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76TH YEAR.

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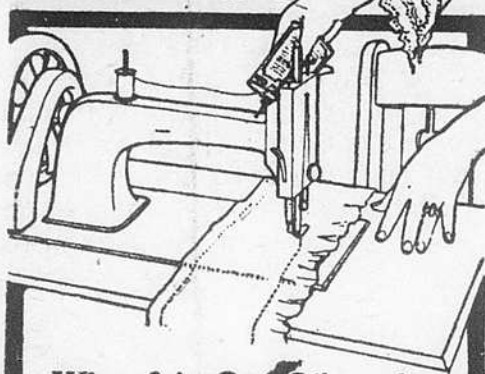
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TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Dublin, Aug. 25th.—The Dail Eireann cabinet has replied to the letter which Mr. Lloyd George sent to Mr. De Valera on August 13th. It was in this letter that the Prime Minister informed Mr. De Valera that there could be no compromise on the question of the right of Ireland to secede, and also attempted to make clear the conditions of the proposed peace settlement. Whilst the text of the Republican letter will not be published until an agreed joint communique is issued, it is understood that it makes no mention of a Republic, but enunciates the principle of independence and expressed aversions to a resumption of warfare. Thus it is considered there still is wide opening for a continuation of the peace negotiations, fact which has caused widespread satisfaction and a general feasting of optimism. At a meeting of the Dail Eireann tomorrow Mr. De Valera will explain the motives which led the deputies to make the decision they have the publication of the joint communique, both at London and Dublin, is also looked for tomorrow. Tonights issue of the Irish bulletin, the official Dail Eireann organ, going into a detailed discussion of what it says the Govt. has denied Ireland declared Mr. Lloyd-George's offer "does not actually propose what it professes to propose. What it does actually propose is something no nation could adopt without dishonour." Comparing the offer of the Prime Minister with the form of Government granted to Canada and South Africa, the bulletin asserts that these dominions are allowed to compose their domestic differences without interference from outside, and concludes—

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"there could be free negotiation on many matters in the Premiers six conditions and amicable arrangements arrived at to the common interest of both countries but the basis must be one of freedom." These words are taken as indicating the intention of leaving room for detailed negotiations on almost every point of the peace proposals. The British Govt sat two hours discussing the reply of the Irish Republican cabinet. After the sitting it was officially announced that no information as to the nature of Mr. Lloyd George's response to it would be made public. It is understood that both will be ready to be read to the session of the Irish Republican Parliament in Dublin tomorrow, and meantime both sides agreed to observe strict secrecy. The British cabinet approved Mr. Lloyd George's response, it is learned, and it is understood that negotiations will continue.

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