

PATHE GAZETTE: 40/54. (DUBLIN)

OUTPOSTS OF PEACE - IRISH ARMY MANOEUVRES

Among the small nations of Western Europe, there are very few which have so far avoided being drawn into war. But one at least has so far been able to maintain her national integrity. Ireland the romantic green isle of the west is still at peace, she has no illusions as to the security of her position. Since last September she has kept a small but efficient army in a state of constant readiness. Despite the dark clouds rolling over her skies she still hopes for the best but is prepared for the worst. All over Ireland there are men who are marching and training but like all armies today they do most of their marching on wheels. This is what modern cavalry looks like in Ireland, the traditional home of the horse. An Irish platoon carries most of its equipment with it, under the seats of the trucks are packed their ammunition, tents and blankets and rations. Machine guns and their crews move by motor transport until they get within reach of the enemy when they fall back on manpower. Under fire the wheels are disconnected and in a few minutes the guns begin to bark. The mechanisation of the artillery is complete and a sure sign of the advance of modern warfare. Motorised forces on the road are escorted by aircraft. The danger of enemy aircraft on troop movements can be appreciated from these pictures. The young army of Ireland rides into the future, facing its destiny with hope and confidence.