loss of life and destruction of property, and the necessity of discouraging such a course of action in the future. But Maxwell was a soldier concerned only with the practicalities of the moment and had little regard for the political repercussions of his methods.

A total of sixteen people were executed following the Rising. They included the seven signatories of the Proclamation, seven others thought to be leaders, Thomas Kent who was shot in Cork, and Roger Casement who was hanged in London. The sixteen (in the order in which they were executed) were as follows: Patrick Pearse, Thomas Clarke, Thomas MacDonagh, Joseph Plunkett, Edward Daly, William Pearse, Michael O’Hanrahan, John MacBride, Eamonn Ceannt, Michael Mallin, Con Colbert, Seán Heuston, Thomas Kent, Seán MacDiarmada, James Connolly, Roger Casement. Ninety-seven others were also sentenced to death, but had their sentences commuted to various terms of imprisonment. All of them were released within a relatively short period, the last in June 1917.

Of those arrested in Dublin, Pearse and Heuston were held at Arbor Hill Detention Barracks, Connolly was held in the Red Cross hospital in Dublin Castle, and all the others were held at Richmond Barracks. Apart from that of Connolly, whose court-martial was in Dublin Castle, the courts-martial were held at Richmond Barracks. The executions all took place at Kilmainham Jail. Kent was held, court-martialled and executed at Cork

Detention Barracks. Of the sixteen executed, Casement was the only one to be given a public trial; he was tried at the Old Bailey, found guilty of treason and hanged at Pentonville Prison. With the possible exception of Connolly, all the men were attended by priests in their final days. In Dublin, the service was provided by the Capuchins, those involved being Fr Albert, Fr Aloysius, Fr Augustine and Fr Sebastian.

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One of many newspaper reports relating to the executions. (The Irish News and Belfast Morning News, 5 May 1916).