

Sinn Féin No.1



DUBLIN SOUTH-WEST

FOR REAL CHANGE

SINN FEIN is an open, democratic and revolutionary party, dedicated to the reunification of Ireland and the establishment of a 32-County democratic socialist republic.

We regard the achievement of a united and sovereign Ireland as vital to the political, social and economic development of the Irish people now and in the future.

Our members and elected representatives throughout Ireland promote a radical community-based approach to politics. Such an approach is needed in Leinster House to challenge the corruption of politicians who vote themselves huge salaries and perks while they tell the public to 'tighten its belt'.

As a party that is prepared to do more than simply talk about freedom, Sinn Fein

believes that it is time for a change, time to tackle the political, social and economic mess which plagues this island, time to restore national self-esteem and to build confidence in the future.

Real change – and not simply the change of management which is all the present parties in Leinster House can offer – this is what is needed and Sinn Fein can respond to that need.

The present parties fear such change and that is why we are the only party contesting this election which is banned from television and radio. We will not be silenced!

If elected, Sinn Fein TDs will not draw their salaries for personal use.

YOUR TWO LOCAL CANDIDATES ARE:

JOHN Noonan

JOHN NOONAN (33), is an unemployed lorry driver living in the Fettercairn area of Tallaght with his wife and six children. He joined the Republican Movement in 1969 and has spent time as a republican POW in Long Kesh.



For several years, John has campaigned on a variety of local issues including unemployment, drug abuse, maintenance of housing in the area and opposition to water rates, social welfare cuts and rent increases.

John represented Sinn Fein in the EEC elections in 1984 and in the local government elections the following year, polling well on both occasions.

CHRISTY Dunne

CHRISTY DUNNE (44), is married with three children and lives in Clondalkin. He is an active trade unionist and has served as ITGWU shop-steward in Semperit, the tyre company, for the



past 14 years. He is a member of the Dublin district council of the ITGWU and of the Dublin Council of Trade Unions.

Christy joined Sinn Fein in 1982 and each Saturday he operates the Sinn Fein Community Information Centre in Bawnogue.

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A record of failure

WITH A STAGGERING 80,000 people on the dole, Dublin City and County is *the worst* unemployment black-spot in the 26 Counties.

The economic crisis has left a trail of social misery and emigration. Indeed, more than 37,000 people were forced to leave Dublin City and County in search of work between 1981-86 — and the figure has risen since then.

Across the 26 Counties the story is the same. Unemployment and emigration have rocketed, creating immense hardship for the families of those directly affected and causing untold damage to the economy.

Unemployment costs the state around £1,000 million each year in welfare payments, lost tax and short-term work schemes.

Last Christmas, the official unemployment figure stood at 250,178 (19.2% of the workforce). This figure doesn't include the 75,000 people who were forced to emigrate over the past five years. Nor does it include those on part-time AnCO schemes and the thousands of young people living with their parents and for whom it just isn't worth their while signing on.

More people worked in industry 25 years ago than is the case today.

Unemployment and emigrat-

ion have been a fact of life since the foundation of the state — under both Coalition and Fianna Fail governments. Failed industrial strategies, the effect of partition and EEC membership stunt the development of an effective manufacturing sector.

Since 1922, over one million people have been forced to emigrate.

Sinn Fein believes that tackling unemployment must be the first priority of economic policy. Those who argue that there is no solution to unemployment are wrong, although a full solution cannot be achieved within the context of a partitioned 26-County state.

● A move away from the dependence on multinationals is essential and the state must create real jobs through productive investment in food and timber processing, marketing, communication and the construction industry as well as in the planned exploitation of our mineral wealth for the benefit of the Irish people.

Housing finance needed

PROPER HOUSING in Dublin has been a right that people have had to fight hard to win over the decades. Both in quantity and in quality, local authority housing has fallen short of people's needs.

The two major causes of Dublin's housing problems are lack of planning and lack of funding from central government.

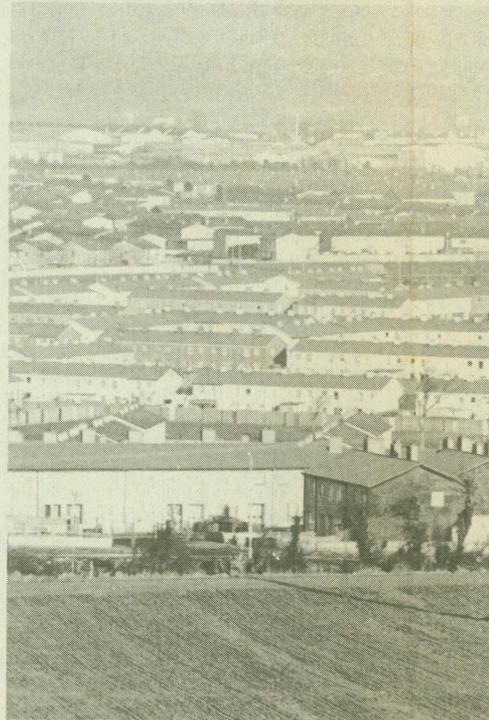
Between 1974 and 1983, 75% of new Corporation houses were built in Dublin county. The policy which saw the building of huge, far-flung estates with no facilities must be totally reversed with the emphasis on creating and preserving communities and not just blocks of houses.

The shortfall in funds to

local authorities has led directly in Dublin to the drastic situation in maintenance with long waits for repairs and unnecessary hardship for tenants. Sinn Fein believes that:

- More workers must be employed urgently to carry out maintenance of local authority dwellings:

- Service charges are an unjust tax and should be resisted. The shortfall in local authority funding should be made up from central funds.



TAX SCANDAL CONTINUES

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS of PAYE workers took to the streets of our towns and cities in 1979 to demand tax reform. Eight years later, this demand has still not been met.

In fact, the PAYE sector now pays more than 80% of the total take from income tax. Taxes from the self-employed account for the rest. Big business, large farmers, the banks and the wealthy in general still don't pay their share.

A person on £7,500 per year faces the same rate of tax as someone on £50,000.

To make matters worse, indirect taxation on goods and services (VAT) — which accounts for nearly half of all tax revenue — hits lower-income groups hardest since they spend a far higher



proportion of their income to pay for essential goods and services.

In 1984, business corporations made profits of more than £2,250 million, but paid less than 10% of this in tax.

In this election, Sinn Fein is calling for a major overhaul of the tax system so that the wealthy and not the workers will be targeted. Up to £2,000 million could be added to the exchequer immediately by:

- Closing the loopholes which allow big business to avoid paying its taxes.
- Ensuring that the taxes due from the self-employed are actually collected.
- Making taxation on the profits of big business effective so that they contribute their fair share, especially in view of the millions spent in grant aid to industry.
- Reforming capital taxes to produce a reasonable return.
- Introducing a wealth tax.
- The introduction of legislation which would prevent the export of capital by individuals and companies.

FOR REAL CHANGE VOTE SINN FÉIN

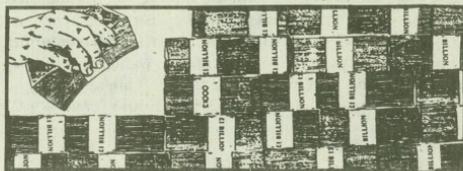
GOVERNMENT DEBT

FOR THE PAST 15 years, successive Fianna Fail and Coalition governments have recklessly borrowed vast sums at home and abroad. They did not use that money to finance productive investment. Instead, they used it to buy votes.

By their own admission:

- Borrowing by the state now totals £24 billion.
- This figure has been rising at the rate of £2 billion every year.
- Of the total borrowing figure almost £10 billion has been borrowed abroad.
- The cost of funding the debt in 1986 was £1,989 million, of which £716 million was paid to foreign lenders.

Today Fianna Fail, Fine Gael and the Labour Party all refer to this debt as the public debt and have decided that the public must pay the cost of



their mismanagements of the economy.

Cut-backs in health, education and social welfare are the order of the day. Entire communities have been left without even basic health care facilities such as maternity care.

Cut-backs hurt everybody, but especially the old, the sick and the unemployed. They will not cure the economic mess but only add to the climate of despair throughout the 26 Counties.

Sinn Fein believes that the only way to tackle the government debt is through a programme for economic growth based on state investment in the development of our natural resources.

MAKE SURE YOU CAN VOTE

DUE TO NEW electoral laws, voters may be asked for identification when they go to the polls.

There are no guidelines as to what would be considered

'acceptable' but you are advised to take some form of ID (dole card, student card, allowance book, etc) with you just in case you're asked.

If you have any problems exercising your democratic right to vote then contact Sinn Fein immediately.

WHILE we are convinced that the full political, social and economic potential of this island will not be achieved as long as partition continues, Sinn Fein makes the follow-

EMPLOYMENT Job creation on the scale that is necessary can only be achieved through productive state investment in the development of our natural resources in agriculture, fisheries and forestry.

- Forestry, timber processing and the substitution of imported agricultural goods with home produce would create massive employment.

- Employment in the public sector must be preserved and expanded. To allow the privatisation of the public sector would mean more job losses and reduced services.

- By reducing class sizes in schools and by using hospital wards that lie idle, jobs can be provided for the growing number of unemployed teachers and nurses.

- Building the infrastructure needed for economic growth would give work to thousands of construction workers.

TAXATION Reform of the tax system is needed to provide the money needed for investment in jobs, to reduce the scandalous dependence on foreign borrowing, and as a move towards greater social equity.

- The persecution of the PAYE worker has to stop. Every sector must be made to pay its fair share, thereby spreading the burden and increasing the overall tax take.

- There must be a reduction in the dependence on indirect taxation (VAT), particularly on essential goods, as such tax further penalises low-income families and leads directly to the growth of the cross-border 'black' economy.

- An end to wasteful spending would generate further funds for productive investment. By ending cross-border collaboration with Britain, at least £350 million would be saved – more than the total savings in social services proposed by the other political parties!

AGRICULTURE Grants and aid which now benefit only large farmers should be directed to those who need them to survive and develop.

- The land tax should be abolished and the existing income tax code enforced.

- A new land authority is needed with power to supervise land sales, help overcome fragmentation problems, distribute land not being utilised, and prevent the purchasing of land by non-farming interests, whether native or non-native.

- A long-term, low-interest land purchase scheme should be introduced to help development on small farms.

- The sale of state forests to private interests must end. A state-owned company is needed to develop and manage afforestation with reference to the needs of local communities and the potential for integrated wood-processing industries.

ing proposals as being short-term measures needed to alleviate the grave situation facing the people of the 26 Counties.

- An overall policy on fisheries and mariculture must be formulated and implemented alongside the development of a fish-processing industry.

CULTURE An all-Irish-language television station should be established.

- There should be a larger percentage of Irish language and cultural programmes on other native broadcasting networks and especially in children's programmes.

ENVIRONMENT The immediate closure of Sellafield should be demanded.

- Legislation should be introduced to ensure that industries which emit sulphur dioxide install the necessary cleaning equipment to stop atmospheric pollution and acid rain.

NEUTRALITY The Single European Act should be rejected and membership of the EEC should be renegotiated as a first step towards withdrawal.

- The use of ports, radar bases and airspace by NATO must be stopped.

SOCIAL SERVICES There should be an immediate halt to cut-backs in spending on health, education and social welfare. Such cut-backs provide no solution to the economic crisis and they are against the interests of the majority of people, especially those who can least afford them.

- The recent report of the Social Welfare Commission should be implemented as it recommends a justified increase in the entitlements paid to the families of the long-term unemployed.

- Community health services, including maternity care, should be provided in all centres of population and within each county.

- Recently introduced charges for prescriptions and out-patient health care must be abolished.

- Proper funding should be provided for primary and secondary education to remove the additional burden of school maintenance from parents.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT Service charges must end and there should be an amnesty for those who have refused to pay. Any short-fall in funding at local government level should be funded by central government.

- There must be a reversal of the recent rise in local authority rents.

- Ground rents must be abolished without compensation to landlords.